



# General Assembly

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**Seventy-sixth session**  
Agenda items 44 and 112

**Question of Cyprus**

**Report of the Secretary-General on the work of  
the Organization**

## **Letter dated 17 February 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 17 February 2022, addressed to you from the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Mehmet Dâna (see attached).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 44 and 112.

*(Signed)* Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu  
Permanent Representative



## **Annex to the letter dated 17 February 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I am writing in response to the statement made by the Greek Cypriot representative during the General Assembly session on 21 January 2022, held under agenda item 112, following your remarks on your priorities for 2022. Since the Greek Cypriot side has, once again, opted to exploit the absence of the Turkish Cypriot side in the United Nations organs to further its political agenda, I am obliged to respond in order to set the record straight.

Greek Cypriot representatives have long been disinforming the international community by portraying the Cyprus problem as one of “occupation”. In fact, none of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus describe the legitimate and justified Turkish presence on the island, in accordance with the 1959 international Cyprus treaties, as an “occupation”. As a matter of fact, the guarantor Turkey had to intervene after 11 years of Turkish Cypriot ordeal at the hands of the Greek Cypriots, which culminated in the coup attempt organized by the military junta in Athens and its Greek Cypriot collaborators, aiming to annex the entire island to Greece (Enosis) and total annihilation of Turkish Cypriot people. It should be underlined that the Cyprus problem commenced in 1963, not in 1974, when the Greek Cypriot side forcibly usurped the title of the partnership Republic of Cyprus and expelled the Turkish Cypriot partner from all State organs. During the years from 1963 to 1974, the Greek Cypriots, aided and encouraged by Greece, took part in an ethnic cleansing campaign against Turkish Cypriots, known as the Akritas Plan, with the ultimate aim of achieving Enosis. This large-scale violence and the ensuing gross human rights violations necessitated the deployment by the Security Council of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus in 1964 in order to stop the bloodshed and atrocities perpetrated against the Turkish Cypriot people. Given that there is a plethora of United Nations documents attesting to these crimes against humanity, the remarks of the Greek Cypriot representative are not fact-based, but another episode of the well-known Greek Cypriot propaganda machinery.

With regard to the reference made by the Greek Cypriot representative concerning the settlement framework in Cyprus, it should be reminded that there is no consensus between the two sides on a “bizonal, bicomunal federation” model following 50 years of failed negotiating processes, which, unfortunately, served no purpose other than perpetuating the status quo on the island. Instead of this exhausted model, only a cooperative relationship between two States on the basis of their inherent sovereign equality and equal international status could be to the mutual benefit of the two peoples of the island, while contributing to much-needed security, stability and cooperation in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

The Greek Cypriot representative, who is ostensibly concerned about the growing inequality in the world, ironically ignores the gravest human rights violation on the island, namely the unlawful and inhuman isolation imposed on the Turkish Cypriot people at the instigation of the Greek Cypriot administration and the socioeconomic disparity it created. This all-encompassing isolation ranges from denying the Turkish Cypriot people the right to representation in the international arena, including in cultural, academic and sports events, to preventing and restricting their travel abroad and their communication with the outside world and to curtailing trade relations with other countries. I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize that the unjust isolation imposed on the Turkish Cypriot people is also the most important element poisoning the relations between the two sides and their peoples, thus undermining the prospect of a freely negotiated and mutually acceptable agreement on the island. Drawing from the lessons learned from the half-a-century-

old failed and exhausted United Nations-led negotiations on a specific framework, it is imperative that an equilibrium is established between the two sides in Cyprus without further delay with a view to paving the way for a fair and sustainable agreement based on the realities on the ground.

Against this background, it is clear that the misleading remarks of the Greek Cypriot representative are not corroborated by legal and historical facts pertaining to the island. Thus, instead of levelling unfounded accusations, which only creates an environment of mistrust and hostility between the two peoples of the island, the Greek Cypriot side should make a sincere effort to help to build an atmosphere conducive to cooperation between the two sides in Cyprus, as also called for by you in the most recent reports on your good offices mission in Cyprus ([S/2021/1109](#)) and on the operations of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus ([S/2021/1110](#)).

Availing myself of the present opportunity, I would also like to remind the Greek Cypriot administration that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 44 and 112.

(Signed) Mehmet **Dânâ**  
Representative  
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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