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Assessment of Different Contaminants in Freshwater: Origin, Fate, and Ecological Impact

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Message from the Guest Editors

Freshwaters are subject to frequent and intense large-scale disturbances. Pollution, irrigation withdrawal, alteration of freshwater flows, road construction, aquifer mining, surface water diversion, desertification, wetland drainage, soil erosion in agriculture, deforestation, and dam building have led to some irreversible species losses and severe changes in community compositions of freshwater ecosystems. Pollution represents one of the most relevant impacts on freshwater environments, ranging from surface water bodies to groundwater and transitional habitats between surfacewaters and groundwaters. The origins and fates of pollutants are different, and depend on the pollutants considered: including fertilizers, together with pesticides, in agricultural areas; heavy methals, chlorinated organic compounds, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) predominantly deriving from industrial and urban settlements; as well as microplastics, which are increasing in concentration in freshwater bodies, and which, together with pharmaceuticals, personal care products (PCPs), and endocrine-disrupting compounds (EDCs), constitute the emerging contaminants in freshwater systems.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

In the context of global changes, the sustainable management of water cycles, going from global and regional water cycles to urban, industrial and agricultural water cycles, plays a very important role on the water resources and on their relationships with food, energy, biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and human health. *Water* invites authors to provide innovative original full articles, critical reviews and timely short communications and to propose special issues devoted to new technological and scientific domains and to interdisciplinary approaches of the water cycles. We ensure a critical review process and a quick turnaround between submission and final decision.

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