

**ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ON  
“A CHALLENGE OR OBSTACLE FOR THE FUTURE?  
CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY FOR THE BLACK SEA”**

**ATHENS, 19 MARCH 2015**

**ORGANIZED BY THE ICBSS**

**STATE OF  
THE ART**

Climate change is no longer perceived as a peril in the distant future, it is an on-going process transforming our planet and it is expected to carry on at a faster pace in the years to come. Especially, for the vulnerable region of the Black Sea, the mitigation and adaptation measures to address the impacts of climate change, is amongst the top priorities of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), as stated in the revised BSEC Economic Agenda of 2012.

**WHAT**

Within this framework, and acknowledging the need for an effective response to our changing environment, the International Centre for Black Studies (ICBSS) takes the initiative to organize a Round Table Discussion on *“A Challenge or Obstacle for the Future? Climate Change and Environmental Strategy for the Black Sea”*.

**BACKGROUND**

The ICBSS will capitalize on the Conclusions drawn from the Policy Stakeholders Conference “EU-Eastern Partnership STI cooperation in addressing climate change” that took place in Yerevan (15-16 May 2014), in the framework of the FP7 research project “STI International Cooperation Network for Eastern Partnership Countries” (IncoNet EaP) and the outcomes from the “Climate Change Vulnerability and Impact Assessment Review for the Black Sea Region” project. The ICBSS plans to disseminate these conclusions to a Black Sea audience and, on top of that, to take a step further by examining the climate change topic from the Black Sea region’s perspective.

**OBJECTIVE**

The main objective of the one-day event is to reach to concrete *recommendations on ways to adapt to the impacts of climate change*. In order to do so, the discussion will focus on the understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of climate change; address its challenges for the Black Sea countries; explore climate-compatible forms of economic and social development and adaptation policies; examine the instruments and institutions at different scales; and explore the roles of the public and private sectors and civil society in adaptation decision making.

**WHO**

In order to achieve this goal, the ICBSS will bring together policy makers, representatives from the academic and scientific community and the business sector, NGOs and representatives from the civil society.

**VENUE**

The Round Table Discussion will take place in Athens, on 19 March 2015. A formal invitation, along with a detailed agenda, will be sent to you shortly. For more information on the organization of this event, please email [events@icbss.org](mailto:events@icbss.org) or visit our website [www.icbss.org](http://www.icbss.org).