



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG DIPLOMATS FROM BSEC MEMBER STATES**  
**“THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY TODAY”**  
**(ISTANBUL, 23-25 October 2019)**

The second edition of the **Workshop for Young Diplomats from the BSEC Member States on “The role of Economic Diplomacy today”**, jointly organized by BSEC PERMIS and the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, Turkey (KAS), was held on 23<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in Istanbul.

The Workshop, which was attended by 21 young diplomats from the twelve BSEC Member States, provided an excellent opportunity to emphasize the importance of regional cooperation among the future foreign policy decision-makers in the Black Sea area, while it helped participants to meet with their counterparts from other BSEC Member States.

Representatives from BSEC PERMIS and KAS, as well as other eminent personalities from the region and beyond such as Mr. Daniel MITOV, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria; Dr. Markus C. SLEVOGT, President of the German-Turkish Chamber of Industry and Commerce; Dr. Omar Ramon SERRANO, Research Associate, Technical University of Munich; Ellina SHAVLAY, Analyst, Laboratory of International Trends Analysis, MGIMO University in Moscow; Mr. Thomas AWE, Former Representative of KAS in Korea, Philippines, China and Japan; Amb. Arben ÇEJKU, Executive Director of the Albanian Center for Good Governance; Assoc. Prof. Dimitrios TRIANTAPHYLLOU, Director, Centre for International and European Studies (CIES), Kadir Has University, Istanbul, attended the Workshop as speakers.

In their welcoming speeches the PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES and Mr. Walter GLOS, Director of KAS, underlined the importance of similar events, which should be evaluated as a precious “investment” for the future and stated that the Workshop has already proven to be a valuable vehicle promoting the spirit of friendship and good neighborliness between young diplomats from the BSEC Member States, thus contributing to the enhancement of mutual respect and confidence, of dialogue and cooperation.

During the Workshop a simulation game on “*How to effectively promote the economic cooperation in the Black Sea Area*” took place in the BSEC Headquarters. It was conceived as an educational simulation and aimed at introducing the participants to the objectives, procedures and functioning of the BSEC Organization, while, at the same time, familiarizing them with some of the most topical issues of regional cooperation related to transports in the Black Sea area.