

Forum: Special Political & Decolonisation Committee

Issue: The question of the ongoing conflict in Cyprus

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Position: Head Chair

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Hello delegates of the Special Political and Decolonisation Committee,

I am so pleased to welcome you to the Third Committee of the General Assembly for the 2024 QEGS MUN conference. My experience in the 2023 conference was entirely positive and I hope that your experience this year will be the same. Despite the conference seeming quite overwhelming, I would encourage you all to get as involved as possible because it will be very rewarding, if in doubt, there will be many of us around to help you.

The preparation for the conference is absolutely vital, please get as involved as possible and go even further than this study guide, our topic is so broad and extensive that I am sure everyone will find something that grips them and I couldn't possibly condense all of this information into just this document. Some of this further information can be found in the bibliography attached to this guide.

Finally, I am eager for you to know that I am always happy to help you with anything you need in both the leadup to the conference and across the two days. Please feel free to contact me via my email 3417@queenelizabeths.kent.sch.uk or if you see me around, I am always happy for you to approach me.

Lola Pitchford - Head Chair of GA3



TOPIC INTRODUCTION

Since Greek settlement on Cyprus from 1400 BC and Turkish settlement in 1571, there has been tension between the groups, both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities argue that they are the rightful inhabitants of the island. The divides between the two countries has led to two republics being formed, the Republic of Cyprus which is the Greek Cypriots organisation, and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus which represents the Turkish Cypriot community

Many countries and organisations have been involved to try and ease tensions, most notably Britain. Since granting Cyprus independence, Britain has maintained control over military bases to ensure the conflict doesn't move to a belligerent one as well as co-signing the Treaty of Guarantee which provides the UK with the right to intervene in Cyprus when necessary.

The United Nations have also tried to ease tensions by establishing a buffer zone between the two republics and sending over 2,400 peacemakers to Cyprus whilst also trying to facilitate and organise peaceful negotiations between the two communities.

At present, there has been very little in the way of developments. Cyprus remains a divided country, ruled by the Republic of Cyprus and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and peace talks have ended. New leadership in the north has meant that the Turkish Cypriots community is completely unwilling to negotiate as they do not believe in a united Cyprus. As of June 2023, the UN once again states their commitment to easing tensions in Cyprus, however, this has not been possible for the past year and no developments have transpired.

KEY TERMS

Turkiye:

The new UN recognised name of Turkey.

Greek Cypriot:

The ethnic Greek population of Cyprus.

Turkish Cypriot:

The ethnic Turkish population who originate from Cyprus.

Enclave:

An area that is surrounded by another with distinctly different people, culturally or ethnically.

Coup:

A sudden, aggressive and unlawful seizing of power from a government.



Colonise:

To settle in a place and establish political control over it, mostly without a right to.

Ceasefire:

An agreement to suspend all aggressive actions to create a state of peace, there is often a third party overseeing the process.

Anti-aircraft missiles:

Missiles that detect infrared light produced by aeroplane engines and follow it.

Buffer zone:

An area that acts as a cushion to try and relieve tensions between areas of conflict.

Federation:

A group of organisations that have joined together to form a larger organisation, including a government.

Referendum:

A vote for all of the electorate to have their say on a specific issue or question.

Sovereign equality:

Where all states enjoy the same rights and are viewed as equal on the international stage.

Hardline:

A strict and extreme belief in a cause and the view is unwilling and unlikely to change.

Condominium:

An ownership regime where certain units or areas are separately owned.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Early inhabitants (9000 BC to 1200 BC);

Farming societies arrived on the island to take advantage of the arable land. Cities were then built in the Bronze age, from around 2000 BC to 700 BC.

Greek settlement (1400 BC to 1200 BC);

Due to the close proximity of the islands of Greece and Cyprus, Mycenaeans began moving to the island in two main waves. The migration also occurred due to the turbulence that Greece was experiencing due to changing leadership, including Egyptian and Persian rule.



Roman rule (4th century BC to 649);

Cyprus was conquered by Alexander the Great which was the island's first invasion and capture, the implications were that the island became an independent province that was also incorporated into the Roman empire.

Condominium (668 to 965);

The Roman Empire began to struggle to keep control over Cyprus as Arab Muslims began to assert influence over the island. The Roman Empire was reluctant to lose Cyprus and so arranged for Cyprus to be a condominium alongside the Muslim Umayyad Empire.

Ottoman rule (1571 to 1878);

Turkish forces landed and seized Nicosia and Famagusta before capturing the rest of Cyprus. The invasion marked the beginning of three centuries of Ottoman rule.

British administrative control (1878 to 1925);

In the early 1878, the Cyprus Convention was introduced which provided Britain with administrative power over Cyprus, despite it remaining under Turkish sovereignty, Britain wished for this because they wanted to secure a base in the eastern Mediterranean.

British colony (1925 to 1960);

When the Ottoman Empire entered World War one on the side of the axis powers, Britain pulled out of the Cyprus Convention and rejected all Turkish claims over Cyprus. Britain then announced Cyprus as a crown colony.

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED

Cyprus

The country is divided by the Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots. The Turkish Cypriots established the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in the north and the Greek Cypriots reside in the Republic of Cyprus in the south of the country. The country has been home to both communities as the Turkish settled while they had it colonised and the Greeks have been settlers since the 2nd millennium BC. The country itself has been divided since 1974 and continues to be.

Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

The Turkish Cypriot state was established on the 15th of November 1983 with the aim of creating a political identity for the Turkish Cypriot community. The roots of the region date back to 1974 where the coup d'etat prompted the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. From here the Greek Cypriot population of the north moved south and they declared their independence.



Enosis

The political movement and aim of many Greek communities who reside outside of Greece, such as Greek Cypriots, to unify Greece and Cyprus. The movement was particularly popular whilst Cyprus was under British rule but the 1960 establishment of the Republic of Cyprus defied their wishes. The organisation assisted in the coup to try and achieve unification, however, the action eventually led to the Turkish invasion.

Turkiye

Turkiye believe that they have a claim for Cyprus because they colonised the island in 1571 and around 30,000 Turkish people settled there and were given land, these people are known as the Turkish Cypriots. Turkiye then ceded the administration of Cyprus to the British in 1878 on the proviso that the British used the island to ensure the Ottoman empire was protected against Russian aggression.

Greece

Greece believes that they have a claim for Cyprus because in the 2nd millennium BC, Mycenaen Greeks settled on the island due to its strategic location in the east of the Mediterranean. These people and their descendents became known as Greek Cypriots. Despite the years of rule under the Roman Empire and the Egyptians, followed by the Turkish and British, these settlers stayed.

European Union

Invited Cyprus to join as long as they agreed to the Annan plan which provided both the Turkish and Greek Cypriots a bi-communal and bi-zonal federation, encouraging political equality and peace. At first, they stated that if the plan was rejected, only the Greek Cypriots would gain membership but they ended up allowing both in. In 2004, Cyprus joined the EU as a divided island.

MINOR COUNTRIES

Russia

In 1997, Cyprus agreed to purchase 40 missiles for nearly 200 million US dollars. However, Turkish objections prevented this from going ahead, in turn they accused Russia of trying to militarise Cyprus for their own gains which violated NATO. Russia has also signed a deal with Cyprus which allows Russia access to Cypriot ports for anti piracy and counter terrorism concerns. There have also been discussions surrounding Russia having an airbase on Cyprus for humanitarian relief missions.

The United Kingdom

The UK took control of Cyprus in 1878 after Turkiye ceded the country to them, in return the UK used the island to protect the Ottoman empire from Russia. This was part of the Cyprus convention. In 1914, the UK went to war with the Ottoman empire and so they annexed the country. Nearly 50 years later in 1960, Cyprus gained its independence from the UK but they remained concerned about Cyprus as they signed the Treaty of Guarantee to protect their independence.



Lebanon

As a close, neighbouring country to Cyprus, Lebanon has pledged its support for the Republic of Cyprus. Their relationship is defined by mutual support and cooperation on regional issues to try and promote stability and conflict resolution. However, in early 2024, Hezbollah (political party and paramilitary group in Lebanon) told Cyprus that there would be a 'war without rules' if they allowed Israel to use their ports in any conflict against Hezbollah.

Israel

In recent years, Israel and Cyprus have viewed each other as stable countries with similar values to one another, especially as Cyprus has one of the largest Jewish communities outside of Israel and they are so geographically close. Israel also has a well established bilateral trade agreement with Cyprus, for instance, in 2010 over 503 million euros were exchanged which made Israel the 5th largest exporter to Cyprus.

Egypt

Egypt has close diplomatic relations with Cyprus as both countries strive to maintain security and stability in the eastern Mediterranean. Egypt has also pledged their support to the Republic of Cyprus if any conflict was to occur, as well as being one of their first supporters.

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

Event	Date
The Cyprus Convention is written up which allows Britain to occupy Cyprus but it still remains under Ottoman sovereignty.	4th of June 1878
Britain annexes Cyprus after more than 300 years of Ottoman rule.	5th of November 1914
Britain colonises Cyprus.	10th of March 1925
Greek communities form Enosis and begin a guerilla war against the ruling British with the aim of unification with Greece.	1st of April 1955
The head of the Enosis campaign, Archbishop Makarios, is elected president of Cyprus (following the first ever presidential election in Cyprus).	13th of December 1959
The Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus reach an agreement on a Cypriot constitution. This leads to Cyprus gaining its independence.	16th of August 1960
The Treaty of Guarantee is signed which gives Britain, Greece, and Turkiye the right to intervene if it is ever necessary. The treaty also states that Britain retains power over two military bases.	16th of August 1960
Makarios proposes constitutional reform which would change the power sharing agreements. This raises Turkish fears and leads to the Turkish community withdrawing from power sharing.	30th of November 1963
The United Nations establish a peace keeping force and the Turkish Cypriots withdraw into defended enclaves.	4th of March 1964



UN forces establish the 'Green Line' which acts as a ceasefire line. Results in 165,000 Greek Cypriots fleeing from the Turkish occupied north and 45,000 Turkish Cypriots leaving the south for the north.	4th of March 1964
A military group in Greece supports a coup against Makarios, leads to him fleeing the country.	20th of July 1974
Turkish troops land in the north causing Greek Cypriots to flee their homes. The coup also collapses which allows Turkish forces to occupy 1/3 of the island.	20th of July 1974
The UN Security Council passes a resolution, demanding Turkiye withdraw its troops from Cyprus. Turkiye refuses to do so.	20th of July 1974
The Turkish Cypriots in the north establish their own independent administration. Rauf Denktash is appointed president.	13th of February 1975
President Makarios dies, Spyros Kyprianou succeeds him.	3rd of August 1977
Denktash prevents peace talks from continuing and also announces the creation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Turkiye is the only country to officially recognise the republic.	15th of November 1983
Clafcos Clerides becomes the president.	28th of February 1993
The Cypriot government drops plans to install Russian made anti-aircraft missiles due to Turkiye threatening military action.	28th of December 1998
The UN Security Council renews its mission to maintain peace in Cyprus by installing 2,400 peacekeepers on the buffer zone to patrol between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots.	14th of December 2001
Clerides and Denktash begin participating in UN sponsored negotiations after years of stalled communication.	16th of January 2002
Cyprus is invited to join the European Union as long as they agree to the UN plan for Cyprus. If they don't agree to the plan, only the Greek Cypriots will gain membership.	11th of November 2002
Tassos Papadopoulos becomes president of Cyprus.	28th of February 2003
Turkish Cypriots relax border restrictions which leads to residents crossing the 'Green Line' for the first time in 30 years.	Throughout April 2003
Referendums held to determine whether or not to accept the UN plan, Turkish Cypriots support but Greek Cypriots overwhelmingly reject the plan.	24th of April 2004
Cyprus joins the European Union as a divided island.	1st of May 2004
Mehmet Ali Talat becomes the Turkish Cypriot leader.	20th of February 2005
UN talks between Papadopoulos and Talat lead to a series of relationship improvement measures and contacts between the north and the south.	Throughout July 2006

Turkish and Greek Cypriots remove the barriers dividing Nicosia which is a key move in paving the way for an official crossing point.	January to March 2007
New president Christofias and Talat begin official talks on the reunification of Cyprus.	25th of July 2008
Eroglu, a pro independence runner wins the Turkish north's leadership contest.	18th of April 2010
Reunification talks begin once again but are significantly more intense due to the hardline leader of the north.	Throughout May 2010
Cyprus begins to look into the possibility of drilling for oil and gas. Turkiye diplomatically opposes this plan and sends an oil vessel to northern Cyprus.	19th of September 2011
Turkiye begins onshore drilling for oil and gas in northern Cyprus, despite heavy opposition from the Cypriot government. The action is highly illegal.	30th of April 2012
Peace talks with the Turkish Cypriots are suspended by Cyprus because Turkiye is preventing the exploration of gas fields on the island.	Throughout October 2014
Cyprus allows the Russian navy access to the Cypriot ports.	26th of February 2015
Reunification talks resume but end inconclusively.	Until July 2017
President Anastasiades and Turkish Cypriot leader Akinci make a joint television address showing improving relations.	January 2016
New buffer zone crossings are opened for the first time in eight years.	Throughout November 2018
Tatar, a strict anti- reunification believer becomes the Turkish Cypriot leader.	23rd of October 2020
An informal summit is held with Turkiye, Greece, the UK, Greek Cypriots, and Turkish Cypriots in attendance. Tatar states that without the recognition of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as a state, they would not drop their two state proposal. Anastasiades says that this proposal will never be accepted.	April 2021
Tatar once again tells the south that reunification talks will not continue until they recognise the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and their sovereign equality.	Throughout September 2021
Informal meetings between Christodoulides and Tatar are held for the new leader to test the waters, they discuss the earthquakes in Turkiye and Cyprus that had killed many Turkish Cypriots.	23rd of February 2023
Christodoulides comes into office for the Republic of Cyprus.	1st of March 2023
Christodoulides seems to be pushing for the EU to be more active in negotiations, Tatar responds by delivering a European Parliament speech which states that no other institutions can get involved apart from the UN in the Cyprus conflict. He also states that the Turkish	13th of June 2023

Cypriot side doesn't agree to any involvement from other institutions.	
The Secretary General of the UN, Antonio Guterres once again stated the UN's commitment to a settlement of the Cyprus dispute.	15th of June 2023

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

<p>The United States' Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, proposed a plan that would result in Cyprus united with Greece. Then, if Turkiye were to agree to the plan, they would be given a sovereign military base on the island and Turkish Cypriots would also be given minority rights. These rights would be overseen by a resident international commissioner.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>President Makarios of the Republic of Cyprus rejected the proposal because he believed that giving Turkiye territory would be a limitation of Enosis and their power and it would give Turkiye too much say on the island's affairs.</p>	July 1964
<p>The second version of the above plan was produced by the United States which once again proposed the unification of Cyprus with Greece. However, this time if Turkiye agreed, they would only receive a 50 year lease on a military base.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Both Greek Cypriots and Turkiye rejected this plan because the Greek Cypriots believed it gave Turkiye too much power and Turkiye believed that 50 years was not long enough. Subsequently, the United States gave up its effort to solve the problems in Cyprus.</p>	August 1964
<p>The mediator, Galo Plaza, presented a report which criticised both sides for their lack of commitment to reaching a settlement. The subsequent plan instructed that Enosis should be suspended and the Turkish Cypriots should refrain from demanding a federal solution.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Greek Cypriots accepted the plan despite it opposing Enosis, however, Turkiye and the Turkish Cypriot community rejected the plan and even demanded that Plaza resign because advising specific proposals had exceeded his mandate. Opposingly, Greek Cypriots said that they would refuse to accept a replacement mediator if Plaza resigned.</p>	March 1965
<p>Carlos Bernardes, the Secretary General's Special Representative for Cyprus tried to encourage both sides to agree to a settlement by meeting and discussing. He favoured encouraging them to talk over making formal proposals for them to look over as he believed that they were more likely to find a solution this way.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Political tensions and chaos in Greece meant that no effective formal discussions could be had.</p>	March 1966
<p>The Good Offices of the UN Secretary General pushed for more intercommunal talks under their supervision. President Makarios and</p>	



<p>Vice President Kucuk were present rather than representatives. The Turkish Cypriots proposed that they would make concessions regarding constitutional matters to try and bring them closer together.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>President Makarios refused to grant the Turkish Cypriots further independence in return for their constitutional changes. This led to peace talks surrounding constitutional matters stalling.</p>	<p>May - August 1968</p>
<p>The third round of discussions began, once again focussed on constitutional issues with Makarios and Kucuk in attendance.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>The UN Secretary General blamed both sides for the lack of progress and failure of the discussions as yet another had ended without a satisfactory conclusion.</p>	<p>December 1969 - September 1970</p>
<p>The president of Turkiye, Ecevit proposed a settlement that involved Turkish-Cypriots having control over a coastal region in the north of Cyprus and formal negotiations for a federal solution to the problem.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Greece refused to accept President Ecevit's proposal, despite both Turkiye and the US representative Joseph Sisco convincing them to accept the deal.</p>	<p>July 1974</p>
<p>Formal peace talks were arranged by the UN, involving Greece, Turkiye and Britain to discuss a political settlement for Cyprus given the ongoing chaos with the Turkish invasion and previous military coup.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>A ceasefire line was agreed as part of the discussions and the presence of Turkish Cypriots was deemed to be acceptable, meaning, they could stay on the island and establish their own autonomous administration.</p>	<p>25th -30th July 1974</p>
<p>Another round of UN formal peace talks took place with Greek and Turkish Cypriots in attendance. Turkish Cypriots, supported by Turkiye, demanded geographic separation from the Greek Cypriots.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>President Makarios rejected the Turkish Cypriots plan because he wanted a unified state.</p>	<p>8th August 1974</p>
<p>Turkiye demanded that Greece accept a Cypriot federal state which would have resulted in Turkish Cypriots receiving 34% of the island. Clerides requested 36 to 48 hours which would allow him to consult the Cypriot and Greek governments.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Turkiye refused Clerides request and launched an offensive which led to them having control of 36% of the island. Also led to the buffer zone being established.</p>	<p>14th August 1974</p>
<p>The United Nations approved and facilitated the resettlement of around 51,000 Turkish Cypriots from the south into the north.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Decreased internal tensions in Cyprus and also protected many Turkish Cypriots.</p>	<p>August 1974</p>

<p>The UN launched the Good Offices mission which aimed to facilitate peaceful discussions between Clerides and Denktas.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Humanitarian issues were discussed but issues of territory and government failed to make any progress. This led to the collapse of the talks as neither party was willing to even mention the significant topics.</p>	<p>28th April 1975</p>
<p>The United Nations successfully organised a meeting in Nicosia between Makarios and Denktas to discuss the future of Cyprus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Led to a four point agreement being signed which saw: the agreement that a future Cyprus settlement would be based on a federation, the size of the state would be determined by economic and ownership factors, the central government would have powers to ensure the unity of the state, and issues such as settlement and movement would be settled through discussion.</p>	<p>January 1977</p>
<p>The UN Secretary General, Waldheim, proposed a further ten proposals for the two sides to meet on including; the demilitarisation of the island and the prevention of destabilising actions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Talks quickly stalled because Turkish Cypriots were unwilling to discuss certain areas of Cyprus and they could not agree on the concept of bicomunalism.</p>	<p>May 1979</p>
<p>America, Britain, and Canada produced the ABC plan which proposed the creation of a Bicomunal Bizonal Federation with a powerful central government to try and appeal and protect both sides.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>The plan was rejected by the Greek Cypriots because they desired a unified Cyprus under their control, Turkiye and Turkish Cypriots also rejected the plan.</p>	<p>1979</p>
<p>The UN passed a resolution which called for all occupation forces being withdrawn from Cyprus. Both sides were given a set of proposals which called for a rotating presidency, a bicameral assembly, and a 60:40 representation in the central executive.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Both the Turkish and Greek Cypriots agreed to the proposal, however, the Turkish Cypriots then declared their independence which undermined the proposal completely.</p>	<p>May 1983</p>
<p>The Security Council passed a resolution that stated it would not accept the new independent Turkish Cypriot state.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Denktas stated that the new state actually guaranteed that any future settlement would be federal in nature.</p>	<p>November 1983</p>
<p>Diplomatic peace talks between the Republic of Cyprus and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus continued.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>It was agreed that Cyprus would become a bi-zonal, bi-communal, non-aligned federation.</p>	<p>September 1984</p>

<p>Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary General presented the Draft Framework Agreement. The plan envisaged the creation of an independent, bi-zonal state in Cyprus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Greek Cypriots refused because the question of removing Turkish forces from Cyprus was not addressed. There were also no guarantees that freedoms would be respected.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March 1986</p>
<p>Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the new United Nations Secretary General, outlined a proposal for a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation in Cyprus that would not permit any union with another state.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Greek Cypriots accepted the outline of the proposal but Turkish Cypriots criticised the Secretary General for exceeding his authority and complained that the proposal failed to recognise their community.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3rd April 1992</p>
<p>The President of Cyprus, Glafcos Clerides, proposed the demilitarisation of Cyprus to relieve tensions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Denktaş dismissed the plan because he believed that it would upset the balance of forces on the island.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">December 1993</p>
<p>The EU opened discussions to try and reach a settlement between the Republic of Cyprus and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Denktaş responded by saying that he was no longer willing to accept federation as a basis for a settlement, only a confederal one.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1997</p>
<p>Denktaş wrote to Clerides proposing a face to face meeting to discuss easing tensions and a settlement if possible.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>The offer was accepted and it led to a new peace process under UN auspices with the aim of reaching an agreement by June 2002.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8th November 2001</p>
<p>Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary General proposed three different plans for peace and a settlement for Cyprus according to modifications made to a rough draft from both sides.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Turkish Cypriots declined because they believed that a Turkish military presence was essential for their security, Greek Cypriots objected because the plan allowed many Turkish settlers to remain.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">November 2002 - February 2003</p>
<p>The United Nations Secretary General proposed restarting discussions as long as he was assured they would lead to a comprehensive settlement based on the Annan plans.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>President Papadopoulos refused to put forward a list of changes that Greek Cypriots wished to see to the plan and so discussions once again stalled.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2005</p>
<p>President Talat of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and President Christofias of the Republic of Cyprus agreed to meet to discuss issues of citizenship and sovereignty.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1st July 2008</p>

Both sides agreed in principle to the ideas of single citizenship and single sovereignty, they also both agreed to begin direct reunification talks in the near future.	
<p>United Nation Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, travelled to Cyprus to accelerate talks on the reunification of the country.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>New president of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Eroğlu, refused because he now wanted a federal state.</p>	31st January 2010
<p>After years of peaceful communication and warm relations, President Anastasiades and Eroğlu met to discuss a settlement.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>They agreed on issues and produced a joint declaration which stated they would push for change and a solution.</p>	February 2014
<p>British Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, proposed that a partitioned island would bring all disputes in Cyprus to an end.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>The Turkish Cypriots stated that a federation on Cyprus was impossible.</p>	1st October 2017
<p>The Dherynia and Lefa Aplikli checkpoints were opened along the buffer zone to make a total of 9 crossing points.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Improved relations and made the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities more integrated.</p>	12th November 2018
<p>Turkish and Greek Cypriot leaders met for an informal dinner in Berlin to discuss the next steps and a solution for the Cyprus problem.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Both Presidents were unable to even agree on the foundational, beginning steps of the conversation and so negotiations and peace talks ended.</p>	25th November 2019
President Tatar of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus states that sovereign equality and the international status of the Turkish Cypriots is non negotiable.	30th January 2022

POSSIBLE FUTURE SOLUTIONS

In this study guide, I have chosen to outline two possible solutions to the Cyprus dispute that both the Republic of Cyprus and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus should have open and peaceful negotiations about. The possible solutions below must be debated to ensure that they fit both sides needs and desires.

Reunification of Cyprus

- **Promoting** the coexistence of the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities.
- **Facilitating** collaboration between communities to establish a united Cypriot identity.



- **Strengthening** international relations involving and regarding Cyprus.
- **Allowing** international bodies to accept Cyprus as a member state.
- **Enhancing** the Cypriot voice on the international stage, improving credibility on issues.

Two state solution

- **Facilitating** the establishment of separate regions, each with their own national identity.
- **Strengthening** the definitive identity of both the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities.
- **Encouraging** the international recognition of both Cypriot communities.
- **Creating** clear borders between both Cypriot communities to relieve tensions.
- **Allowing** international bodies to accept and intervene with both states when necessary.
- **Promoting** the existence of both Cypriot communities and the expression of their cultures.

Countries and organisations involved

- United Nations (UN).
- Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.
- Republic of Cyprus.
- Greece.
- Turkiye.
- International non-governmental organisations such as the European Union and NATO.

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