



PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 29 September 2025

Participation of ICBSS Director General at the EU Macro – Regional & Sea Basin "Strategies Days 2025"

On 24 – 25 September 2025, the ICBSS Director General, Mr. Georgios MITRAKOS, participated at the **EU Macro – Regional & Sea Basin "Strategies Days 2025"**, held in Brussels, Belgium.

The event was co-organised by the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) and the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) with active support from the EU Sea Basin Strategies Assistance Mechanism (WestMED, Atlantic Maritime Strategy and Black Sea CMA).

Representatives from the **four EU Macro-Regional Strategies** (Alpine, Danube, Adriatic-Ionian, and Baltic) and the **three Sea Basin Strategies** (Atlantic, Western Mediterranean, and Black Sea) participated in a series of interactive workshops, panel discussions, and networking activities. In light of the priorities of the **eight strategy presidencies**, participants engaged in thematic discussions and exchanged best practices to identify synergies, reinforce existing collaborations, and co-create solutions to shared regional challenges.

In the sidelines, the ICBSS Director General, Mr. Georgios MITRAKOS had bilateral meetings with EU officials to discuss the future of cooperation between the EU and ICBSS.

This working visit reflects ICBSS's ongoing commitment to regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and dialogue in support of sustainable development and integration in the Black Sea and beyond.

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.