

# INVITATION TO SUPPORT

*Water must be protected  
from war*



## Global Alliance

TO SPARE WATER FROM ARMED CONFLICTS

*The Global Alliance to Spare Water from Armed Conflicts is initiated by:*



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN  
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS



## GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO SPARE WATER FROM ARMED CONFLICTS

### THE WEAPONIZATION OF WATER MUST STOP

Water should be the essence of life: nourishing and cleansing. But when warring parties weaponize water, civilians are deprived of their dignity and health.

The effects endure long after the dust has settled. Wells are poisoned and dams destroyed to flood communities and clear battlefields. Explosions put water treatment plants out of service and create public health hazards for months; contaminated water sources will take generations to clean up.

As Plato said: *only the dead have seen the end of war*. In this age of modern warfare, the growing trend of use and abuse of water must be reversed. **Water must be protected from war.**





## THE ALLIANCE?

Launched at the UN in New York in May 2024, the Global Alliance Sparing Water from Armed Conflict is a joint initiative of the Geneva Water Hub, the government of Slovenia and the government of Switzerland. The Alliance has an active membership of ministries of foreign affairs (Senegal, Jordan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Panama, Cost Rica, others? .) and key actors (UNICEF, PAX) active in the field.

The Alliance brings together lawyers, diplomats, engineers, politicians and social scientists from development, military, academic, and humanitarian communities; indeed all who are ready to reverse the trend of the weaponization of water, and protect water from all forms of armed conflict.

The Secretariat of the Alliance will coordinate international meetings, run the public relations campaign, and manage research and relations. The Secretariat will be staffed by one full-time Manager/secretary and one half-time Coordinator/public relations specialist. It will have the budget necessary to convene international meetings and run the public relations campaigns.



## HOW WILL THE ALLIANCE PROTECT WATER?

The end of the weaponization of water starts with understanding just how devastating and predictable are its consequences. The evidence we gather will strengthen domestic and international legal frameworks, feed public awareness campaigns, and influence high-level political processes. The Alliance will:

- **Generate and distribute knowledge about the reverberating effects** of armed conflict on water services;
- **Strengthen the legal frameworks of IHL and other law** offering protection of water, by furthering Geneva Principles on the Protection of Water Infrastructure, the Principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict, and the ICRC Guidelines on the protection of the natural environment in armed conflict;
- **Shape political and legal processes** designed to influence the protection of water, by building on UN Security Council Resolutions 2417 (2018) and 2573 (2021), the Political Declaration on the use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas (2022);
- **Inform military training manuals** designed to progress protection of water;
- **Advocate publicly and behind-the-scenes** to make weaponization of water unacceptable; and
- **Build the capacity of state and non-state combatants and policy-makers** for all of the above.

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## OUR OFFER

By supporting the Alliance, you will:

- **Mitigate civilian harm.** The work of the Alliance stands to benefit hundreds of thousands of people who have nothing to do with the violence.
- **Gain visibility.** Supporting the Alliance is an effective and efficient manner of promoting the most basic expectation of all people: dignity and health through safe water.
- **Gain influence.** Your support will shape humanitarian and military policy nationally, at the UN in New York and Geneva, and in civil society - globally.

The Geneva Water Hub aspires to work with partners whose commitment to the Alliance stems from their passion to protect water in the long-term, in a variety of ways:

Founding Supporter	Research Supporter	Outreach supporter
Resource the Secretariat	Sponsor case study and legal research	Support awareness campaigns, workshops, etc.
USD 300k/a	USD 100k/a	USD 10-50k/a
Full-time Programme Manager; Half-time Coordinator; Convening facilities	e.g. impact assessments in Yemen, Central African Republic, Gaza, Ukraine	High-visibility events, online campaigns, etc.

More info on our website  
[www.genevawaterhub.org/GASWAC](http://www.genevawaterhub.org/GASWAC)



## ABOUT THE GENEVA WATER HUB

Anchored at the University of Geneva, and the Geneva Graduate Institute, the Geneva Water Hub is a Centre of Competence on Water for Peace. Ever since it launched the Global High Level Panel on Water and Peace in 2017, the Hub's landmark report *A Matter of Survival* has shaped water policy in the development and humanitarian sectors, influenced research agendas, and encouraged peace through the Sahel. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation has recognised the Hub's excellence/competence by re-committing its support of 50% of the Hub's core costs through to 2027 (and has established a twelve-year administrative framework to see it through to 2035).