



Special Rapporteur intervention at the Security Council Arria Formula on the protection of water and sanitation infrastructure during conflicts

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Excellencies, thank you.

It is time for the United Nations and the Security Council, in particular, to recognize water as a key to peace and security.

With respect to global crises such as water and climate change, rivers, hurricanes and droughts know no borders; we need to cooperate across borders to address these global crises, ensuring a life of dignity for all.

I will be visiting Syria in the coming months, a great challenge. On the other hand, my next report to the General Assembly in October 2023 will be on "Water as a tool for peace and cooperation".

Excellencies, maintaining approaches to water management by merely considering it a resource propitiates competition and conflict. Developing new ecosystem approaches invites to share responsibilities for the sustainability and well-functioning of ecosystems, with benefits for everyone, especially in the current climate change outlook.

On the other hand, reinforcing the fulfillment of the human rights to water and sanitation is the basis for any perspective of dialogue and cooperation.

I remain at your disposal for any contribution I can make to face the challenges that you assume from the high responsibility that is yours.