



**PRESS RELEASE
ON THE FORTY-SIXTH MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (CMFA)**

The Forty-sixth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (CMFA) of the BSEC Member States was held online on 13 June 2023. H.E. Mr. Ivica Dacic, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and BSEC Chairman-in-Office, chaired the meeting.

In addition to the Heads of Delegations of the BSEC Member States, representatives of the BSEC Related Bodies, Observers and Sectoral Dialogue Partners also participated in the Council Meeting.

At the opening, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu presented a brief overview of the activities and achievements of the Organization during the Serbian Chairmanship (1 January - 30 June 2023). Highlighting BSEC's role as an important actor in our region, he stressed that the need of its further strengthening has become even more evident under the current circumstances, particularly in view of the necessity of a swift restoration of peace and stability as a prerequisite of prosperity in our common home of the Black Sea.

The Ministers made statements on issues regarding the latest developments in the region and within the Organization. They expressed their high appreciation to the Republic of Serbia for its successful Chairmanship in Office of BSEC.

At the closing session, the Council adopted Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations on various issues on the agenda of the Organization: including the approval of the new Regulations for the Staff, the new Rules of Procedure, and the new Financial Regulations and Procedures of the Permanent International Secretariat of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation; renewal of Observer as well as Sectoral Dialogue Partnership Status in BSEC; Progress Report of the Secretary General; appointment of country coordinators to working groups; the interaction between BSEC and its Related Bodies; as well as renewal of the term-in-office of the Legal Advisor, two Executive Managers and the creation of a new post of Executive Manager in the BSEC PERMIS.

At the conclusion of the Meeting, the Republic of Serbia handed over the Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC to the Republic of Türkiye which assumes the Chairmanship as of 1 July 2023 until 31 December 2023.