



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**ON THE OFFICIAL START OF**  
**THE SERBIAN CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE OF BSEC**  
**(January - June 2023)**

The "*Coordination Meeting of the Serbian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office with the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, the BSEC Related Bodies and the BSEC PERMIS*" took place online on 31 January 2023.

The Meeting, which was the first official one under the Serbian Chairmanship was chaired by Ambassador Sanja Milinkovic, Department for Multilateral Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia.

The Secretary General in his opening remarks warmly congratulated the Serbian Chairmanship, conveyed to it the best wishes of success and reassured of PERMIS's readiness and commitment to fully support and closely collaborate with the Chairmanship in fulfilling their mandate.

During the meeting, Ambassador Milan Milanovic, Acting Assistant Minister, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia presented the Priorities of the Serbian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office (1 January – 30 June 2023), stressing that it will focus on achievable, practical and visible objectives so as to contribute to the sustainable development of the wider Black Sea Region.

Those priorities are as follows:

- updating the BSEC Economic Agenda;
- improving the effectiveness of the work of the BSEC, including the reactivation of the BSEC Business Council and making more use of the BSEC Troika mechanism and of informal consultations;
- Paying particular attention to the area of Information and Communication Technologies tools and applications,
- encouraging more active involvement and contributions from Observers and Sectoral Dialogue Partners to the activities of the Organization,
- Facilitating bilateral, regional and sub-regional dialogue.

For full text of the Serbian priorities please visit:

<http://www.bsec-organization.org/chairmanship>

The meeting also approved the calendar of events during the Serbian Chairmanship in Office.