

Water Allocation Doctrines

- 1. The Harmon Doctrine of Absolute Sovereignty.** The doctrine claims the absolute freedom of a riparian state, often the uppermost riparian, to utilize the waters flowing through its territory regardless of the effect of its actions on other riparian states.
- 2. The Doctrine of Absolute Riverian Integrity.** This doctrine stipulates that a state may not alter the natural flow of waters passing through its territory in any manner which will affect the water in another state, be it upstream or downstream.
- 3. The Doctrine of Limited Territorial Sovereignty.** This intermediate approach has been taken in resolving the majority of international water disputes.
 - Equitable and reasonable use of water resources
 - Prevention of harm

Principles and Practice

- Every single transboundary river basin or aquifer is unique:
 - natural characteristics
 - socio-economic structure and cultural heritage
- We need to find an individual way to develop transboundary cooperation and formulate it in bilateral or multilateral agreements
 - However respecting the basic principles as codified in the international water law