

ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF BSEC SECRETARY GENERAL IN THE TBILISI SILK ROAD FORUM

Upon invitation by the Government of Georgia, BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu participated as panelist in the Tbilisi Silk Road Forum, organized in Tbilisi on 22-23 October 2025 under the theme "Invest in Connectivity – Grow in Stability".

The Forum, which reached its 5th edition, was opened with a statement by H.E. Irakli Kobakhidze the Prime Minister of Georgia. Prime Ministers Nikol Pashinyan of the Republic of Armenia, and Ali Asadov of the Republic of Azerbaijan also addressed the Forum. Participants were ministers/deputy ministers, heads/high level representatives of international organizations and financial institutions, diplomats, representatives of business communities, industry leaders, think tanks and academia.

The Forum consisted of several thematic panels with high profile speakers focused on the new architecture of the East-West Trade, increasing role of the Middle Corridor, transport, energy, investment, digital connectivity and sustainable economic growth.

In his remarks within the Panel on "Energy Crossroads - Choices for a Secure Future", Ambassador Comanescu highlighted the role and contribution of BSEC Organization towards common approaches with the view to increase the energy security, interconnectivity and further diversification of energy resources and routes. In this context, he referred to the objectives set forth in the BESEC new Economic Agenda with regard to the cooperation in the field of energy with focus on energy transition, energy efficiency and renewable energy, alongside with the exploration of innovative energy technologies, also have been highlighted.

On the sidelines of the Forum, the Secretary General briefly exchanged views with Foreign Minister Maka Bochorishvili and had a meeting with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia – Mr. Alexandre Khvtisiashvili, where two interlocutors emphasized the importance of peace and stability for the sustainable economic development of the Black Sea region. Ambassador Comanescu expressed PERMIS' readiness for active cooperation with the Georgian side in the framework of upcoming Georgian BSEC Chairmanship in 2026.