



PRESS RELEASE
ON THE PARTICIPATION IN THE BLACK SEA CONNECT GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND THE LAUNCH OF THE BLACK SEA STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND
INNOVATION (SRIA) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Black Sea CONNECT General Assembly and the Launch of the Black Sea Strategic Research and Innovation (SRIA) Implementation Plan took place on 3 respectively 4 May 2023, in Brussels.

As partner of the "*Black Sea CONNECT: Coordination of Marine and Maritime Research and Innovation in the Black Sea*", project consortium, the BSEC PERMIS participated in both events.

The official launch of the SRIA Implementation Plan was held in the European Parliament and was organized by the Seas, Rivers, Islands and Coastal Areas (SEArICA) Intergroup of the Parliament and the Balkan and Black Sea Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), and hosted by Mr. Marian-Jean Marinescu, MEP from Romania. The Plan can be reach in the following link: <http://connect2blacksea.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/27042023-Black-Sea-SRIA-Implementation-Plan.pdf>

In his address to the participants, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu highlighted the achievements during the last couple of years in the area of Black Sea research and innovation and the development of synergies and regional cooperation. He stressed at the same time that there is still room and need for more to be done in this respect, especially in terms of concrete joint actions towards productive, healthy, resilient, sustainable and better valued Black Sea.

During his visit to Brussels, Ambassador Comanescu had a bilateral meeting with Mr. Maros Sefcovic, Vice-President of the European Commission, as well as with the team in the Directorate General for Neighborhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) responsible for the cooperation with the BSEC PERMIS. A working dinner devoted to the BSEC-EU cooperation was hosted by Faruk Kaymakçı, Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Türkiye to the European Union.