

Over nearly forty years of diplomatic and fifteen years of academic activity, Ambassador Comănescu dedicated most of his knowledge and efforts to the multilateral diplomacy, both at regional and global level.

The international economic relations and particularly regional economic integration and cooperation have constantly been at the centre of his activity. He was involved from the very outset in Romania's drive toward EU integration and directly contributed to the elaboration and implementation of Romania's strategy for integration into the European Union and played a key role in the accession negotiations.

As permanent representative to the EU and as Foreign Minister, he has been an active promoter of a close cooperation between the European Union and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organisation. As Chair-in-Office of BSEC Council of Ministers in 2015 and currently as senior foreign policy adviser to the President of the Romanian Chamber of Commerce, he has been actively promoting the need of a consolidated projects-based activity of BSEC. That includes and requires a stronger direct involvement of business communities from the BSEC Member States in the elaboration of policies and projects. Further reinforcing the role of BSEC Business Council would bring an important contribution in this sense. All the more so as BSEC approaches its 30th anniversary (2022), there is scope and need for the Organization to increase its capacity of catalysing economic cooperation and development, and through this, of stimulating synergies, a cooperative environment and stability in the region. Building on the accomplishments so far, including through appropriate adaptations and reforms, while developing and /or strengthening partnerships with other regional and international actors and institutions, would definitely and significantly help in such an endeavour. The role of BSEC PERMIS is of paramount importance in this respect.

Ambassador Comănescu's most valuable diplomatic abilities as well as his high level expertise in top governmental positions would certainly enable him, at the helm of BSEC PERMIS, to contribute to the increase of the profile of BSEC Organisation and of its capacity to face the challenges of a world which, in many respects, including in economic terms, will probably be significantly different of the today's one, as a consequence of the current pandemic.