



Contents

1.	Cyprus Problem.....	2
2.	Hydrocarbons.....	8
3.	Greek Cypriots	8
	Economic Developments	8
	Domestic Developments.....	9
	Labour Relations and Trade Unions.....	9
4.	Turkish Cypriots	11
	Economic Developments	11
	Relations with Turkey	12
	Domestic Developments.....	13
5.	FES Cyprus Events	14

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1. Cyprus Problem

In May, Greek Cypriot leader Nicos Anastasiades sought clarifications over a proposal made on April 30 by Turkish Cypriot leader, Mustafa Akinci, calling for the Greek Cypriots to accept the so called Guterres framework for a solution of the Cyprus problem as a strategic package without alterations.

On May 2, Anastasiades responded to Akinci stressing that Turkey and the Turkish Cypriots needed to clarify whether they accepted the parameters laid down on security and guarantees and the withdrawal of troops from the island. Anastasiades implied that different versions of the proposals were put down by the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in Crans Montana, by asking whether Akinci accepted the framework of "July 4 2017" which included changes to the framework suggested by the Greek Cypriot leader but were neither accepted by the Turkish side or adopted by the UN-Secretary General himself. Akinci's proposal remained unanswered by the Greek Cypriot government, despite Akinci clarifying that he was referring to the Guterres framework presented on June 30, 2017.

In his written statement at the end of May, Akinci reiterated that UN Secretary General, had confirmed in their meeting in New York on the 23rd of September 2017 that there was only one framework document that had been presented to the two sides by the UN Chief on the 30th of June 2017.

Furthermore, Akinci said "even though Anastasiades repeatedly stated on numerous occasions after Crans Montana that he supported the Guterres Framework it has emerged that this is not the case ... This ... shows that the Greek Cypriot leadership, contrary to its statements, prefers the continuation of the status quo on the island. As it is known, I had stated that on the 30th of April 2018 that if the Greek Cypriot side was ready to accept the Guterres framework as it is, without any alterations, we could announce it as a strategic package agreement. I had stated that only then would holding negotiations to fill in the blanks have meaning. Anastasiades spent the last month without responding only to finally blatantly reject this proposal in an interview to Philelitheros the other day" he said. Highlighting the need for the international community, particularly the UN and the EU as well as organisations on both sides of the island to evaluate this situation objectively, Akinci said that "the Greek Cypriot leader with his latest remarks had revealed that he rejected the notions of political equality and effective participation in decision making."

Elsewhere, pointing out that neither at the time of the Conference on Cyprus in Crans Montana nor today the Turkish Cypriot side is inclined to accept "zero guarantee, zero troops", Akinci said that the Turkish Cypriot side would not accept any future security arrangement that would exclude Turkey.

The 6 points of the Guterres Framework from June 30 as well as the core outstanding issues between the sides are presented herein in detail as assessed by an insider who made the analysis available to this newsletter:

The Guterres Framework as of 30 June 2017 and the Core Outstanding Issues of the Cyprus Problem Territory (as stipulated in the Guterres Framework)

There is a need to adjust the map presented by the Turkish Cypriots to respond to concerns expressed by Greek Cypriots regarding some locations.

Outstanding Issues

On the issue of territory, the Greek Cypriots would like Morphou returned under the Greek Cypriot Constituent State as stipulated by the UN sponsored so called Annan Plan to unify the island from 2004 which had been accepted by the Turkish Cypriot community in a referendum but was rejected by the Greek Cypriot community in their popular vote. If their demands are not satisfied as per the Annan plan in percentage of territory, Greek Cypriots might be satisfied with more coastline meaning the Karpas area.

The Turkish Cypriots on the other hand are not willing to give Morphou back as they are concerned about social, political and economic costs of dislocation. Another parameter taken into consideration is that a certain amount of investment has taken place in the area while the people that voted in favour of a reunifica-

tion in 2004 are less inclined to vote in favour now.

Political Equality (as stipulated in the Guterres Framework)

A rotating Presidency with 2:1 ratio in favour of the Greek Cypriot president

Decision-making ensuring effective participation of both communities: simple majority with one positive vote from each community with deadlock resolving mechanism in particular in cases where issues are of vital interest for the communities.

Outstanding Issues

The Greek Cypriot side is opposed to the rotating Presidency as it is perceived as an anathema to the Greek Cypriot public. However, they might be willing to compromise if it is on the basis of a joint ticket for both presidential candidates and/or weighted cross-voting, so that there is a Greek Cypriot element in the Turkish Cypriot presidency and vice versa.

The Turkish Cypriots on the other hand demand for effective participation which translates into visibility in the government organs. They feel rotating presidency gives them more visibility than a joint-ticket presidency, where a Greek Cypriot and a Turkish Cypriot run together. The right wing in particular is opposed to weighted cross-voting because they think it will keep them out of power forever.

As regards decision making the Greek Cypriots are concerned about a potential deadlock as

was the case in the 1960's. They are therefore opposed to a veto mechanism and opt for simple majority. The Turkish Cypriots however argue that that simple majority will out-vote them on important issues. Hence their demand for "special majority" on important issues (like the budget, which is how things fell apart in 1963).

Property (as stipulated in the Guterres Framework)

Two property regimes: for areas under territorial adjustment a regime to be constructed in a way that would lend itself to give priority to dispossessed owners. For areas not under territorial adjustment a regime to be constructed in a way that would lend itself to give priority to current users. Specific elements to be further elaborated.

Outstanding Issues

The major issue here is who gets priority: the dispossessed owner, mainly the Greek Cypriot, or the current user, mainly the Turkish Cypriot?

The Greek Cypriots obviously favour the dispossessed owner. However, recent polls indicate that few Greek Cypriots would return and live in their property, so this issue plus the ECHR case-law makes it potentially less divisive than in the past. Another issue is how much compensation to pay and who pays for it all. Greek Cypriots would like Turkey to pay.

Turkish Cypriots obviously favour the current user, especially if the current user is a displaced Turkish Cypriot. Regarding compensation, Turk-

ish Cypriots want to maximise compensation so they keep as much of the property as possible. They are not willing however to pay the compensation amounts expected by Greek Cypriots.

Equivalent Treatment (as stipulated in the Guterres Framework)

Free movement of goods (customs union + a quota to be agreed for primary agricultural products), services and capital.

Free movement of persons: the regime will permit tourists, students and seasonal workers. For those seeking permanent residence, equitable treatment will be granted to Greek and Turkish nationals in Cyprus.

Outstanding Issues

Regarding Equivalent Treatment as per the Annan Plan as well as in earlier plans, Turkey and Greece were to be granted "Most Favoured Nation Status", implying Turkish nationals were going to be granted the same rights as Greek nationals. The European Union factor changed this to some extent, although not as much as Greek Cypriots often claim. Treatment of third-country nationals is a national competence, not an EU one and Turkey already has a customs union with the EU.

Greek Cypriots have a political concern with regards to what might look like limiting the rights of EU members (Greek nationals). However, their main concern is to prevent creeping "Turkification" via Turkish nationals gaining residency rights and then the right to apply for citizenship. EU members also have some con-

cerns about this for their own countries, which is why they are happy to accept a permanent derogation via the 4:1 ratio. Although not mentioned in the Guterres Framework is the fact that there is already an agreement between both sides that the population ratio should remain the same as it was in the 1960s, meaning approximately 4:1 (4 Greek-speaking to 1 Turkish-speaking citizens). This also probably means permanent derogations from the EU *acquis*.

The main concern of the Turkish Cypriots is that they are greatly dependant on Turkish tourists for much of their tourism sector, on Turkish students to fill their very large higher education sector, on Turkish capital for much of the private sector and on Turkish labour for much of the construction and blue-collar work. So treating Turkey the same way that, the Greek Cypriots for example treat people from Lebanon, would be disastrous for their economy. Turkish Cypriots (and Turkey) want as much freedom of movement and establishment as possible. Turkish Cypriots are also concerned about the ratio of people of Turkish origin to Turkish-speakers of Cypriot origin. Despite these concerns, Turkish Cypriots want all those they have granted TRNC¹ citizenship to be citizens of a united

Cyprus. This number is not as big as many Greek Cypriots claim (and should be around 50,000). It approximates to a 4:1 ratio in a United Cyprus. Thereafter there seems to be an agreement that they will keep the ratio 4:1 in any new citizenships granted to Turkish and Greek nationals.

Security and Guarantees (as stipulated in the Guterres Framework)

The Secretary General outlined that he did not think that a system in which the right of intervention would remain would be sustainable. He said that, the areas that are under the Treaty of Guarantees could be replaced by adequate implementation monitoring mechanisms, covering various aspects, to be mutually agreed. In some of these, Guarantor Powers could be involved. A security system should ensure that both communities feel safe in a United Cyprus, while the security of one should not come at the detriment of the other.

The issue of the presence of Greek and Turkish troops after an agreement is a different question and should be handled in a different format. The issues related to troops (numbers, withdrawals if and when they will need to leave, timelines, etc.) was to be agreed at the highest level when time is ripe.

¹ The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) is only recognised by the Republic of Turkey. While for Turkey and the Turkish Cypriots, Mustafa Akinci serves as President of the TRNC, the international community considers him the communal leader of the Turkish Cypriots. As the government of the Republic of Cyprus remains internationally recognised

as the government of the whole of the island, the entire island is now considered to be a member of the European Union. However, the *acquis communautaire* is suspended in northern Cyprus pending a political settlement to the Cyprus problem (see Protocol no. 10 of the Accession Treaty).

Outstanding Issues

The issue of Securities and Guarantees is the one that divides the sides the most as outlined as follows:

Greek Cypriots argue for the end of the unilateral right of intervention contained in the Treaty of Guarantee (at least in the Turkish interpretation) which was given in the Guterres Framework. In addition, they demand for the removal of all troops. This is a tougher line than what was stipulated in the Annan Plan, when the Greek Cypriot leadership was prepared to compromise by agreeing with the 650 Turkish and 950 Greek troops contained in the Treaty of Alliance to remain for at least a limited period of time but potentially indefinitely given the need for a Turkish approval for any final withdrawal.

Turkish Cypriots on the other hand do not trust Greek Cypriot reassurances that guarantees or troops are not required anymore because they are an EU country now. The EU has disappointed Turkish Cypriots in matters such as the never-implemented direct trade regulation. They also note the EU's inability to react to the Ukrainian Crises. Thus, they want guarantees as a safety net. Turkey is prepared to greatly decrease troop amounts as long as a military base remains in Cyprus, mainly for its own security reasons.

According to information quoted by the Cyprus News Agency, Ankara is blocking the arrival of Jane Holl Lute as the UN Secretary General's

Special Envoy until the early parliamentary and presidential elections are held in Turkey on June 24. Reportedly, both sides in Cyprus as well as Greece and the UK have given their consent for Lute's appointment.

The Immovable Property Commission (IPC), which was set up in 2005 to establish an effective domestic remedy for claims relating to Greek Cypriot properties in the northern part of Cyprus, decided to return a property of 349 square meters in Kozan (Larnakas tis Lapithou) village to its Greek Cypriot owner Nikolas Skourides. According to the report of Turkish Cypriot daily Yeniduzen, this was only the second time the IPC decided to return the property to a Greek Cypriot refugee in the last five years. Skourides' application to the commission had been submitted on 7 October 2011 and the decision was taken on 13 March 2017 and the procedure was completed on 19 September 2017, when the official return took place. According to the chairperson of IPC, Ayfer Erkmen, 97,7% of the decisions taken so far by the IPC envisaged payment of compensation, 1% return of property and the rest of the applications were withdrawn. According to the website of IPC, as of early June, 6,440 applications have been lodged with the Commission and 907 of them have been concluded through friendly settlements and 32 through formal hearing. The Commission has paid GBP 277.6 million to the applicants as compensation. Moreover, it has ruled for exchange and compensation in two cases, for restitution in three cases and for restitution and compensation in six cases. In one

case, it has delivered a decision for restitution after the settlement of Cyprus Issue, and in one case it has ruled for partial restitution.

According to Turkish Cypriot weekly Cyprus Today, when diggers moved in to start construction work for a new house on 78-year-old Nicolas Skourides' plot where his family's home once stood, police were called to calm a group of Turkish Cypriot villagers who opposed the construction. The villagers said, they would petition to stop Skourides building a house in their village.

The European Commission's Head of Unit for Cyprus Settlement, Kjartan Björnsson said that they were working on broadening the Green Line Regulation to promote trade between the two sides on the island; the volume of trade was only €6 million in 2017. Björnsson also said that, since 2011 an average of €32 million a year of assistance has been given to the Turkish Cypriot side, the total amount reaching €485 million. He added that they would continue to support social and economic development, infrastructure development and the further development of civil society in the northern part of the island.

As in previous years, trade unions from the both sides held a rally to mark the labour day under the slogan "We are determined: A solution, reunification and social justice". A joint statement affirmed that workers were increasingly facing social injustice and condemned conflicts in the region. Stating that workers on both sides

will continue their struggle and solidarity, the joint statement underlined the need for a settlement to the Cyprus problem as soon as possible and called on both leaders to take steps towards the resumption of the Cyprus negotiations process.

Aid to Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of Cyprus has been delivered for the first time following the lifting of the controversial customs duties, which had been imposed by the previous government. The consignment from the south was distributed by UN peacekeepers to 64 Maronites at the village of Kormakitis (Korucam) and to Greek Cypriots in Karpass. All items had labels on them warning that it was illegal to sell them. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kudret Ozersay announced in March that the government would end the policy introduced by his predecessor Tahsin Ertugruloglu last October. Ertugruloglu had justified the policy on the grounds that the recipients of the aid were being sold rather than consuming, and that the issue was being politically "exploited".

Turkey has donated \$100,000 to the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus (CMP). This brought the total contribution from Turkey to €909,500 over the past 11 years. "This donation to the CMP project on the exhumation, identification and return of remains of missing persons in Cyprus will contribute to the committee's goal of identifying and returning as many remains of individuals as possible in order to bring an end to the suffering which has affected

so many families for so many years,” a CMP spokesperson said. To date, the remains of 870 people – 695 Greek Cypriots and 211 Turkish Cypriots – have been identified and returned to their families for burial, according to CMP figures, although 1,132 are still unaccounted for. The CMP says it relies on “donor support to alleviate the suffering of the concerned families”.

2. Hydrocarbons

On May 2, Energy Minister Giorgos Lakkotrypīs noted that Israel and Cyprus may be applying for international arbitration to decide over a dispute regarding the distribution of natural gas from the Aphrodite block. Israel and Cyprus signed a delineation agreement in 2010 but haven’t agreed so far on how to develop gas reservoirs straddling both of their economic zones. The Israelis estimate the quantity of gas on their side at 7-10 billion cubic metres (bcm), while the gas in the Cypriot section of the reservoir, owned by Yitzhak Tshuva-controlled Delek Group, is estimated at 100bcm. In the absence of a distribution agreement, Israel is refusing to allow Cyprus to develop Aphrodite, because pumping gas from it will also cause gas to be pumped from the Yishai prospect.

The Minister also revealed on May 7 that Cyprus and Egypt are close to signing an agreement for an underwater pipeline that will connect the natural gas resources of Cyprus to the

coast of Egypt after a meeting held in Egypt with his Egyptian counterparty Tareq El Molla.

On May 21, following a meeting between the Regional Director of TOTAL Stephane Michel and President Anastasiades, the French company expressed its interest in participating in block 8 of Cyprus’ exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Michel did not give any further information on the share that the French company wished to acquire in block 8 or on the timetable for confirmation drilling in Calypso field in block 6.

3. Greek Cypriots

Economic Developments

According to Eurostat Cyprus’s unemployment rate dropped to 8.6% in April, the first time since December 2011, slightly above the euro area’s average. Cyprus’s unemployment rate remains the six-highest in the EU.

In a statement outlining its country specific recommendations on May 23 the European Commission requested from Cyprus to reduce the non-performing loans in the banking system, overhaul its public service, its judicial system, reform its economy, education system and healthcare by 2019. In particular Cyprus should:

- Take measures to fully operationalise the insolvency and foreclosure frameworks and ensure reliable and swift systems for the

issuance of title deeds and the transfer of immovable property rights,

- reduce the non-performing loans stock in the system,
- adopt key legislative reforms to improve efficiency in the public sector,
- relaunch its privatisation programme,
- prioritise the implementation of key elements of the action plan for growth,
- carry out reforms that will help the employment prospects of young persons with improved schools and vocational training,
- reform its education and training system by finally introducing the evaluation of teachers,
- ensure that the national health system which was passed into law last year, should become fully operational in two years,

According to the Statistical service tourist arrivals rose 9.7% in April, to 314,143, compared to a year before. Arrivals from the UK, from which Cyprus traditionally attracts the bulk of incoming tourist flow, rose an annual 4.1% in April, to 110,689, while those from Russia, the second most important source of tourism, rose 4.3%, to 49,040.

According to a statement issued on the Statistical Service website on May 15 the government generated a fiscal surplus of €297.3m in the first quarter of 2018, compared to a surplus of €166.3m in the respective quarter of 2017. Again for the first quarter, total government revenue rose an annual 9.5%, to €1.9bn, while total spending rose 2%, to €1.6bn. Moreover,

according to the same service the Cypriot economy expanded by 3.8%.

Domestic Developments

On May 29, main opposition leader of AKEL leader Andros Kyprianou accused Anastasiades over his handling of the negotiations in Switzerland, following an interview the latter gave to Phileleftheros newspaper. Kyprianou accused the President of “working to cover his unpopular policies with contradictions, regressions inaccuracies, distortions and half-truths”. Anastasiades responded that this only led to boosting Turkish intransigence and support for the Turkish positions. The President also stressed that he would not let the Greek Cypriot side take the blame for the impasse in the Cyprus talks in Crans-Montana (July 2017). Regarding the different interpretations of the Guterres framework, Kyprianou noted that there is only one Guterres document which is dated June 30 and that Anastasiades is trying to confuse the Greek Cypriot community.

Labour Relations and Trade Unions

A strike took place at Strovolos Municipality in protest against the plans of the Municipal Council to outsource garbage collection to the private sector. The strike was led by the trade unions PEO, SEK and DEOK who had warned about it several months ago. The trade unions stated that privatization and the creation of private monopolies will have a negative impact not only

on workers and labour relations but also on the quality of the services to the public.

As a reaction to the increasing number of accidents at work, PEO organized a protest and submitted a memorandum of demands to the Minister of Labour. PEO stated that the increase in the number of accidents is related to the economic crisis and the unwillingness of employers to abide by health and safety regulations. It proposed the amendment of legislation to allow for bigger fines for guilty employers, obligatory training on health and safety at work of all new workers and for all workers in dangerous occupations, more frequent inspections and increase of the number of inspectors and public campaigns. SEK issued an announcement with similar proposals that also included the establishment of a national telephone line for anonymous reporting of violation of health and safety regulations.

PEO and SEK issued statements against the government's suggestion that the special annual fee of 350€ to firms could be abolished. PEO claimed that employees bore the brunt of the crisis and in a country which is "a champion in social inequality" the government wants to deprive the state of "the limited contribution made by capital". SEK stated that a new tax policy is needed to reduce the taxation burden on employees and not the small symbolic amount that firms are made to pay at a time when wage rates are low and profit rates up. SEK also suggested that green taxation should

be introduced along with a reform of the taxation system.

Tension in the hotel industry continues to build, as hoteliers demand permission to employ third country workers. The trade unions view this as unacceptable in a time when there are more than 30.000 registered unemployed as well as many more thousands available EU workers and consider this an attempt by employers to further reduce the wages in the sector.

In the Cooperative Cyprus Bank, which is due to be sold to a private bank, it is estimated that 800-1.000 employees will be made redundant before the sale is completed so that the state assumes the responsibility to compensate them and not the new investor. SEK had a meeting with the Finance Minister who reaffirmed that in one way or another, the state will support the employees of the Cooperative Cyprus Bank.

PEO commenting on the efforts of a network to promote the Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) Scheme to an EU-wide level stated that "the GMI is not a comprehensive system of social protection" and from the Cyprus experience it can be said that it is a vehicle of restricting the scope of social policy merely diverting resources from the poor to the poorer. A truly progressive social policy cannot restrict itself to dealing only with the already marginalized groups but should operate with a preemptive mechanism that combats poverty and social inequality. More resources and improved struc-

tures are needed in order to achieve a comprehensive system of social protection, stated PEO.

Contention emerged between the trade union of public doctors PASIKY and the Minister of Health and between the trade union of teachers POED and the Minister of Education after a tragic accident had resulted in the death of a ten-year-old boy while attending school. Two doctors were arrested and charged for negligence in their duties while an investigation begun against the boy's teacher. Heated public debate followed the accident with respect to the responsibility about the conditions in which the accident occurred and issues of understaffed and insufficiently equipped hospitals and schools came to the fore. PASIKY also staged a short strike in protest of the "penalization of medical practice" and the indiscriminate humiliation of the health professionals by the government which "tried to hide its own responsibility". POED similarly accused the Minister of handling inappropriately the whole incident who referred to inadequate teachers in his public intervention. President Anastasiades backed his ministers and said he will not tolerate "trade union fiefdoms" anywhere which in turn provoked the reaction of other trade unions as well with PEO stating its disaffection with a government that "tries to devalue trade unionism" by blaming it for its own failures in the key sectors of health and education.

SEK considers the delay of the parliament to legislate the Unified Inspection Service as unacceptable and as encouraging undeclared work

and as contributing in labour market deregulation. While different branches of power contest bills, "illegality proceeds with its own fast rhythm", claimed SEK in its announcement.

PEO met President Anastasiades and submitted to him a memorandum with its positions emphasizing the need for quality work positions and regular terms of employment as a necessary corollary of development. Among PEO's claims were: legal tools to obligate employers to abide by collective agreements, minimum rights for all those not covered by collective agreements, the termination of the "sale of services" as a tool to conceal dependent employment and the introduction of specific regulations about the criteria of dependent employment. PEO demanded the recognition by the government of thousands such as workers as employees. Furthermore, PEO asked for the maintenance and strengthening of Provident Funds as separate institutions different from private schemes, a series of reforms on welfare policy, the support of the Social Insurance Fund and the implementation of the National Health Scheme.

4. Turkish Cypriots

Economic Developments

According to the data from the State Planning Organization the monthly inflation reached 2,75% in April, the highest monthly figure in over ten years. Since December 2016, annual

inflation rate has been on two-digit levels. The rise has been attributed to the depreciation of Turkish lira.

In the first four months of 2018, although no funds were received from Turkey, the budget gave a surplus of TL 76.2 million. According to the data from the Ministry of Finance, the total revenues reached 1.4 billion TL while the expenditures were 1.3 billion in the January-April 2018 period.

According to the first quarterly report of the Turkish Cypriot Central Bank, the total assets of the banking sector, which was TL 26.1 billion at the end of 2017 December, increased by 6.06% in the first quarter of 2018, while credits allocated rose by 5.81%.

According to the report of daily Yeniduzen, the number of registered workers from countries other than Turkey increased by 150% in the last four years, from approximately 4.000 to 13-14.000. The improved socio-economic conditions of the workers in Turkey has slowed down the flow of workers from this country; currently the number of registered workers with Turkish citizenship is around 32.000 while it was 27.000 in 2013. As a result, the employers who seek cheap labor turned their attention elsewhere. The allegations about the way these workers come to the island, raises serious concerns with regards to the illegal trafficking of human beings.

According to a report in Cyprus Today, up to \$100 million in the bank accounts of 13 casinos

has been frozen after a Turkish investigation alleged they were sending huge amounts of money abroad to avoid taxation. The probe by the Council for Investigation of Financial Crimes was said to have been ordered by the top prosecutor in Gaziantep (Turkey). Reportedly, findings, including alleged illegal betting and money-laundering, could lead to the unnamed casinos having their licences cancelled and arrests being made. Prime Minister, Tufan Erhurman and Finance Minister, Serdar Denktas said initially they knew nothing of the issue, but Erhurman confirmed later they had both spoken to Turkish officials about it.

According to the US Department of State's International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (INCSR) dated March 2018, the northern part of Cyprus "lacks the legal and institutional framework necessary to provide effective protection against the risks of money laundering. However, Turkish Cypriot authorities have taken steps to address some of the major deficiencies, although 'laws' are not sufficiently enforced to effectively prevent money laundering. The casino sector and the offshore banking sector remain of concern for money laundering abuse."

Relations with Turkey

The Turkish Cypriot government has signed the third annual program of the 2016-2018 Financial Protocol with Turkey, which will release TL 1.23 billion (€232 million) in aid (TL 635 million) and loans (TL 595 million) from Turkey. Prime

Minister, Tufan Erhurman pointed out that this was a “routine” signature to free up financial resources agreed in the 2016-18 protocol, while negotiations would start soon on a new protocol to cover the period 2019-2021.

420 million of the loans will be conditional and released in accordance with the implementation of the 2018 Structural Transformation Program, while 100 million will be used to plug the current budget deficit. This represents a 50% cut compared to 2016. The rest will go to “other payments”. Defence, infrastructure investments and real sector investments are transferred to the TRNC as aid/grants. So far there has been no transfer of funds from Turkey to the TRNC in 2018. Finance Minister, Serdar Denktas said funding under the agreement would start to flow in a month.

The Turkish Deputy Prime Minister responsible for Cyprus Affairs, Recep Akdag, visited the northern part of Cyprus and held meetings with the president, prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. He also took part in the first fast-breaking dinner of this year’s Ramadan in Nicosia.

The Minister of Education and Culture Cemal Ozyigit held a meeting with Akdag in Ankara.

Domestic Developments

The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Kudret Ozersay announced that he had asked the Speaker of Parliament’s office to launch a review of members of parliament’s

declared assets as part of an anti-corruption drive. Ozersay said, that deputies would be forced to explain any discrepancies compared with previous declarations. “This was in the government programme ... We will keep our promise,” Ozersay added.

Earlier this year, Judge Tacan Reynar, who was provided with round-the-clock protection after receiving death threats announced his resignation. Judge Reynar, who presided over the trial of six perpetrators who were found guilty of attacking the offices of daily newspaper Afrika in January 2018, announced his resignation via his personal Facebook page: “There is no meaning and importance for me to continue with this job in this order,” he wrote. In a second post, he added that he had not been referring “solely to the judiciary” but had been “talking about the whole system that had been set up in the north of Cyprus”.

The government decided to strip more than 170 people of their TRNC citizenship on the grounds that these citizenships had been granted illegally by the previous government.

According to Cyprus Today, supermarkets may close for one or two days in protest at “unfair competition” from military-run groceries/markets that are also open to civilians. “Goods on sale in military shops are duty-free because they are supposed to serve only the armed forces,” said spokesman for the Supermarket Entrepreneurs Platform Taner Nizam. “Military shops have captured 30% of the civil-

ian market ... Members of the public think that supermarkets are ripping them off when they compare prices,” Nizam added. He also said that his organization had outlined its complaints to the government and demanded a solution: “We have written to the coalition parties and also explained the situation to the Turkish Minister of Customs and Trade, Bulent Tufekci, when we visited Turkey”.

Nine Syrian refugees’ bodies have been found washed up on the shores of the Karpass peninsula. They were believed to have been aboard a boat which capsized en-route to Cyprus from Mersin. The relatives, who are also refugees living in the south, reportedly received special permission to attend the funeral on the divided island. In the south, the head of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), said the death toll in Karpas was a concern for everyone.

“This incident shows the need for legal migration pathways in order to avoid the repetition of phenomena that put human lives in danger,” said Natasa Xenophontos-Koudouna, head of the IOM Office in the Republic of Cyprus.

5. FES Cyprus Events

May

Monday, 7th May 2018, 10 am – 11:30 am

Civil Society Advocates / FES / KEPLI
Presentation in Greek

New Law on Associations and Foundations

Youth Multicentre, Apostolou Pavlou and
Gladstonos Corner, 8046, Paphos, Cyprus

Open to the public



Thursday, 10th May 2018, 5pm – 7:30 pm

Civil Society Advocates / FES
Presentation in Greek

New Law on Associations and Foundations

Journalists’ House, 12 CyBC (RIK)
Avenue Aglantzia, Nicosia 2120, Cyprus

Open to the public



Tuesday, 22nd May 2018



Civil Society Advocates / KEPLI / FES
Presentation in English

New Law on Associations and Foundations

Ayia Napa Municipal Museum, 14, Kriou Nerou
Avenue, 30707, Ayia Napa, Cyprus

Open to the public

June

Tuesday, 05th June 2018, 6pm – 9pm

SeeD / US State Department / British High
Commission in Cyprus / Interpeace / FES
Conference

Gender SCORE Cyprus Final Event

Ledras Palace, UN Bufferzone
Nicosia, Cyprus

Open to the public



Wednesday, 06th June 2018

Civil Society Advocates / FES
Presentation in English

New Law on Associations and Foundations

Home for Cooperation, UN Buffer-Zone,
Nicosia, Cyprus

Open to the public

Tuesday, 12th June 2018

PRIO Cyprus Center / FES
Workshop

**Environment and Security in the Eastern
Mediterranean Region**

Home for Cooperation, UN Buffer-Zone,
Nicosia, Cyprus

Open to the public



Thursday, 28th June, 10:30am – 7:30 pm

PRIO Cyprus Centre/ Sustainable Peace and
Democratic Development (SeeD) / FES
Conference

**Nothing Is Agreed Until Everything Is Agreed:
A Comparative Evaluation of the
Comprehensive Settlement Approaches**

Venue: Home for Cooperation, 28 Marcou
Dracou Street, 1102, Nicosia, Cyprus

Open to the public



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