



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**ON PARTICIPATION IN THE 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF**  
**THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL**

BSEC PERMIS participated in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), held in Sofia on 9 June 2026, under the Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-Office of the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECP).

The Meeting brought together RCC participants and regional partners to review progress in implementing regional cooperation priorities and to endorse the RCC Annual Report 2025-2026, as well as the Mid-Term Implementation Report and Update of the SEE2030 Strategy.

On behalf of the BSEC Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu, BSEC PERMIS Executive Manager Ambassador Georgi Panayotov, highlighted the importance of strengthening cooperation among BSEC, RCC and SEECP in addressing common challenges and advancing regional connectivity, digital transformation, climate resilience and sustainable development. He also presented the key achievements of the Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC during the second half of 2025, including the implementation of the BSEC Economic Agenda and the launch of the "Blue Port Index" project under the revitalized BSEC Project Development Fund.

Ambassador Panayotov reaffirmed BSEC's commitment to closer cooperation with RCC, SEECP participants and international partners, including through the implementation of EU-funded projects such as BRIDGE-BS, TOURAL, ARSINOE, REST-COAST and EU FUSION. On the occasion of the Meeting and the 30th anniversary of the SEECP, commemorative BSEC plaquettes were presented to RCC Secretary General Amer Kapetanovic and to the Bulgarian SEECP Chairmanship-in-Office.