



**PRESS RELEASE ON  
THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
“RISK MANAGEMENT LEADERS IN ENERGY”  
(Istanbul, 15-16 May 2018)**

An interesting and timely International Conference under the title “*Risk Management Leaders in Energy*” took place in Istanbul on 15-16 May 2018. The event was organized by the “*Institute for Energy and Finance*” (IEF) from Russia, in collaboration with the “*Institute of Risk Management*” (IRM) from the UK and its Regional Group in Turkey, with the support of the *Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation*.

The Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS, Ambassador Michael B. Christides, was invited to address the audience with an opening speech, together with the Deputy Minister of Energy and Natural Resources of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Alparslan Bayraktar, the Deputy Minister of Energy of Russia, H.E. Mr. Anatoly Yanovski and the Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, H.E. Mr. George Chikovani.

The main aim of the Conference was to provide a platform for an exchange of international experience in risk management - in the broadest sense of the term - and for an introduction of best practices in what concerns Energy Risk Management.

Specialists and stakeholders from many countries, among them also the President of the *Black Sea Trade & Development Bank* (BSTDB), Mr. Ihsan Ugur Delikanli, actively participated in the various sessions of the event, which covered a wide spectrum of relevant issues.

In his address, Ambassador Christides informed participants on the energy issues BSEC mainly deals with: Energy conservation, Energy efficiency and alternative sources of Energy. He pointed out that the “high-politics” concerning production, transport and distribution of oil or natural gas are beyond the competency of the BSEC Working Groups dealing with Energy matters.

He underlined that, as Energy risk-management, industrial, informational and ecological safety are issues that highly affect the every-day life of the average citizen in the wider Black Sea region, the BSEC Organization could perhaps offer valuable support to the solution of some of these problems, given the experience it has gained on the ground and the “culture of dialogue” that it was able to establish in the area.

He concluded by stating that BSEC is looking forward to the conclusions and possible recommendations of the Conference, because in our today’s ever more confusing world, with asymmetrical threats and new dangers like Cyber and Technology risks further aggravating the global Energy scene, we are obliged to be vigilant and attentive.