



**PRESS RELEASE
ON THE SUMMIT OF THE THREE SEAS INITIATIVE (3SI)
AND THE 3SI BUSINESS FORUM**

Upon invitation by the Romanian Government, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu, participated in the Summit of the Three Seas Initiative (3SI) and the 3SI Business Forum which took place in Bucharest on 6-7 September 2023.

Participants were high officials (ministers/deputy ministers) of the 3SI countries as well as high level representatives of the business communities from the region and of international financial/banking institutions such as EIB, EBRD, IMF and OECD.

The Business forum stressed the need of strengthening the cooperation in areas like energy, infrastructure and digitalization as prerequisites for a resilient and sustainable economic development of the region. The particular importance of developing and implementing relevant projects with genuine regional dimension while outreaching the neighbouring regions and partners (Western Balkan and South East-Black Sea and Caucasus) was highlighted in this context.

In his contribution to the Round Table dedicated to investments, the Secretary General stressed the importance of a better prioritization of projects, as well as the need of appropriate allocation of financial and of appropriate complementarities between the 3SI Fund and other financial/banking institutions. As to transport, he said particular attention should be given to the Danube-Black Sea - Caucasus connectivity.

Secretary General Comanescu also stressed the need of better links among business communities and suggested, in this context, a 3SI Business Forum and BSEC Business Council interaction.