



**PRESS RELEASE ON THE SIGNING OF A GENERAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT  
ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE BLACK SEA UNIVERSITIES NETWORK  
(BSUN) AND THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL ROUTES (EICR)**



Cultural route  
of the Council of Europe  
Itinéraire culturel  
du Conseil de l'Europe



Following the establishment of close cooperation relations with the Secretariat of the *Enlarged Partial Agreement (EPA)* on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and, in order to broaden the promotion of the Cultural Routes project among BSEC Member States, BSEC PERMIS has initiated the establishment of working-relations between *the Black Sea Universities Network (BSUN)* and *the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR)*.

As a result of this PERMIS is pleased to announce that the two institutions have agreed on a *General Framework Agreement on Cooperation* between them, signed by Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI, Executive Secretary of the EPA and Director of the *European Institute of Cultural Routes*, and by Prof. Mr. Pericles A. MITKAS, BSUN President. BSUN has therefore become the 14<sup>th</sup> academic institution to join *the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies*.

BSUN will begin the design of course modules on topics related to Cultural Routes and integrate these into the study programs of the member universities. Students will also benefit from new internship opportunities at the European Institute of Cultural Routes as well as collaborative projects with the aim of integrating scientific research activities supporting Cultural Routes. The collaboration foresees publishing various studies and research papers on topics of common interest, organizing conferences and scientific events, facilitating access to databases, libraries and other sources of information for students and researchers.

It should also be noted that the *Permanent International Secretariat* of the *Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC PERMIS)* and the Secretariat of the *Enlarged Partial Agreement (EPA)* on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe recently signed a Letter of Intent on Cooperation providing a structural framework for further development and strengthening of our partnership and for closer cooperation on activities and issues of common interest.