## THE WATER SPRINGS - SOURCES FOR WATER SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION IN THE NISTRU RIVER BASIN

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## In Memory of Valeriu Ropot for his scientific contributions in Waters Protection

**Abstract.** The present study estimates chemical composition and status of the groundwater from the Nistru (Dniester) river basin (about 360 springs and fountains). Research includes defining of springs/fountains location, evaluating physicochemical features of water, highlighting of main pollutants and pollution sources, establishing of water type and quality. It was established that springs/fountains with water that meets the criteria for drinking scope constitute 21%, sanitary acceptable for consumption is water from 129 springs/fountains, with high content of dissolved salts (mineralization >1000 mg/dm<sup>3</sup>) and hardness exceeding 10 me/dm<sup>3</sup> (very hard water) were in 18.5% of sources and approximately 25% of the springs are water polluted with nitrates and its content is more than the MAC from 1 to 6 times.

Keywords: groundwater, chemicals state, pollution sources, correlation of components, water type and qualification.