

## Hydro Solidarity and Turkey's Role as a Waterpower in the Middle East: The Peace Water Pipeline Project

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**Abstract :** This paper explores Turkey's role as an influential waterpower in the Middle East, emphasizing the Peace Water Pipeline Project as a paradigm of hydro solidarity rather than conventional water diplomacy. Hydro solidarity transcends the strategic and often competitive nature of water diplomacy, highlighting cooperative, inclusive, and mutually beneficial approaches to water resource management. The Peace Water Pipeline Project, which aimed to transport freshwater from Turkey's Manavgat River to several water-scarce nations in the Middle East, exemplifies this ethos. By providing a reliable water supply to address the chronic shortages in the region, the project underscored Turkey's commitment to fostering regional cooperation, stability, and collective well-being through shared water resources. This paper provides an in-depth analysis of the Peace Water Pipeline Project, examining its technical specifications, environmental impact, and political implications. It discusses how the project's foundation on principles of hydro solidarity could facilitate stronger regional ties, mitigate water-related conflicts, and promote sustainable development. By prioritizing collective benefits over unilateral gains, Turkey's approach exemplified a transformative model of resource sharing that could inspire similar initiatives globally. Through a comprehensive review of historical contexts, policy analyses, and stakeholder perspectives, this paper highlights the significance of hydro solidarity in contemporary international relations. It argues that the Peace Water Pipeline Project serves as a crucial case study in demonstrating how shared natural resources can be leveraged to build trust, enhance cooperation, and achieve common goals in a geopolitically volatile region. The findings emphasize the importance of adopting hydro solidarity as a guiding principle for future transboundary water projects, showcasing how collaborative water management can play a pivotal role in fostering peace, security, and sustainable development in the Middle East and beyond.

**Keywords :** hydro-solidarity, Middle East, transboundary water management, peace water pipeline project, water scarcity

**Conference Title :** ICPAAS 2024 : International Conference on Political and Administrative Sciences

**Conference Location :** Istanbul, Türkiye

**Conference Dates :** November 07-08, 2024