



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
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PRESS RELEASE ON
THE CULTURAL EVENT ORGANIZED BY
THE ROMANIAN CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE OF BSEC
ON THE OCCASION OF INTERNATIONAL BLACK SEA ACTION DAY

In the framework of the Romanian Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC, a cultural event dedicated to the International Black Sea Action Day was organized at the “Dimitrie Cantemir” Romanian Cultural Institute, in collaboration with the Consulate General of Romania in Istanbul, on 5 November 2015.

At the opening, a moment of silence was observed for those who lost their lives in the tragic fire in Bucharest and the Russian airliner disaster over Sinai.

The Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES delivered a statement at the opening of the cultural event which included a stamp exhibition with the theme of the Black Sea and a music recital by Romanian artists Viorela CIUCUR (piano) and Corina BURA (violin). The event was concluded with a reception.

As is known, in order to protect the Black Sea from pollution and other adverse effects, on 21 April 1992, Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine signed the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention) which was ratified by all signatories in 1994. For the effective implementation of the Bucharest Convention, its signatories adopted the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan on 31 October 1996 and hence this date has since been celebrated as the International Black Sea Action Day.

International Black Sea Action Day is marked regionally to increase environmental awareness in all Black Sea littoral countries and coastal communities and to celebrate their shared marine environment. Its main objective is to promote the urgent need for greater regional cooperation against the threats facing the Black Sea and to raise public awareness of these threats, ranging from pollution and poorly regulated fishing to unsustainable coastal development.