



PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 27 February 2020

Meeting of Mr. Georgios Mitrakos, ICBSS Director General, with Ms. Eleni Marianou, CPMR Secretary General



On Wednesday 26 February 2020, the ICBSS Director General, **Mr. Georgios Mitrakos**, had a meeting with the Secretary General of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions ([CPMR](#)), **Ms. Eleni Marianou**, at the office of the General Secretariat of the CPMR, in Brussels-Belgium.

The meeting took place during Mr. Mitrakos' working trip in Brussels, and within the framework of the **Cooperation Agreement** that the ICBSS and the CPMR signed in October 2019, as a valid continuation of the interactive cooperation of both organisations established some time ago.

During their meeting, **Mr. Mitrakos** and **Ms. Marianou** explored ways of further strengthening their cooperation under the Agreement, through the organisation of joint actions, events and publications in fields of common interest.

More specifically, both parties exchanged views regarding the **Black Sea Synergy Initiative** and the **Eastern Partnership**, as a follow-up to their analysis in the last ICBSS Policy Paper published on February 2020 under the title *[“Black Sea Synergy: the way forward”](#)*, with the contribution of the CPMR and its Balkan and Black Sea Commission ([BBSC](#)).

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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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