

Groundwater issues and related legal and soft law instruments

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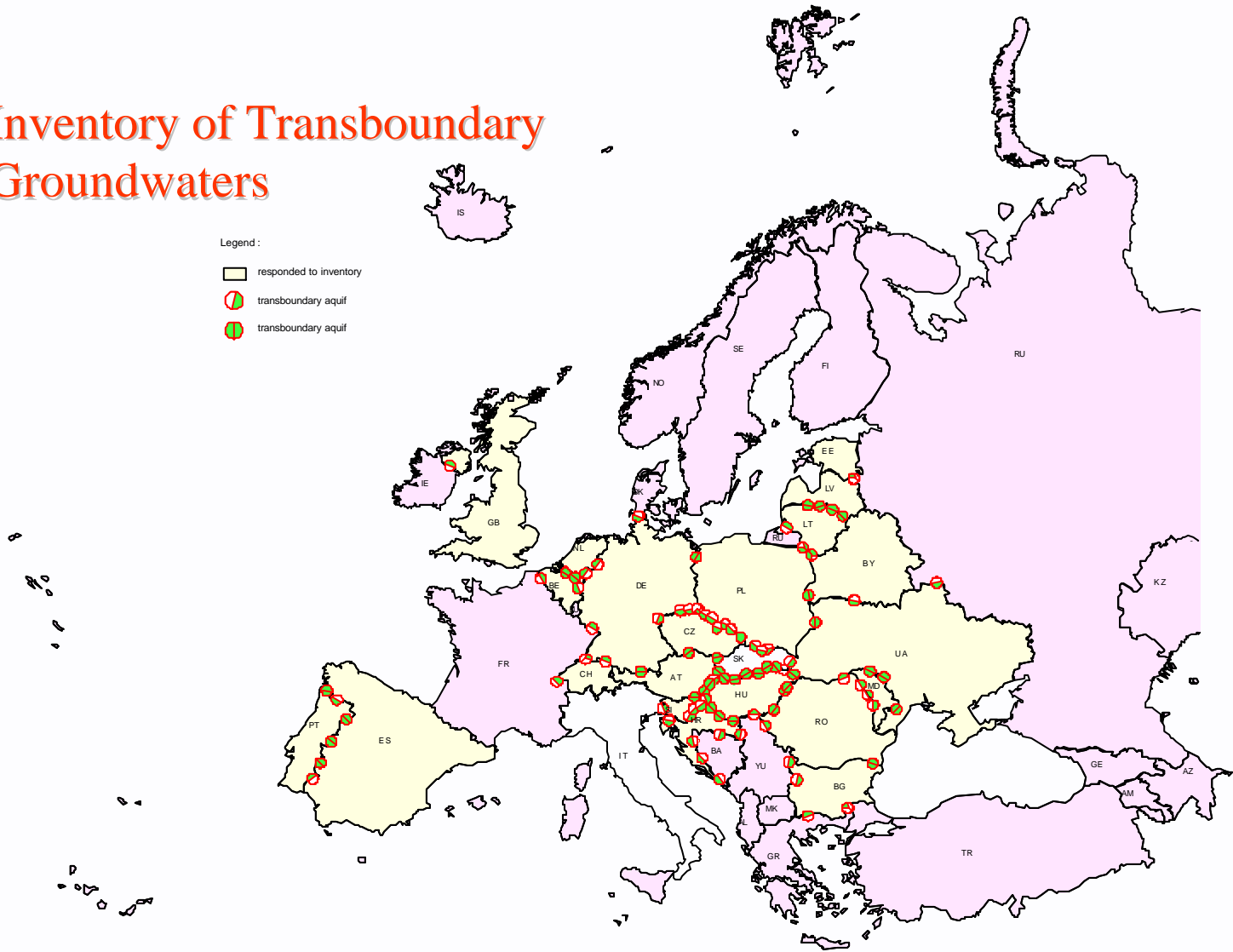
Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses
and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention, Helsinki, 1992)

Transboundary waters means any surface waters or groundwaters, which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between two or more States

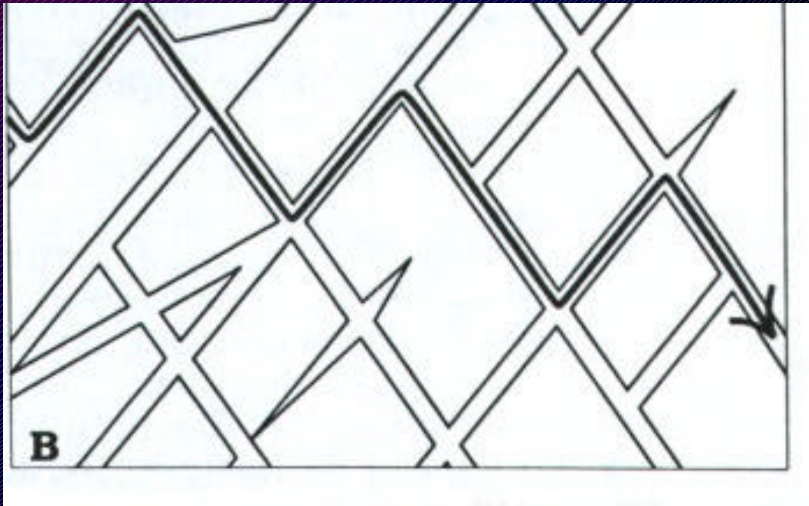
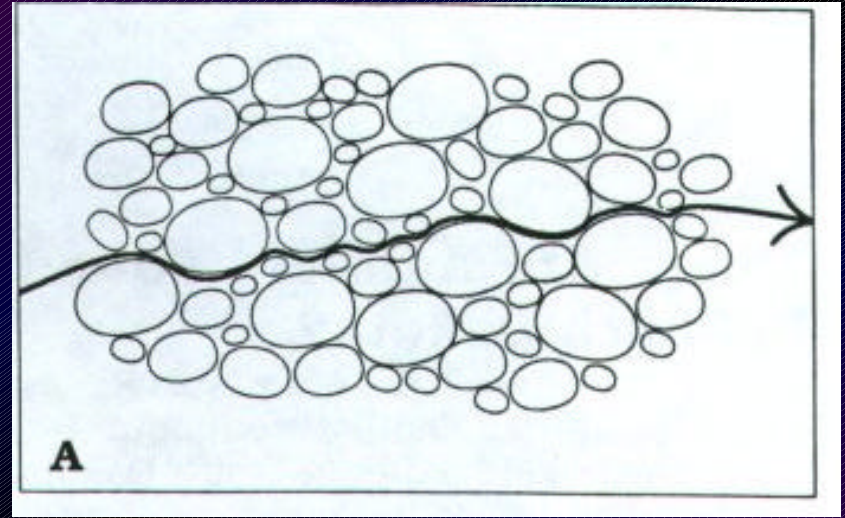
Inventory of Transboundary Groundwaters

Legend :

- responded to inventory
- transboundary aquif
- transboundary aquif



The Convention
requires that additional
specific measures **are**
taken to prevent the
pollution of
groundwaters.



“Groundwater” means all water which is below the surface of the ground in the saturated zone and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.

Additional specific measures (Recommendations, 1995)

GW protection not limited to water protection areas

Containment measures in case of new activities

Setting clean up priorities

Restoration rather than abandonment

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Protocol on Water and Health



Protocol on Water and Health

- **Surface freshwater**
- **GROUNDWATER**
- **Estuaries**
- **Coastal waters, which are used for recreation, production of fish by aquaculture, production/harvesting of shellfish**
- **Enclosed waters generally available for bathing**
- **Water in the course of **ABSTRACTION**, transport, treatment or supply**
- **Waste water throughout the course of collection, transport, treatment and discharge or reuse.**

