



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

The Forty-ninth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (CMFA) of the BSEC Member States was held online on 19 December 2024 and was chaired by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia H.E. Mr. Vahan Kostanyan.

Opening addresses were delivered by H.E. Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and BSEC Chairman-in-Office and by BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu.

In his (prerecorded) address, Minister Mirzoyan highlighted the importance of the BSEC Organization and cooperation among its Member States. He stressed that during its Chairmanship, Armenia oriented its work towards finding equitable and inclusive approaches for regional economic cooperation in the Black Sea region contributing to sustainable economic development of the BSEC Member States and strengthening of peace and security. Minister Mirzoyan mentioned the achievements registered during the Armenian Chairmanship and expressed determination of the Armenian Government, especially in light of current fragile regional circumstances and challenges, to spare no efforts in reaching better economic connectivity, ensuring people-to-people contacts and mutual trust which is foundation for advancing peace and stability in the whole Black Sea region.

In his turn Ambassador Comanescu presented a brief overview of the activities of the Organization during the second semester of 2024 and highlighted the most important achievements and developments under the Armenian Chairmanship, including the adoption of the BSEC 2025 Budget, the increased role of the Troika mechanism, the revival of the Project Development Fund (PDF) and the intensification of interaction with international organizations. He underlined that despite serious challenges, in the region and beyond, the BSEC Organization continued to successfully navigate there through and undertake forward-looking actions and decisions that proves its resilience.

During the debates that followed, the Heads of Delegations made statements related to the latest developments in the region and within the Organization. They once again emphasized on the important role BSEC Organization plays in economic development and cooperation in the area and reiterated their commitment to the peace, security, stability and welfare of the region. They used this opportunity to express their high appreciation to the Republic of Armenia for its successful Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC and wished the forthcoming Chairmanship of Azerbaijan all the success in its activities.

The Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs adopted Resolutions on the BSEC PERMIS Budget for 2025 and other financial and staff matters.

The Meeting was concluded with the transfer of the Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC to the Republic of Azerbaijan for the period of 1 January – 30 June 2025.