

## Environmental protection of Caspian Sea and its role on the regional and international security - an overview

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### ABSTRACT:

As the world's largest lake, Caspian Sea has unique environmental features. Protection of the Caspian Sea has very importance for littoral states in different terms including: economic, environmental, national and social security. Because of its special geographical position and natural resources, the Sea is of global importance in terms of geo-politics, geo-strategic and geo-economics and can help to regional and international peace and security. From the dissolution of Soviet Union in 1991, Caspian Sea Region has suffered from a divergence due to the lack of an agreed legal regime, conflicting strategies and priorities, regional competition for the exploitation of oil and gas resources, and presence of effective trans-regional actors. Certainly, the continuation of this situation will have global consequences. Therefore, regardless of the need for a legal regime and because of the cross-border nature of the Caspian Sea problems, life-science researchers, legal scholars, and coastal states have always emphasized on the necessity of regional cooperation. But the lack of a comprehensive regional strategy has led to the involvement of trans-regional actors in the regional issues. Therefore, to ensure the sustainable social security and stability of the region, it is necessary to establish a regional cooperation council. Such a council will help to develop comprehensive strategies in the field of economy, security, environment and justice. These strategies should be based on the needs and priorities of coastal states and interests of regional stakeholders and help to the development of specific regional structures to monitor related actions and proceedings. Finally, it should be said that the protection of Caspian region depends on the establishment of regional cooperation council.

### Keywords:

Caspian sea, Environmental protection, Sustainable development, Collective security.