



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 12 June 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

With regard to the letter of the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations, Ambassador Feridun Sinirlioglu, under reference [S/2020/437](#), dated 22 May 2020, addressed to the President of the Security Council, I would like to state the following points.

I welcome the assertions contained in my Turkish colleague's letter, that Turkey remains committed to finding a political settlement of the Cyprus issue and that Turkey will continue to support the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General towards achieving a comprehensive settlement.

Greece shall continue to consistently support the United Nations-led efforts for an agreed Cyprus settlement, on the basis of the relevant Security Council resolutions and the European Union acquis.

However, I regret to note my Turkish colleague's repetitive, one sided "interpretations" of the history of the Cyprus question. The practice of dictating State history lessons to the international community is hardly constructive, to say the least. I would rather focus on the present and reiterate that Turkey's ongoing military occupation for 46 years of well over a third of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus, a United Nations and European Union member State, flagrantly violates the Charter of the United Nations, which prohibits the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity and political independence of any State. It also violates all the United Nations resolutions on Cyprus, which call, among others, upon all States to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and for the withdrawal of all illegal foreign troops, as well as the 1960 treaties on Cyprus.

Deeds speak louder and clearer than words. Turkey's political will for a Cyprus settlement must be credibly and concretely manifested in practice. For the time being, regretfully, far from facilitating the Secretary-General's efforts to resume negotiations for a Cyprus settlement, Turkey continues to escalate the tension in the Eastern Mediterranean, violating the sovereignty and sovereign rights of Cyprus with continuing illegal activities within its maritime zones and with the heavy militarization of the sea and airspace of the Republic of Cyprus.

In all events, I would like, once again, to assure you of Greece's commitment to the continuing efforts of terminating the Turkish occupation, in the framework of a negotiated comprehensive settlement, based on the relevant Security Council resolutions and the European Union acquis.



I would be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Maria **Theofili**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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