



PRESS RELEASE
BSEC WINS PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL PEACE AWARD

We are delighted to announce that the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation has been awarded the Multilateralism Peace Award 2021 by the Goi Peace Foundation. The prestigious international award is to honour organizations that are making outstanding contributions to promoting multilateralism and fostering a culture of peace across the globe.

This year, the Goi Peace Foundation, a public benefit organization dedicated to nurturing a sustainable and harmonious global society, based in Japan, has given the award to BSEC, the Nordic Council and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), all intergovernmental organisations.

In announcing the award the Goi Peace Foundation said: “Since its establishment in 1992, BSEC has been tirelessly promoting peaceful dialogue and mutual understanding among its Member States, and has contributed to appeasing political and economic tensions in the region”.

To commemorate the occasion and to foster partnerships for peace, a Peace Pole will be dedicated at the BSEC PERMIS Secretariat in Istanbul inscribed with the message *May Peace Prevail on Earth* in four languages English, Russian, Turkish and Greek. The ceremony will take place on BSEC Day – 25th June 2021 - in the presence of Patrick U. Petit, European Representative to the United Nations, The Goi Peace Foundation.

Responding to news of the prize, BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Michael B. Christides said: “*It is a great honour for the BSEC Organization to win this global award! My colleagues in the Secretariat (PERMIS) are proud and happy that with their ceaseless efforts they have contributed to this honorable achievement, which only underlines the importance and value of our Organization’s role as the foremost point of reference in what concerns cooperation, dialogue and understanding in the geostrategic region of the Black Sea*”.

For more details on BSEC’s award: <https://www.goipeace.or.jp/en/news/20210428/>