



## RESOLUTION

### The Cyprus Problem: A tragic 50 years of invasion - occupation - illegality (1974-2024)

**The Clergy-Laity Assembly** of the Holy Metropolis of Oropos and Phyle, of the Church of Genuine Orthodox Christians of Greece, composed of representatives of parishes and holy monasteries, clergy and laity, convened in an extraordinary session under the presidency of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the double Turkish **invasion** of the 20th of July and the 14th of August 1974 and the consequent illegal military occupation of the northern provinces of the internationally recognised **Republic of Cyprus** (1960 and on-wards), following a relevant **Report** and discussion on the subject, has drawn up and unanimously adopted the following **Resolution** regarding the present **Cyprus Problem**.

#### I.

**1. The Assembly expresses** its regret, while reflecting on the **Cyprus Problem**, for the failure to achieve the legal and moral national political objective of the **Union of Cyprus with Mother Greece**, an objective based on historical and population data and justice (82% Greek Cypriots against 18% Turkish Cypriots) and for the sake of which the heroic liberation struggle of the E.O.K.A. 1955-1959 took place.

**Within** this context, it likewise expresses its regrets with regards to the unacceptable actions of Britain - as a former colonial power - against Hellenism (Cypriot and Greek) on this issue, the unjust and unjustifiable rejection of the **Union's** legitimate demand and the tragic creation of the **Cyprus Problem** through its various actions and deeds.

**2. It considers** fair any claim of the Greek Cypriots to determine the future of the island on the basis of the above legal population reality.

**3. It reminds** the Turkish Cypriots of their Greek Orthodox and Christian origins, as it is witnessed in various ways and forms, and invites them to peaceful and brotherly coexistence with the Greeks of Cyprus.

#### II.

**1. First of all**, it considers that the **Cyprus Problem** is mainly and primarily a **problem of the invasion and occupation** of an independent member-state of the UN, the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the EU, in violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that state, and that the alleged "bicomunal conflict" is a distortion of historical facts in order to serve foreign interests.

**2. It considers** as contrary to the UN Charter and international law, and consequently **condemns unequivocally** the double Turkish **invasion** of the 20th July and 14th August 1974, and the consequent continued illegal military **occupation** of the northern provinces of the Republic of Cyprus, and the ethnic cleansing taking place there

**3. It therefore** demands the **immediate withdrawal** of all Turkish military occupation forces and settlers from the **occupied** areas of the Republic of Cyprus and the return to the *status quo* prior to the illegal **invasion** of 1974, and the re-establishment and respect for the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms of all legal citizens of **the Republic of Cyprus**, including the right of all displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes and properties and the withdrawal of settlers from occupied properties.

**4. It considers** just and imperative the payment of reparations by Turkey for what it has illegally and destructively committed and continues to commit in the **Occupied Territories**.

**5. It considers illegal, unacceptable and dangerous** from the point of view of international law, international relations and international morality any attempt to legitimize accomplished military acts - and especially manifestly illegal acts - and calls the attention of the international community to this matter, in order to avoid similar acts, the creation of precedents and the disruption of international peace, stability and security.

### III.

**1. It expresses** recognition, firm support and solidarity with the internationally recognized **Republic of Cyprus** (1960 and onwards) as the only legitimate and acceptable State of Cyprus under international law, its independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity.

**2. Consequently,** it condemns the attempt by the **occupying** power of Turkey and its subordinate administration, in different ways and in different forms, to legitimise the acts of **invasion and occupation** by illegally declaring the «Turkish Federal State of Cyprus/Kıbrıs Türk Federe Devleti» (1975-1983) as well as the successor illegal Turkish Cypriot pseudo-state under the name of «Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus/Kuzey Kıbrıs Türk Cumhuriyeti» (1983 and onwards) that are non-existent and unrecognised under international law in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the UNSC (367/1975, 541/1983 and 550/1984) and the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights.

**3. It calls** upon the international community, the various international organisations and States to continue not to recognise the results of the **occupation and invasion** since they are dangerous to international law and order, security and peace, and to ensure the maintenance of international law and order.

### IV

**1. It believes** that a just and viable solution to the **Cyprus Problem** requires Turkey's compliance with international law and morality, its punishment and moral condemnation for its transgressions over many years, war crimes, crimes against humanity, **Genocides**, culminating in the **Genocide-Holocaust** of the indigenous Christian peoples of the Ottoman Empire, Greeks, Armenians and Assyrians, in 1913-1923.

**2. It believes** that this solution must serve the interests of all legitimate Cypriot citizens, and peace in the wider region.

**3. It demands** that the fate of all the **missing persons** be clarified and the Vienna Agreement be applied to the **displaced persons**.

**4. It condemns** Turkey for the ongoing destruction of the **Cultural Heritage** in the **Occupied Territories** of Cyprus (cultural genocide) and stresses the need for the immediate implementation of effective measures for its recovery and preservation, the cessation of the conversion to Islamic use and **Turkification** of cultural monuments.

**5. It expresses** its deep disappointment at the continuing lack of progress towards a solution, due to the lack of political will on the part of the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot sides, whose declared objective remains the **partition of the Island** (taksim), but also the **occupation** of the whole island and the expulsion of the Greek Cypriots from it, its **Islamization** and **Turkification**, as is already happening in the occupied territories, in violation of international law and morality.

**6. It condemns** the continuation of the **political occupation and division** by Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot sub-administration, and also such statements that propose the legitimization of the acts of **invasion and occupation**, as well as the recognition of the illegal "Turkish Cypriot state", as a solution.

**7. It calls** upon the international community and in particular the UN, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, the EU, the States to actively support the ongoing efforts of the UN to find a just and viable solution, based on the UN Resolutions on Cyprus.

## V

**1. It calls** upon the governments of the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Cyprus and the Greek Nation as a whole, in Mother Greece, Cyprus and the Diaspora everywhere, for vigilance, alertness, struggle and especially in the present burdensome and unstable geopolitical conditions, with growing **Turkish revisionism** ("blue homeland" and other Turkish claims), the questioning of Greece's competences, sovereign rights and sovereignty in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean, and the involvement and interference of Turkey in neighbouring countries.

**2. It calls** for the avoidance of any **intra-Cypriot, Greek Cypriot and intra-Hellenic dissensions**, disagreements and divisions, for constant unanimity and harmony, for the development of a common **National Strategy** to deal with the manifest **Turkish expansionism** (neo- Ottomanism), continuous cooperation between Greece and Cyprus and the promotion of well-intentioned national interests over any individual self-interest, in order to avoid new potential national disasters and losses.

## VI

**1. It prays** to the All-Merciful God of Justice for the repose of the **Heroes of the Struggle of the E.O.K.A. 1955-1959**, the victims of the Turkish invasion of 1974 who fell heroically in battle for the Faith and their Country, the contemporary ethnomartyrs **Anastasios Isaac (†1996)** and **Solomos Solomos († 1996)**, both killed by the Turks.

**May the Holy Triune God**, "who in His dominion holds all creation, and governs all by His divine and all-powerful counsel, who sets each nation's own boundaries, and who has especially benefitted our pious nation, granting it the knowledge of His truth

and guiding it to the light of our true religion, and who preserved it free over the ages by His Grace and, whilst in slavery, supported and rescued and restored it to free life" to protect Hellenism, Cypriot and Greek, through the intercessions of the Most Holy Theotokos and All Saints and the supplications of our righteous ancestors and all of us who pray in compunction and repentance and ask for His mercy.

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**The present** document, which was submitted for consultation and then read in the hearing of all present, was unanimously adopted by a show of hands.

**It will be forwarded** to the Presidency of the Hellenic Republic, the Greek Government, the Greek Parliament, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and National Defence, the General Staff of the Armed Forces, the respective organisms of the Cypriot Republic, and to other recipients.

Fili, Attica  
22nd December 2024

On behalf of the Assembly,

*† Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle*