

## ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

## **Permanent International Secretariat**

## PRESS RELEASE ON THE SIXTY-FOURTH MEETING OF PABSEC COMMITTEE FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Sixty-Fourth Meeting of the PABSEC Committee for Legal Affairs and International Cooperation took place in the city of Ioannina, Greece on 29-30 October 2024.

The Meeting was attended by the President of the Parliament, as well as the Deputy Minister of Migration and Asylum of the Hellenic Republic, Secretary General of PABSEC, Parliamentarians, the Governor of Epirus Region, the Mayor of Ionnia, and other participants. BSEC PERMIS was represented at the Meeting by First Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Merve Safa Kayakcı.

The Committee considered the PABSEC Report and Recommendation on "The Legal Challenges of the Refugee and Migration Flows in the BSEC Region". Following the discussions on the issue and interventions by delegations from the Republic of Bulgaria, Hellenic Republic, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Türkiye and Deputy Minister of Migration and Asylum of the Hellenic Republic, the participants agreed to present the Report as well as the relevant Recommendation to the next PABSEC General Assembly.

Addressing the participants, Dr. Kavakcı highlighted the importance of close cooperation with PABSEC aiming to enhance regional cooperation in the BSEC area both at governmental and parliamentary levels. She provided the meeting with a brief overview of the activities of BSEC for the period of last five months, as well as the current period, among which were the activities under Albanian Chairmanship in Office and ongoing Armenian Chairmanship in Office. She concluded her statement by informing the Committee that the Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials held on 22-23 October 2024 ad-referendum agreed on several important items to be finally endorsed at the next meeting of the Committee.