



PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 12 July 2013

Dr. Zefi Dimadama, ICBSS Director General, participated in the **Plenary Session of the General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC)**.

The 41st General Assembly was held in Sofia, on 9-11 July 2013, within the framework of the Bulgarian Chairmanship of PABSEC. It was attended by the delegations of twelve member states, the Chairman of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Mr. Jean-Claude Mignon, and representatives of the European Parliament and other European institutions.

This year's agenda of the Plenary Session entitled **"Tourism as an important factor of economic growth and cooperation in the BSEC region"** addressed the touristic potential of the Black Sea region, as well as the prospects for further development of interstate cooperation.

On the occasion of the **Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of PABSEC**, ICBSS was awarded a prize for the excellent cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly. Dr. Zefi Dimadama accepted this honourable award on behalf of the ICBSS.

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About the ICBSS: The International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) was founded in 1998 as a non-profit organisation. It has since fulfilled a dual function. On the one hand, it is an independent research and training institution focusing on the wider Black Sea region. On the other hand, it is a related body of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and serves as its acknowledged think-tank. Thus, the ICBSS pursues applied, policy-oriented research, promotes knowledge on the Black Sea region both within and outside its boundaries, and offers policy advice with the aim to foster multilateral cooperation among the BSEC member states as well as with their international partners.

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