



**BLACK SEA UNIVERSITIES NETWORK**  
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Wednesday, January 09, 2013

Rector, Prof. Dr. Yunus SÖYLET  
ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY

## **PABSEC International Student Essay Competition**

### **"The Black Sea Region 20 years from Now"**

Distinguished Rector Yunus SÖYLET,

Allow me to begin by expressing our best wishes for the New Year and our thanks for your support in the development of the BSUN cooperation framework!

I would like to use this opportunity to kindly ask your support for promoting among the students of your university a very important initiative which has been launched by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

As you already know, in 2013 the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and on this occasion it is organizing, in partnership with the Black Sea Universities Network (BSUN), a student essay competition on the topic "The Black Sea Region 20 years from Now". The competition aims to involve students from the 12 BSEC Member States (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine) in shaping the vision for the future of our region in cultural, political and economic terms.

The deadline for submission was extended to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Details regarding submission, eligibility and writing guidelines are available on the Black Sea Universities Network website at the following address: [www.bsun.org/PABSEC Essay Competition](http://www.bsun.org/PABSEC%20Essay%20Competition).

Entries will be evaluated and selected by national committees in every Member State and the winners (one from each Member State) will be invited to the PABSEC Summit to be organized within the framework of the 41<sup>st</sup> General Assembly in May/June 2013, where they will be awarded a diploma. Their travel, accommodation expenses and per diem will be covered by PABSEC. The 12 winning essays shall be published in a special volume on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of PABSEC, as well as in a special issue of the International Journal "Letters from the Black Sea" (BSUN).

In several countries, the universities have used this opportunity to invite members of the Parliament (in each country there is a PABSEC Parliamentary Committee) for organizing meetings with students in order to inform them about the current status and future perspectives of cooperation in the Black Sea Region. If you consider it appropriate, we could provide you the necessary contacts or the information may be obtained by accessing the web page <http://www.pabsec.org/>, where the contacts from each country are presented.

We hope that by joining our efforts we shall be able to raise the interest of the new generation in the development of the Black Sea Region and that the essay competition will generate fresh and innovative ideas!

Looking forward to new essay entries,

Prof. Eden Mamut

Secretary General

Black Sea Universities Network

