



**PRESS RELEASE ON
THE PARTICIPATION OF BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL
AT THE 14TH WINTER SCHOOL ON DIPLOMACY
(Sandanski, Bulgaria, 18-22 March 2019)**

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES participated as a key speaker at the *14th Winter School on Diplomacy* held in the Bulgarian town of Sandanski, organized each year since 2006 by the **Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute** in cooperation with the **Hanns Seidel Foundation**.

Ms. Tanya MIHAYLOVA, Director of the Diplomatic Institute in Sofia, as well as Dr. Klaus FIESINGER, Regional Director of the Hanns Seidel Foundation for Southeast Europe and H.E. Mr. Herbert SALBER, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Sofia made welcoming remarks at the official opening of the Winter School 2019.

Presentations were delivered by the former Foreign Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria /Founding President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria, Dr. Solomon PASSY, as well as by the Heads, CEOs and representatives of various International Organizations and Foundations such as the BSEC, the German National Foundation, the OSCE as well as high ranking diplomats.

The Winter School was attended by 22 young diplomats from the Balkans, the Black Sea region countries and from EU Member States.

Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES informed the young participants on the history, the legal basis and functioning, the current and future activities of the BSEC Organization, as well as on BSEC's relations with other regional and international organizations.

A question and answer session was held, during which young diplomats had the opportunity to build their analytical and presentation skills in an interactive learning environment.