PRESS RELEASE
ON THE 20th COORDINATION MEETING OF REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The 20th Coordination Meeting of Regional Organizations (CMRO) was held at the BSEC PERMIS Headquarters in Istanbul on 20 November 2026. The main topic under consideration was "Connectivity as a Driver of Regional Cooperation: From Dialogue to Joint Action".

The meeting brought together representatives of four regional organizations: BSEC, the Central European Initiative (CEI), the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (AII) and the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC).

In his opening remarks, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu emphasized the growing importance of regional organizations in a changing international environment. He underlined that connectivity is a multidimensional concept, encompassing transport and infrastructure, energy, digital transformation, trade and customs, border-crossing facilitation and people-to-people contacts. He further underlined the importance of dialogue and coordination among the four organizations in promoting similar objectives and better coping with similar challenges and stressed the need of enhancing practical cooperation, identifying joint priorities, ensuring continuity and follow-up, and strengthening interaction with other international partners including the European Union.

The representatives of AII, CEI and RCC also highlighted the relevance and importance of enhanced coordination among the regional organizations with focus on result-oriented activities in areas such as cross-border interconnections, multimodal transport, regional mobility, sustainable tourism, trade facilitation and the green transition.

The participants welcomed the offer by Adriatic-Ionian Initiative to host the 21st Coordination Meeting of Regional Organizations in Ancona.