United Nations
Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Kingdom of Serbia

by Alexandra Jaques

POSITION OF SERBIA REGARDING WATER FLOW CRISES WORLDWIDE



General information

Serbia derives much value from its rivers, mainly the Danube, which flows down from the Alps, the Tisa, that stems from Ukraine, the Sava (coursing from Slovenia), and the Morava (streaming entirely within Serbia). Its rivers drive Serbia's hydroelectric power plants which amount to around a quarter of total grid production. Its rivers also serve as important shipping lanes and allow Serbia, despite being a landlocked country, economic access to world markets. Furthermore fish farms and catch within Serbia satisfy around half of domestic demand. Since the beginning of the 21st Century Serbia has faced several severe droughts with damage due to extreme weather between 2000 and 2020 exceeding 5 billion euros, more than 70% driven by droughts. This is concerning as crops in the Serbian Danube River basins are mainly rainfed.

Position on the matter

Serbia is extremely reliant on transit waters from international rivers making it heavily dependent on upstream Nationstates. Furthermore its aging infrastructure is a main contributor to major water losses. Serbia sits on top of large groundwater reserves but proper exploitation will require substantial investments.

Proposed solutions

Serbia is likely to focus on international water rights. Especially regarding the use and sharing of international rivers among downstream members. It might want measures for the repayment of nations downstream for damage to water quality.

Potential Blocks

Serbia's foreign policy continues to start from a refusal to recognize Kosovo's 2008 declaration of independence. It maintains friendly ties with Europe though the question of European membership remains in the air as several major blockers still have to be addressed, mainly Kosovo's independence. Serbia actively tries to maintain cordial relations with China and Russia striking a balance between east and west. Its relation with Romania has historically been solid, leading to an old Romanian adage: "Romania has two friends - Serbia and the Black Sea", but has recently met troubles, as Romania voted against Serbia's bid to be a Candidate for the EU.

Read More

Serbia - Encyclopedia Britannica
Danube - Wikipedia
Water Resources of Serbia and Its Utilization
Water management strategy of the territory of the Republic of Serbia until 2034
State of The Wastewater Treatment System in Southeastern Serbia

© ETHMUN Content Team 2026

United Nations
Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Kingdom of Serbia

by Alexandra Jaques

[Without investment, Serbia will have enough drinking water for the next 10 to 15 years]

© ETHMUN Content Team 2026