



## *Forum on “Academic Cooperation for Peace & Welfare in the Mediterranean & Black Sea Region”*

**Tirana, Albania, May 16 - 19, 2012**

**Background:** The Mediterranean and Black Sea Region has recently witnessed a profound process of reforms and changes in the political and socio-economic spheres. In this context, the Academic Community has to play a leading role in the sense of intellectual social responsibility for promoting dialogue and initiating cooperation for the reconstruction of sustainable peace and welfare in the region.

**Black Sea Universities Network** is the cooperation framework for Academic institutions from the Black Sea Region, encouraging inter-university cooperation and the generation of synergies. Since its establishment in 1998, BSUN has organized different events in order to facilitate debates, the exchange of good practices and the initiation of joint projects.

**Réseau Méditerranéen des Écoles d'Ingénieurs** has sought, since its foundation, to valorise the specific assets of the Mediterranean with the aim of enhancing its impact, by reinforcing the links between engineering schools, universities and other partners in the Mediterranean region.

Aiming to promote the civil and social development of peoples which, despite their wide geographical divergence, have always been united by thin but enduring threads of both geographical and ethical and religious nature, the **Community of Mediterranean Universities** was set up in 1983 and recognized in 1989 as NGO by UNESCO. Its aim is to generate a process of renewal and modernization which would help its adhering members to overcome many serious problems.

**UN Academic Impact** is a global initiative that aligns institutions of higher education with the United Nations in actively supporting ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, literacy, sustainability and conflict resolution. The Academic Impact also requires each participating college or university to actively demonstrate support of at least one of those principles each year.

**Aim:** The Forum, organized jointly by Black Sea Universities Network, Réseau Méditerranéen des Écoles d'Ingénieurs, Community of Mediterranean Universities and UN Academic Impact, is intended to be a major event that gathers rectors, senior university managers and decision-makers from the fields of higher education, scientific research and technology transfer, academics etc., interested in the active involvement of universities in the cooperation for the re-construction of sustainable peace and welfare in the region.

**Topics:**

- The new role of the University in the current regional and global context
- University management marketing
- Curricula development and implementation of Bachelor, Master and PhD study programs
- Teaching and learning technologies
- Management of RTDI projects
- Inter-university and international relations
- Innovative schemes of students' involvement in the teaching process
- Partnership with social, business and industrial communities
- Lifelong learning
- European Framework of Qualifications

**Tentative Program of the Forum**

**May 16, 2012**

Arrival of participants  
Registration

**19<sup>00</sup>**

BSUN Executive Board Meeting

**20<sup>00</sup>**

**Welcome Cocktail**

**May 17, 2012**

**10<sup>00</sup> Opening Ceremony of the Forum**

**Welcoming speeches:**

- ✚ Prof. Dr. Jorgaq Kacani, Rector, Polytechnic University of Tirana
- ✚ Prof. Dr. Dimitry Livanov, BSUN President
- ✚ Acad. Michaylo Zgurovski, Rector, National Technical University of Ukraine,
- ✚ H.E. Mr. Ramu Damodaran, Head of UNAI Secretariat
- ✚ Prof. Dr. Leo Vincent, RMEI President
- ✚ H.E. Mr. Kyrylo Tretiak, PABSEC Secretary General
- ✚ Ambassador Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, BSEC Secretary General
- ✚ Prof. Dr. Ilan Chet, Union of the Mediterranean
- ✚ Prof. Carlo Di Benedetto, Coordinator of the Head Office, Community of Mediterranean Universities

**11<sup>00</sup> Coffee Break**

**11:30 – 13:00 Plenary Session: “The Role of Universities in Building Sustainable Peace & Welfare in the Mediterranean & Black Sea Region”**

**13:00 – 14:30 Lunch**

**14:30 – 18:00 Parallel Sessions of the Forum**

**Session A: Intercultural Dialog & Social Cohesion**

**Session B: Conflict Prevention & Sustainable Peace Building**

**Session C: Sustainable Development & Governance**

**Session D: Knowledge Innovation Communities**

**Session E: Education Technologies & Networking**

**16:15-16:45 Coffee-break**


**18:30- 21:00 Social Programme**

**May 18, 2012**


**Second part of the Forum with specific setup by partner organization**

**9:00 Ordinary Session of the BSUN Congress**

**Chairmen:**

 Prof. Dr. Jorgaq Kacani, Rector, Polytechnic University of Tirana

 Prof. Dr. Dimitry Livanov, BSUN President

 Acad. Michaylo Zgurovski, Rector, National Technical University of Ukraine

**9:30 Cooperation under the BSUN framework: Lessons learned**

**11:00 Coffee Break**

**11:30 – 13:00 Cooperation under the BSUN framework: Setting up a new agenda**

**13:00 – 14:30 Lunch**

**14:30-16:30**      **Plenary Session of the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of Rectors from the Black Sea Region**

**Chairman:** Acad. Michaylo Zgurovski, Rector, National Technical University of Ukraine

**17:30**              ***Closing of the Forum and adoption of the Tirana Declaration of University Rectors from the Mediterranean & Black Sea Region***

**19:00**              **Banquet**

**May 19, 2012**

**Satellite Events**

**Social Programme**

**Departure of the participants**