

BOSPHORUS RENDEZ-VOUS IN ISTANBUL

STRATEGIC RESPONSES TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES EUROPE – TÜRKİYE AND BEYOND

Institut du Bosphore “Bosphorus Rendez-Vous” meeting in Istanbul entitled « Strategic Responses to Global Challenges : Europe – Türkiye And Beyond» was held on 3-4 October in Istanbul.

The inauguration cocktail held with the participation of Türkiye’s Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Director of European Affairs H.E. Ambassador **Mehmet Kemal Bozay**, welcomed prominent business representatives, opinion leaders, politicians and media from the EU, France and Türkiye on Thursday 3 October at Pera Museum. The next day at Yapı Kredi Kültür Sanat (Beyoğlu), the half-day seminar was opened by Institut du Bosphore President Mr. **Bahadır Kaleağası** and Scientific Committee Co-President Ms. **Ümit N. Boyner** as well as TÜSİAD President Mr. **Orhan Turan**, Consule General of France in Istanbul Ms. **Nadia Fanton** and Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Mr. **Ekrem İmamoğlu**.

Mr. Kaleağası underlined that “*Institut du Bosphore (Paris Bosphorus Institute) brought together, once again in Istanbul, senior political and private-sector leaders to discuss cross-cutting policies affecting finance, technology, and energy. We discussed increased alignment and collaboration between France and Türkiye and identified multilateral solutions for contributing to European Union’s global competitiveness. The recent Draghi Report offers excellent guidelines in this context. Enhancing the global financial system, boosting the entrepreneurship in the critical fields such as AI, biotech and smart city technologies, and advancing energy transition are crucial axes of progress for Europe’s geostrategic autonomy. In this respect, an important and urgent action would be the upgrading of the existing customs union between the EU and Türkiye, accordingly with Europe’s global trade, digital economy and green transition challenges.*”

The need to maintain a strengthened dialogue between France, the European Union and Türkiye was also recalled in the opening speeches. **Mr. Turan** stated: “*Considering bilateral trade volume which reached a historical record of 23 billion dollars, France, as eighth largest supplier of Türkiye, remains a country of strategic importance. France’s support would also matter for the revitalisation and concrete improvement of Türkiye-EU relations which would contribute to the competitiveness and open strategic autonomy of all Europe.*”

During the event which aims to tackle common risks and opportunities on the agenda of France, the EU and Türkiye, debates were held around two round tables namely "Shaping Europe’s Future in a Changing Global Order" and “A Civilizational Transition? Technology, Climate and Economy”.

The programme and speakers of the “Bosphorus Rendez-Vous” meeting
bit.ly/BosphorusRendez-VousProgramme



INSTITUT DU BOSPHORE

Institut du Bosphore, the first think tank entirely dedicated to the Franco-Turkish bilateral relationship, created in 2009 in Paris at the initiative of TÜSİAD (Turkish Industry & Business Association) and French companies, aims to renew and strengthen the dialogue between Türkiye and its European partners.

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