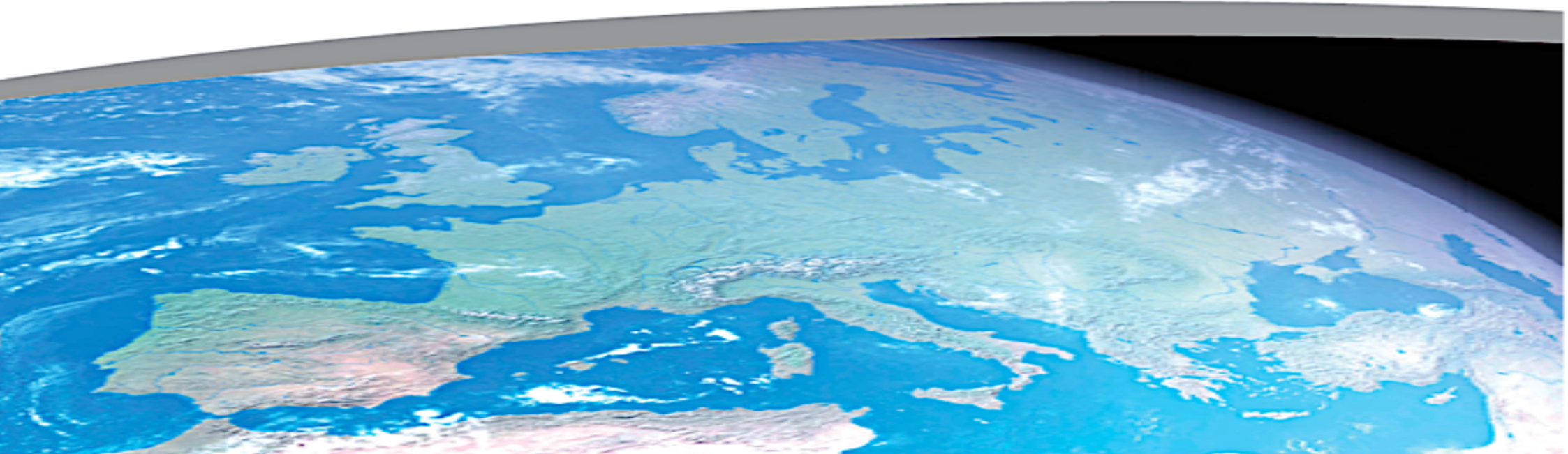


International Water Cooperation in Europe: A Success Story?

Dr. Götz Reichert, LL.M. | Centre for European Policy
XV. World Water Congress | Edinburgh | 25th May, 2015



Transboundary River Basins

Europe



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International Freshwater Cooperation in Europe

Multi-level Regime:

1. International Water Law:

bi-/multilateral agreements (UNECE, Danube, Rhine etc.)

2. EU Water Law:

- 2000 Water Framework Directive
- daughter directives etc.

International Water Law

- **framework agreement:**

1992 UNECE Water Convention

- **specific agreements:**

1994 Danube Convention, 1999 Rhine Convention etc.

- **approach:**

- drainage basin
- integrated water resources management

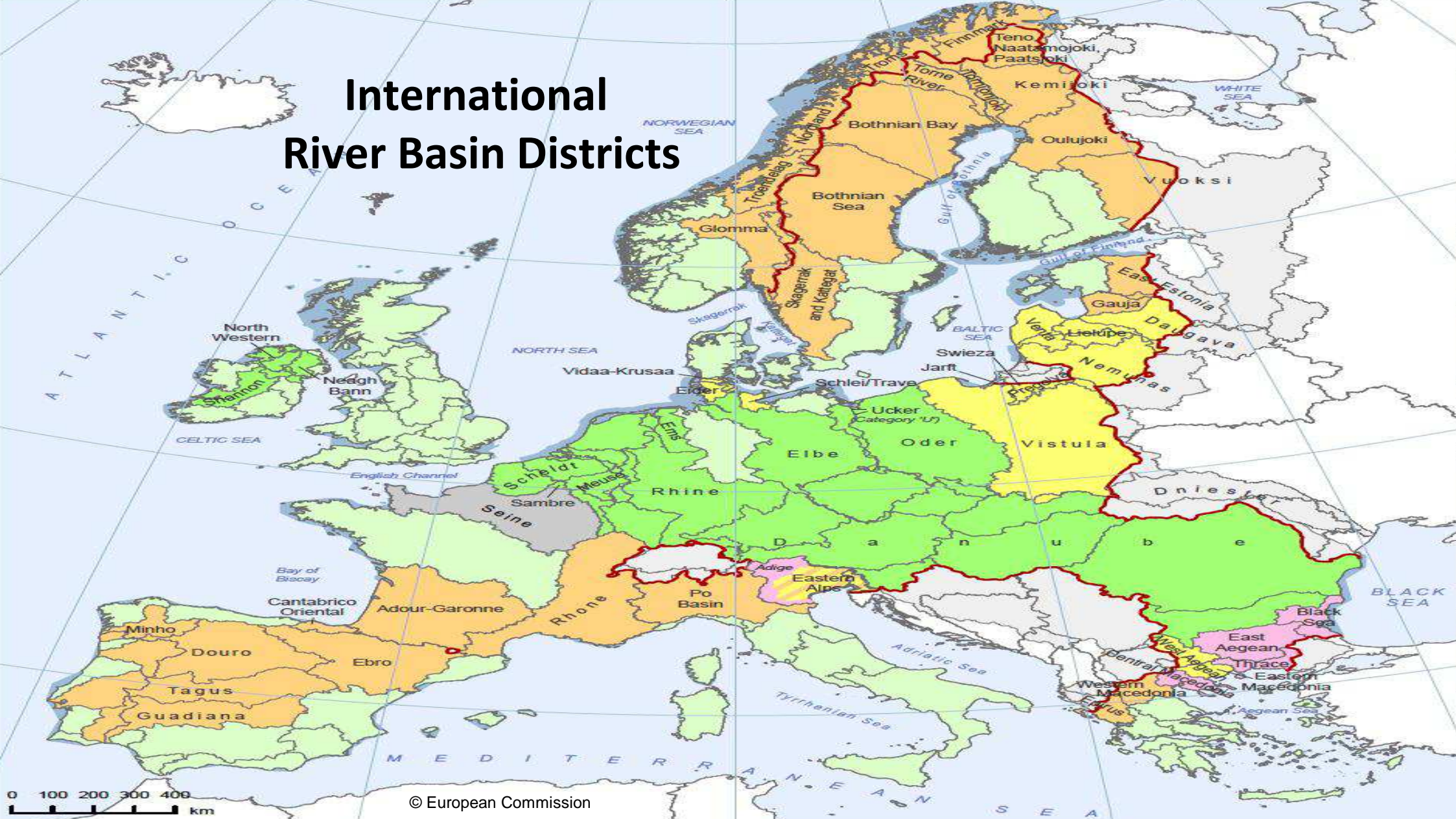
EU Water Law

- **adoption:** 28 EU Member States + European Parliament
- **legally binding** on EU Member States
- **implementation** by EU Member States
 - **judicial review** by European Court of Justice
 - **enforcement** by European Commission
- **domestic + transboundary** water bodies

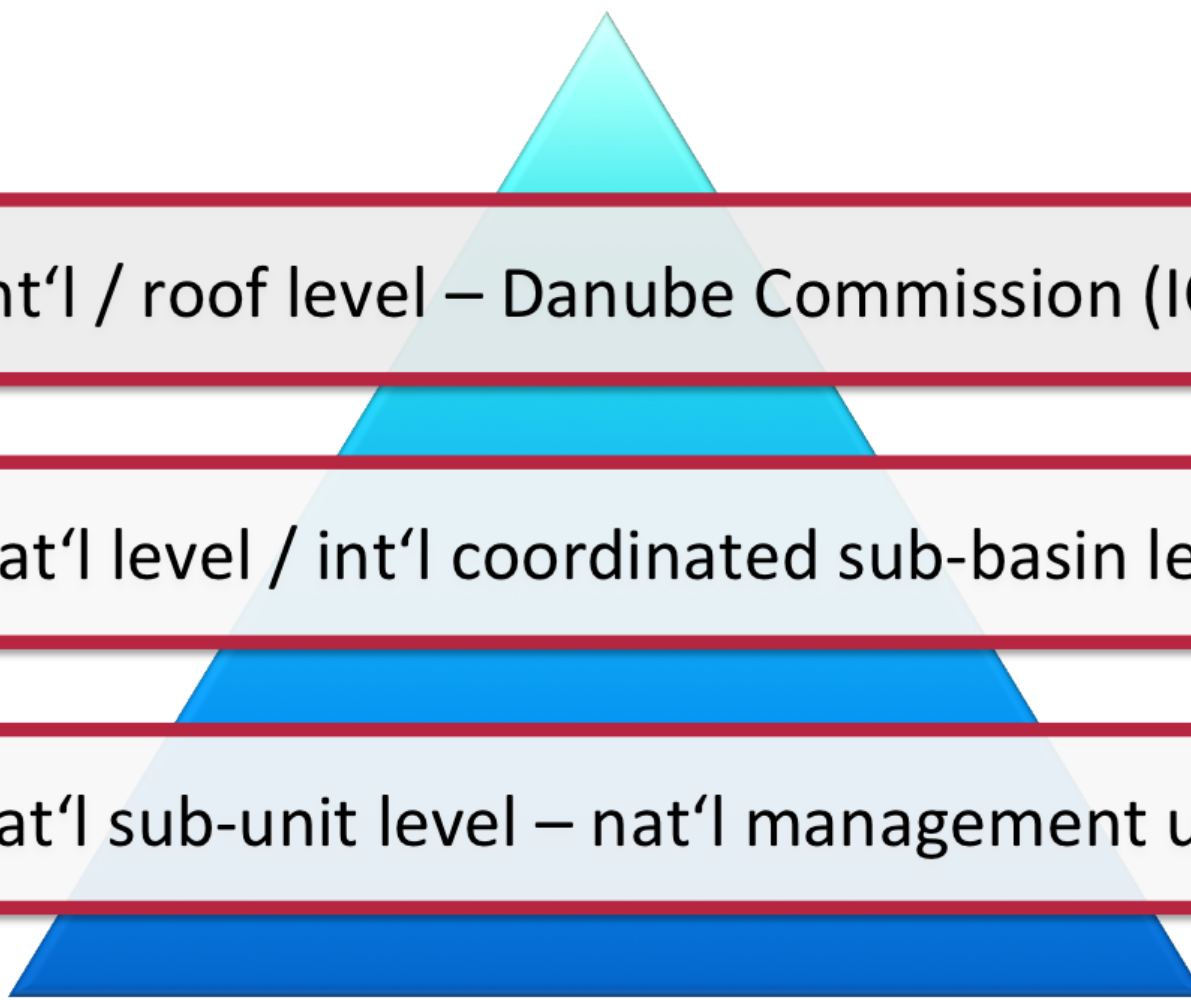
EU Water Framework Directive

- **surface water + groundwater**
- **“good water status”** by December 2015
- **River Basin Districts** (drainage basin approach)
 - **River Basin District Management Plans**
 - **Programme of Measures**
- **International River Basin Districts**

International River Basin Districts



Danube River Basin District Management Plan



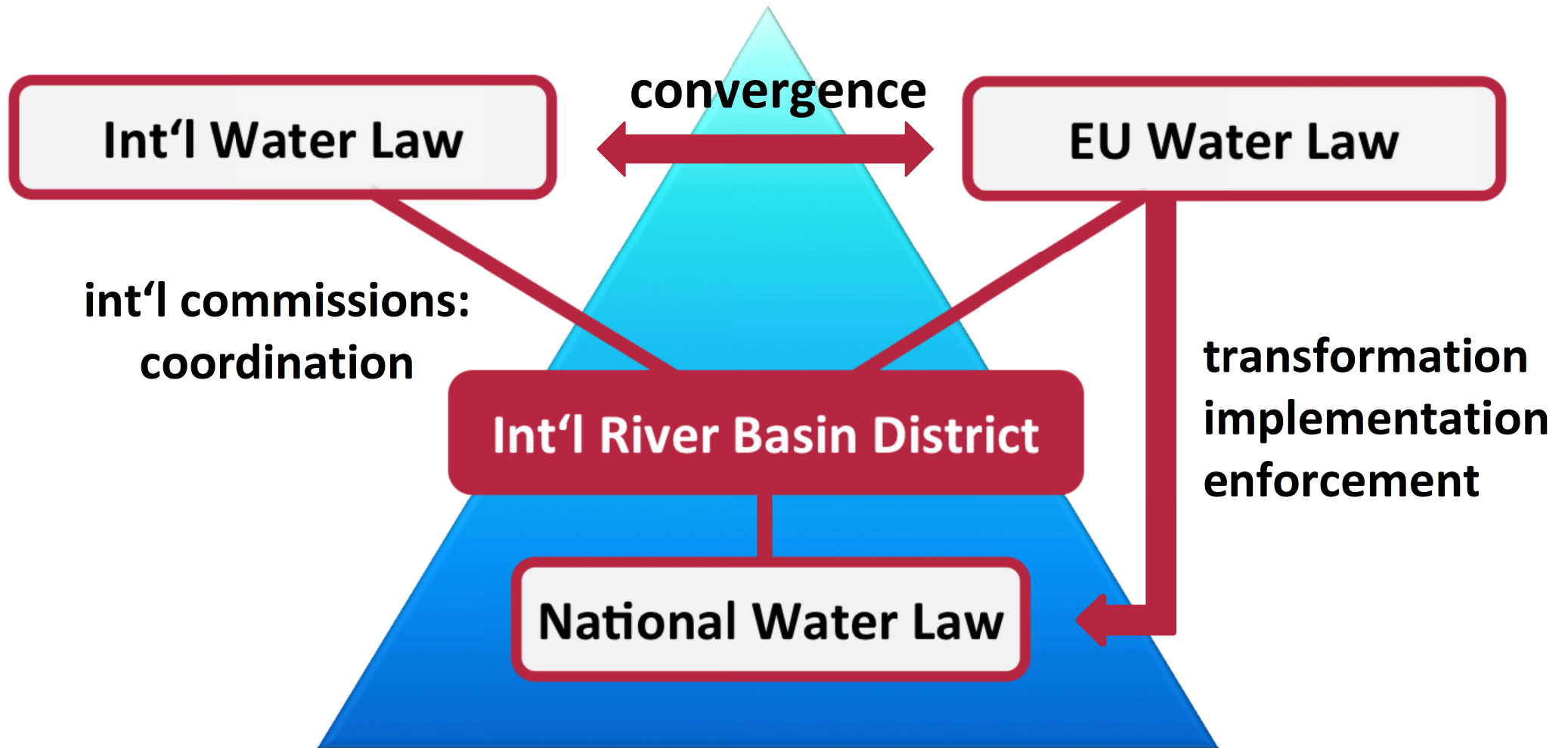
Part A: int'l / roof level – Danube Commission (ICPDR)

Part B: nat'l level / int'l coordinated sub-basin level

Part C: nat'l sub-unit level – nat'l management units

Source: ICPDR

Multi-level Regime



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