



CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

8th International Black Sea Symposium

on

“Science, Technology & Innovation in the Black Sea: Moving Forward”

Athens, Greece

19-20 November 2015

The **International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS)** launched the International Black Sea Symposium project in the context of a need for transnational cooperation in the wider Black Sea region. Now, in its eighth year, the **International Black Sea Symposium (IBSS)** builds on the success and positive impact of its previous seven editions to bring together the next generation of stakeholders with an interest in the Black Sea area, focusing on *STI Cooperation*, a key parameter for sustainable development.

The **8th International Black Sea Symposium** on *“Science, Technology & Innovation in the Black Sea: Moving Forward”* will be held in Athens, Greece, **from 19 to 20 November 2015**. The event’s working language will be English.

More about the 8th IBSS

In a challenging global economic environment, scientific research and the transfer of its results into innovative products, services and processes are essential elements to any knowledge-based economies. They are considered **major drivers of economic growth and societal development**, as well as an indispensable asset for responding to the global challenges.

As new challenges and actors, fresh approaches and models emerge worldwide, in addition to national policies/strategies, **bilateral and multilateral cooperation in science and technology is essential** for the optimum tangible results, enhanced competitiveness and attractiveness at the global research and industry field.

At international and regional level, STI partnerships allow for exchange of knowledge, optimum use of academic strengths and resources, and access to multiple funding possibilities, thus creating favourable conditions for the **best exploitation of scientific results to innovative applications** for national, regional and international markets.

In this context, **the Black Sea countries**, based on their rich and long-lasting traditions in S&T, foster dialogue and productive synergies as means to strengthen **their research and innovation**

capacity with the aim to enhance their excellence and competitiveness so as to create more sustainable and more inclusive societies.

Within this framework, through the **8th IBSS**, the ICBSS is aiming at offering a platform for dialogue among stakeholders in order **to stimulate enhanced regional STI cooperation** for mutually beneficial joint actions.

Through interactive sessions, speakers and participants with acute interest in or involved with STI will have the opportunity to **explore and discuss the perspectives of R&D cooperation** in relation to its academic and economic impact on the Black Sea countries.

How to get involved

We invite **professionals and researchers**, such as policy-makers, entrepreneurs, academicians, diplomats, MPs, civil society representatives and researchers (post docs and PhD candidates) of different backgrounds with expertise in STI, from around the world, **to discuss, to exchange views and enhance the dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation** perspectives in the Black Sea area.

a) Information for Speakers

The ICBSS welcomes **papers** addressing, but not limited to, the following:

1. **Building human capacities:** addressing the challenge of brain-drain, increasing researchers' mobility, lifelong learning.
2. **Bridging the Academia – Business gap:** entrepreneurial exposure to university research, increasing the role of private sector in research funding and exploitation of results, business-university nexus, enhancing innovation management abilities.
3. **Challenges and future perspectives of regional STI cooperation:** networking between STI communities, access to resources, and coordination of national STI systems, institutional approach and good cases.
4. **Science and Gender:** promote equity and access to equal opportunities.

Abstracts (in English, 300 words), including the Author's name, affiliation and email address should be submitted electronically at events@icbss.org, **not later than Wednesday 11 November 2015**. Any abstracts received past the deadline will not be considered. Final paper submission (1700 words) should be completed by 30 December 2015. All submitted papers will be published in the ICBSS Xenophon Series.

All interested speakers should send their [abstract and filled application form](#) to events@icbss.org or by fax to +30 210 324 2244 **not later than 11 November 2015**.

Speakers are kindly requested to make their own travel arrangements. Accommodation (up to 2 nights) for speakers applying not later than 11 November, breakfast and one meal per day will be offered by the organizers.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Abstract Submission (300 words)	11 November 2015
Notification of Abstract Acceptance	13 November 2015
Final Paper Submission (1700 words)	30 December 2015

b) Information for Participants

Interested professionals and researchers are welcome to apply by sending their [filled application form](#) to events@icbss.org or by fax to +30 210 324 2244, **not later than 11 November 2015**.

Participants are kindly requested to make their own travel arrangements. Accommodation (up to 2 nights) for participants applying not later than 11 November, breakfast and one meal per day will be offered by the organizers.

For more information, please visit www.icbss.org or contact Ms. Athina Korovesi at tel. +30 210 32 42 321.

Looking forward to seeing you in Athens!