

# Water Wars

Arriving soon in a city near you!

# Learning Objectives

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Able to describe the factors that lead to conflicts over water resources

Able to justify a position FOR or AGAINST a specific water project

Able to communicate a case about a water project in poster form

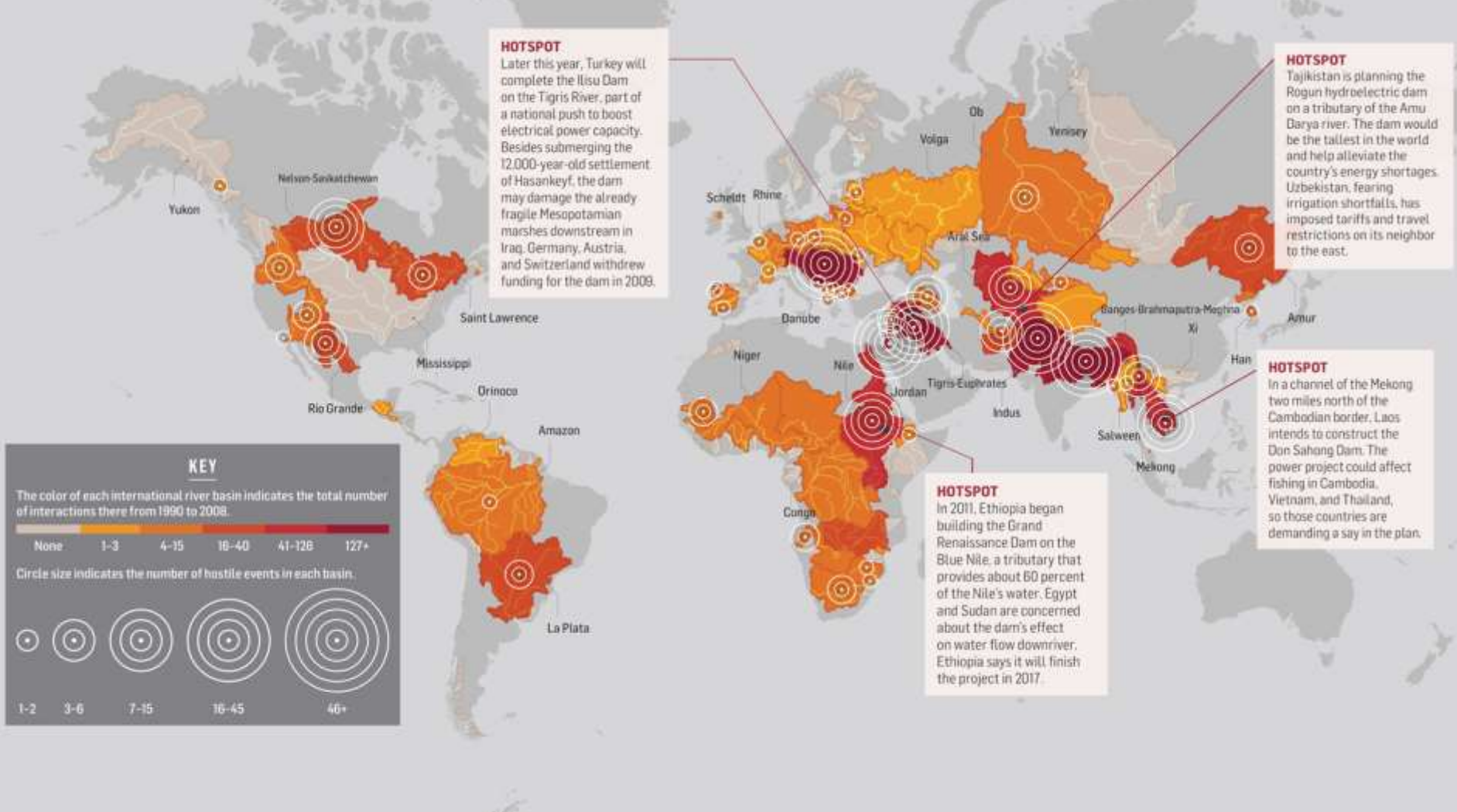
# Ethical Considerations

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Ethnic/Religious issues

Academic NOT personal

NOT taking sides



**HOTSPOT**  
 Later this year, Turkey will complete the Ilisu Dam on the Tigris River, part of a national push to boost electrical power capacity. Besides submerging the 12,000-year-old settlement of Hasankeyf, the dam may damage the already fragile Mesopotamian marshes downstream in Iraq. Germany, Austria, and Switzerland withdrew funding for the dam in 2009.

**HOTSPOT**  
 Tajikistan is planning the Rogun hydroelectric dam on a tributary of the Amu Darya river. The dam would be the tallest in the world and help alleviate the country's energy shortages. Uzbekistan, fearing irrigation shortfalls, has imposed tariffs and travel restrictions on its neighbor to the east.

**HOTSPOT**  
 In 2011, Ethiopia began building the Grand Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile, a tributary that provides about 60 percent of the Nile's water. Egypt and Sudan are concerned about the dam's effect on water flow downriver. Ethiopia says it will finish the project in 2017.

**HOTSPOT**  
 In a channel of the Mekong two miles north of the Cambodian border, Laos intends to construct the Don Sahong Dam. The power project could affect fishing in Cambodia, Vietnam, and Thailand, so those countries are demanding a say in the plan.

**KEY**

The color of each international river basin indicates the total number of interactions there from 1990 to 2008.

None	1-3	4-15	16-40	41-126	127+
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Circle size indicates the number of hostile events in each basin.

1-2	3-6	7-15	16-45	46+
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# Conflict Areas – Main Protagonists

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**Aral Sea** - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan

**Euphrates and Tigris Rivers** - Turkey, Syria, Iraq,...

**Jordan River** - Israel, Jordan, Lebanon,...

**Nile River & Aswan Dam** - Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia,...

**Ogallala Aquifer** - USA,...

**Yangtze River & Three Gorges Dam** - China,...

# Some Specific Sources

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## Aral Sea

- [http://globalstudiesoutreach.harvard.edu/files/globalstudiesoutreach/files/brite-aral-sea-harvard\\_edited\\_compressed.pdf](http://globalstudiesoutreach.harvard.edu/files/globalstudiesoutreach/files/brite-aral-sea-harvard_edited_compressed.pdf)
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-a0c4856e-1019-4937-96fd-8714d70a48f7>
- [http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case\\_studies/Aral\\_Sea\\_New.htm](http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case_studies/Aral_Sea_New.htm)

## Euphrates and Tigris Rivers

- [http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case\\_studies/Tigris-Euphrates\\_New.htm](http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case_studies/Tigris-Euphrates_New.htm)
- <http://gurukul.ucc.american.edu/ted/ice/tigris.htm>
- <http://www.futuredirections.org.au/publication/water-shortage-crisis-escalating-in-the-tigris-euphrates-basin/>

## Jordan River

- <http://www1.american.edu/ted/ice/jordan.htm>
- [http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case\\_studies/Jordan\\_New.htm](http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case_studies/Jordan_New.htm)
- <http://www.ihrc.org.uk/news/articles/4296-River-Jordan-Conflict-and-Cooperation->

# Some Specific Sources

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## Nile River & Aswan Dam

- <http://www.futuredirections.org.au/publication/conflict-on-the-nile-the-future-of-transboundary-water-disputes-over-the-world-s-longest-river/>
- [http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case\\_studies/Nile\\_New.htm](http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case_studies/Nile_New.htm)
- [http://e360.yale.edu/feature/on\\_the\\_river\\_nile\\_a\\_move\\_to\\_avert\\_a\\_conflict\\_over\\_water/2855/](http://e360.yale.edu/feature/on_the_river_nile_a_move_to_avert_a_conflict_over_water/2855/)

## Ogallala Aquifer

- <http://www.meteor.iastate.edu/gccourse/issues/society/ogallala/ogallala.html>
- <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-ogallala-aquifer/>
- <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/ogallala-aquifer/>

## Yangtze River & Three Gorges Dam

- <http://www1.american.edu/ted/ICE/china-dam-impact.html>
- <https://www.internationalrivers.org/campaigns/three-gorges-dam>
- <http://environmentalresearchweb.org/cws/article/opinion/57546>

# Some Overview Sources

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<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/07/world-aquifers-water-wars/>

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/water-wars-the-next-great-driver-global-conflict-13842>

<https://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2014/oct/06/water-wars-business-governments-scarcity-pollution-access>

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/gallerys/2016-08-24/water-wars-central-asia>

<http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/article/blue-gold-coming-water-wars>