



## PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 8 July 2025

### Online expert meeting "The current state of affairs in the wider Black Sea region"

On 8 July 2025, the International Centre for Black Sea Studies ([ICBSS](https://icbss.org/)) in cooperation with the Institutul European din România - European Institute of Romania ([EIR](https://ier.gov.ro/en/home-en/)), organised an online expert meeting on the topic **"The current state of affairs in the wider Black Sea region"**.

The event brought together experts from the wider Black Sea region who exchanged on the current state of play and future developments in the region, while acting among others as a brainstorming event for the 14th International Black Sea Symposium, to be organised by ICBSS in November 2025. The meeting was held under the Chatham House Rule.

This joint initiative was organized in the framework of the **Memorandum of Understanding** that has established cooperation between the ICBSS and the EIR since April 2025.

For more information about the EIR, please visit <https://ier.gov.ro/en/home-en/>

For more information about the ICBSS, please visit <https://icbss.org/>

---

**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 Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), and its 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 of fostering multilateral cooperation among the BSEC member states as well as with their international partners.