



Presentation of the Proceedings  
of the G20 Special Event on Water 2021  
and HLRT Symposium on

The Contribution  
of Multiculturalism  
to the contemporary  
Environmental Culture  
and to the New Culture  
of Water

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# INDEX

*Scientific Abstract* 7

## *Institutional Salutes*

GIULIO TERZI DI SANT'AGATA 11

GIORGIO MARRAPODI 13

ASHRAFCON GULOV 15

## *Theoretical and Methodological Premises*

ALESSANDRO LETO 21

## *Proceedings*

TUGBA EVRIM MADEN - *Water Management in Türkiye* 29

DOMENICO GIANI - *Water, Seas and Geo-Spirituality* 37

MASSIMILIANO NANNINI - *The Contribution of Ocean and Seas* 45

ALESSANDRO LETO - *Multilateralism call Multiculturalism* 51



HLRT Symposium at the  
Italian Embassy, Ankara 2022



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G20 Special Event on Water 2021 and HLRT Symposium  
on  
“THE CONTRIBUTION  
OF MULTICULTURALISM TO THE CONTEMPORARY  
ENVIRONMENTAL CULTURE  
AND TO THE NEW CULTURE OF WATER”

Date: November 23rd 2022

Venue: Italian Embassy

Location: Ankara, Turkey

### **Abstract**

On the occasion of the presentation of the Proceedings of the G20 Special Event on Water 2021, the HLRT Symposium offers the opportunity to gather personalities from Turkish institutions, multilateral organizations, private sector and research to discuss on the different possible strategies to strengthen and enhance Science Diplomacy and Cultural Diplomacy in the vast domain of Water Policies and Water Governance.

Nowadays, the international debate on the new paths for development focuses on specific key words such as: “Sustainable”, “Intergenerational”, “Access”, but sometimes these terms are used with different meanings and generate confusion. This happens mainly when the dialogue between governments, private sector, donors and NGO’s turns from theory to practice, especially in the domain of Development Cooperation where the interaction between different entities tends to grow. Regaining an appropriate use of these words would be useful to better clarify intentions, actions and commitments of the different actors that play an important role in the fight against water scarcity, especially nowadays with the severe consequences of climate change. Among today’s major concerns there is also the bad communication due to a growing lack of each other’s comprehension. The looming tragedy of water conditions affect almost all of us and, when coupled with the exponential demographic growth, it gives the very precise idea to be one of the most difficult challenges ever in the history of humanity. Therefore, a common cultural approach based on the

shared comprehension of words, expressions and principles is needed today more than ever, in order not only to be better focused on the challenges, but also to be able to share best practices, knowledges and experiences without misunderstandings and incomprehension. Several international crises affect the present time at almost any latitude and there is a high risk that sensible issues such as Environmental Protection and Water Scarcity in particular are not given due importance, especially in terms of intergenerational dialogue. For this reason it is important to “regain possession” of the exact meaning of all those words and definitions that have contributed to build the Environmental Culture.

Today, we are perfectly aware that there is no possible progress or development without the adoption of more virtuous initiatives on Water Policy and Water Governance, at all levels. Since more than 50 years, Multilateralism not only literally “fed” the various seasons of the Environmental Culture, but can be also considered as the “cradle” of all the cultural initiatives and intellectual movements that paved the way toward the adoption of effective policies on Sustainable and Responsible Development around the world, such as the launch in 2016 of the Geneva Water Initiative by Water Academy SRD.

The aim of the HLRT Symposium 2022 in Ankara is to highlight the key role that Italy and Türkiye, two Countries that share a very similar landscape and face similar challenges in terms of environmental threats, can play in bringing a new season of mutual comprehension by sharing the inner sense of the New Culture of Water we all need to adopt, to face and possibly win the severe water challenges of the present and of the future.

*The Chairmen:*  
*Professor Alessandro Leto*  
*Ambassador Giorgio Marraopodi*