

Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE ON THE WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG DIPLOMATS "IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM FOR THE ECONOMIES IN THE BLACK SEA REGION"

The fourth edition of the **Workshop for Young Diplomats from the BSEC Member States on** *"Importance of Tourism for the Economies in the Black Sea Region"*, jointly organized by BSEC PERMIS and the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, Turkey (KAS), was held on 6-8 October 2021 in Tirana, Albania.

The Workshop provided an excellent opportunity to emphasize the importance of regional cooperation among the future foreign policy decision-makers in the Black Sea area, while it helped participants to meet with their counterparts from other BSEC Member States.

Along with the representatives from BSEC PERMIS and KAS, senior officials and high level experts from the host country, from the region and beyond as well as representatives from the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the Council of Europe, the European Commission and Academic and Think Tanks Institutions, attended the Workshop as speakers and moderators.

In their welcoming speeches the PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Lazar Comanescu and Mr. Walter Glos, Director of KAS Turkey, underlined the importance of similar events, which should be evaluated as a precious "investment" for the future and stated that the Workshop has already proven to be a valuable vehicle promoting the spirit of friendship and good neighborliness between young diplomats from the BSEC Member States, thus contributing to the enhancement of mutual respect and confidence, of dialogue and cooperation.

On the last day of the Workshop, a simulation game on "CSO Meeting on how to effectively promote the regional cooperation in tourism sector in the Black Sea area" took place. It was conceived as way of introducing the participants to the objectives, procedures and functioning of the BSEC Organization, while, at the same time, familiarizing them with some of the most topical issues of regional cooperation related to tourism sector in the Black Sea area.

The participants took active part in the Workshop and seized the opportunity for networking with their colleagues from the different BSEC Member States"