
July __, 2009

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton

U.S. Secretary of State

2201 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

We share your concerns regarding the ongoing division of the Republic of Cyprus . It destabilizes the eastern Mediterranean and injures Turkey 's EU accession. For these and other reasons, we would like to bring to your attention information that may help hasten reunification and avoid the resurrection of settlement provisions like those of the 2004 UN effort. Those provisions were overwhelmingly rejected and considered "unacceptable to western democracies" by a majority of the Senate European Affairs Subcommittee. You also recognized them recently as the cause for the plan's failure.

A successful settlement effort must take the following realities into consideration:

- **The two Cypriot communities have a long history of living peacefully together. Since 2003 there have been more than 15 million crossings between**

communities on Cyprus without violence, and some who emigrate to other countries choose to live together as neighbors;

- **No EU country could be expected to acquiesce to the occupation of a fellow EU member, much less to embrace the occupier as a member of the EU club. It is a virtual certainty that Turkey will never achieve its dream of EU membership as long as its troops continue to occupy Cyprus ; and**
- **Foreign involvement on Cyprus has frequently been detrimental. According to a recent survey by the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels , a majority of both communities do not want foreign military intervention on Cyprus without UN Security Council authority. As well, foreign advocacy of artificial deadlines and unacceptable settlement provisions contributed to the defeat of the 2004 settlement efforts.**

Today's Cypriot settlement negotiators – the Cyprus President and the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community – are long time friends and collaborators. We hope you will continue to work to protect them from foreign constraints and artificial timetables so that they can achieve a bi-communal, bizonal federation that adheres to UN resolutions. To succeed, a settlement effort should be “of the Cypriots, by the Cypriots and for the Cypriots.”

Sincerely,