ONEWATER
EUROMEDITERRANEAN
WATER FORUM
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Water Resources Management in Armenia: Ethical Perspectives – Policy-making Implications

My Step Foundation, in cooperation with Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies

Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum 2026 · 29 September – 2 October · La Nuvola, Rome

KEY INFORMATION

Date	**01 October 2026**
Time	**14:30 – 16:00**
Room	**Circe**
Format	**Workshop**
Language(s)	**English, Armenian (with Armenian/English interpretation)**

SUMMARY

The workshop examines the challenges facing Armenia's water sector by bringing together university research and climate, engineering, governance, and ethical perspectives. A specific attention will be devoted to Armenia as technological and social laboratory of exclusive interest for the entire Euro-Mediterranean context. The ethical intergenerational perspective related to possible technical solution will be put in line with long-term policymaking decisions.

AGENDA & SPEAKERS

Time	Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
14:30	Prof. Alberto Pirni | Coordinator Research Area in Ethics and Global Challenges	Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies | Pisa | Italy	Speaker
14:40	Hon. Prof. Nvard Vardanyan | Deputy Chairperson	Water Committee of the Republic of Armenia, MTAI | Armenia	Key note Speaker

Time	Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
15:00	Prof. Eng. Benyamin Zakaryan	Geoinfo LLC| Armenia	Workshop Panelist
15:00	Eng. (PhD) Kamo Aghababyan	JINJ Ltd| Armenia	Workshop Panelist
15:00	Prof. Eng. Sargis Markosyan	Geoinfo LLC| Armenia	Workshop Panelist
15:00	Prof. Alberto Pirni | Coordinator Research Area in Ethics and Global Challenges	Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies | Pisa | Italy	Workshop Panelist
15:50	Hon. Prof. Nvard Vardanyan | Prof. Alberto Pirni	Concluding Remarks	

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

The discussion shall link technical issues with ethical and policy and management implications of the changing hydrological context, including water demand and regulation, groundwater abstraction, dam operation, irrigation, and the specific challenges associated with Lake Sevan and the Ararat Artesian Basin. Particular emphasis is placed on two strategic lines:
a) the gap between climate projections and infrastructure planning, ageing systems, limited storage capacity, and the energy–water nexus;
b) how ethics can increase its role of effective actor in interpreting these systemic challenges (within a new discipline called "water ethics") and how its effort can inform policy-making processes, with the aim of developing an ethical framework for long-term water governance.
The concluding discussion addresses the legal, institutional, and policy capacities needed to support long-term, responsible, and sustainable water management at the national and international level.

OBJECTIVES

a) Promote interaction between technical and ethical perspectives within the water services sector;

b) Highlight existing scientific cooperation initiatives between the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa and leading Armenian water Institutions and scholars;

c) Strengthen existing cooperation networks and foster new, innovative ones.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Policymakers, utilities, financing institutions, civil society, youth, technical experts

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Sharing innovative experiences; enforcing and promoting partnerships; follow-up actions