

# **MANAGING HIDDEN TREASURES ACROSS FRONTIERS: DEVELOPING CUSTOMARY INTERNATIONAL LAW FOR TRANSBOUNDARY AQUIFERS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

In recent years, transboundary aquifers have received growing attention in negotiation and policy-making circles. Although there is still only one international agreement in force that squarely addresses the allocation and management of a transboundary aquifer, new cooperative arrangements have recently been forged by national and local governments overlying various transboundary ground water resources. Additionally, the UN recently issued its Resolution on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers. The result is a growing number of instruments and experiences indicating the emergence of accepted international legal norms. This study reviews many of the latest instruments and arrangements and identifies some of the trends in this nascent governance and management regime. The study also considers gaps and shortcomings in the emerging system and offers recommendations for the further development of the law.

**PALAVRA-CHAVE:** transboundary aquifer, international water law, groundwater, international law, water dispute