



PRESS RELEASE
ON THE WORKSHOP ON “STIMULATING AND PROMOTING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION CAREERS AMONG YOUTH IN BSEC COUNTRIES”

The Permanent International Secretariat of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC PERMIS) held an online Regional Workshop on “*Stimulating and Promoting Research and Innovation Careers Among Youth in BSEC Countries*” on 27 October 2025. The event was organized under the coordination of the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova, in its capacity as Country Coordinator of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Science and Technology.

The Workshop brought together researchers, policymakers, and innovation stakeholders from across the BSEC Member States to exchange experiences, share best practices, and discuss ways to better inspire and support young people in pursuing careers in research and innovation.

Opening remarks were delivered by Ms. Adriana Cazacu, State Secretary for Research and Innovation, Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova; Mrs. Rositsa Stoeva, National Coordinator of the Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC; and Ambassador Merve Safa Kavakcı, First Deputy Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS.

In her address, Ambassador Merve Kavakcı underlined the importance of promoting youth participation in science, technology, and innovation as a key driver of progress and sustainability in the region. She commended the Republic of Moldova for its initiative and emphasized the need for collective efforts to identify challenges, share best practices, and strengthen cooperation among the BSEC Member States.

Participants exchanged views and explored opportunities to enhance regional collaboration through three thematic sessions focused on challenges and opportunities for youth in research, instruments to support early-career researchers, and a youth research and innovation action plan for BSEC Countries. Participants highlighted the importance of mentorship, research mobility, industry-academia collaboration, and visibility of young researchers as key factors for building sustainable innovation ecosystems.

The Workshop concluded with a shared commitment to develop joint regional initiatives, strengthen cross-border cooperation, and continue dialogue through BSEC PERMIS, ensuring that the Black Sea region remains a vibrant hub for young scientists, innovators, and future leaders.