



**PRESS RELEASE
ON THE 9th OUR OCEAN CONFERENCE**

Invited by the Minister of Environment and Energy of the Hellenic Republic, H.E. Mr. Theodoros Skylakakis, BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu participated as speaker in the “9th Our Ocean Conference” (OOC) organized in Athens, on 15-17 April 2024.

Participants were ministers of environment and or energy, other high-level national representatives or envoys, as well as representatives of international organizations, business and industries, stakeholders, academia, and think tanks, etc.

The Conference’s main aim was to mobilize and engage all involved players towards creating new standards for the protection of seas and oceans and reaffirm the commitment towards a sustainable blue economy, balanced economic growth, protection of the marine environment and biodiversity, with focus inter alia on sustainable tourism, green shipping, marine and microplastic pollution as well as green transition.

Secretary General Comanescu was speaker in the High-Level Panel for Heads of Delegations dedicated to the protection of marine biodiversity. Stressing the fact that BSEC has been giving particular attention to marine issues and activities carried out there for, he highlighted that the efforts of the Organization were focused on concrete actions and projects. Mentioning the main projects developed so far (the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for the Black Sea- SRIA, the Black Sea Virtual Knowledge Center- BSVKC, the Strategic Research, the Black Sea Connect, ARSINOE, etc.) he stressed that all BSEC endeavors are in line with the Common Maritime Agenda.