

Summary

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From the perspective of a Convention's partner, how do you see the specific role of your organization to support countries in implementing the Convention?

- Water is a strategic resource and an essential element of national and regional security in the OSCE region comprising 57 countries and beyond. Transboundary water resources are of special importance to the OSCE as a regional security organization.
- Water has an important role to play as a tool for conflict prevention, confidence-building and diplomacy in the context of the OSCE comprehensive approach to security.
- OSCE political commitments in the field of water management and relevant OSCE platforms play an important role in the context of strengthening transboundary water cooperation.
- The collaborative work of the OSCE and UNECE under the ENVSEC Initiative has achieved significant results in transboundary co-operation in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia.

How can the legal and institutional framework of the Water Convention help OSCE in its projects and activities?

- Access to water often impacts security of more than one country. There is a need to address it in a transboundary and regional context.
- The Water Convention promotes prevention of conflicts over water resources at the national and transboundary level and contributes to strengthening security and stability in different parts of the OSCE region.
- The key commitments under the Water Convention play an important role in building confidence between countries and effectively addressing potential conflicts.
- The high relevance of the Water Convention's lessons learnt and good practices from different transboundary basins and its extensive networks of experts.