



PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 13 March 2012

“Black Sea area: the importance of collaboration in a regional organization”

ICBSS Director General, Dr. Zefi Dimadama participated as a guest speaker in the annual “Business Week” (BW) event “*Learning Organization: A Key to Competitiveness?*” organised by the School of Business Administration (SBA) of the DEREI College in Athens on March 12-15.

Dr. Dimadama after congratulating the American College of Greece for the organisation of the event, presented in her speech titled “*Black Sea area: the importance of collaboration in a regional organization*” the role and contribution of ICBSS in the wider Black Sea area.

During her speech, Dr. Dimadama pointed out “*ICBSS’ primary objective is the exchange of valuable information and good practices as an effort to raise awareness and to mobilise all relative parties with a view to promoting regional cooperation so as to establish the basis for the emergence of new priorities and recommendations for the Black Sea countries in energy security, climate change and sustainable development.*”

Furthermore, Dr. Dimadama stressed “*the Centre over the past two years, has undertaken a series of activities that seek to foster a comprehensive regional approach towards important issues of the wider Black Sea area, with explicit measurable results at both the academic and political level. ICBSS is involved either as Leader or as a Partner in EU funded research projects in partnership with Institutions from the wider Black Sea area, Central Asia and the Mediterranean Sea.*”

Moreover, she referred to the ICBSS initiative to establish an integrated mechanism of a **WEB-GIS Observatory** which will gradually gather and process geographical and statistical data related to sustainable development and environment.

During “Business Week” guest-speakers (academics and/or non-academics) from different business fields are invited to share their valuable knowledge, expertise and experience that have accumulated in their respective fields of work and interest.

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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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