

## Welcome Speech

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The emergence of the cooperation in the sense of economy and trade in the global world is quite expectable, because one of the dynamics that sustain every country's economy is the energy and transportation. Every nation prioritizes its own people, and wishes them to have better life standards and freedom. Therefore starts, cultural, peaceful, and economic dialogue between the neighboring countries. Finally a union can faster. As all we know, European association of coal and steel founded in 1951 formed the skeleton of European Union, in order to promote the coal and steel sectors, two basic raw materials that gained a considerable significance in terms of industry pro-world war 2 eras.

The European Union has shared values based on long lasting peace, unity, liberty, equality, security, and solidarity. Aims of EU include providing and maintaining liberty, protection of Democracy, respect of human rights, supremacy of justice, freedom, and security by all members. European Union is a unique well-organized community in the world.

Black Sea Region countries are neighbors of European Union. All routes – air, sea, and road – to EU cross these countries. It should benefit from EU in all possible aspects. This region has the potential to contribute to European Union. It offers young educated dynamic workforce, a potential market to invest, impressive landscape for tourism, mineral resources, and so on.

Besides, the Cooperation between European Union (EU) and Black Sea Regions will enhance security and solidarity in the region and eradicate misunderstandings coming from the history.

Believing that gatherings and reunions such as symposiums and conferences will facilitate mutual understanding, I would like to thank the President of Georgia, H.E. Mr. Micheil SAAKASHVILI for supporting all scientific, cultural and social activities organized to maintain cooperation and peace in the world and hosting the symposium on the cooperation between Black Sea Region Countries and European Union (EU) in the framework of 3<sup>rd</sup> Silk Road Symposium.

I would like to thank also all institutions and foundations for their labor needed to bring this symposium about.

Especially, I would like to thank Prof. Dr. Giuli ALASANIA for her endeavor and dedication to bring us together today.

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\* The Head of Chaglar Educational Institutions and the Chairman of the trusty committee of International Black Sea University