



PRESS RELEASE
**ON THE WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG DIPLOMATS “DEVELOPING CULTURAL
DIPLOMACY IN THE BLACK SEA REGION”**

The fifth edition of the **Workshop for Young Diplomats from the BSEC Member States on “Developing cultural diplomacy in the Black Sea Region”**, jointly organized by the BSEC PERMIS and the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation, Turkey (KAS), was held on 21-23 March 2022 in Thessaloniki, Hellenic Republic.

The Workshop provided an excellent opportunity to emphasize the importance of regional cooperation among the future foreign policy decision-makers in the Black Sea area, while it helped participants to meet with their counterparts from other BSEC Member States.

Along with the representatives from BSEC PERMIS and KAS, senior officials and high level experts from the host country, from the region and beyond as well as representatives from the Council of Europe, the European Commission, academic, and think tank institutions, attended the Workshop as speakers and moderators.

In their welcoming speeches the PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Lazar Comanescu and Mr. Walter Glos, Director of KAS (Turkey), underlined the importance of the Workshop as a precious “investment” for the future and a most valuable vehicle for promoting the spirit of friendship and good neighborliness between young diplomats from the BSEC Member States.

A special panel devoted to BSEC’s 30th Anniversary and its role for the regional cooperation took place on 22 March 2022 with the participation of the BSEC Related Bodies.

On the last day of the Workshop, a simulation game on “*CSO Meeting on how to effectively promote the regional cooperation in cultural sector in the Black Sea area*” took place. It was conceived as way of introducing the participants to the objectives, procedures and functioning of the BSEC Organization, while, at the same time, familiarizing them with some of the most topical issues of regional cooperation related to cultural sector in the Black Sea area.

The participants took active part in the Workshop and seized the opportunity for networking with their colleagues from the different BSEC Member States.