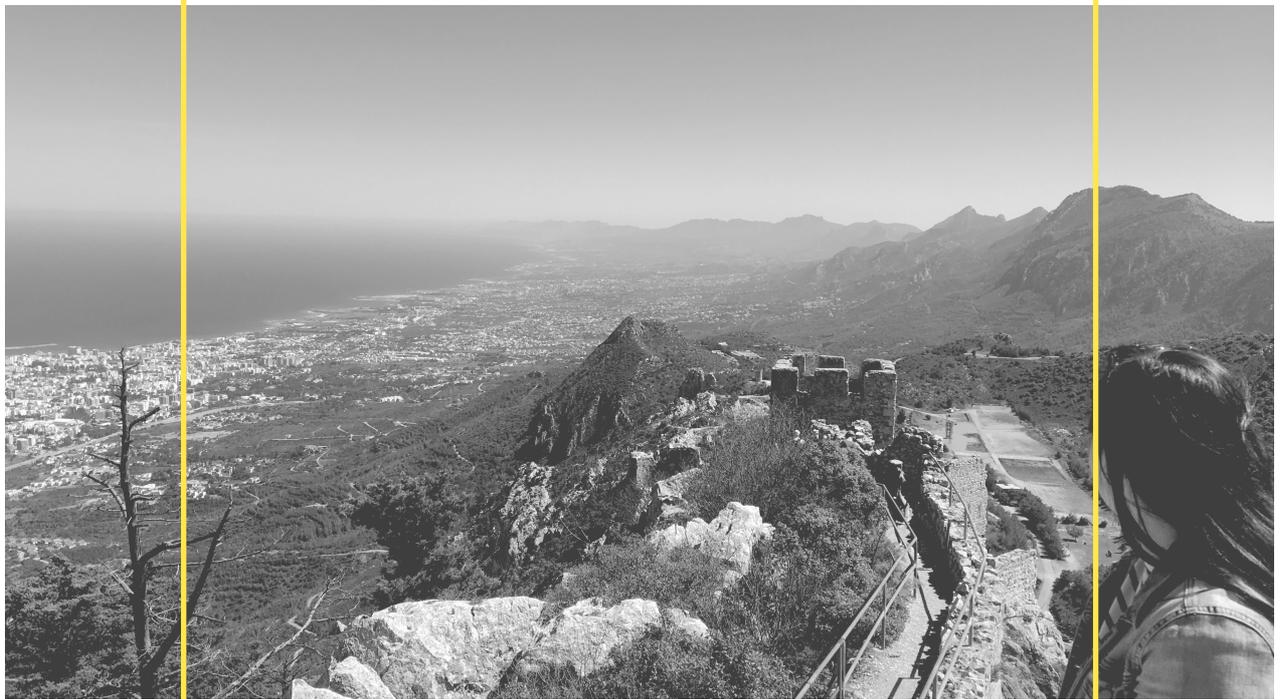




# KYPROS

Κύπρος



THE GUIDE TO LEARN EVERYTHING YOU NEED  
TO KNOW ABOUT CYPRUS



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# PREFACE

**About the EVS** : The Erasmus+ Volunteering or European Voluntary Service is a programme launched by the European Commission that allows young persons (17-30 years) to spend from 2 weeks to 12 months abroad as a volunteer. The EVS can be done in many areas like art, culture, disaster prevention and recovery, inclusion, education etc.



**About KOKEN** : Cyprus Youth Clubs Organisation (KOKEN) is the coordinating body of 100 Youth Clubs in Cyprus with more than 8.000 members in urban and rural areas of the Republic of Cyprus. The main aim of KOKEN is to offer opportunities to young Cypriots to develop their skills and attitudes and to promote active participation at local, national and international levels. KOKEN supports permanent and periodic activities of the youth clubs in many fields like culture, non-formal education, European projects and Human rights. Cyprus Youth Clubs Organisation is a member of the Counseling body of the Youth Board of Cyprus and an active member of the Cyprus Youth Council. At a European level, KOKEN is a member of the European Confederation of Youth Clubs.



**About my volunteering project** : “185 Days of Memories” is a European Voluntary Service project taking place in Nicosia (Cyprus) from from 10/2018 until 08/04/2019 in the Cyprus Youth Clubs Organization. It's an educational project aimed in disseminate the European values among the youth of Cyprus and encourage the active youth participation and citizenship at local, national and international levels.



Esther KRAWCZYK  
Nicosia, 2018-2019



# INTRODUCTION

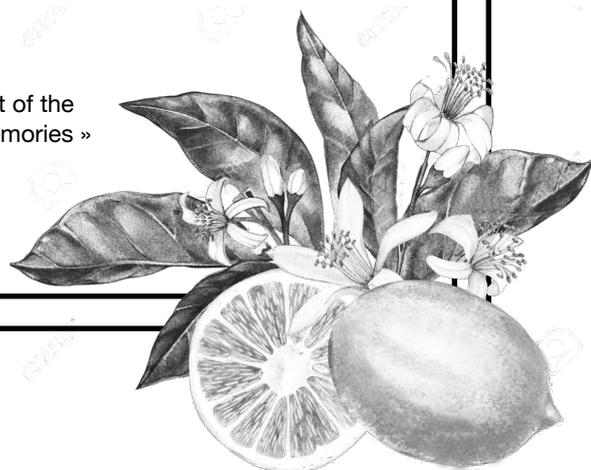
This document has been created in order to offer a general knowledge on Cyprus. All along the reading of the 29 pages, you may find information on various subjects that will make you understand why Cyprus is a so particular Island.

It also gives a first approach of Cyprus political situation by giving the key elements to understand the intercommunal conflict that faces the Island nowadays. In this way, if used by Cypriots, it encourages youth active participation at local, national and international levels.

I wish you a good reading,  
Esther

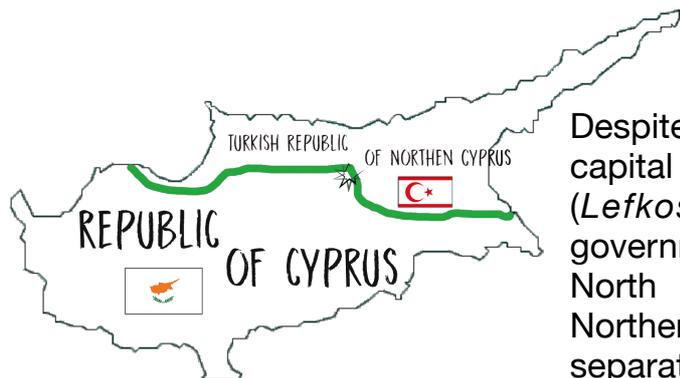
Project realized as a personal project as part of the  
European Voluntary Service « 185 days of memories »

By Esther KRAWCZYK



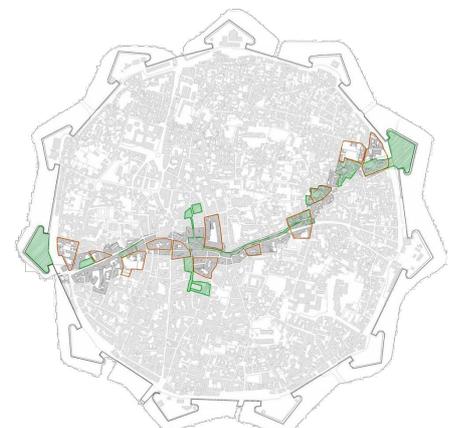
# GEOGRAFY

The Island of Cyprus is located in the Eastern Mediterranean sea, 97km west of Syria and 64km south of Turkey. It is part of the European continent, but it has a very strategical position, close to Africa and Asia.



Despite the separation, Nicosia remains the capital of both sides. The South Nicosia (*Lefkosia*) is the capital and seat of government of the Republic of Cyprus and North Nicosia (*Lefkoşa*) is the capital of Northern Cyprus. The Green Line, which separates the two part, is a militarized border controlled by the UN army. The *Buffer zone* acts as neutral area between these two sides.

Since 1964, the Island is divided in two by the « Green Line ». The South is recognized as an independent country, The Republic of Cyprus and the North forms the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, a territory only recognized by Turkey.



Walled city of Nicosia separated by the Green Line

# HISTORY

8 200 - 3 900  
BEFORE J.C

-----

Even if the first signs of civilization seem not being older than the 9<sup>th</sup> Millenary, the **Neolithic period** was a culminant point in the colonization of Cyprus. Settlers, particularly from Palestine, were most probably attracted by the cooper resources of the Island.

3 900 - 2 500  
BEFORE J.C

-----

With the development of the cooper and bronze industries, Cyprus became an important exchange center for commercial business and exportation.

2 500 - 1 050  
BEFORE J.C

-----

The Cypriot industries of bronze, cooper and ceramic began consequently to grow. It's at the end of this period that **Greeks**, mainly from the Mycenaean culture, **started to move into the Island**, as a consequence of the Trojan War and the collapse of the Hittite Empire.

1 050 - 333  
BEFORE J.C

-----

This period is marked by the invasion of different populations, placing the island successively under the **Assyrian, Egyptian and Persian authorities**. Despite these successive dominations, the Mycenaean culture remained dominant in Cyprus. After years of negotiation between Pro-Greeks and Pro-Persians about the control of the Island, the Persians ended imposing their authority, until the liberation of Cyprus by Alexander the Great in -333.

# HISTORY

333 - 58  
BEFORE J.C

During his conquest against the Persian Empire, Alexander The Great could count on the help of the Cypriots, which permitted the liberation of Cyprus from the Persian domination. When Alexander The Great died, Cyprus became the center of a discord between his generals and the **Island got taken by the Ptolemaic** in 294 before Christ. Cyprus became a Unitary State after the abolition of the ten Kingdoms that were constituting it.

58 BEFORE J.C  
- 330 AFTER J.C

After years of frequent interventions in the island, the **Roman Empire gained its domination** in 58 before J.C.. Cyprus was annexed by Roma in 30 before J.C. It is during the roman period that the Christianity have been introduced in Cyprus.

330 - 1192

In 330, Cyprus entered under the control of the **Byzantine Empire**, until 1191, when Richard I of England seized the Island after selling it to Guy the Lusignan in 1192.

1192 - 1489

With the acquisition of the Island, Guy of Lusignan placed it **under the control of the French Francs** for almost 300 years.

1489 - 1571

After a marriage between Jacques II of Lusignan and Catherine Cornaro, a venetian noble, and the death of Jacques II, **Cyprus became propriety of Venice**. Because of the ottoman threat, the fortifications of the island were consolidated until creating the most important bastion of Christianity in Western Mediterranean.

# HISTORY

1571 – 1878



In 1571, the **Ottoman Empire attacked Cyprus until taking the full control of the Island** for the 307 following years. This period is characterized by the installation of thousands of Turkish Ottomans on the Island and the domination of the Islam. Part of the Ottoman Empire since the 14th century, Greece declared, in 1821, the war for the independence which will end up with the victory of Greece in 1830. Cyprus, however, remained propriety of the Ottoman Empire but decided to join the *Megali Idea*, a Greek concept aimed in establish a Greek state that would encompass all historical Greek-inhabited areas, which includes a large part of Greek populations still under Ottoman control.

1878 – 1960



In 1878, the **Great Britain acquired the Island of Cyprus** as an exercise place to fight against the Russian influence in Mediterranean and to protect its route to India. The secret agreement of Berlin was firmed between the Great Britain and the Ottoman Empire, in which it agreed to rent the Island to the Great Britain in return for the protection against Russia.

In 1914, Cyprus was annexed by the Great Britain in response to the entry of the Ottoman Empire in the WW1 along with the German.

In 1923, by the **Treaty of Lausanne**, Turkey renounced to every claim of Cyprus territory, and in 1925 Cyprus became officially « Colony of the crown ».

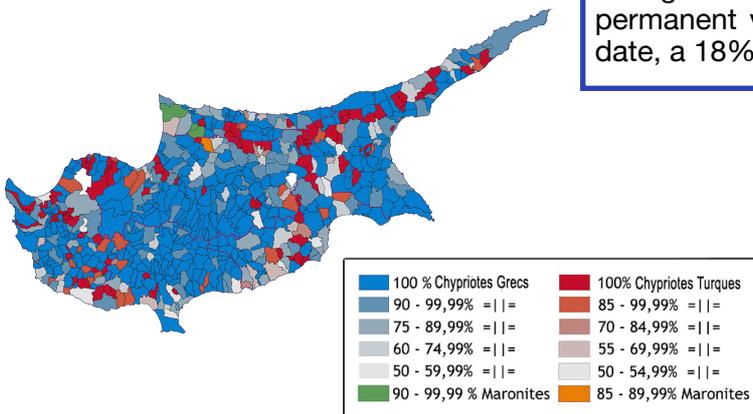
In 1955, after years of informal demands for the independence, the Greek Cypriots formed an organization (EOKA), to **take the weapons against British power**. As a reply, the Great Britain started to treat with Turkish Cypriot militias. To prevent the ONU intervention, the Great Britain organized a conference with Greece and Turkey secretly aimed in dividing the two peoples regarding to the independence.

In 1959, Cyprus started the process to become independent by the London and Zurich agreements, firmed by the three countries.

# HISTORY

FEBRUARY 1960

On 19<sup>th</sup> February, Great Britain, Greece and Turkey met in London to establish the agreements of Independence. These arrangements include a **constitution and three Treaties** : the Treaty of Alliance, the Treaty of Guarantee and the Treaty of Establishment. The last one was used as the base for the Constitution of Cyprus, when the Treaty of Alliance establishes framework of cooperation between Cyprus, Greece and Turkey. The Treaty of Guarantee was made to insure the security, the sovereignty and the independence of Cyprus by the prohibition of any union or island sharing with an other country. Thirty percent of the representation in parliament and administration was given to the Turkish Cypriots, as well as a permanent veto, while they represented, at this date, a 18% of the population.



Ethnic map of Cyprus after the census of 1960

AUGUST 1960

On 16<sup>th</sup> August 1960, the new constitution is ratified and **Cyprus became officially an independent State**. Makarios III, a greek member of the clergy came to be the first president of the Republic of Cyprus. He was assisted by the Prime Minister *Fazıl Küçük*, a Turkish Cypriot.



State Emblem of the Republic of Cyprus

# HISTORY

1963 - 1964

In 1963, Makarios III offered a series of amendments to solve some malfunctions in the government but the proposal is strongly rejected by Turkey and then by the Turkish Cypriot leader. This disagreement will involve some **important conflicts between the communities** and the atmosphere in the Island becomes explosive. The **ONU made it first intervention, trying to calm the tensions.** It sent a Peacekeeping force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and created a buffer zone between the two camp. In august 1964, Turkey launched a large-scale aerial attack on the Island.



1965

The ONU made a new proposal to solve the conflict in which it discourages the partition of the Island, considering it as « a desperate step in the wrong direction ». This proposal was accepted by Greece and the Cypriot government. However, Turkey rejected the proposition and kept promoting the partition of the Isle by arming the Turkish Cypriots. To prevent this massive armament, Greece sent an armed force to protect the Greek community in case of Turkish invasion.

1967

**A big crisis appeared in Cyprus due to the arrival of the military forces at the head of Greece.** In the meanwhile, Turkey prepared itself for the invasion of Cyprus but the USA acted as mediator and managed to decrease a little bit the tensions.

1968 - 1974

**Makarios III is massively reelected** and tried to establish a politic of conflict resolution. The negotiations, leaded by the UN until 1974, never succeed due to an impossible agreement between the two different parties.

# HISTORY

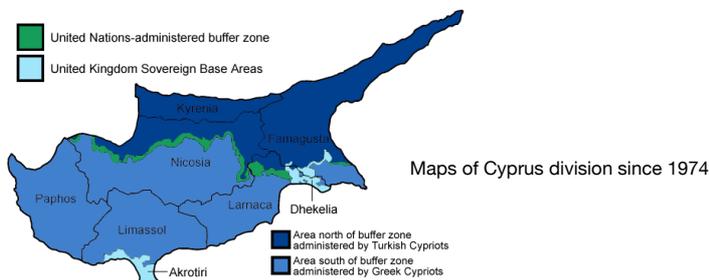
JULY 1974

On the 15<sup>th</sup> July, the military junta, who already controlled Greece, organized a Coup d'État to take control of Cyprus and apply the enosis (politic union of Greece and Cyprus). Makarios III survived to this Coup d'État and will be quickly brought to Malta by the British, who refused to take part of the conflict despite the Treaty of Guarantee. This decision gave to Turkey a good pretext to invade Cyprus. The first phase of invasion occurred on the 20<sup>th</sup> with important military and aerial forces. This same day, the UN security council adopted the resolution 353, commanding the end of any foreign military intervention in Cyprus. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Greek Coup d'État regime fall apart and the constitutional order is reestablished.

Subject	Cyprus
Voting summary	15 voted for None voted against None abstained
Result	Adopted
Security Council composition	
Permanent members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> China</li> <li> France</li> <li> United Kingdom</li> <li> United States</li> <li> Soviet Union</li> </ul>
Non-permanent members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Australia</li> <li> Austria</li> <li> Byelorussian SSR</li> <li> Cameroon</li> <li> Costa Rica</li> <li> Indonesia</li> <li> Iraq</li> <li> Kenya</li> <li> Mauritania</li> <li> Peru</li> </ul>

AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>, 1974

Turkey launched the second phase of invasion in Cyprus



NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 1974

The UN general meeting voted unanimously (also with Turkey's vote) the removal of any foreign military force in Cyprus, the stop of foreign interferences in the internal affairs as well as the respect of the independence, sovereignty and integrity of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus

# HISTORY

1977 - 1989

In 1977, **the first president of the Republic of Cyprus, Makarios III died** and M. Kypnos Kyprianou took the succession at the head of the government. **A new agreement between him and the Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash is reached but in the meanwhile, Turkey still encourages the migration of its citizens to the Island.**

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 1983, **the Turkish Cypriot leader claimed the Unilateral declaration of independence in order to proclaim the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus** but this agreement is rejected by the UN three days later which qualified it as invaluable, asking every State not to recognize this territory and encouraging the respect of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus.

1989 - 2004

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1990, **the Republic of Cyprus became candidate to join the European Economic Community.** From this application will start a process to solve the Cypriot conflict, essential step before any decision. In the meanwhile, in 2001, the European court of Human Rights declared Turkey guilty of massive Human Rights violations during the invasion.

In 2002, the **plan Annan**, aimed in solving the Cyprus dispute by reunification plan, is widely supported by United Kingdom and the USA. On 13<sup>th</sup> December, the application of the Republic of Cyprus to join the European Union is accepted by the European Council in Copenhagen. The next year, on April 13<sup>th</sup>, the Treaty of membership is signed in Athens and the Annan plan is submitted by referendum to Cyprus population of both parts. It is accepted by 65% of the occupied part but massively rejected by the Greek Cypriots. Despite the failure of the plan, **the Republic of Cyprus entered in the European Union on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004**, but the occupied part of the Island holds no rights to the European Union *acquis communautaire*.



Proposed flag for the United Republic of Cyprus

# HISTORY

2008 – 2017

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By the 2008 presidential elections, the AKEL (Progressive Party of Working People) candidate Dimitris Christofias became the Head of Cyprus government and pledged to **restart talks on reunification** immediately. The negotiations clearly started between the presidents of both sides on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2008 in the UN buffer zone in Nicosia. They **agreed to reopen Ledra Street**, which was known as the symbol of the island's division since its cut in 1960. **Meetings between the two presidents have occurred frequently all along 2008, and agreements was even launched on the concepts of a single citizenship and a single sovereignty.**

However, at the end of 2008, a crisis appeared between both sides when Turkish Cypriots began to speak openly of a loose « confederation ».

On 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2010, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon arrived in Cyprus to relaunch talks. Derviş Eroğlu is elected as new president of Northern Cyprus and stated in favor of a federal state. Then a series of five meetings will take place between the two presidents and the UN secretary but leading to a deadlock.

On 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014, **the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders declared a Joint Communiqué in 7 main points aimed in facilitating the negotiations.** The new President of the Republic of Cyprus, Nicos Anastasiades, and President of Northern Cyprus, Mustafa Akıncı, met for the first time, on May 12<sup>th</sup> 2015, to restart peace talks. On 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017, **UN-sponsored talks** happened in the Swiss Alps. However, despite 10 intensive days of work, **the hope broke down** when the negotiations brought to a halt.

AND NOW ?

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Due to the failure of the previous talks and agreements, a number of observers increasingly suggest partition as the best solution.

In any case, the people of both side are getting tired of those almost 50 years of conflict and division, hoping for a solution to be find soon.

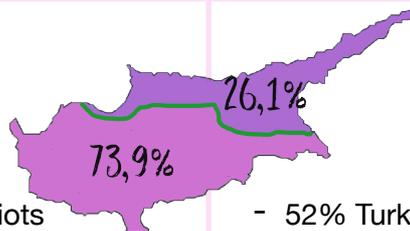
# DEMOGRAPHY

## THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

## NORTHERN CYPRUS

Cyprus total population : 1,133,803

838,897



294,906

including 1,128 Turkish Cypriots

- 52% Turkish Cypriots (born in Cyprus of at least one Cyprus-born parent)
- 17% so called "TRNC citizens" (with at least one non-Cypriot Turkish-born parent)
- 1% so called "TRNC citizens" (with parents born in other countries)

Including immigration

170,383 (20,3%)

- 106,270 are EU citizens
  - Greeks (29,321)
  - Britons (24,046)
  - Romanians (23,706)
  - Bulgarians (18,536)
- 64,113 are from third countries

78 613 (26,6%)

- 70,525 Turkish citizens
- 8,088 other countries citizens (mainly UK, Bulgaria, and Iran)

Cypriots living abroad

511,000

- 315,000 Cypriots live in the EU
  - 270,000 in United Kingdom
  - 45 000 in Greece
- 86,000 in Australia
- 52,000 in the United States
- 50,000 in Africa
- 8,000 in other countries

931,000

- 500,000 in Turkey
- 300,000 in the United Kingdom
- 120,000 in Australia
- 5,000 in the United States
- 6,000 in other countries

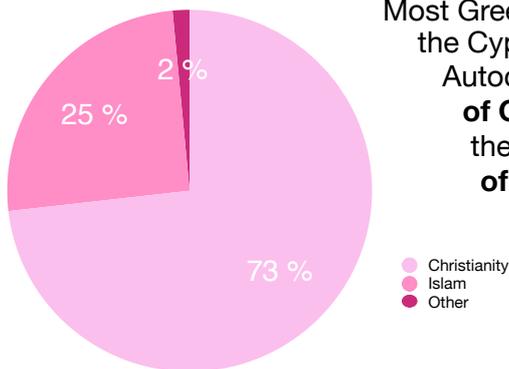
# DEMOGRAPHY

## Official languages

GREEK

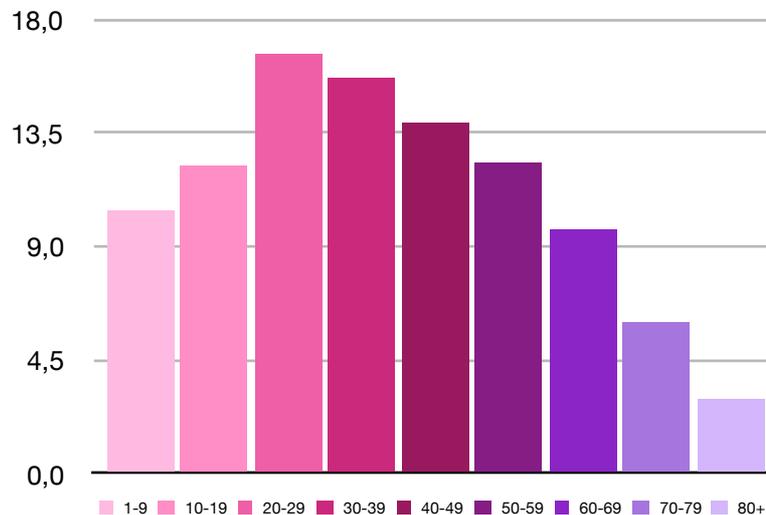
TURKISH

## Religion in the island of Cyprus (including Northern Cyprus)



Most Greek Cypriots, and thus the majority of the Cyprus population, are members of the Autocephalous **Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus**. Turkish Cypriots, minority of the island, adhere to the **Sunni branch of Islam**.

## Part of the Island population (%) by ages



# UNFICYP

UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was established under the United Nations Security Council Resolution 186 in 1964 to prevent a recurrence of fighting following inter-communal violences between the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. It also contributes to the maintenance and restoration of the law in order to facilitate a return to normal conditions.

**HEADQUARTER :** abandoned airport of Nicosia

**HEAD OF MISSION :** Elizabeth Spehar (Canada)

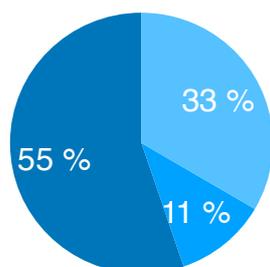
**FORCE COMMANDER :** Major General Cheryl Pearce (Australia)

**TOTAL STRENGTH :** 858 military personnel (as of 31 May 2012) from :

- Argentina,
- Austria,
- Brazil,
- Canada,
- Chile,
- China,
- Croatia,
- Hungary,
- Paraguay,
- Peru,
- Serbia,
- Slovakia
- the United Kingdom



**ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST :** \$57,390,000



- Voluntary Contribution from the Government of Cyprus
- Paid by the government of Greece
- Other financements

# UNFICYP

UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

UNFICYP's military personnel are mostly divided up into national contingents, for which some of them are responsible for one of the buffer zone's three remaining sectors.



## SECTOR 1

Location : From Kokkina to Mammari

Distance : Around 90 kilometers

Head Contingent : Argentinian Contingent

Headcount :

Troop Contributing Country	Troop count*
Argentina	239
Chile	14
Paraguay	14
Brazil	2
Total	269

## SECTOR 2

Location : From Mammari to Kaimakli

Distance : Over 30 kilometers

Head Contingent : British Contingent

Headcount :

Troop Contributing Country	Troop count*
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	278
Austria	4
Canada	1
Bangladesh	2
Total	285

## SECTOR 4

Location : From Kaimakli to Dherinia

Distance : Over 65 kilometers

Head Contingents : Slovakian, Hungarian, Serbian and Ukrainian Contingent

Headcount :

Troop Contributing Country	Troop count*
Slovakia	141
Hungary	65
Serbia	45
Ukrain	2
Total	253

# UNFICYP

UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

The United Nations settled other specific units to assist the UNFICYP on daily interventions, but also for exceptional events. These Units are composed by soldiers and experts from different countries.

**UNPOL** : The United Nations Police contributes to the **maintenance and restoration of law** and order in the buffer zone and cooperate with UNFICYP's military and the Civil Affairs components concerning civilian activity in the buffer zone. For instance, it **controls civilian access to the buffer zone, maintains regular liaison with relevant authorities in the north and south** and **resolves civil disputes between residents in the two communities in the buffer zone.**

*Currently 68 members from 14 different countries*

**UNMAS** : The United Nations Mine Action Service offers **expertise in mine action planning and coordination.** The objectives are to reduce the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), to contribute to confidence building measures, facilitate a return to normal living conditions and to ensure safer freedom of movement for UNFICYP, UN partners, and communities.

**MOLOS** : The Military Observer Liaison Officers are involved at all levels across the Force in daily **negotiations and liaison functions with both opposing force.**

*Currently 28 Military Observer Liaison Officers serving across all three sectors*

**MFR** : The Mobile Force Reserve provides a Force Commander with **a flexible and well-equipped response to any situation that may arise inside the buffer zone.** It supports whenever it's necessary the UNFICYP.

*Currently 107 soldiers from Argentina, United Kingdom, Hungary and Slovakia*

**UNFLIGHT** : The UN Flight is the aerial unit serving the UNFICYP. It has three helicopters, with two in operation at all times. The unit **conducts patrols along the buffer zone** and provides **logistical support for UNFICYP operations and emergency assistance** such as medical evacuations.

*Currently 28 personnels from the Argentinean contingent*

**FMPU** : The UN Force Military Police Unit is a multi-national organisation aimed in providing **protection against crime, enforcing military regulations and general military law,** and in providing **policing advice and investigative assistance to scenes of crime** occurring within the buffer zone.

*Currently 26 personnel from the UK, Hungary, Slovakia and Argentina*

**FORCE ENGINEERS** : The Force Engineers **constructs, maintains and repairs all facilities under UN responsibility** such as patrol tracks, helicopter landing sites, camps etc.

*Currently 27 members from Slovakia*

# POLITICS

## THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS



**Political system** : unitary presidential representative republic



**Constitution** : The Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus (first and only one to date) was ratified on 16<sup>th</sup> August 1960 after the country won its independence in 1959. It has been amended 10 times and 20 Articles of the 199 were modified since 1960.



**President** : He is both Chief of the State and Head of the government. He is elected by popular vote for a five-year term and he has to appoint jointly with the Vice President the Council of Ministers.



**Vice President** : The second highest political position in the Republic of Cyprus remains to the Vice President. According to the Constitution of 1960, this position is reserved to a Turkish Cypriot. However, the position remained vacant since 1963, the Turkish Cypriots hadn't participate to the government since December of that year.



**Executive branch** : The executive power is exerted by the government made up of ministers appointed jointly by the president and the vice president.



**Legislative branch** : The legislative power is exerted by the House of representatives. In the Republic of Cyprus, the House of representatives is composed by 59 members, elected for 5 years : 56 Greek Cypriot members chosen by proportional representation and 3 observer members representing the Maronite, Roman Catholic and Armenian minorities. 24 seats are also allocated to the Turkish community, but currently vacant.



**Judiciary branch** : The judiciary is entirely independent from the other powers. The Supreme Court is the highest court and also serves as the final appeals court in the Republic. A Permanent Assize Court has criminal jurisdiction over the whole island, and district courts handle civil, and admiralty matters.



**Political parties** : Cyprus has a multi-party system, with four strong parties that generally dominate the political landscape : Democratic Rally (conservatism), Progressive Party of Working People (left-wing), Democratic Party (Centrism), Movement for Social Democracy (social democracy).

# POLITICS

## THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS



**Political system** : semi-presidential representative democratic republic



**Constitution** : The Constitution of the Northern Cyprus was written by the Constituent Assembly of Northern Cyprus after the declaration of independence on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1983, and was approved by the Turkish Cypriot electorate in a referendum on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1985.



**President** : The President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the head of state. He is elected for a five-year term by a majority vote in two rounds. The conditions to become candidate are : to hail from the island of Cyprus, to have lived in the country for five years, to have received secondary education and to be over the age of 30 years.



**Prime Minister** : The prime Minister is the Head government and must control a majority of parliament in order to govern.



**Executive branch** : The Executive power is exerted by the Council of Ministers which is appointed by the Prime Minister and endorsed by the President.



**Legislative branch** : The legislative power is represented by a Unicameral Legislative Assembly of 50 members chosen from six electoral districts. Each member of the Assembly of Republic is elected for a five-years term by mitigated proportional representation, 3 years apart from the presidential elections.



**Judiciary branch** : The judiciary power is independent, safeguarded by the Constitution of the country. It is composed by 8 main courts in which the Supreme Court is the last court of appeals in all cases for all courts.



**Political parties** : Northern Cyprus has a multi-parties system. The four main parties are : National Unity Party (Turkish nationalism), Republican Turkish Party (social democracy), People's Party (centrism) and Communal Democracy Party (social democracy).

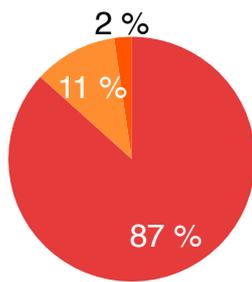
# ECONOMY

THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

## GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Nominal, 2018

\$23.96 BILLION



- Services
- Industry
- Agriculture

GDP rank

108<sup>TH</sup>

106<sup>th</sup> : Senegal  
107<sup>th</sup> : Cambogia

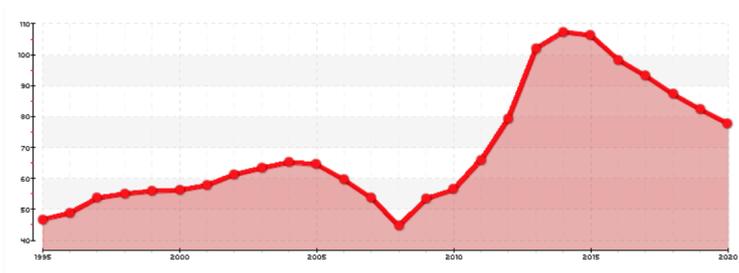
109<sup>th</sup> : Honduras  
110<sup>th</sup> : Trinidad and Tobago

GDP growth

+3.8%

## PUBLIC DEBT

Brut, in percent of the GDP



106.37 %  
in 2018

## CURRENCY

€

## EMPLOYMENT

Unemployment

7.5%

Average net salary

€17,218  
per year

Median net salary

€14,497  
per year

Labour force

426,600

## MAIN INDUSTRIES

TOURISM    FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROCESSING    CEMENT AND GYPSUM    SHIP REPAIR AND REFURBISHMENT

# ECONOMY

THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

## IMPORTATIONS

### Main import partners :

- Greece 19%
- Italy 7.5%
- China 7.4%
- South Korea 7.3%
- Germany 7%
- Netherlands 5.1%
- United Kingdom 5%
- Israel 4.1%



Cyprus must import **fuels, raw materials, heavy machinery, and transportation equipment**

## EXPORTATIONS



### Main export partners :

- Libya 9.4%
- Greece 7.7%
- Norway 6.7%
- United Kingdom 5.3%
- Germany 4.1%

It primarily exported goods and services such as **citrus fruits, cement, potatoes, clothing and pharmaceuticals**



# ECONOMY

THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

## EMBARGO

Because of its status of non-recognized country, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus suffers from a huge embargo, settled by the UN and applied by the European Union, on its ports which affects a lot its economy. Every exportation has to take place via Turkey, unless it is produced in the territory of Northern Cyprus. The TRNC is also heavily dependent of the Turkish military and economic support.

## GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Nominal, 2017

\$4.039 BILLION

GDP rank

157<sup>TH</sup>

Non-official due to the situation, if ranked according to the World Bank

GDP growth

+4.9%

## CURRENCY

TURKISH LIRA

## EMPLOYMENT

Unemployment

7.4%

Manufacturing, construction, distribution are sectors offering most employment. Also, around 5,000 Turkish Cypriots are employed by industries in the South Cyprus which allows them to receive the same status as a Greek Cypriot.

## MAIN INDUSTRIES

TOURISM

EDUCATION

AGRICULTURE

## IMPORTATIONS & EXPORTATIONS

Turkey is the main commercial partner of the TRNC representing more the 50% of the exchanges. The TRNC also does some business with Middle East countries.

Northern Cyprus main exportations are of Dairy products : raw and processed citrus, raki, chicken and potatoes.



# ECONOMY

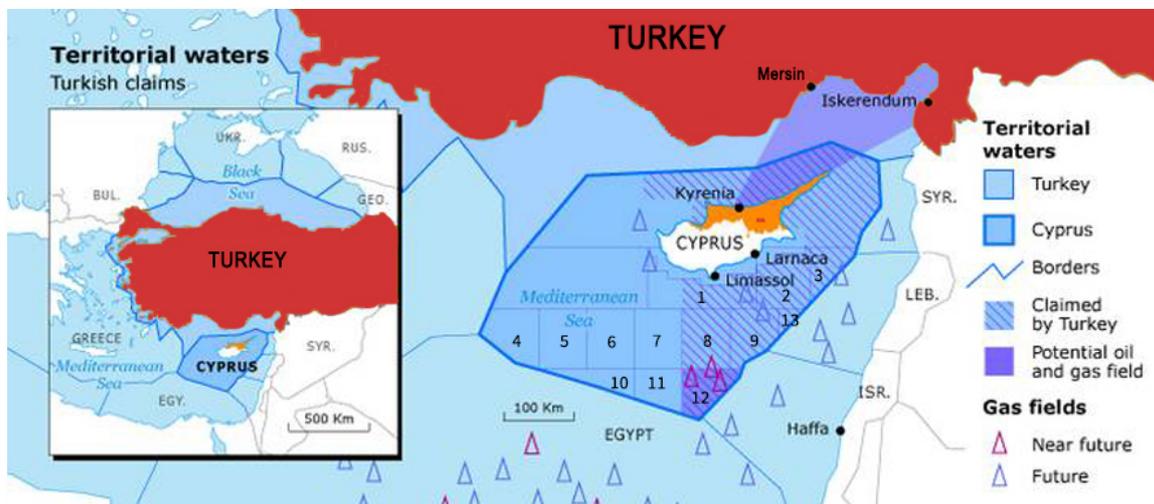
## NATURAL RESOURCES CONFLICT

In recent years, the rivalry over natural resources has become one of the main issues in the territorial conflict on Cyprus.

Since **gas and oil reserves** of over 4 trillion cubic feet valued at over \$50 billion has been found in the Cyprus waters, projects of exploitation are planned to drill these gas and oil. ExxonMobil, an American Company, developed a project approved by Cyprus Gouvernement and the exploitation was supposed to start in October.

However, **Turkey was determined to stop it**, saying being ready to send warships to block ExxonMobil's exploration vessel. Erdogan's government pretend **to defend what it sees as its own and Turkish Cypriot rights regarding oil and gas projects in Cypriot waters**. This includes not only the right for Turkish Cypriots to receive a part of the hydrocarbon exploration revenues proportionate to the relative size of their population, but also to participate in all decision-making related to offshore energy projects. With the entire support of the European Commission, Greek Cypriot authorities denounced the Turkish naval actions as an illegal use of force.

As a member of the United Nations and European Union, the **Republic of Cyprus refuses to discuss offshore energy projects with Turkish Cypriot authorities** unless the two communities reach an agreement on the Cyprus conflict, insisting that the Republic of Cyprus owns the full authority to claim an Exclusive Economic Zone and license exploration blocks.



In November 2018, **Turkey announced the beginning of its own exploration operations in areas in the North of the island** by the purchase of a second drilling vessel, expected to arrive in the Cyprus waters at the beginning of 2019. In February 2019, Turkey started some explorations in the Block 9, which is located in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Cyprus. Additionally, the two Turkish drilling vessels are now in place in the Cypriot water in the North of the Island and should start shortly to operate. For its part, ExxonMobil has already begun the exploitation of the resources situated in the Block 10, in the North of Egypt, considered as the most promising.

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIP

**EUROPEAN UNION :** The European Union, known first as European Economic Community, began in 1957 by the Treaty of Rome. It first regrouped Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and West Germany before extended itself. The Maastricht Treaty of 1992, considered as the pillar structure of the actual European Union, establishes its three fundamental principles : the European communities, the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Cooperation in the Fields of Justice and Home Affairs. It also settles the three main supra-national institutions : the Commission, the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice. It also institutes the Euro (€) as common currency.



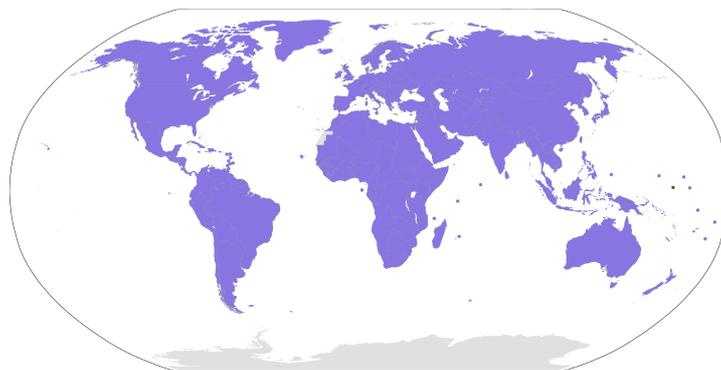
Member States of the European Union  
(February 2019)

The European Union is a political and economic union of 28 member states as of February 2019. The Treaty of Lisbon, ratified in 2009, ensures the free movement of people, goods, services and capital within the internal market.

Cyprus joined the European Union in 2004 after years of negotiations due to the actual issues. It also adopted the Euro as national currency in 2008.

**UNITED NATIONS :** The United Nations is an international organization which regroups nowadays 193 countries. The UN Charter, signed by a group of 51 founding countries on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1945, settles the framework of the organization. By its international character, the organisation can « takes action on the issues confronting humanity in the 21st century, such as peace and security, climate change, sustainable development, human rights, disarmament, terrorism, humanitarian and health emergencies, gender equality, governance, food production, and more. ».

Cyprus entered in the organization on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1960.



Member States of the United Nations

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE** : The Council of Europe is an international organisation founded on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1949 by the Treaty of London, signed by ten states: Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The main aim of the organization is to uphold Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of law in Europe. Distinct from the European Union, the Council of Europe cannot make binding laws, but it does have the power to enforce select international agreements reached by European states on various topics. The organization counts 47 member states and is an official United Nations Observer. Cyprus joined the Council of Europe on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1961, becoming the 16<sup>th</sup> member State in entering in the organization.

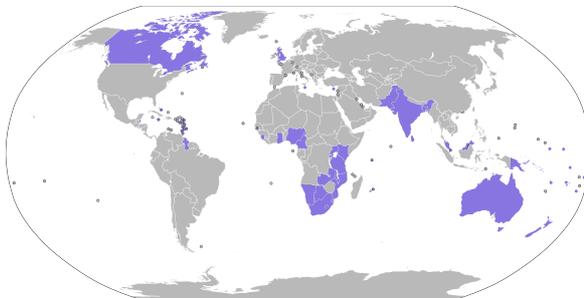


Member States of the Council of Europe

**COMMONWEALTH** : As a foreign British Colony, the Republic of Cyprus joined the Commonwealth on March 1961. The 53 Member states have no legal obligations to one another. Instead, they are united by the English language, their common History and culture and they shares the values of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of law. Queen Elizabeth II is the Head of the Commonwealth. She is head of state of 16 member states, known as the Commonwealth realms, while 32 other members are republics and five others have different monarchs.



Commonwealth flag

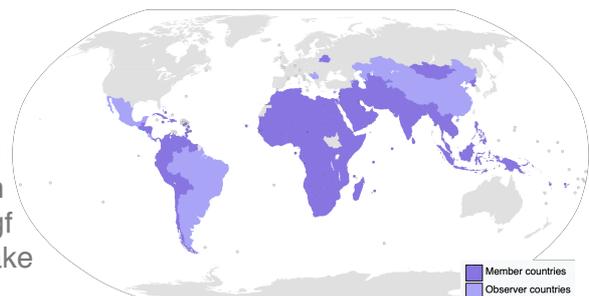


Member States of the Commonwealth

**NON-ALIGNMENT MOVEMENT** : The Non-Alignment Movement was established in 1961 by the initiative of Yugoslav president Josip Broz Tito and Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru. The purpose was to create a neutral bloc that sought good relations with both opponents of the Cold War. Self-declared as the « History's biggest peace movement », it counts nowadays 120 member and is settled in five main principles which are :

- Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- Mutual non-aggression.
- Mutual non-interference in domestic affairs.
- Equality and mutual benefit.
- Peaceful co-existence.

Cyprus joined the movement at its beginning in 1961 but left it in 2004 with its entrance in the European Union. However, it will remain an observer member of the movement, assisting to the meetings which take place every 3 or 4 year.



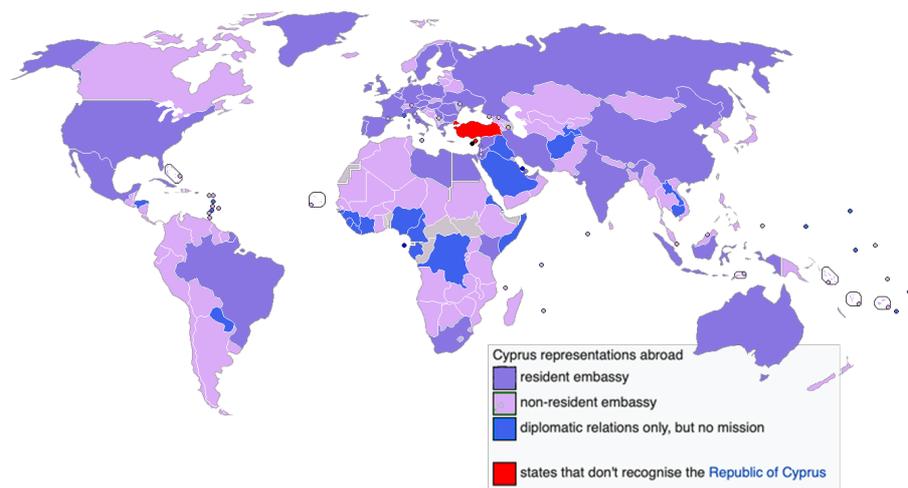
Countries part of the Non-Alignment Movement

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

### CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION

The Republic of Cyprus maintains good diplomatic relations with most of the States. The country has 162 representations of the foreign soil (43 embassies, 118 consulates and one representation as member of the European Union in Belgium). In return, it hosts 34 embassies and 51 consulates on its territory.



The country has also firmed some bilateral agreements with many partners, which offer it privileged relationships with each of these countries. These agreements are managed by the 4 departments of the Bilateral Relations of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, divided in 4 geographic areas :

- Department of the Americas
- Department of Sub-Saharan Africa
- Department of the Middle East
- Department of Asia and Oceania

### PRIVILEGED RELATION WITH GREECE

From the History, the culture and the language that they share, Greece and Cyprus foster very good diplomatic relations. These ones exist, for instance at political level, since the two leaders are meeting up frequently to develop and maintain their cooperation. Although its indirect link to the community conflict that faces Cyprus, Greece is committed not to intervene in the negotiation of internal aspects of the Cyprus issue, for which it attributes to the Cypriot government exclusive competences.

From an economic point of view, Greece remains the main commercial partner of Cyprus. Not less than 36 economic agreements were firmed between the two countries, which secure a strong cooperation.

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οργανισμός κέντρων  
νεότητας



Project realized as a personal project as part of the European Voluntary Service « 185 days of memories »

By Esther KRAWCZYK