



PRESS RELEASE
ON THE VIRTUAL WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG DIPLOMATS
FROM BSEC MEMBER STATES
(12 October 2020)

The BSEC PERMIS, with the valuable and continuous cooperation of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Turkey (KAS), organized on 12 October 2020 the 3rd Edition of the Workshop for Young Diplomats from BSEC Member States on “Sustainable Development in the Black Sea Region”.

This 3rd Edition was the first online Workshop. While we believe that the real value of this event lies in coming together and having the opportunity to discuss and exchange views in person, we decided to nevertheless hold it online this year in order to maintain the momentum of this initiative and to acquaint participants and ourselves with the “new normal” brought upon us by the pandemic.

It was very encouraging to host in the Workshop eighteen young diplomats from eleven Member States, all of them newly recruited with limited experience in their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

The main subjects of the Workshop, all relating

to sustainable development in the Black Sea region, covered some of the most important sectors of the economies of BSEC Member States like energy (environment, alternative sources of energy, climate change, etc.); intelligent transport systems (transport, trade, globalized economy); and Blue Growth (referring also to the presence of the World Bank in the region).

Despite all difficulties, the young participants got involved in the discussions that followed the presentations by the distinguished speakers and moderators, and thus contributed to the lively debate and exchange of views.

It was concluded that the pandemic brought to the surface, with greater urgency, issues that we thought we would be addressing in 10-12 years. It was also acknowledged that in order to confront and successfully manage the challenges created by the pandemic, international and regional cooperation are perhaps more indispensable today than ever before.

