



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE

**ON THE VISIT BY AMBASSADOR AYLİN SEKİZKÖK,
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE**

BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu received on 29 January 2025 in the new premises of the BSEC Headquarters, Ambassador Aylin Sekizkök, Director General for International Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye accompanied by Mr. Hüseyin Özen, First Secretary of the same Department. BSEC PERMIS First Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Merve Safa Kavakcı, and Legal Advisor Ms. Nino Kajaia were also present at the meeting.

While welcoming his guest, Ambassador Comanescu expressed PERMIS's highest appreciations and gratitude for the strong support by the Turkish Government to BSEC, including the allocation of the new premises.

A fruitful exchange of views took place on prospects for further enhancing BSEC's role in strengthening and promoting regional economic cooperation for the benefit of all Member States and both sides agreed to continue to closely work together for further developing BSEC as a key factor in this respect. They agreed to organize bilateral consultations to this purpose in Istanbul or Ankara as frequently as possible.

Topics such as the importance of enhancing BSEC's project-oriented dimension, including the ones with EU and with other international organizations, as well as cooperation with BSEC Observers and Sectoral Dialogue Partners, and revival of the Project Development Fund (PDF) were also stressed during the meeting.

Last but not least, both sides emphasized on the importance of the implementation of the BSEC Economic Agenda adopted in December 2023.