The discourse of the right of access to water in the committees of the watersheds of the Piracicaba, Capivari and Jundiaí rivers

O discurso do direito de acesso à água nos comitês das bacias hidrográficas dos rios Piracicaba, Capivari e Jundiaí

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Abstract

This study questions whether the availability of water, despite being a fundamental condition for the survival and maintenance of human life, presents specificities in its management that end up disproportionately affecting those who, in some way, are linked to vulnerable, unprotected or disadvantaged social strata of society. Through content analysis of the reports and minutes of the meetings of the Technical Planning Chamber of the Piracicaba, Capivari

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and Jundiaí River Basin Committees, an attempt was made to assess the extent to which the population at risk of scarcity and social, territorial, political, or economic vulnerability can have their right of access to water guaranteed. It was verified that the reports analyzed do not mention the universal right of access to water, nor its implementation or the promotion of specific policies for this purpose. Based on the results of the analysis carried out, it is suggested that the collection of data and information relevant to the topic should be included in the discussion and highlighted in the proposal of policies and actions for strategic planning to ensure the comprehensiveness and expansion of access to water for a fraction of the population that has not yet been satisfactorily and adequately reached by this benefit.

**Keywords:** Access to Water. Vulnerable Populations. Content Analysis. Public Policies.

**Introduction**

Access to water is a necessary condition for the survival of all living organisms on our
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planet. However, in the case of human beings, in addition to irrigation, water has a wide variety of uses and destinations, whether for economic, cultural or leisure purposes. If, on the one hand, water is a natural heritage of humanity and, therefore, presumably of universal access; on the other, it is a finite resource, which, due to the multiple factors that interfere in the hydrological cycle, does not reach in adequate quantity and quality and homogeneously to all the population and territories where it is located (Torres, 2020). Therefore, it is essential to analyze and discuss how water resources are being managed to ensure both the immediate right to universal access to water and its sustainability, with a view to the right of access to this precious good by future generations (Ferreira, 2021).

Evidently, this discussion must be in line with the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development approved by the United Nations and adopted by Brazil, along with 193 other countries. This agenda includes the 17 Sustainable Development Goals - SDGs and 169 targets to achieve them. The 2030 agenda was conceived as a plan of action in favor of people, planet, and prosperity. To achieve sustainable development and regarding access to water, SDG 6 was explicitly stated, which reads "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all" (Desa, 2016). But, meeting access to water, also directly implies other SDGs such as 10 "Reduce inequality within and between countries"; 11 "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable"; and 17 "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development"; The reduction of inequality among human beings and the sustainability of cities and settlements cannot be conceived without taking into account access to water, both in quantity and quality, which requires the means of implementation, in addition to the revitalization of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

It should be considered that within the right to drinking water for the consumption of the human population, it is necessary to consider the ecological flow. García de Jalón and Gonzáles del Tanago (1998, p. 03) propose "a flow circulating through a channel could be considered as ecological, provided that it is capable of maintaining the functioning, composition, and structure of the fluvial ecosystem that this channel contains under natural conditions." Since the water resource, in quantity and quality, depends entirely on a healthy ecosystem, this consideration should not be excluded from the water management of any territory.

Concerning the "value of water," we must include other considerations beyond consumption and use in various subsistence economic activities. In the legal sphere, for example, the United Nations Water Resources Development Report 2021 (2021, p. 25)
highlights that "the values of water in terms of human well-being go far beyond its mere support for the direct functions that sustain physical life, include mental health, spiritual well-being, emotional balance, and happiness." These aspects contextualize and impact decision-making in any land use plan, not only to regulate its use but also as a valuable tool to reach socio-environmental agreements for protecting, conserving, and recovering water resources. Especially in the context of adapting to climate change, giving special relevance to women's work in water management.

Including the cultural perspective in any management, model is important, as understanding ecosystems and their relationship with social structures substantially influences how human beings relate to the environment, whether in a purely extractive way of natural resources or as a "Common house." As Angel Maya maintains, these two orders are recognized as independent: the ecosystem and the cultural order both have their operating laws. That would be the environmental problem. If man had to adapt by fulfilling a function within the ecosystem, there would be no environmental problem. This arises because the human species occupies no niche within the ecosystem. If the human species has achieved certain independence, it results from an evolutionary process.

Including this cultural vision in any management model is important because the understanding of ecosystems and their relationship with social structures substantially influences the way in which human beings relate to the environment, whether in a purely extractive way of resources natural or as "a common house". Augusto Angel Maya (1996) argues that, above all, the two orders are recognized as independent. Both the ecosystem and the cultural order have their laws of operation. This is an environmental problem. If man had to adapt by fulfilling a function within the ecosystem, there would be no environmental problems. The environmental problem arises because the human species does not occupy a niche within the ecosystem. The fact that the human species has achieved a certain independence result from the evolutionary process. The relationship between ecosystem and culture is not given only through technique but also through how men relate to each other.

One of the tools that it would be necessary to discuss as a "cultural" alternative to include communities in decision-making about water uses, their access to drinking water as a fundamental right and that is a guarantee of effective autonomy could be a new category of rights of nature that can declare some strategic ecosystems such as river basins as "subjects of rights". The rights of nature are conceived as another way of applying justice. In Latin America, it is based on philosophical principles of the worldview of indigenous peoples where all the components of an ecosystem (animal, river, stone, tree...) are considered "relatives".
and before this fact, they have the right to develop their vital cycles, structure, functions, and evolutionary dynamics.

When there is a regulatory framework that protects ecosystems as "subjects", non-compliance with environmental obligations by third parties (natural or legal persons, including the State itself) can be sanctioned through local communities and, consequently, mitigation or remediation measures can be taken with the support of State regulations. An example mentioned by Gonzáles Gavíria came from The Constitutional Court of Colombia (2020, p. 29). The high constitutional court of Colombia issued the landmark ruling on the protection of hydrographic sources in Colombia with an ecocentric approach (different from the Bolivian and Ecuadorian, which is biocentric). Indeed, at the review site of a protection action filed by ethnic communities, inhabitants of the banks of the Atrato River, to issue orders to stop illegal mining and logging and stop the disposal in the river of dangerous toxic substances for the physical and cultural life of the communities, as well as the environmental damage to the ecosystems, the Constitutional Court declared that the river, its basin, and its tributaries must be recognized as an "entity subject to rights to protection, conservation, maintenance and restoration by the State and ethnic communities."

In Brazil, Law 9.433/1997 (Brasil, 1997), which institutes the National Water Resources Policy in the country, establishes that its management aims to provide access to multiple uses of water to the most different categories of users. To achieve this objective, it establishes that river basins will be taken as the territorial units in which administrative entities, public and private organizations will follow specific rules and guidelines for the use, management, and destination of water, thus guaranteeing social participation in water resources management. It is important to note, in the first place, that the implementation of public policies in this area takes place within the National Water Resources Management System, of which the River Basin Committees are an integral part. Secondly, that among the attributions of the Committees is the monitoring and establishment of criteria for the elaboration of basin water resources management plans, the arbitration of water-related conflicts, and the promotion of debates and the articulation of the actions of the entities that compose and integrate them.

What we propose to discuss in this text is whether the universality of the right of access to water is among the criteria used to establish priorities in times of water scarcity. When water is scarce, or when there is a sharp drop in the volumes of water available, is what is available distributed homogeneously among users and consumers or not? Who decides? Based on what scale of values? Are there social groups that, because of their economic, social,
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...cultural, political, or geographical situation - the vulnerable - are systematically disadvantaged, forgotten or abandoned in their right of access to this good and resource? These are crucial questions for water resource managers, governments, and society. It is a matter of debating, designing, and implementing public policies appropriate to the condition and peculiar characteristics of water and of establishing formulas that will guarantee everyone an equitable supply for their needs.

However, this debate, and its subsequent consolidation in public policies, does not seem to be occurring satisfactorily. In a preliminary literature review, search of articles published between 2017 and 2021 in academic journals indexed in the Web of Science, in English, Spanish and Portuguese, conducted by the authors and scrutinized in the Rayyan Platform (https://rayyan.ai/reviews/433726) (Ouzzani et al., 2016). No studies were found in which the right of access to water for vulnerable populations was the subject of any discussion in water management committees and chambers.

This study asks whether the availability of water, being a basic condition for the survival and maintenance of life for all, presents specificities in its management that harm, limit or disproportionately affect the access to water of parts or fractions of the population. Based on the epistemological principle that for each and every action there are discursive elements that precede them (Orlandi, 2009), this paper aims to analyze the content of the reports and minutes of meetings of the Technical Planning Chamber of the Piracicaba, Capivari and Jundiaí River Basin Committees, Capivari and Jundiaí - PCJ Basins to assess whether, and to what extent, mechanisms are discussed to guarantee the right of access to water for fractions of the population at risk of water scarcity or social, territorial, political or economic vulnerability in the area covered by this basin.

Theoretical framework

2.1 Social and Socio-Environmental Vulnerability and Assurance of Water Availability

In societies where the capitalist mode of production is hegemonic, the economic bias acts as an organizing element not only in the production of goods, services, and merchandise, but also in the way these are disproportionately distributed among the different social classes (Viana, 2018). Conditioned by the economic, there are multiple consequences and expressions of the social question that cross and impoverish the subsistence condition of a large part of the population: the vulnerable (Santos, 2017).
Social vulnerability, according to José Manuel Mendes (2018) refers to the predisposition that a certain group has to be affected, in physical, economic, political or social terms, in the event of the occurrence of a destructuring process or action of natural or anthropic origin. The result of a structurally selective production system, it simultaneously affects social, economic, political, cultural, environmental, and productive aspects, which implies that the vulnerable experience perverse situations, particularly regarding socio-environmental issues.

Nascimento and Barbosa (2020, p. 98) emphasize that the socio-environmental issue arises as a by-product of human action and activity. They state that the irrational consumption of natural resources, simply for the "purpose of profit", puts "nature as a means of subsistence" in second place. Thus, for its maintenance and reproduction, the capitalist mode of production constitutes a causal force not only with social but also environmental impacts.

Rodrigues and Batistela (2013) point out that, despite the great availability of water in Brazil, this does not occur homogeneously in the different regions of the country. Systematically, there is great temporal and spatial variability in this availability, which generates situations of abundance at certain times and places, and coexistence with severe scarcity scenarios in others, requiring joint policies, plans and strategies to deal with it.

However, contrary to the national average consumption profile, in the PCJ Basins, urban supply is a priority and not agricultural activities, absorbing 45.8% of the total average flow demanded in 2016 (Comitês, 2021).

However, the annual per capita water availability is currently and for many reasons considered critical in the territorial space of the PCJ Basins. Supply has been threatened, especially by the pressure on consumption caused by population growth and the deleterious effects of climate change on the spatial and temporal distribution of precipitation, which has corroborated the increase in the level of disputes over access to this important resource (Comitês, 2021). In fact, the dizzying demographic expansion and, concomitantly, its concentration in large urban agglomerations, have had an impact not only on the quantity available, but also on the quality of the water used.

In this scenario, to strengthen management, plans and strategies for the delivery of water in adequate quantity and quality, the participation of society in the deliberations of the JCP Committees is mandatory, with the purpose of managing scarcity, regulating demand, and sharing uses (Tundisi, 2013).

It should also be noted that the formulation of public water and sanitation policies should include measures that compensate, distribute and minimize the perverse effects of socioeconomic inequality that, in general, are caused by development strategies focused solely
on economic growth, neglecting the individual rights of citizens to well-being and access to primary environmental resources, such as air and water, as well as their sustainability (Fracalanza et al., 2013).

As regards aspects in guaranteeing water to society, especially among the most vulnerable, this must be included in the deliberations, decisions and planning implemented by the agencies that promote, distribute, and manage this resource. Something that is already reflected in target 6.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda (Desa, 2016; Mariosa et al., 2020). This goal and target indicated to the signatory members that, by 2030, efforts should be made to ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all.

It should also be noted that, in accordance with what Flores (2011) had already proposed, there are rights that are fundamental, universal, and consensual, among which is the right to water and respect for human dignity. Therefore, recognizing water as a fundamental right consists of assigning and demanding from the State actions that can provide a minimum essential for a healthy quality of life for present and future generations. Thus, the State plays a fundamental role in guaranteeing access to water for vulnerable populations.

2.2 Multidimensional Aspects of the Water Crisis

Detoni and Dondoni (2008) reminded us, more than a decade ago, that it is no longer a secret that the planet's water resources are being progressively depleted and that, in addition to the pollution of rivers and springs, irresponsible consumption without a sustainable basis in economic development is a relevant factor in the process of reducing the amount of water available. If, on the one hand, water can be used for human and animal watering, food production, industrial and commercial use and in public spaces, on the other hand, it is a receptacle for waste, pollutants and residues that return to the water circuit, contaminating it and compromising efforts for its treatment. This can cause tensions, unforeseen events and even the total depletion of water supply sources.

What is called "water crisis" basically refers to a phenomenon of environmental transformation which, however, presents in its genesis conditionalities and expressions that impact populations in a differentiated manner, especially the most vulnerable fractions of class society (Efrain & Churata, 2018). Therefore, there are numerous factors that can affect or be related to the occurrence of this phenomenon, since the water crisis is also the result of the organization of society.
Jardim (2015) points out that, in Brazil, the water crisis is discussed based on the antinomy between lack of water and water potential. He highlights, in his argument, the clear contradiction between the reality of the country with the greatest water potential in the world and the lack of water. He notes that the Amazon River basin alone accounts for 20% of the fresh water flowing into the world's oceans; and that, excluding the semi-arid region, where there is in fact a water deficit, and brief periods of drought in southeastern and central-western Brazil, all other Brazilian regions have water surpluses throughout the year. This reality even allows discussing water transposition projects between states and regions. If there is a surplus in some places, why not take it to places where there is a water deficit? However, the fundamental question, in this case and for the purposes of this study, is to discuss for whom this resource will be available: for the priority use of the population or only for some historically more privileged sectors, such as agribusiness and industrial activities?

In a trend analysis exercise, Nobre and Young (2011) noted that climate change could cause a series of impacts that will leave millions of people vulnerable, especially low-income people, who will face more difficult problems related to survival and adaptation.

Beyond the environmental phenomenon, resulting from the absence of management, policies, projects, and programs that minimize its effects, Marengo et al. (2015) highlight as examples the impacts of the drought from 2013 to 2015 in São Paulo:

Water shortages generated protests and social movements in some areas of the city due to "rodízio" (intermittent and alternating supply between different neighborhoods) and the increase in the price paid by consumers, even when the water does not reach their taps at home. The drought also had socioeconomic repercussions, especially in areas that practice tourism and leisure on the banks of rivers and reservoirs, as well as increases in food prices and energy rates in homes, industries, and businesses. Another effect of the drought was the increase in the number of fires. It is not possible to talk about the water crisis without also thinking about its repercussions on the economy. The Federation of Industries of the State of São Paulo - Fiesp estimates that 60,000 establishments, almost 60% of the State's industrial GDP, will be affected by the lack of water (Marengo et al., 2015, p. 41).

On the other hand, Nobre and Young (2011) point out that the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) consider that thermal comfort conditions will affect thousands of people, as they are related to climate and the way of appropriation and interaction with local and/or regional spaces. It is important to assess this because, in general, poor populations suffer more from excessive heat and have difficulties in adapting to the new conditions due to lack of financial resources and, consequently, housing conditions. In addition, urban areas are more affected than rural areas, mainly because of the abundance of heat-retaining surfaces. Thus, the increase in temperature will affect human health in different ways and in different proportions in the human population.
Moreover, according to 2009 data from the Climate Observatory, as can be seen, the effects caused by the increase in temperature are very varied and adversely affect people around the world. They do not refer to a single specific effect, such as a considerable increase in extreme precipitation, but to a series of different and diffuse effects. Ultimately, they conclude that although the wealthier classes may be able to get a reprieve from risk by buying drinking water and lobbying politically to be the last to suffer sanctions, the consequences end up affecting everyone (Clima et al., 2014; Marengo et al., 2015a; Nobre et al., 2011).

Jardim (2015) argues that, in view of the aspects, it is necessary to review a series of political orientations, thinking about society as a whole and not only about certain segments of it and/or powerful economic groups that feed political campaigns. This, of course, includes the environment, which is the support of society, the scenario where social relations are established, as well as the dissemination of serious information based on facts and not on myths as in the case of an alleged "climate change" induced by human action.

The "water crisis", as stated by Marengo et al. (2015, p. 43), "is undoubtedly an alarm signal" and its "impacts are consistent with the significant lack of preparedness in the face of the current climate variability framework". It therefore remains for managers to give "greater emphasis to the implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures to reduce the vulnerability of the population affected by droughts". However, how is a "water crisis" possible in the country with the greatest water potential in the world? This, evidently, leads us to think that the cause of this "crisis" is the lack of preparation of the public power and of the companies that manage water resources for the solution of medium and long-term problems related to the collection, storage, treatment, and distribution of drinking water in Brazil.

2.3 Water Security and Vulnerable Populations

UN-WATER defines water security not only as the "ability of a population to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of water of acceptable quality to maintain human livelihoods and well-being and socio-economic development", but also to ensure protection against water pollution and water-related disasters and "preserve ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability" (Bigas et al., 2013, p. 01). In general terms, Allouche et al. (2016, p. 59) reinforce that:
Water security is about ensuring that all people have reliable and sufficient access to safe and affordable water to lead healthy, dignified, and productive lives, while maintaining water-supplying and water-dependent ecosystems. When these conditions are not maintained, or when access to water is disrupted, people face serious human security risks transmitted through ill health and disruption of livelihoods and subsistence.

Neves-Silva et al. (2020), however, explains that new definitions of water security are being formulated based on more integrative approaches that consider the progress made in climate and environmental protection. Thus, most of the available definitions can be organized from four main perspectives: water quantity and availability, risks and vulnerability, human needs, and sustainability (Cook & Bakker, 2016). From this perspective, as Neves-Silva et al. (2020) points out, in Brazil a definition of sustainable and inclusive water security has not yet been constructed based on the broad participation of the population in the decision-making process and in the management of scarcity. In other words, water security is not always sustainable or democratic. Problems related to access to water affect an increasing number of populations, spread across urban and rural areas, reaching different social strata, as they are separated by socioeconomic class, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual choice.

Thus, being undeniable the impacts caused by climate, it is worth elucidating the need for and importance of water security, as an integrated system that seeks to ensure in this expression trajectories for its overcoming (Clima et al., 2014). In summary, facing this system it is necessary to promote the sustainability and preservation of the environment, but beyond that, it is necessary to propose the renewal of this structural, social, capital, current order, seeking in the slopes and roots the radical change of the way of living, we definitely need to reflect on this society focused on the permanent increase of consumption and the respective production of material goods.

Method

The Hydrographic Basins of the Piracicaba, Capivari and Jundiaí Rivers - PCJ Basins, the subject of this study, are in the states of São Paulo and Minas Gerais, Brazil, a predominantly urban area (96% of the total inhabitants), with an estimated population of about 6 million inhabitants and with uses mainly related to agricultural and industrial economic activities.

To achieve the proposed objective, the methodological choice was made to apply the content analysis technique (Bardin, 2011) to the reports and meeting minutes of the Technical Planning Chamber of the Basin Committees of the PCJ, where the Strategic Planning
guidelines are defined. The research was therefore characterized as qualitative-quantitative, descriptive, exploratory, and document-based, adopting an applied approach based on the use of multi-method techniques (Günther et al., 2008).

For the elaboration of the research that gave rise to this paper, a bibliographic search was initially carried out in the Capes Periodicals Portal, identifying academic articles written in Portuguese, peer-reviewed and published in the last 10 years, with the keywords "vulnerable populations" and "right to water" associated. This search resulted in 28 articles that, after being duly processed, were subjected to content analysis with the support of TextSTAT software (Hüning & Hüning, 2005).

This procedure allowed us to elaborate a list of word frequencies, stored in an Excel spreadsheet, which was then purified by eliminating numbers, symbols, and proper names, leaving only a universe of words linked to the theme. Of the 153 occurrences found, 05 words were selected (Vulnerability; Populations; Policies; Rights and Planning), with direct connection to the research topic, that is, to identify whether the right of vulnerable populations to access to water is being addressed in the management of water resources in the JCP Basins.

In the following moment, the 05 keywords (Vulnerability; Populations; Policies; Rights and Planning), identified and selected in the bibliographic base consulted, were searched in the records containing documents, minutes and descriptions of the meetings held by JCP Committees and Technical Chambers, between the years 2009 and 2020, comparing two moments: 2009-2014, with 2015-2020. These periods mark the before and after the greatest drought occurred in the JCP Watershed region.

**Results and Discussion**

With the help of TextSTAT software, the parts of the texts in which the keywords were located were selected: Vulnerability; Populations; Policies; Rights and Planning. By eliminating from the documents, for a better understanding, the quotations where they were found, it was possible, with the resources of discourse analysis (Orlandi, 2009). In the text recorded in the meetings, it was possible to assess whether and how the right of access to water for vulnerable populations was being implemented.

Immediately, it was found that in relation to the words "rights" and "populations", and their variations in number, there was no record or mention, even contextually or indirectly, of the universal right of access to water or of the needs of the fraction of the population in vulnerable situations in the documents analyzed.
From a logic of guaranteeing social minimums, the absence of the expression "Right", however, reveals the fragility of the discussions outlined within the JCP Basins. In other words, treating the guarantee of access to water as a basic and universal right for all people is not referenced in the discourses outlined within the Committees and Technical Chambers of the JCP Basins.

"Vulnerability", in turn, is introduced into the content of discussions and deliberations of the Technical Planning Chamber meetings only after 2014, before that there is no record. At meeting on November 13, 2019, the Information Systems Coordinator of the JCP Basin Agency presented the main motivations related to the proposed hydrological monitoring policy. He explained that the JCP Basins present a history of vulnerability related to the qualitative-quantitative availability of water resources to meet the various uses consolidated in the region. He also emphasized the importance of formalizing long-term guidelines for implementing programs and carrying out hydrological monitoring actions, aimed at supporting the decision-making process of the JCP Committees and the management bodies involved in water resources management. However, the word "vulnerability" and its spelling variations are not associated with the context of the populations that present some level of vulnerability or exposure to it.

"Policies" and the corresponding numerical variations appear in the Minutes of the Meeting only at the end of 2014, when it is recommended to discuss and propose policies and actions to address water scarcity. Subsequently, the concern is with compliance with Resolution CNRH 145/2012, of the national water resources control body, which suggests measures for the evaluation of the institutional and legal framework for water resources management, stage of implementation of the water resources policy, especially the management instruments. According to this legal guideline, management bodies should also identify sectoral policies, plans, programs, and projects that interfere with water resources and characterize the relevant stakeholders for water resources management and identified conflicts. However, at no time is there any mention of specific policies to implement the right of access to water, i.e., there is no mention of special assistance to those whose access to water supply in sufficient quantity and quality is limited, obstructed, or totally deprived. It only mentions, in a general way, the concern for accelerated population growth and the lack of water planning until 2035. Moreover, these concerns already appear in the 2015 to 2019 records.

With greater densification and a significant increase in water demand in the PCJ Basins in contrast to the constant availability of water in the periods analyzed. The data already
showed that, even in the analyses where population growth is more attenuated, by the year 2020 the quantity of water demanded exceeds water availability, which constitutes a stress factor for guaranteeing quality access to this finite good essential for life.

The lack of this type of analysis in the appropriate spaces for discussion reveals the need to bring elements that characterize the different types of populations and the way in which their growth occurs to the JCP Basins. These data would be essential for the proposal of strategic planning that addresses and guarantees comprehensiveness and expanded access for particularly vulnerable populations.

Being mentioned only once between 2009 and 2014, the word "planning" initially appeared in a meeting held on July 22, 2014, in which a member of the Technical Planning Chamber questioned about the existence of any planning envisaged to achieve, by 2035, the elimination of 100% of the loads of water bodies and ecological flows, pointing to the issue of quality in the implementation of the framework. He also asked what the procedures for would be providing water to accompany population growth, linked to the increase in demand for the use of water resources and availability until 2035.

Given the relevance and urgency of the discussion on planning as a fundamental instrument in the construction and management of this policy, it is worth noting the low occurrence of this expression in the documents analyzed. Between 2015 and 2020, it remains only in the context of issues related to strategic planning for 2035, emphasizing budget discussions and reforms to expand water supply without, however, extending the discussion to other equally important fronts.

Conclusion

We considered that the objective of the work to conduct a content and discourse analysis on the content of the reports and meeting minutes of the Technical Chamber of the Planning Committees of the Piracicaba, Capivari and Jundiaí River Basins - PCJ Basins was adequately fulfilled, achieving the objective proposed in this study. The techniques used to evaluate whether, and to what extent, mechanisms are discussed to guarantee the right of access to water for fractions of the population that are in a situation of social, territorial, political or economic vulnerability in the catchment area of this river basin showed that, according to the results presented, this concern practically does not exist or is not even considered in the technical discussions of planning and management of water resources in the JCP basins.
Regarding the words used in the documentary search that could bring this concern, in the expression "rights" there is no record or mention in the context of the universal right of access to water in any of the documents or periods analyzed, the same happens with the expression "policies" that although they appear in minutes since the end of 2014, at no time, however, is there any mention of specific policies to implement the right of access to water, that is, stratification by age, race, gender or sedimentation by economic class or territorial distribution is not cited.

The word "vulnerability", in turn, is introduced in the content of the discussions and deliberations of the Technical Planning Chamber meetings only after 2014, however, when reading the documents and minutes it does not appear in the context of vulnerable "populations", but referring to water scarcity, without also mentioning the stratification of the type of population.

On the other hand, the word "planning" appears in the context of strategic planning, without going deeper into the need for actions to serve this most vulnerable part of the population in the context of universal access to water.

Therefore, the lack of these elements, expressions and the depth of the subject in the periodic discussions that have taken place over a period of more than 10 consecutive years reveal that in the meetings of the Technical Chamber, specifically, populations in situations of vulnerability do not find support in the formulation of public policies that guarantee them this right.

It should be noted, however, that the results found are still preliminary and restricted to the river basin analyzed and to the bibliographic and documentary context used. Therefore, it is not recommended to generalize them and take them as conclusive. It is hoped, however, that the approach and the theoretical and methodological premises used may stimulate another research on the same subject.

References


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