

Why the states/entities in the Jordan River Basin are co-operating over their scarce water resource

The Hague, 2004

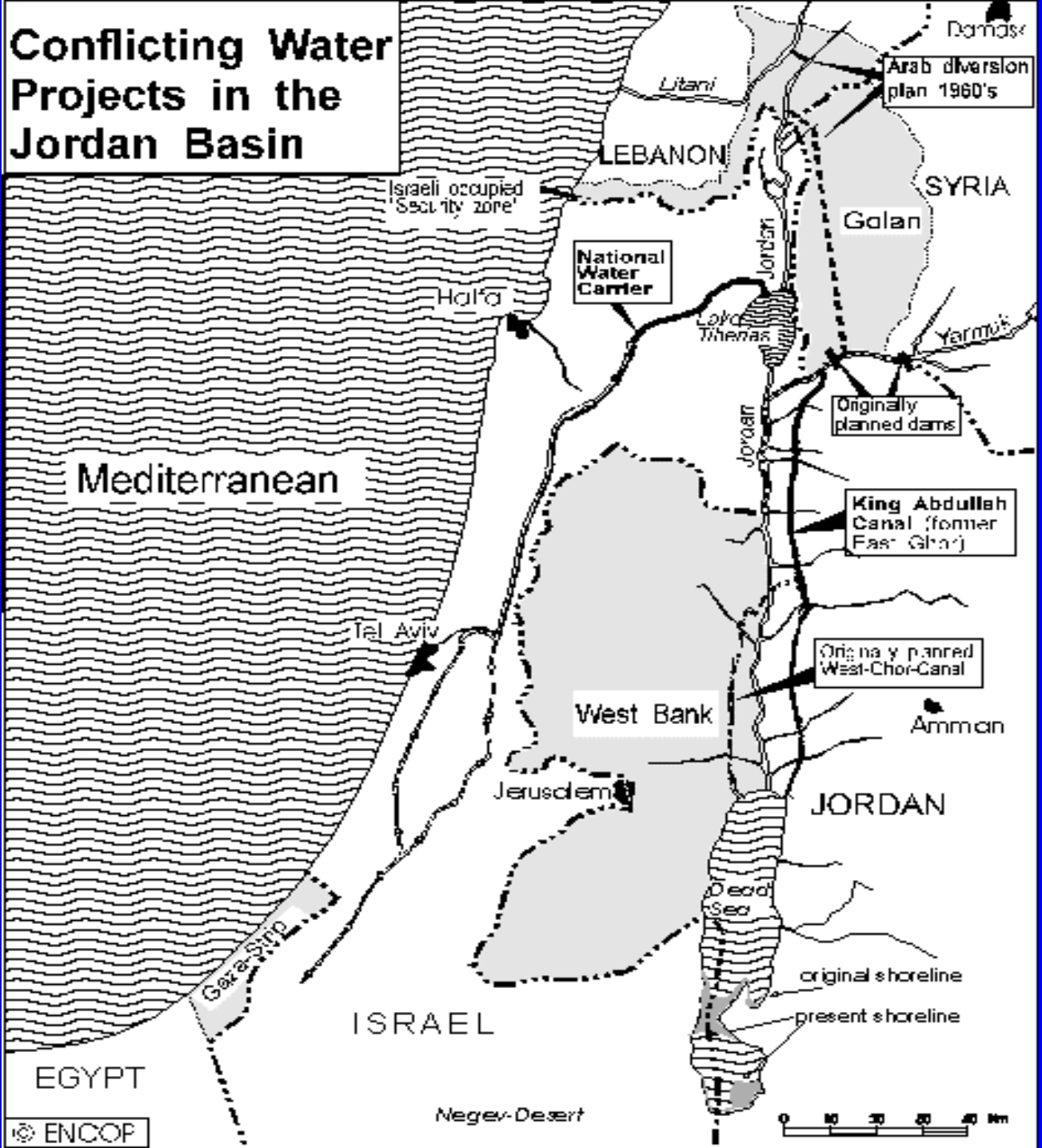
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Disposition

- Water in the Middle East Peace Process
- Theoretical perspective
 - Regime theory
 - Water regimes
- Regime characteristics in the Jordan River Basin
- Policy Relevance

Conflicting Water Projects in the Jordan Basin



Why study water regimes?

- Interdependence in world politics created new rules, procedures and institutions (Keohane & Nye, 1977)
- Hydrological interdependence (Elhance)

Regimes and co-operation

- Regimes create an arena for political bargaining (Keohane, 1993)
- Regime interaction can foster a convergence in value orientation. (Wendt, 1994)
- Regimes a policy coordination tool (Hasenclever et al, 1997)

The Jordan River Basin

- a formation of a water regime?

Regime features in the Jordan River Basin

- Picnic Table Talks in 50s – Israeli-Jordanian low-key water co-operation in spite of *de jure* war.
- Johnston-plan in 50s. Although widely rejected it has served as a baseline.
- Peace Agreement 1994 between Israel and Jordan – formalisation of a water regime.
- Joint Water Committee's have continued to function in spite of conflict.

Quality of regime

- effectiveness and robustness

- Effectiveness – obedience of norms and rules of the regime
- Robustness and resilience – refers to “*staying power*” of a regime in face of exogenous challenges (Hasenclever et al, 1997)

Policy relevance

- Water linked to politics. Water issues often treated as separate from other political fields.
- Process-support key. Patience needed.
- Potential spill-over effects

Thank You!