



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,  
WATERS AND FORESTS

## **ROMANIA**

**High-level special session on “Water and Peace”**

**Wednesday, 29 September 2021, 15:00-16:00 CET  
Palais des Nations, Room XVIII, Geneva**

High-level interventions from the floor in relation to issues addressed by the panellists

**Mr. Adrian VIERIȚA**

**His Excellency the Ambassador of the Romanian Permanent Mission ONU, Geneva**

**Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,**

Sustainable management of water resources is one of the global challenges of the 21st century, and is influenced by economic growth and political instability, with a strong impact on security and peace in the world. In the 2015 World Risk Report, the World Economic Forum placed water at the top of global risks, but in spite of that water is as an instrument of peace and not only a potential source of crisis.

The concept of Water and Peace can have many approaches, including:

- how to identify economic-financial mechanisms to intensify transboundary water cooperation;
- how to deal with and prevent conflicts in the field of water, with the possibility of studying a potential mechanism for promoting 'water diplomacy'
- effective implementation of the Conventions worldwide;
- promoting good practices in water cooperation. Here I would like to emphasize Romania's cooperation with neighboring countries: Hungary, Ukraine, Serbia, Bulgaria, and the Republic of Moldova, through bilateral agreements in the field of transboundary water.

Currently, Romania has signed intergovernmental agreements with neighboring countries regulating issues related to cooperation for the protection and sustainable use of transboundary watercourses, operation and construction of hydrotechnical works, organizational, institutional and economic frameworks for economic and technical cooperation.

Recently, a new legal framework in the field of sustainable transboundary water management was finalized in collaboration with Serbia. The Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Republic of



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,  
WATERS AND FORESTS

Serbia on cooperation in sustainable transboundary water management, was signed in Bucharest, in 2019, replacing the 1955 legal framework.

With Ukraine, negotiations for the revision of cooperation regulations in the areas of water quality, flood protection, exchange of meteorological and hydrological data, their harmonization with European Directives and national legislation have been completed.

All these forms of cooperation are based on the principles of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River.

Mr. President, activities carried out under the Convention at both the national and international levels.

Romania will continue to remain a staunch supporter of the Water Convention!

**Thank you for your attention!**