

Vietnamese court sentences 36-year-old man to 12 years in prison for rhino horn trafficking in Angola


A 36-year-old man, of Vietnamese nationality, was sentenced to a heavy prison sentence for trafficking in rhino horns and elephant tusks slaughtered in Angola by a court in Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam.





Photo: DR/Arquivo

New Newspaper

November 21, 2023 at 2:20 pm

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Individuals of Vietnamese nationality are among the foreigners detained in the highest numbers in Angola for this type of crime, as demonstrated by the news that you can see below this page.

According to the organization Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV), there are increasing numbers of arrests of individuals for crimes committed in Africa against wildlife.

The deputy director of this organization, cited by Lusa, said she was pleased to see that this type of crime was being combatted effectively.

"Wildlife traffickers will only be deterred by increased legal risks," Bui Thi Ha added.

The detainee, Ninh Ba Dien, was, according to the press, detained in April at the Vietnamese capital's airport in possession of parts of rhinoceros horns and elephant tusks.

ENV explains that the man was hired to take packages from Angola to Vietnam with a total of 12 kilograms of rhino horns and five kilograms of elephant ivory.

Both elephants and rhinos are species in danger of extinction and are on the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List of threatened species.

While the rhino exists in scarce numbers in Angola, no more than a few dozen, of the white and black subspecies, with no significant recovery in populations known in recent years, elephants have increased their population in the country after the end of the war, being already more than 3 thousand.

However, it is not certain that the rhino horns and elephant tusks seized from the now convicted Vietnamese came from Angola. The most natural thing is that the animals were slaughtered in Namibia or Botswana and the traffickers cross the borders with Angola because they know that it is easier to go through customs in Luanda, whether at the airport or at the port.

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