

ABSTRACT

Water belongs to renewable resources, but its allocation in the world is unequal and some regions have been already suffering from water scarcity. It brings rising tensions and conflict situations. The study describes geopolitical problems concerning economic or other usage of water resources in the Syr Darya river basin, Central Asia, from a geopolitical point of view. Its goal is to analyse present situation and to estimate possibilities of regional and supra-regional cooperation among the states located in the river basin. Cooperation on the local level is not possible because of Uzbekistan, who plays a role of a strong regional leader. Cooperation on the supra-regional level is possible but it can be influenced by Russia or China. The presumable future development concerning regional security situation is discussed. The risk of potential military conflict due to water scarcity as well as additional problems in the region is high.

Key words: water resources, geopolitics, Syr Darya river basin, Central Asia