The Black Sea Ring Highway

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The Black Sea Ring Highway is 7,000 km long, extending around the Black Sea, in the BSEC Member States, with vertical axes to Azerbaijan, Serbia and Albania, which are also member countries of BSEC.
April 2007, Belgrade:
The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation of the Black Sea (BSEC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the construction (unification) of the “Black Sea Ring Highway”.
The Black Sea Ring Highway

Country Presidency

BSEC Permanent International Secretariat

BSRH Joint Permanent Technical Secretariat  
EGNATIA ODOS S.A.

Steering Committee  
Member States: 
ALBANIA, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BULGARIA, GEORGIA, GREECE, MOLDAVIA, ROMANIA, RUSSIA, SERBIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE
The Black Sea Ring Highway

History

BSRH Steering Committee

“To execute the BSRH Project, the Parties agree to establish the BSRH Steering Committee holding its sessions at least once per year, immediately before or after the session of the BSEC Working Group on Transport. The BSRH Steering Committee formulates the BSRH development policy and decides on all relevant measures with for its realization.”

- Article 3 of the Memorandum of Understanding -
The Black Sea Ring Highway

History

BSRH Joint Permanent Technical Secretariat

“The Parties agree also to establish a Joint Permanent Technical Secretariat, whose task is to support the works of the BSRH Steering Committee and to proceed to any necessary actions, on the basis of instructions set by the BSRH Steering Committee, for the implementation of the highway. More specifically, the JPTS shall submit proposals, evaluate studies and cooperate with the BSRH Steering Committee to the identification of financial resources.”

- Article 3 of the Memorandum of Understanding -
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The Project

According to the Memorandum of Understanding, it has been initially decided that the Ring Highway will pass through the following cities:

- Tirana (Albania)
- Yerevan (Armenia)
- Baku (Azerbaijan)
- Haskovo, Sofia (Bulgaria)
- Batumi, Poti (Georgia)
- Alexandroupolis, Komotini (Greece)
- Chisinau (Moldova)
- Bucharest, Constantza (Romania)
- Novorossiysk, Rostov-on-Don, Taganrog (Russia)
- Nish, Belgrade (Serbia)
- Edirne, Samsun, Trabzon, Istanbul (Turkey)
- Mariupol, Melitopol, Odessa (Ukraine)
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Alignment

The above-mentioned initial suggestion is under elaboration, within the framework of the Steering Committee.

10 Member States have replied to questionnaires regarding the alignment.

According to the data provided to the JPTS until now, the situation is depicted as follows:
The Black Sea Ring Highway

Targets

• A major part of this highway consists of existing roads of various categories.

• The main target is to **create an international road artery**, through maintenance, reconstruction, rehabilitation, upgrading and construction of non-existing connections of the main and secondary road infrastructure.
The Black Sea Ring Highway will promote co-operation in the development of multimodal transport infrastructure, in order to have adequate road interconnections with the:

- Trans-European
- Pan-European and
- Euro-Asian Transport Networks.
The Black Sea Ring Highway

Targets

Once the alignment of the highway is finalized, several of its sections will coincide with parts of the established European axis.

That is why it is crucial to ensure well coordinated planning of road construction and restoration work, in order to strengthen links among the EU, Asian and Black Sea countries, who are invited to comply with the future international traffic requirements and standards.
The Black Sea Ring Highway

Actions

According to the decisions of the Steering Committee and within the framework of its responsibilities, the BSRH JPTS is developing a series of actions with a view to promote the project:

• Identification of Existing Status - Definition of the BSRH alignment (main route and connections)
• Information Management
• New studies
• Financing
• Technical standards and interoperability
• Border crossing and customs co-operation. Operational aspects of transport
• Active communication with third parties.
The 2-year Action Plan is under approval by the Steering Committee.
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The BSRH webpage is developed and under approval by the Steering Committee.
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