



PRESS RELEASE
ON THE VIDEO-CONFERENCE OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN INITIATIVE (CEI)
(24 September 2020)

Invited by the Montenegrin Presidency of the Central European Initiative (CEI), the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Michael B. Christides, attended the online Conference of the CEI Ministers of Foreign Affairs held on 24 September 2020.

The Meeting's agenda consisted mainly of a follow-up on the efforts made since the last CEI virtual meeting of the Heads of Governments on 15 May this year, to overcome the devastating impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic economically and socially in the region. The participants exchanged views on the current situation and the measures taken so far.

In his intervention, Ambassador Christides, representing the BSEC Organization, reiterated once again the need and urgency for more cooperation and coordination among states, especially now when, in order to combat the Covid-19 pandemic more effectively, we need to join together to streamline rules and measures. He added that regional organizations should intensify their coordination efforts in order to avoid overlapping activities and possible squandering of vital resources in fighting the pandemic. In line with the above, he reassured the Chairmanship and the participants of the Conference, that the BSEC Organization and its Member States are ready and eager to enhance focused cooperation with the Central European Initiative and with every other regional entity that shares their objectives, of cooperation, solidarity, dialogue and understanding.