

LAW NO. 08/L-172**ON GENERAL PRODUCTS SAFETY****The Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo;**

Based on Article 65 (1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo,

Approves:

LAW ON GENERAL PRODUCTS SAFETY**CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS****Article 1
Purpose**

1. The purpose of this Law is to ensure that the products placed on the market are safe.
2. This Law sets out the general safety requirement for products, obligations of producers and distributors, information of public, encouraging/taking the voluntary measures and inspection surveillance for the fulfillment of specified requirements.
3. This Law is fully compliant with Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 December 2001 on general product safety and Directive 357/87/EC of 25 June 1987 of the European Parliament and of the Council on imitation food products.

**Article 2
Scope**

1. This law applies to all products defined in Articles 3 and 4 of this law. The provisions of this law apply to products that are not covered by special legal acts transposed in the Republic of Kosovo with the same objective that regulate the product safety.
2. If the special legal acts from paragraph 1. of this Article do not cover all types and categories of risks that the product may present, this Law shall apply only in relation to those types and categories of risks.
3. This Law shall not apply to used products delivered as antiques, as well as products that must be repaired or reprocessed before use for the same purpose, provided that the supplier clearly informs in advance the person to whom he/she delivers the products.

**Article 3
Definitions**

1. For purposes of this Law, the following definitions shall apply:
2. **Product** - any new, used or repaired product intended for consumers or other users to be reasonably foreseeable, used by other consumers or users even if it is not intended for them, and which is supplied or put available to them, as part of a commercial activity, including

products in the context of service delivery, whether or not they are considered.

3. **Dangerous product** - any product that is not safe according to Article 4 of this Law.

4. **Misleading product** - a product with a misleading appearance, which, although not foodstuff, possess a form, odour, color, appearance, packaging, mark, volume or size of the food product, so there is a possibility that consumers, especially with children it confuses them with the food product and because of this they put it in their mouth, suck it or swallow it, which can be dangerous and cause choking, poisoning, puncture or even obstructions in the digestive tract;

5. **Producer** shall mean:

5.1. the manufacturer of the product with its head office in the Republic of Kosovo and any other legal or natural person presenting themselves as the manufacturer by affixing to the product his name, trademark or other distinctive mark, or the person who reconditions the product;

5.2. the manufacturer's representative, when the manufacturer is not registered in the Republic of Kosovo;

5.3. the importer if the manufacturer or his/her representative is not registered in the Republic of Kosovo;

5.4. other professionals in the supply chain, insofar as their activities may affect the safety properties of a product.

6. **Distributor** - any professional in the supply chain, whose activity does not affect the safety properties of a product;

7. **Serious risk** - any risk to safety and health of consumers, regardless of when the effect is manifested, requiring rapid intervention by the competent inspectorate;

8. **Making available on the market** - any delivery of a product for distribution, consumption or use on the market of the Republic of Kosovo within performance of a commercial activity with or without compensation;

9. **Placing on the market** - the first delivery of a product available for the market of the Republic of Kosovo by importer or exporter;

10. **Product withdrawal** - any measure aimed at preventing the distribution, display and offer of a dangerous product to consumers and other users;

11. **Product recall** - any measure aimed at returning of a product that has already been delivered by the manufacturer or distributor or made available to other consumers and users;

12. **A system for rapid exchange of information on products posing risk** - a system for exchange of information on dangerous products in the Republic of Kosovo, which is applied by the competent inspectorates and Kosovo Customs;

13. **RAPEX** - shall mean the system for rapid exchange of information between the Member States of the European Union and the European Commission on measures taken concerning consumer products posing a serious risk to the health and safety of consumers;

14. **Harmonized legislation of the European Union**- any harmonized legislation in the European Union laying down conditions for the marketing of products;

15. **Harmonized legislation of the Republic of Kosovo** - transposed legislation of the European Union into the internal legislation by the Republic of Kosovo;
16. **Consumer** - the natural person to whom the product is delivered or made available and who uses the product for personal or household needs.
17. **Another user** - any person to whom the product is delivered or made available and who uses or exploits the product for his/her own needs, respectively to carry out his/her activity.
18. **Trade ban** – any measure undertaken to ban distribution, display and offer of the product which is proven to be dangerous for consumers and other users.
19. **Competent Inspectorate** - the Central Market Surveillance Inspectorate, which operates within the ministry responsible for industry, entrepreneurship and trade.
20. **Ministry** - ministry responsible for industry, entrepreneurship and trade.
21. **Minister** - minister responsible for industry, entrepreneurship and trade.

Article 4 **Safe product**

1. The safe product shall mean any product which, under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use including the period in which the product has been used, as well as the requirements for putting into work, installation and maintenance, where applicable, poses no risk or a minimal risk compatible with the product's use and considered to be acceptable and consistent with a high level of protection for the safety and health of consumers and other users. For determination of the safe product, the following are taken into account in particular:
- 1.1. product properties, including its composition, packaging, instructions for assembly, installation and maintenance;
 - 1.2. effect on other products, where it is reasonably foreseeable that it will be used with other products;
 - 1.3. presentation of the product, in terms of display, labelling, any warnings and instructions for its use and disposal, storage or destruction after its use, as well as any other mark or information on the product;
 - 1.4. the appearance of the product, especially a non-food product, which might mislead the consumer if its shape, odor, color, appearance, packaging, labelling, volume, size or other properties resemble a foodstuff and consequently may be used by consumers, especially children, in a way that may pose a risk to their health and life, such as choking, poisoning or stomach problems due to placing those products in their mouth, sucking or ingesting them;
 - 1.5. the categories of consumers and other users at risk when using a particular product, especially children and the elderly.
2. The possibility of achieving higher levels of safety or the availability of other products presenting a lower degree of risk shall not constitute grounds for considering a product to be dangerous.

Article 5 Producer's liability

1. The restriction on placing and making available products on the market, withdrawing or recall of products shall not exclude the producer's or distributor's criminal liability in accordance with the relevant criminal law.
2. Fulfillment of the obligations established by this Law shall not exclude the civil liability of producers for a damage caused by a defective product, in accordance with relevant law on obligational relationships.
3. The decision to limit the placing on the market, withdrawal or recall of the product according to this law, is without prejudice to the criminal responsibility of the manufacturer.

CHAPTER II GENERAL SAFETY REQUIREMENT AND SAFETY CRITERIA

Article 6 General safety requirement

1. Producer shall place on the market only safe products.
2. Misleading products shall be prohibited from being manufactured, placed on the market, imported and/or exported.

Article 7 Conformity assessment criteria and harmonized standards

1. A product is considered safe if it meets the safety and health requirements set out in the legislation in force.
2. A product shall be presumed safe in terms of risk or risk categories if it meets the conditions laid down in compliance with Kosovo harmonized standards governing such risk categories, which transpose European standards published in the Official Journal of the European Union.
3. The list of titles and references of the harmonized Kosovo standards referred to in paragraph 2. of this Article shall be approved upon a decision of the Minister of the Ministry and is published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo.

Article 8 Other safety criteria

1. In the absence of the legislation in force and standards referred to in Article 7 of this Law, the conformity of a product to the general safety requirement shall be assessed based on:
 - 1.1. Kosovo standards adopted on the basis of relevant European standards other than those stated in the list of standards referred to in Article 7 paragraph 2. of this Law;
 - 1.2. other Kosovo standards;
 - 1.3. recommendations of the European Commission, setting guidelines on product safety assessment;
 - 1.4. codes of good practice related to product safety in the sector concerned;

1.5. the state of the art and technology;

1.6. reasonable consumer expectations concerning safety.

2. Compliance of a product to the general safety requirement is assessed by the manufacturer or distributor and by the competent inspectorate with carrying out risk assessment, according to this Law.

Article 9 **Safeguard clause**

If the competent inspectorate establishes that a product does not fulfil the general safety requirement, even though it meets the safety criteria referred to in Articles 7 and 8 of this Law, the inspectorate shall take appropriate measures in accordance with Article 18 of this Law.

CHAPTER III **OBLIGATIONS OF PRODUCERS AND DISTRIBUTORS**

Article 10 **Obligations of producers**

1. The producers shall, provide consumers and other users with the relevant information and warnings to enable them to assess the risks and to take precautions against those risks while using a product, where such risks are not immediately obvious without such information and warnings, throughout normal or reasonably foreseeable period of its use. Providing necessary information and warnings shall not exempt a producer from other obligations and requirements established in this Law and other legislation in force.

2. A producer shall, based on characteristics of a product he/she places on the market, take measures enabling him to:

2.1. be informed of risks which these products might pose,

2.2. warn consumers immediately about the assessed and identified risks,

2.3. withdraw or recall a product in order to avoid risks.

3. The measures referred to in paragraph 2. of this Article shall be considered to be, in particular:

3.1. testing samples of products on the market when necessary and processing of information;

3.2. affixing a label on a product or on packaging referring to identity of the producer and the product or, where appropriate, a group of products to which it belongs;

3.3. acting pursuant to complaints and, if necessary, managing a register of complaints,

3.4 informing distributors on taken measures specified in sub-paragraphs 3.1., 3.2. and 3.3. of this Article.

4. The measures referred to in paragraph 2., sub-paragraphs 2.2. and 2.3. of this Article shall be taken voluntarily by the producer or at the request of the competent inspectorate.

5. The measure referring to the recall of a product is taken as a last resort if the producer or the market surveillance inspectorate establishes that other measures are not sufficient to eliminate

or minimize a risk, but they may also be applied based on the rule of good practices regarding the recall of a product.

6. Provision of information and warnings referred to in paragraph 1. of this Article shall not exempt the producer or distributor involved in a supply chain from the obligation of compliance with the other requirements laid down in this Law.

Article 11

Obligations of distributors

1. Distributors shall act with due diligence of a prudent professional to help ensure that a product complies with the applicable safety requirements.

2. A distributor may not make available products for which he/she knows, or ought to presume, on the basis of the information in his/her possession and as a professional, that they are dangerous.

3. In performing of activities, the distributor participates in monitoring the safety of products that are made available on the market, in particular:

3.1. by providing information on risks to supply chain participants, consumers and the competent inspectorate on market surveillance, and

3.2. by keeping and providing documents needed to trace down the origin of products and identity of the producer, at the request of the competent inspectorate or professionals in the supply chain.

Article 12

Other obligations of producers and distributors

1. Where producer or distributor know or ought to know, on the basis of available information, knowledge and their professional experience, that a product he made available on the market is dangerous, he is obliged to immediately notify thereof the competent inspectorate.

2. Notification according to paragraph 1. of this Article shall be submitted in writing and shall contain in particular:

2.1. information and data that enable identification of the product (producer, product name, product group/series and the like) to track down the product,

2.2. a detailed description of the risk posed by the product, and

2.3. a description of the measures and activities taken to avoid the risk.

3. The Ministry with a sub-legal act shall establish the form and details of the notification according to paragraph 1. of this Article.

4. Producers and distributors shall notify at the request the competent inspectorate for the actions taken to avoid the risks arising from the products which they supply or have supplied.

Article 13

Cooperation procedures and promotion of voluntary measures

1. Competent inspectorates shall encourage producers and distributors to take voluntary measures in accordance with the provisions of this Law and thus support the establishment of good practice rules and making exclusively safe products available on the market.

2. Competent inspectorates shall establish the cooperation procedures referred to in Article 12 paragraph 4. of this Law, and publish them on the website of the Coordination Body for Market Surveillance, as established by the applicable Law governing the market surveillance of products.

CHAPTER IV INFORMATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Article 14 Publication of information

1. Information available to the competent inspectorates relating to risks posed by products to health and safety of the consumer and other users, and information on product identification, the nature of the risk and the measures taken shall be made available to the public, in accordance with the principles of transparency, and despite any restrictions imposed by monitoring and research activities. Information on product identification, nature of the risk and measures taken are particularly available to the public.

2. Competent inspectorates shall ensure that their employees and authorized persons are required not to disclose information obtained in the course of their work, which constitutes a business secret in accordance with the applicable law.

3. Information related to safety properties of a product, which must be public to protect safety and health of consumers and other users cannot be considered a business secret.

4. Safeguarding the business secret referred to in paragraph 2. of this Article shall not affect exchange of information between competent inspectorates in the Republic of Kosovo to ensure effective market monitoring and surveillance.

5. Safeguarding the business secret referred to in paragraph 2. of this Article shall not affect the exchange of information between the competent inspectorates of the Republic of Kosovo and the competent authorities of EU Member States and the European Commission.

Article 15 Exchange of information on dangerous products in the Republic of Kosovo

1. Competent inspectorates and Kosovo Customs shall exchange information on dangerous products through the system for rapid exchange of information on products that pose risk, when:

1.1. the competent inspectorate takes a prescribed measure related to a dangerous product;

1.2. a producer or distributor takes a voluntary measure related to a dangerous product which he/she made available on the market and informs the competent inspectorate thereof, in accordance with Article 12 of this Law.

2. The Ministry with sub-legal act shall define the way of functioning of the rapid information exchange system and other notification forms for the dangerous products that are on the market of the Republic of Kosovo.

Article 16 Exchange of information on dangerous products in the European Union

1. The competent inspectorate uses the RAPEX system to notify the European Commission of dangerous products on the market of the Republic of Kosovo that present a risk that is not allowed, in accordance with this Law.

2. The notification referred to in paragraph 1. of this Article shall be sent to the European Commission if it is considered that the effects of the risk posed by a dangerous product made available on the market may also go beyond the territory of the Republic of Kosovo.

3. After the notification referred to in paragraph 1. of this Article, the authority responsible shall inform the European Commission of the measures taken by the competent inspectorate, specifying its reasons for their approval as well as any modification or lifting of such measures.

4. Upon notification in accordance with paragraph 1. of this Article, the responsible authority if it finds that there is a serious risk, shall notify the European Commission of the measures taken by economic operators on voluntary basis.

5. If the competent inspectorate considers that the dangerous product made available on the market cannot cause danger beyond the territory of the Republic of Kosovo, it notifies the European Commission of the measures taken insofar as they include information that may be of interest to the Member States of the European Union, and in particular if they are taken to prevent, eliminate or reduce a new risk which has not yet been reported to the European Commission.

6. The notification referred to in paragraph 1. of this Article shall contain all available information, in particular information enabling the product to be identified, product origin and supply chain, established risk, nature and duration of the compulsory measure undertaken and the voluntary measures taken by producers and distributors.

7. Paragraphs 1., 2., 3., 4., 5. and 6. of this Article do not exclude the obligation to exchange information in accordance with the legislation in force.

CHAPTER V MARKET SURVEILLANCE

Article 17

Competencies of inspection surveillance and customs authority

1. Inspection surveillance for the enforcement of this Law and the sub-legal acts adopted on the basis of this Law shall be performed by the competent inspectorate in accordance with their competencies and obligations defined by this Law, the relevant Law on market surveillance and the regulation on groups of products which are subject to inspection surveillance.

2. Kosovo Customs shall make control of imported products in the procedure of their releasing into free circulation, in accordance with the relevant Law governing market surveillance of products.

Article 18 Measures

1. For purposes of this Law, where appropriate, the competent inspectorates shall be entitled to take the following measures:

1.1. for any product:

1.1.1. to organize, even after its being placed on the market as being safe product appropriate checks on its safety properties, on an adequate scale, up to the final stage of use or consumption;

1.1.2. to request all necessary information from stakeholders;

- 1.1.3. to take samples of products and subject them to safety checks;
 - 1.2. for any product that could pose risks under certain conditions:
 - 1.2.1. to order the product to be marked with suitable, clearly worded and easily comprehensible warnings about the risks that the product could pose in the official languages of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - 1.2.2. to order the placing on the market of such a product with the prior fulfillment of additional conditions as to make it safe;
 - 1.3. for any product that could pose a risk to certain persons:
 - 1.3.1. to order that they be given warning of the risk in a timely manner and in an appropriate form, including the publication of special warnings;
 - 1.4. for any product that could be dangerous:
 - 1.4.1. to temporarily ban the supply, display, delivery, during which time it is necessary to check the properties of the product that may affect the safety and health of consumers and other users;
 - 1.5. for any dangerous product:
 - 1.5.1. to ban its trade and introduce the accompanying measures required to ensure that the ban is complied with,
 - 1.6. for any dangerous product already on the market:
 - 1.6.1. to order or arrange its immediate withdrawal, and warn consumers and other users of the risks posed by the product,
 - 1.6.2. to order, coordinate or, if appropriate, organize together with producers and distributors recall of the product from other consumers and users and its destruction under suitable conditions by and at the expense of producers or distributors.
 - 1.7. for any misleading product to ban the production, import, export or placing on the market and sale, to withdraw or seek its withdrawal from the market.
2. If there is evidence that the product is dangerous, the competent inspectorate shall take measures to restrict the placing on the market or to withdraw dangerous products, regardless of compliance with the general safety requirement under Articles 6 and 7 of this Law.
 3. Competent inspectorate shall order the measure of recall of the product referred to under sub-paragraph 1.6.2 of this Article, as a final measure, if all actions and other measures under Article 10, 11, 12 and 18 of this Law, that are undertaken by the producer and distributor voluntarily or upon the order of the competent inspector are not sufficient or satisfactory.
 4. Measures under paragraph 1. of this Article, in particular those referred to in sub-paragraphs 1.4., 1.5. and 1.6. of this Article, shall be taken in proportional manner to the severity of the risk and by aiming the principle of prevention.
 5. A complaint may be filed against the decision of the competent inspector by sub-paragraphs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3., 1.4., 1.5. and 1.6 of this Article, within eight (8) days to the competent body established by the Minister of the Ministry.

6. A complaint may be filed against the decision to ban the import or export of misleading products from sub-paragraph 1.7. of this Article within eight (8) days to the competent body appointed by the Minister of the Ministry in charge of sanitary matters.

7. A complaint from paragraph 6. of this Article shall not postpone the execution of the decision.

8. An administrative dispute may be initiated in the competent court against the decision of the competent body.

9. If the competent inspectorate does not have the necessary adequate preparations and knowledge or the necessary equipment to perform verifications and inspections defined in paragraph 1. of this Article, it can delegate the performance of professional actions within the scope of surveillance to an institution or qualified individual.

10. If it is established that the product is not safe due to deficiencies or error made by the producer, the costs of the inspection procedure shall be borne by the producers.

11. Upon taking measures according to paragraph 1. of this Article, in particular those referred to in sub-paragraphs 1.4. 1.5 and 1.6 of this Article, the competent inspectorate shall act in accordance with the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in particular Articles 34 and 36 of the Treaty.

Article 19 **Addressing the measures**

1. The measures to be taken by the competent inspectorate shall be addressed, as appropriate, to:

1.1. the producer;

1.2. the distributor, within limits of their respective scope of activity and in particular to those responsible for the product's first placement on the market of the Republic of Kosovo;

1.3. any other legal or natural person, where necessary, with a view to cooperate in the actions taken to avoid the risks posed by a product.

Article 20 **Effective inspection surveillance**

1. Competent inspectorates must particularly engage and cooperate among themselves to ensure effective inspection supervision that guarantees a high level of consumer health and safety protection.

2. The competent inspectorates in particular shall take into account the following issues:

2.1. design, periodical updating and implementation of sectoral surveillance programs by product or risk categories and the monitoring of surveillance activities, findings, and results;

2.2. follow-up and updating scientific and technical knowledge concerning product safety;

2.3. periodical review and assessment of the functioning of effective inspection surveillance activities and, if necessary, review of the approach and organization of established surveillance.

3. Competent inspectorates shall ensure that consumers and other stakeholders are given the opportunity to file complaints on product safety and on surveillance and control activities and that such complaints are dealt with properly.

4. Competent inspectorates shall inform consumers and other stakeholders of the established procedures.

CHAPTER VI PENALTY PROVISIONS

Article 21 Fines

1. A fine of four thousand (4,000) Euros up to twelve thousand (12,000) Euros shall be imposed on a legal person, if:

1.1. contrary to paragraph 1. of Article 6 of this Law, places on the market a product which is not safe;

1.2. contrary to paragraph 2. of Article 6 of this Law, manufactures, places on the market, imports or exports a misleading product;

1.3. contrary to paragraph 1. of Article 10 of this Law, fails to provide consumers with the information and warnings necessary to assess the risk of the product throughout the prescribed period or the normal period of its use;

1.4. contrary to sub-paragraph 2.1. of Article 10 of this Law, depending on the properties of products placed on the market, does not take measures that would enable it to perform a timely analysis and assessment of risks that these products might pose;

1.5. contrary to sub-paragraph 2.2. of Article 10 of this Law, depending on the properties of products placed on the market, does not take measures that would enable it to warn consumers of the assessed and identified risks;

1.6. contrary to sub-paragraph 2.3. of Article 10 of this Law, depending on the properties of products placed on the market, does not take measures that would enable it to withdraw or recall the product in order to avoid the assessed or identified risks;

1.7. contrary to paragraphs 1. and 2. of Article 12 of this Law, failing to immediately and in writing notify the competent inspectorate that a product he/she made available on the market poses a serious risk to the consumer.

2. A fine from three hundred (300) Euros to nine hundred (900) Euros shall be imposed on the responsible person of a legal person for a violation under paragraph 1. of this Article.

3. A fine from one thousand five hundred (1,500) Euros to four thousand five hundred (4,500) Euros shall be imposed on a natural person for violations referred to in paragraph 1. of this Article.

4. A fine from one thousand five hundred (1,500) Euros up to four thousand five hundred (4,500) Euros shall be imposed on a legal person, if:

4.1. contrary to subparagraph 3.1. of Article 11 of this Law, fails to provide information about risks to participants in the supply chain, consumers and the competent inspectorate;

4.2. contrary to subparagraph 3.2. of Article 11 of this Law, fails to keep, and upon request of the state authorities, to provide and to submit the necessary documents on the origin of a product and to identify the producer;

4.3. contrary to paragraph 1. of Article 12 of this Law, fails to immediately and in writing notify the competent inspectorate that the product placed on the market is dangerous;

4.4. contrary to paragraph 4. of Article 12 of this Law, does not cooperate with the competent inspectorate in relation to the actions undertaken to avoid the risks posed by products which it places on the market or are made available on the market.

5. A fine from one thousand (1,000) Euros to three thousand (3,000) Euros shall be imposed on the responsible person of the legal person for the violations from paragraph 4. of this Article.

6. A fine from three hundred (300) Euros to nine hundred (900) Euros shall be imposed on a natural person for a violation from paragraph 4. of this Article.

Article 22

Exemption to imposing fine

Inspector will not impose fines pursuant to Article 21 of this Law, if the producer or distributor voluntarily undertakes measures to fulfil the applicable safety requirements or fully cooperates with the competent inspectorate according to this Law.

CHAPTER VII

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 23

Sub-legal acts

1. The sub-legal acts provided by this law shall be issued within one (1) year after entry into force of this Law.

2. Insofar as they are not in contradiction with this Law, they shall be applied until these acts are replaced by the following sub-legal acts:

2.1. Regulation (MTI) No. 08/2013 on the manner of establishment and functioning of the rapid exchange of information system on dangerous products;

2.2. Regulation (MTI) No. 13/2012 on notification concerning products posing a risk to consumers.

Article 24

Implementation of the decision of the European Commission

When considered necessary to adopt a special act for the implementation of the decision of the European Commission which bans or restricts placing on the market and export of a certain product or group of products that pose a serious risk to health and safety of the consumer, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo shall, no later than fifteen (15) working days from the decision of the European Commission, issue a decision which sets out actions of producers and distributors in relation to the implementation of the decision of the European Commission.

Article 25

Meaning of terms after accession to the European Union

From the day of accession of the Republic of Kosovo to the European Union, a producer with

head office, or a place of residence in the Republic of Kosovo, for the purpose of this Law, shall mean a producer with head office, or place of residence in the European Union.

Article 26
Postponement of application

On the day of the accession of the Republic of Kosovo to the European Union, Article 14 paragraph 5., Article 16 and Article 18 paragraph 11. of this Law shall be applied.

Article 27
Repealing provisions

Upon entry into force of this Law, Law No.04/L-078 on General Product Safety and Law No. 04/L-189 on Amending and Supplementing Law No. 04/L-078 on General Product Safety shall be repealed.

Article 28
Entry into force

This Law shall enter into force fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo.

Law No. 08/L-172
9 March 2022

Promulgated by Decree No. DL-59/2023 dated 24.03.2023 President of the Republic of Kosovo Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu