



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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## PRESS RELEASE

### ON THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL TRANSPORT CONNECTIVITY FORUM 2025 (27-29 June 2025, Istanbul)

On 27-29 June 2025 the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazăr Comănescu participated in the *Global Transport Connectivity Forum 2025*, held in Istanbul Congress Center.

The event, hosted by the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Türkiye with the support of the World Bank, brought together high-level policy makers, Ministers, representatives of international organizations and international financial institutions, industry leaders, private sector and leading experts to engage in high-level discussions on developing and optimizing international transport corridors. Beyond enhancing physical connectivity, discussions also focused on fostering sustainable development, green transition and regional cooperation at a global scale.

The Forum was opened with addresses by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, and Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of Türkiye Abdulkadir Uraloğlu.

Speaking at the High-level Panel devoted to the *Role of Regional Initiatives in Transport Connectivity Strategy*, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General emphasized that connectivity development has been a top priority in BSEC's activity, with particular attention being given to promoting sustainable transport systems which meet the economic, social and environmental needs of the Black Sea Region. He also emphasized the key role of this region as connectivity hub and elaborated on the most important projects developed within BSEC such as the Black Sea Ring Highway, Motorways of the Sea and the BSEC Permit System. Ambassador Comănescu further stressed the Black Sea region's key role in the development of initiatives like the Middle Corridor.

On the margins of the Forum Ambassador Comănescu had bilateral exchanges with representatives of other regional/international organizations that participated in the event, such as the European Commission, UNECE, the International Transport Forum (ITF), the International Road Transport Union (IRU), etc.