



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

**PRESS RELEASE ON
THE FOURTH MEETING FOR DEVELOPING A BLUE GROWTH INITIATIVE FOR
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE BLACK SEA
(Istanbul, 27 March 2018)**

The BSEC PERMIS hosted on 27 March 2018 in its Istanbul premises the “4th Meeting for Developing a Blue Growth Initiative for Research and Innovation in the Black Sea”. The event was organized and chaired by the *DG Mare of the European Commission*.

Experts and academics from the BSEC Member States, riparian to the Black Sea, as well as from Moldova, participated at the meeting, while some officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the above BSEC countries also took part in the said event.

The main goal of the research body of stakeholders from the riparian Black Sea countries plus Moldova is to develop a “*Vision Paper*” which is expected to help fill-in the gaps in the research and innovation area concerning the Black Sea and provide a clearer picture of the type of research needed to be funded through the new financial scheme of 2020. The “*Vision Paper*” will facilitate the formulation of the “*Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for the Black Sea basin (SRIA)*”, centered on the model of the work prepared for the Mediterranean Sea. The “*SRIA*” will be a major pillar of a broader Maritime Strategy for the Black Sea region.