

News from the Black Sea

Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS)



PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT (PERMIS)



Dear Readers,

I have the pleasure to share herewith the issue No. 25 of the BSEC Newsletter, which covers the months of November and December 2023. Like all throughout the last year, our agenda for those two months has been quite busy and important decisions for the activities of BSEC have been adopted.

I first have in mind the finalization and the approval on 15 December 2023, by the 47th BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (CMFA) of the updated "BSEC Economic Agenda" - the framework strategy document of the Organization that outlines the priorities and actions for the next decade to meet the goals set by the BSEC Charter.

I also have in mind the agreement reached on the reactivation of BSEC's Project Development Fund (PDF) - a most important step towards consolidating the project-oriented dimension of the activities of BSEC.

The reactivation of the Troika mechanism, of the BSEC Business Council (BSECBC) and of the BSEC Coordination Center for the Exchange of Statistical Data and Economic Cooperation were also among other highlights of last year.

The Troika mechanism of successive Chairmanships-in-Office, is ensuring a much-needed coherence and continuity in BSEC's activities and programs.

The BSECBC has resumed its substantial work with a number of important webinars and meetings much appreciated by the business community.

As for the Statistical Center, gathering accurate statistical data is extremely important for the work of an economic organization like BSEC.

I would like to use this opportunity to renew our thanks to the Member States for their valuable contributions in making all these realized before year 2023 ended, thus further motivating and enabling us to make a fresh new start in 2024.

While wishing you all a prosperous and successful year 2024, stay tuned with us via the BSEC website and social media accounts!

Ambassador Lazar Comanescu - Secretary General

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The 47th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States (CMFA) was held online, on 15 December 2023 under Chairmanship of the Republic of Türkiye. [Read more](#)



WORKING VISITS

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu met with H.E. Yevhen Perebyinis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, in Kyiv, on 16 November 2023. [Read more](#)

The Permanent Representative of Armenia to BSEC, Mr. Sahak Sargsyan, paid a farewell visit to the BSEC Headquarters on 19 December 2023, and was received by the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu. [Read more](#)

Mr. Macid Kamel, Secretary General of the Arbitration Center of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC-AC) paid a working visit to the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu, in the BSEC Headquarters, on 9 November 2023. [Read more](#)



Ambassador Lazar Comanescu and Deputy Foreign Minister of Ukraine H.E. Yevhen Perebyinis

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

The updated BSEC Economic Agenda "Towards a sustainable future of the wider Black Sea area" was adopted on 15 December 2023. [Read more](#)

The Steering Committee of the Project Development Fund (PDF) expressed its appreciation to the Turkish Government for its additional voluntary contribution to the Fund and welcomed the intention of other Member States to do so.

BSEC Member States participating in the "BSEC Permit System" agreed to focus on further expansion of the geographical coverage of this system and its digitalization. [Read more](#)

KEY EVENTS

The 52nd Meeting of the ICBSS Board of Directors was held online on 11 December 2023. [Read More](#)

The 17th Coordination Meeting of the Regional Organizations was hosted by the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative in Ancona (Italy), on 5 December 2023. [Read More](#)

The Workshop on Technoparks and Organized Industrial Zones was convened online by the Republic of Türkiye, on 29 November 2023. [Read more](#)

The 2023 Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea Stakeholder Conference took place in Bucharest, on 22-23 November with the main topic being "Joining Efforts for a Sustainable, Modern and Competitive Blue Economy". [Read more](#)

The Conference "Road to the future: Connectivity, digitalization and green logistics" marking the 75th Anniversary of the International Road Transport Union (IRU), was held in Istanbul, on 15 November 2023. [Read more](#)

The 13th International Black Sea Symposium organized by the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) took place in Athens, on 2 November 2023, in the context of the 25th Anniversary of the Centre. [Read more](#)

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General gave an interview to the Turkish news agency - Anadolu Agency (AA), summarizing 2023 BSEC activities and achievements. [Read more](#)



OTHER EVENTS

The 39th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) was held in Istanbul on 4-5 December 2023). [Read more](#)

The Annual Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Central European Initiative (CEI), was held in Chisinau, 22 November 2023. [Read more](#)

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu participated in a Round Table on the OECD Report on “Realizing the Potential of the Middle Corridor” organized and hosted by the OECD Istanbul Centre on 6 November 2023. [Read more](#)



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