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## PRESIDENT ILHAM ALIYEV'S WATER POLICY: NATIONAL STRATEGY AND ANALYSIS IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

*Water security has emerged as a strategic priority in the XXI century, shaped by growing demographic pressures, climate change, and increasing demand for limited freshwater resources. Within this global context, national water policies play a decisive role in ensuring sustainable development, economic resilience, and social stability. This article analyses President Ilham Aliyev's water policy within the framework of Azerbaijan's 2026-2035 State Programme on the Improvement of Water Supply, Stormwater, and Wastewater Systems, situating it in both national and global water security discourses. The study examines the structural challenges facing Azerbaijan's water sector—particularly in Baku and the Absheron Peninsula—including ageing infrastructure, high water losses, and climate-related vulnerabilities. It evaluates the strategic objectives of the State Programme, such as infrastructure modernisation, reduction of water losses, diversification of water sources through reservoir construction and desalination, expansion of uninterrupted water access, and strengthening of institutional coordination mechanisms. The article further explores the integration of water policy into broader national development strategies, including ecological sustainability, economic growth, and social welfare enhancement. By aligning Azerbaijan's national water strategy with the principles of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6), the study demonstrates how domestic reforms reflect global water governance priorities. The findings suggest that President Ilham Aliyev's water policy represents not merely a technical infrastructure reform but a comprehensive strategic framework aimed at long-term water security, climate resilience, and sustainable national development.*

*Keywords:* water security, State Programme, water policy, water resources, water strategy

Water is indispensable for the survival of all living organisms. Yet, as a finite natural resource, its availability is increasingly strained by demographic growth, rapid urbanisation, and expanding economic activity. This widening gap between supply and demand has intensified pressure on freshwater systems worldwide and deepened what is now widely described as a global water crisis. According to United Nations data, millions of people die each year due to inadequate access to safe drinking water, while a significant proportion of diseases in developing countries are directly linked to unsafe water and insufficient sanitation. These realities underline the urgency of sustainable water governance and equitable access at both national and global levels.

In the contemporary era, water security has evolved from a purely environmental concern into a strategic issue closely connected to national security, economic stability, and social welfare. Climate change, shifting precipitation patterns, and growing urban populations

have further complicated water management worldwide. Within this context, state-led water policy has become an essential instrument for long-term development planning. Azerbaijan, recognising these global trends, has positioned water security as a national priority.

On 12 January 2026, President Ilham Aliyev approved the State Programme for 2026–2035 aimed at improving water supply, stormwater, and wastewater systems in Baku and the Absheron Peninsula. This initiative reflects a comprehensive effort to address long-standing infrastructural challenges while preparing the country's water systems for future demographic and climatic pressures. In his address, the President stated that the provision of drinking water to Baku and the Absheron Peninsula had remained a serious issue for many years; therefore, a broader and more systematic State Programme was prepared. The Programme will encompass not only Baku but also Sumgayit and surrounding residential settlements. The problem of water supply has for many years remained one of the most serious challenges affecting the social and economic life of Azerbaijan's cities, particularly Baku and the Absheron Peninsula. Rapid population growth, urbanisation, and industrial development have significantly increased the burden on the existing water infrastructure. In these regions, ageing pipelines and the prolonged lack of renovation of water networks have resulted in persistently high levels of water loss—approximately 40–45 percent—leading to interruptions in the provision of drinking water and the inefficient use of resources. These circumstances adversely affect the daily life quality of the population and call into question the sustainability of the water supply system.

In his public addresses, President Ilham Aliyev has repeatedly emphasised that, although the provision of water to Baku and the Absheron Peninsula had long constituted a serious problem, the adoption of large-scale programmes became necessary in order to resolve the issue in a comprehensive manner. The Head of State has underlined that water-related problems are not solely technical in nature; rather, they require a systematic approach linked to social welfare, public health, and sustainable urbanisation.

The *State Programme for 2026–2035 on the Improvement of Water Supply, Stormwater, and Wastewater Systems in the City of Baku and the Absheron Peninsula* is not confined to eliminating existing deficiencies, it also sets out a long-term plan aimed at addressing anticipated future needs. The Programme aims to align water supply and sewerage systems in Baku, Sumgayit, and 64 surrounding settlements with modern standards, thereby providing a structured roadmap for systemic reform in this sector.

Among the principal measures envisaged within the framework of the State Programme, particular importance is attached to the following:

The renewal and modernisation of existing water supply and sewerage infrastructure, including the complete rehabilitation and reconstruction of main trunk pipelines (for instance, more than 110 kilometres of principal pipelines are planned to be upgraded);

The development of new water sources and the construction of reservoirs, with approximately 28–30 new reservoirs envisaged. This is expected to facilitate the balancing of existing water resources and ensure a stable water supply adapted to seasonal variations.

The expansion of uninterrupted and sustainable access to drinking water constitutes another central objective of the Programme. It is planned to increase the proportion of the population provided with continuous water supply from approximately 70 percent to 95 percent, thereby making a direct contribution to the enhancement of social welfare. The introduction of modern stormwater and wastewater management systems, including the construction of extensive rainwater collectors and new drainage infrastructure aimed at reducing flood risks, forms an integral component of the Programme. Innovative projects, such as the construction of a desalination plant, are intended to diversify water supply sources

and create additional capacity, representing a practical application of technological advancement in this field.

These measures demonstrate that the Programme encompasses not only technical renovation but also a strategic approach to the efficient management of water resources and sustainable planning for future generations. The implementation of the State Programme is co-ordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers, and the relevant official documents stipulate that its execution will be subject to regular monitoring, with annual reports submitted to the President.

Ultimately, these efforts concerning the recognition and resolution of water supply challenges are evaluated not merely as responses to current deficiencies, but as an essential component of Azerbaijan's long-term strategy for social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The State Programme offers a comprehensive and inclusive approach that takes into account not only the existing manifestations of strategic water-related problems but also future demand and technological challenges, thereby marking the beginning of a qualitatively new phase in the management of water resources.

The Programme will be implemented in two phases. During the period 2026–2030, priority will be given to the renewal and modernisation of existing water networks, the improvement of stormwater management, and the upgrading of sewerage systems. In the period 2031–2035, the construction of new reservoirs and the expansion of water supply infrastructure are envisaged. This phased structure reinforces the Programme's long-term sustainability objectives.

The principal objectives of the Programme include the establishment of a sustainable and uninterrupted drinking water supply system, the application of modern technologies to reduce water losses, the efficient management of stormwater and wastewater, and the development of new sources, including the construction of reservoirs. Covering the period 2026–2035, the State Programme on the Improvement of Water Supply, Stormwater, and Wastewater Systems represents not merely a technical rehabilitation plan for Azerbaijan, but a large-scale development document with clearly defined strategic objectives. It embodies the core pillars of national water policy and is directed towards ensuring long-term sustainable governance, enhancing social welfare, and maintaining ecological stability.

One of the principal strategic targets of the Programme is to ensure uninterrupted and sustainable access to drinking water in Baku, Sumgayit, Absheron, and 64 surrounding settlements. The aim is to increase the level of water provision in these areas from the current approximately 70 percent to 95 percent, thereby directly improving the quality of life of the population. This objective is not confined to the renewal of existing infrastructure; it also seeks to render the water supply system resilient to future climate extremes and demographic growth—that is, the system is to be proactively optimised and reinforced in anticipation of forthcoming challenges.

At present, water losses within the distribution network amount to approximately 40–45 percent, indicating that existing resource potential is not being utilised effectively. The State Programme envisages a substantial reduction of these losses through the introduction of modern network monitoring, smart metering systems, and updated technologies. These measures will not only enhance economic efficiency but also contribute to the conservation of water resources and improve the reliability of water quality, which is essential for public health and environmental sustainability.

One of the strategic objectives of the Programme is the diversification of water sources, which entails not relying solely on existing rivers and reservoirs but also ensuring the utilisation of alternative sources. Within this framework, the construction of approximately 28–30 new reservoirs are planned, which will contribute to the seasonal balancing of water

resources and the sustainable use of existing supplies. In addition, the construction of a desalination plant using Caspian Sea water is envisaged, representing a strategically significant innovation for the region and enhancing the long-term reliability and climate resilience of water supply.

The Programme also establishes comprehensive measures for stormwater management and wastewater treatment. For example, new stormwater collector networks are planned in Baku to mitigate flood risks, thereby alleviating the impacts of urbanisation. Significant investments are also planned for the full treatment of wastewater and the modernisation of major treatment facilities, such as the Hovsan plant, aiming to reduce pollution in the Caspian Sea.

Another strategic goal of the Programme is to ensure the resilience of the water system in the face of global challenges such as climate change. The President has emphasised in his addresses that water security is particularly sensitive under climate stress, highlighting the priority of this approach. In this context, the redesign of water networks and the implementation of new network technologies have been planned to meet not only current but also future climate-related needs. Within the framework of the Programme, strategic objectives extend beyond the implementation of physical infrastructure measures to include the institutional strengthening of coordination, monitoring, and execution mechanisms. The execution of measures is co-ordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers, with annual reports on their implementation submitted to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, while monitoring is carried out systematically by the relevant state bodies.

The Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Economy align the Programme's financial support within the framework of the state budget and investment programmes, representing a strategic mechanism that ensures the financial sustainability of the initiative. The strategic goals of this comprehensive Programme are not limited to the renewal of water infrastructure; they encompass multiple long-term objectives, including the sustainable provision of water, enhancement of social welfare, preservation of ecological balance, resilience to climate threats, development of new water sources, and the strengthening of state governance structures.

President Ilham Aliyev's address at the 12 January 2026 meeting clearly underscores why water strategy has been designated as a national priority. The Head of State emphasised that the issue of water supply had long constituted a serious concern and highlighted the necessity of implementing large-scale programmes in line with global standards to resolve it.

President Aliyev's water policy is not merely a package of technical projects; it also represents the formulation of a national strategy, the prioritisation of state policy, and the permanent positioning of water security on the socio-political agenda. His speeches articulate the objectives, key principles, and long-term strategy of this policy in a multifaceted manner.

As highlighted in the President's official statements, in the early 2000s, the level of access to drinking water in Azerbaijan was very low—overall coverage nationwide was approximately 40 percent, with even lower levels in some cities. This situation had serious social and economic implications. The President noted that, over time, these indicators increased to approximately 70 percent nationwide, with uninterrupted water supply in the capital reaching 82 percent. Nevertheless, as these targets were not fully achieved, the sector required broader programmes. The main aim of this strategy is to approach near-universal access to drinking and irrigation water, necessitating the preparation of a comprehensive water balance, the elimination of losses and leaks, and the modern assessment of water resources.

President Aliyev also emphasised the principle of coordination and accountability within water policy. He explained that, in previous periods, the absence of a unified

management mechanism for water resources led to inefficiencies in the activities of various institutions and an improper water balance. Consequently, the water strategy must transition to a centralised system, with investment efficiency subject to rigorous oversight. These statements demonstrate that engineering upgrades alone are insufficient in water policy; strategic planning and governance are equally critical. According to the President, the state must make well-calculated decisions in this sector and eliminate losses and inefficient use of resources.

In President İlham Aliyev's addresses, the impact of climate change on water security occupies a central position. He has noted that in recent years Azerbaijan has experienced droughts and insufficient rainfall for irrigation, conditions that render water resources increasingly vulnerable. Under such circumstances, the efficient use of water resources is considered a key priority, and the state strategy explicitly recognises this factor. These statements underscore in the President's addresses that the water strategy must be developed not only at the level of infrastructure but also as a resilient system capable of addressing risks such as floods, droughts, and climate stress.

In 2024, President İlham Aliyev approved the National Strategy on the Efficient Use of Water Resources. This document formally strengthens the scientific and sustainable management of water resources across the entire country, not just in the capital or the Absheron Peninsula. The implementation of the Strategy includes the application of an annual reporting system, which serves as a crucial mechanism for ensuring transparency and continuity in state policy.

The Strategy translates the fundamental water-related principles outlined in the President's speeches into a non-political state document with clearly defined implementation mechanisms. As a result, water policy is not confined to planning alone but is realised through long-term programmes. President Aliyev's addresses also frame water policy as a priority within both regional and national strategies. He has stated that the water challenges in Baku and the Absheron Peninsula carry the same level of priority as other infrastructure projects, and the State Programme has been designed to bring about a transformative effect in this sector.

The water strategy is integrated with other strategic objectives of the state-including the enhancement of social welfare, economic growth, agricultural development, and ecological sustainability. Initiatives within the State Programme, such as the creation of new water sources, the reduction of water losses, and water supply projects for small-scale entrepreneurs, represent the practical implementation of this vision.

In his addresses, President Aliyev does not present water policy merely as a technical plan; he also emphasises the importance of informing the public about the policy's successes and objectives. He has noted that the implementation and outcomes of water projects should be consistently highlighted in mass media, enabling citizens to follow the process of addressing water-related challenges and to participate in it actively. This approach reinforces the social dimension of water policy, directly reflecting its impact on citizens' daily lives. Water policy should not be confined solely to structural projects; it must also operate as a process that is publicly understood, accepted, and supported.

President İlham Aliyev's speeches and strategic approach within the framework of water policy address the broad-ranging aspects of water challenges, including national security, economic prosperity, ecological balance, and the conservation of resources for future generations. These addresses demonstrate that the policy does not end with the creation of a comprehensive state programme; rather, the content of the programme must be integrated into state governance, public engagement, and long-term strategic planning.

President has also noted that the construction of a desalination plant using Caspian Sea water will be implemented in Azerbaijan for the first time, providing an attractive additional water source. The relatively low salinity of the Caspian Sea makes this project technically feasible, contributing to the diversification of water resources through the application of modern technologies. Furthermore, President Aliyev emphasised that water projects will be implemented not only through state investment but also with foreign investment, highlighting the role of international co-operation in this sector.

The ecological dimension of water policy is another critical aspect of the Programme. Efficient management of stormwater reduces the risk of urban flooding and supports ecological resilience during phases of urban development. The new systems improve sanitation conditions within urban environments while mitigating negative environmental impacts. Sustainable water provision demonstrates that this policy is not merely an infrastructure issue but also a means of ensuring social welfare. Continuous access to drinking water is vital for public health, quality of life, and social services, thereby directly affecting the well-being of large segments of the population.

Water security is not only essential for meeting human needs but also serves as a strategic factor for the sustainability of ecosystems and the protection of the environment. The preservation of water resources constitutes a core element of the country's ecological policy and is directly linked to the efficient use of natural resources, the prevention of water pollution, and the maintenance of ecological balance. In Azerbaijan, environmental protection and the sustainable management of water resources form an integral part of the state's long-term development strategy. Within this framework, the efficient management of water ensures the health of ecosystems while contributing to the preservation of natural equilibrium. Measures adopted in this sector aim to provide citizens with a clean-living environment and to prevent the contamination of water resources.

The provision of clean and sustainable water is also crucial for safeguarding ecological security. For instance, the pollution of drinking water harms not only the environment but also human health. Given that environmental protection and water preservation are priorities of state policy, the renewal of water networks and the improvement of wastewater treatment systems are key instruments for maintaining ecological balance.

Water security additionally functions as a vital resource for economic development. Water is essential for sectors such as agriculture, industry, energy, and tourism, and the quality and accessibility of water directly affect economic productivity. As emphasised by President Ilham Aliyev during the meeting, water is not only used for domestic consumption but is also a critical resource for industrial and agricultural activities. Water scarcity can negatively impact the entire economic system, making water security an integral component of economic policy. Sectoral analyses indicate that water shortages pose significant risks to agriculture and food production at a global level, potentially resulting in economic losses. Since a substantial portion of worldwide economic activity depends on water, reductions in water availability can negatively affect global Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

For Azerbaijan, the sustainability of water supply is critically important for the growth of regional investment and industrial activity, as well as for the stable production of agricultural goods. The efficient use of water resources supports the country's economic development and enhances regional competitiveness, serving as a cornerstone for sustainable economic growth.

The social dimension of water security relates directly to the fulfilment of basic human needs. Continuous and high-quality water provision directly improves public health, sanitation, and overall quality of life. Lack of access to drinking water can lead to the spread of disease and other public health challenges, which in turn degrade living conditions and

increase social tension. Water security is thus a fundamental element of social welfare and plays a crucial role in elevating the standard of living for the population.

President İlham Aliyev has also emphasised in his addresses the impact of water policy on social welfare. Uninterrupted water supply is regarded as a foundational component of healthcare, education, and social services, while inadequate provision in this sector can exacerbate social inequalities. In this context, the State Programme improves citizens' daily lives and strengthens social stability by ensuring water security.

Water security is also considered a matter of national security. Given the strategic significance of water access at both global and regional levels, control over water resources serves as a source of political and economic power. During the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict, the use of water resources for political purposes further demonstrated the strategic importance of water security, highlighting that it is not merely a matter of drinking water provision but also a critical factor influencing regional stability.

Water security constitutes a foundation for sustainable development, as both the availability and quality of water must simultaneously support economic, social, and environmental objectives. Sustainable water management involves not only meeting present-day needs but also ensuring the preservation of water resources for future generations. Accordingly, water policy must be planned as a central element of national development to prevent any social or economic group from being adversely affected by water scarcity.

Water security is a directly interlinked component of ecological sustainability, economic development, and social welfare. The strategic decisions of the Azerbaijani government regarding water provision and management—including the 2026–2035 State Programme developed under the leadership of President İlham Aliyev—aim to address all three of these dimensions simultaneously and are regarded as a strategic objective for national development. This approach frames water security not merely as the utilisation of physical resources, but as a complex political, economic, and environmental issue.

Water security carries strategic significance not only at the national level but also globally. United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) calls on all countries to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,” establishing global priorities for water policy. This objective encompasses not only the availability of water but also the protection of the environment, equitable access, sanitation services, and efficient management.

Within the framework of SDG 6, a series of targets have been identified for global water security, serving as both adaptation benchmarks and criteria for strategic planning at the national level: ensuring universal and equitable access to safe drinking water; increasing the availability of sanitation and hygiene services; improving water quality and reducing pollution; promoting water-use efficiency and preventing water scarcity; implementing integrated water resources management and expanding transboundary cooperation; and protecting and restoring water-dependent ecosystems. These targets constitute the core pillars of global water policy and require a comprehensive, multidimensional approach to address water-related challenges. Such priorities highlight the reality that water is not only essential for consumption but is also critical for the protection of ecological systems and the sustainable functioning of agricultural and industrial sectors.

Global challenges to water security continue to grow. Factors such as population growth, urbanisation, climate change, and declining water quality increasingly complicate the management of water resources. According to the World Health Organization, approximately 2.2 billion people still lack access to safely managed water services, representing a major barrier to global development.

Furthermore, the United Nations and other international organisations promote global efforts to ensure water sustainability and emphasise the need for coordinated action among partner countries. Large-scale strategic global documents link water policy closely with economic stability, health, food security, and social welfare. These approaches underscore that global water governance requires more scientifically grounded, sustainable, and equitable strategies.

International cooperation occupies a central role in global water security priorities. For example, the United Nations, working alongside its various agencies, implements projects aimed at improving access to water, sanitation, and the efficient use of resources, while also supporting the resolution of ongoing challenges. This cooperation is important not only for developing countries but also for enhancing global water governance as a whole.

International bodies such as the World Water Council urge states to prioritise water security, emphasising that the efficient management of water is essential for public health, food security, energy, and industrial activity, while also requiring increased investment.

Within this global context, Azerbaijan aligns its water policy with the principles of United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6). The 2026–2035 State Programme goes beyond improving national water provision, implementing measures in line with global priorities—such as promoting efficiency, expanding sanitation services, improving water quality, and ensuring sustainable water resource management. This approach reflects not only the resolution of national challenges but also the adoption of a strategy consistent with international standards.

Water security is recognised as a key global priority, as explicitly highlighted in SDG 6, which seeks sustainable management of water and sanitation, protection of water quality, and equitable access. This framework helps countries align their water policies with global standards and establishes requirements for long-term strategic planning.

Azerbaijan’s water strategy runs parallel to these international imperatives. The State Programme, by promoting sustainable water provision, new infrastructure, and efficient resource management, aligns national policy with global water governance objectives.

Under President Ilham Aliyev’s leadership, the water policy aims to achieve several key outcomes: optimising and securing national water provision; expanding infrastructure investment and applying modern technologies; reducing water losses and wastewater; and enhancing international cooperation and investment opportunities. This approach addresses water supply challenges not only at the local level but also supports the country’s long-term social and economic development. The State Programme is designed both to resolve immediate difficulties and to strengthen systems that ensure the sustainable management of water resources.

President Ilham Aliyev’s water policy represents a strategic approach that integrates national development plans with global water security priorities. The “2026–2035 State Programme” promotes the sustainable development of water supply and related systems, serving both to enhance social welfare and to strengthen ecological and economic resilience. This Programme is not merely a development plan; it marks a new stage in Azerbaijan’s water policy.

At the state level, the national strategy aligns with global water security priorities, which extend beyond ensuring the physical availability of water. It also encompasses equitable access to water, the development of sanitation services, the protection of ecosystems, and the efficient management of resources. The framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals institutionalises this approach globally, positioning water policy as an integral component of sustainable development.

Azerbaijan's water strategy aligns with these global priorities, reflecting a systematic approach that ensures access to water for future generations while harmonising national policy with international standards.

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### PREZİDENT İLHAM ƏLİYEVİN SU SİYASƏTİ: MİLLİ STRATEGİYA VƏ QLOBAL KONTEKSTDƏ TƏHLİL XÜLASƏ

*Açar sözlər:* su təhlükəsizliyi, Dövlət Proqramı, su siyasəti, su ehtiyatları, su strategiyası

Su təhlükəsizliyi XXI əsrdə strateji prioritet kimi ön plana çıxmışdır və bu, artan əhali təzyiqləri, iqlim dəyişiklikləri və məhdud şirin su ehtiyatlarına artan tələbatla formalaşmışdır. Bu qlobal kontekstdə milli su siyasəti dayanıqlı inkişafın, iqtisadi möhkəmliyin və sosial sabitliyin təmin edilməsində həlledici rol oynayır. Bu məqalədə Prezident İlham Əliyevin su siyasəti Azərbaycanın “Bakı şəhərində və Abşeron yarımadasında su təchizatı, yağış və çirkab suları sistemlərinin təkmilləşdirilməsinə dair 2026–2035-ci illər üçün Dövlət Proqramı” çərçivəsində təhlil olunur, eləcə də, həm milli, həm də qlobal su təhlükəsizliyi diskursları kontekstində qiymətləndirilir. Tədqiqat Azərbaycanın su təsərrüfatı sahəsinin qarşılaşdığı struktur problemləri, xüsusilə Bakı və Abşeron yarımadasında köhnəmiş infrastruktur, yüksək su itkiləri və iqlimlə bağlı həssaslıqları araşdırır. Məqalə Dövlət Proqramının əsas strateji məqsədlərini xüsusilə qeyd edir, o cümlədən infrastrukturun modernləşdirilməsi, su itkilərinin azaldılması, su mənbələrinin şaxələndirilməsi (su anbarları tikilməsi və duzsuzlaşdırma), fasiləsiz su təminatının genişləndirilməsi və qurumlararası əlaqələndirmə vasitələrinin gücləndirilməsi. Bundan əlavə, məqalə su siyasətinin ekoloji dayanıqlılıq, iqtisadi artım və sosial rifahın yüksəldilməsi kimi geniş milli inkişaf strategiyalarına inteqrasiyasını araşdırır. Azərbaycanın milli su strategiyasının Birləşmiş Millətlər Təşkilatının Dayanıqlı İnkişaf Məqsədi 6 (SDG 6) prinsipləri ilə uyğunlaşdırılması göstərir ki, ölkədaxili islahatlar qlobal su idarəçiliyi prioritetlərini əks etdirir. Nəticələr göstərir ki, Prezident İlham Əliyevin su siyasəti yalnız texniki infrastruktur islahatı deyil, həm də uzunmüddətli su təhlükəsizliyinə, iqlimə davamlılığa və dayanıqlı milli inkişafa yönəlmiş kompleks strateji çərçivədir.

ПОЛИТИКА В ОБЛАСТИ ВОДНЫХ РЕСУРСОВ ПРЕЗИДЕНТА ИЛЬХАМА  
АЛИЕВА: НАЦИОНАЛЬНАЯ СТРАТЕГИЯ И АНАЛИЗ В ГЛОБАЛЬНОМ  
КОНТЕКСТЕ  
*РЕЗЮМЕ*

*Ключевые слова:* водная безопасность, Государственная программа, водная политика, водные ресурсы, водная стратегия

Водная безопасность в XXI веке стала стратегическим приоритетом, обусловленным растущим демографическим давлением, изменением климата и увеличением спроса на ограниченные пресноводные ресурсы. В этом глобальном контексте национальная водная политика играет решающую роль в обеспечении устойчивого развития, экономической стабильности и социальной стабильности. В данной статье анализируется водная политика Президента Ильхама Алиева в рамках Государственной программы Азербайджана «О совершенствовании систем водоснабжения, ливневой канализации и сточных вод в городе Баку и на Абшеронском полуострове на 2026–2035 годы» и оценивается в контексте как национальных, так и глобальных дискурсов водной безопасности. Исследование рассматривает структурные проблемы водного сектора Азербайджана - особенно в Баку и на Абшеронском полуострове - включая устаревшую инфраструктуру, высокие потери воды и климатические уязвимости. Статья оценивает основные стратегические цели Государственной программы, включая модернизацию инфраструктуры, сокращение потерь воды, диверсификацию водных источников (строительство водохранилищ и опреснительных установок), расширение доступа к непрерывному водоснабжению и укрепление механизмов координации между учреждениями. Кроме того, статья исследует интеграцию водной политики в более широкие национальные стратегии развития, включая экологическую устойчивость, экономический рост и повышение социального благосостояния. Согласование национальной водной стратегии Азербайджана с принципами Цели устойчивого развития 6 (SDG 6) Организации Объединённых Наций демонстрирует, как внутренние реформы отражают приоритеты глобального управления водными ресурсами. Результаты исследования показывают, что водная политика Президента Ильхама Алиева представляет собой не только техническую реформу инфраструктуры, но и комплексную стратегическую рамку, направленную на долгосрочную водную безопасность, климатическую устойчивость и устойчивое национальное развитие.

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