

# PRIORITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE BLACK SEA AND THE ROMANIAN SEA COAST

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**ABSTRACT:** *During the past decades there has been detected a growing pollution of the Ocean Planet, covering over 70% of the world surface. Pollution occurred and is occurring either indirectly, through rivers flowing into it, or directly, through wastewaters located along the coastline, through the industrial activities from the coastal platforms or through shipping. In addition to the quantities and types of pollutants, a role in the practical and varied deterioration of the marine environment is played by the physical and geographical factors, such as, among others, the shape and depth of the respective aquatic areas, the climatic zones, the physical-chemical properties of waters, and, especially, the dynamics of waters at surface and depth levels. Lately, the Black Sea has suffered damage to environmental conditions, due to coastal erosion, eutrophication, sewage treatment failure, and introduction of exotic species, habitat loss and inadequate management. Biological diversity has decreased dramatically. Several oil tanker accidents led to oil pollution, and their number is likely to increase, taking into consideration shipping routes. The Black Sea is now considered the most seriously degraded sea of the planet.*

**KEYWORDS:** *pollution, marine environment, sustainable development, legal protection, the Black Sea.*

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