

WATER RESOURCES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN CIVILISATION

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Water is one of the principal resources and both driving force and limiting factor of human civilisation development. It is essential to study available water resources in the world, and the relation between socio-economic and natural systems throughout the history of mankind. Some monuments of culture, such as the Iron Gate region of the Danube river, illustrate a century old bond between man and water.

The Danube river waters are of prime importance for Danubean countries and a change in people's treatment of and relation to water is necessary, at both the national and international level. This implies application of long-term environmentally compatible economic strategies in accordance with bio-culture, which, at the bottom line, should lead to the concept of sustainable development.

There is an interest in Yugoslavia for international co-operation with Danubean countries and vice versa, as well as a concern for the environment in the Yugoslav part of the Danube basin, and for the problems and means for management of pollution sources in the area.

Dr. **Zoran M. Radic** graduated from the University of Belgrade Faculty of Civil Engineering with an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Hydrology. From 1974 to 1977, he worked for the Department of Water Supply and Purification at the "Energoprojekt" Engineering and Consulting Company. Since 1977, he has been teaching at the Faculties of Civil Engineering in Belgrade, Sarajevo and Tristina, and the Faculty of Meteorology in Belgrade, as well as several International Courses sponsored by UNESCO, UNDP and WMH. He is President of the Yugoslav Association of Hydrology, Member of the National Committees for IGGU and IHP, Member of the UNESCO IHP FRIEND Project International Steering Committee for the AMHY Group, and National Co-ordinator for several scientific and applied projects. He participated in the UNESCO IHP Danube collaboration projects and has co-authored Hydrology of the Danube river.