

Legislative Reflection on Sediment Policy and Management

Lidia- Lenuta BALAN¹, Anca Marina VIJDEA¹,

¹ Geological Institute of Romania, Caransebes street, no.1, Bucharest, Romania

Phone: +40736979440

E-mail: lidia_balan@yahoo.com

Introduction:

In the context of the lack of a sustainable and equitable approach corroborated with the social, economic and environmental interests facing society, the need for a European level was felt at the year 2000 to initiate a legislative process regulating management, water and sediment management at regional level. This was done through the creation of legal instruments with regional vocation to establish a new framework for substantiation of water management for the member states of the European construction.

Thus, on 23 October 2000, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union adopted the Water Framework Directive (WFD), which was implemented from 22 December 2000 and published in the Official Journal of the European Union. In Romania, water and sediment management was regulated by a law approach to the provisions of the Water Law, no. 107/1996. Once the DCA entered into force, Romania as an EU Member State was obliged to transpose the provisions of the Directive, for which Law no.107/1996 was amended and supplemented with new provisions taken over and adapted from the WFD.

Law no.107/1996, which transposed the DCA, established a new strategy and policy on water management at national level, including provisions to regulate the management of the sedimentary sector.

Directive 60/2000/EC pursued the approach of new elements such as:

- elaboration of river basin management plans;
- preventing the deterioration of the status of all bodies of surface and underground water;
- definition of a "good state of water", definition of new categories of water;
- "heavily modified water bodies, defining 5 water quality classes taking into account first of all the biological elements;
- the establishment of a register of protected areas located at the level of the catchment area;
- taking steps to progressively reduce water pollution with priority substances that present an important risk factor for the aquatic environment and the phasing

out of discharges, emissions and losses of priority hazardous substances;

- in relation to pollution prevention and control, water policy must be based on a combined approach, using pollution control at source by setting emission limit values and environmental quality standards;
- concept of rehabilitation of water resources.

Results: The Water Framework Directive and Law no.107/1996, with subsequent modifications and completions although they are the basic instruments of a policy and governance required to regulate water management and management policy, including the sediment part, do not have managed to establish and lay the foundations for effective river basin management with the absence of programs and plans for this sector.

For this reason, even the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) had to acknowledge a lack of sediment management in the Danube River Basin Management Plans.

Considering this situation, we need to build a transnational approach that allows us to develop a strategy with efficient and sustainable water management and management plans and management plans with the involvement of the political sphere, in this respect and with the participation of the public to prevent and combat adverse effects on the environment, human life and health.

References:

- Framework Water Framework Directive: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu>;
- Law no.107 / 1996, with subsequent amendments and completions, published in the Official Gazette of Romania, no. 244 of October 8, 1996;
- International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River: <https://www.icpdr.org>;
- Lidia -Lenuta Balan, *Protection of the Atmosphere, Water and Ground at International, European and National Level*, University Publishing House, Volume 2, 2014.