

Agua como recurso estratégico: Desafíos para Chile en un escenario de cambio global [

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text (article)

Analítica

Due to its geography and diversity of climates, Chile presents heterogeneous precipitation levels, conditioning thewater supply in each of the basins. This allows, that per capita overflow level is one of the highest in the world,nevertheless when disaggregated by region, it this iscomplex to manage. Population density, as well as the different demands foruse, generate in some cases deficit basins, even with water stress. This creates a series of tensions at the local level which, coupled with deficiencies in the current water management mechanism, slows dispute resolution. At the international level, tensions caused by problems of access and/or use of water, may escalate due to the absence of multilateral mechanisms or collaborative perspectives. While it is recognized that water stresses do not necessarily evolve in conflicts between States, they can act as a catalyst. Subsequently in the face of global scarcity, tensions between human groups and states over access and wateruse are expected to increase considerably. On the face of this, Chile is very vulnerable to the effectsof climate change, as it will violently limit water supply. However, significant strategic reserves make the country a growing interest. From a collaborative perspective, thecountry can be seen as a strategic partner; but from theconflict point of view, as an objective.

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