

**Globalized Election
Weekly Report
April 21, 2010 to April 27, 2010**

**Iffat Humayun Khan
Presentation on April 28, 2010**

Week # 115

Voting took place on April. 18, 2010 in Cyprus to elect the President. Final results gave Eroglu the victory with 50.38 per cent of the vote, followed by Talat with 42.85 per cent.

CYPRUS

Contents-----	Page#
1. Introduction-----	3
2. Politics-----	14
3. Elections in Cyprus-----	20
4. Elections 2010-----	28
5. Results-----	30
6. Analysis-----	35

Republic of Cyprus

Capital

(and largest city) Nicosia
35°08'N 33°28'E

Official language(s) Greek and Turkish

77% Greek, 18%
Ethnic groups Turkish, 5% other
(2001 est.)

Demonym Cypriot

Government Presidential republic

- President Dimitris Christofias

Independence from the United Kingdom

- Zürich and London Agreement
19 February 1959

- Proclaimed 16 August 1960

EU accession 1 May 2004

Area

- Total 9,251 km²

	3,572 sq mi
- Water (%)	negligible

Population

- 1.1.2010 estimate	870,000
- Density	117/km ² 221/sq mi

GDP (PPP) 2009 estimate

- Total	\$22.746 billion
- Per capita	\$28,544

GDP (nominal) 2009 estimate

- Total	\$23.603 billion
- Per capita	\$29,619

1. INTRODUCTION

Cyprus officially the **Republic of Cyprus** is a Eurasian island country in the Eastern Mediterranean, south of Turkey and west of Syria and Lebanon. It is the third largest island in the Mediterranean Sea and one of its most popular tourist destinations. An advanced, high-income economy with a very high Human Development Index, the Republic of Cyprus was a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement until it joined the European Union on 1 May 2004.

The earliest known human activity on the island dates back to around the 10th millennium BC. Archaeological remains from this period include the well-preserved Neolithic village of Choirokoitia, which has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, along with the Tombs of the Kings. Cyprus is home to some of the oldest water wells in the world, and is the site of the earliest known example of feline domestication. At a strategic location in the Middle East, Cyprus has been occupied by several major powers, including the empires of the Hittites, Assyrians, Egyptians, Macedonians, Ptolemies, Persians, Byzantines, Rashiduns, Umayyads, Lusignans, Venetians and Ottomans. It was placed under British administration in 1878 until it was granted independence in 1960, becoming a member of the Commonwealth the following year.

In 1974, following 11 years of intercommunal violence and an attempted *coup d'état* by Greek Cypriot nationalists, Turkey invaded and occupied the northern portion of the island. The intercommunal violence and subsequent Turkish invasion led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Cypriots and the establishment of a separate Turkish Cypriot political entity in the north. These events and the resulting political situation are matters of ongoing dispute.

The Republic of Cyprus has *de jure* sovereignty over the entire island of Cyprus and its surrounding waters except small portions that are allocated by treaty to the United Kingdom as sovereign military bases. The Republic of Cyprus is *de facto* partitioned into two main parts, the area under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus, comprising about 59% of the island's area and the Turkish-

occupied area in the north,^[25] calling itself the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, covering about 37% of the island's area and recognized only by Turkey.

History

Modern History

In the aftermath of the Russo-Turkish War (1877–1878), administration, but not sovereignty, of the island was ceded to the British Empire in 1878 in exchange for guarantees that Britain would use the island as a base to protect the Ottoman Empire against possible Russian aggression. The island would serve Britain as a key military base in its colonial routes. By 1906, when the Famagusta harbour was completed, Cyprus was a strategic naval outpost overlooking the Suez Canal, the crucial main route to India which was then Britain's most important colony. Following the outbreak of World War I and the entry of the Ottoman Empire on the side of the Central powers, the United Kingdom annexed the island in 1914.

In 1915, Britain offered Cyprus to Constantine I of Greece on condition that Greece join the war on the side of the British, which he declined. In 1923, under the Treaty of Lausanne, the nascent Turkish republic relinquished any claim to Cyprus and in 1925 it was declared a British Crown Colony. Many Greek Cypriots fought in the British Army during both World Wars, in the hope that Cyprus would eventually be united with Greece. During World War II many enlisted in the Cyprus Regiment.

In January 1959, the Church of Cyprus organized a referendum, which was boycotted by the Turkish Cypriot community, where over 90% voted in favor of "enosis", meaning union with Greece. Restricted autonomy under a constitution was proposed by the British administration but eventually rejected. In 1955 the EOKA organisation was founded, seeking independence and union with Greece through armed struggle. At the same time the TMT, calling for Taksim, or

partition, was established by the Turkish Cypriots as a counterweight. Turmoil on the island was met with force by the British.

Independence

On August 16, 1960, Cyprus attained independence after an agreement in Zürich and London between the United Kingdom, Greece and Turkey. The UK retained two Sovereign Base Areas in Akrotiri and Dhekelia while government posts and public offices were allocated by ethnic quotas giving the minority Turks a permanent veto, 30% in parliament and administration, and granting the 3 mother-states guarantor rights.

In 1963 inter-communal violence broke out, partially sponsored by both "motherlands" with Turkish Cypriots being forced into enclaves and Cypriot President Archbishop Makarios III calling for unilateral constitutional changes as a means to ease tensions over the whole island. The United Nations was involved and the United Nations forces in Cyprus (UNICYP) deployed at flash points.

In 1964, Turkey attempted to invade Cyprus in response to the ongoing Cypriot intercommunal violence, but was stopped by a strongly worded telegram from the U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson on June 5, 1964; who warned that the United States would not stand beside Turkey in case of a consequential Soviet invasion of Turkish territory.

Current dispute

Following a coup d'état engineered by the Greek Junta, Turkey launched a full-scale military invasion of the island in 1974. The Turkish air force began bombing Greek positions on Cyprus, hundreds of paratroops were dropped in the area between Nicosia and Kyrenia, where well-armed Turkish Cypriot enclaves had been long-established, while off the Kyrenia coast 30 Turkish troop ships

protected by destroyers disgorged 6,000 men as well as an array of tanks, trucks, and armored vehicles.

Three days later, when a ceasefire had been agreed, Turkey had landed 30,000 troops on the island and captured Kyrenia, the corridor linking Kyrenia to Nicosia, and the Turkish-Cypriot quarter of Nicosia. The junta in Athens, and then the Sampson regime in Cyprus fell from power. In Nicosia Glafkos Clerides assumed the presidency and constitutional order was restored; ostensibly removing the pretext the Turks gave for the invasion. The Turks used a period of negotiations to reinforce their Kyrenia bridgehead and prepare for the second phase of the invasion, which began on 14 August and resulted in the seizure of Morphou, Karpasia, Ammochostos and the Mesaoria. The Greek forces were unable to resist the Turkish advance.

International pressure led to a ceasefire at which point 37% of the island had been taken over by the Turks and 180,000 Greek Cypriots were evicted from their homes in the north. At the same time, around 50,000 Turkish Cypriots moved to the areas under the control of the Turkish Forces and settled in the properties of the displaced Greek Cypriots. In 1983 Turkish Cypriots proclaimed the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus which is officially recognised only by Turkey.

As of today, there are 1,534 Greek Cypriots and 502 Turkish Cypriots missing as a result of the fighting. The events of the summer of 1974 dominate the politics on the island, as well as Greco-Turkish relations. Around 150,000 settlers from Turkey are believed to be living in the north in violation of the Geneva Convention and various UN resolutions. Following the invasion and the capture of its northern territory by Turkish troops, the Republic of Cyprus announced that all of its ports of entry in the north are closed, as they are effectively not under its control.

The last major effort to settle the Cyprus dispute was the Annan Plan. It gained the support of the Turkish Cypriots but was rejected by the Greek Cypriots.

In July 2006, the island served as a safe haven for people fleeing Lebanon because of the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah.

In March 2008, a wall that for decades had stood at the boundary between the Greek Cypriot controlled side and the UN buffer zone was demolished. The wall had cut across Ledra Street in the heart of Nicosia and was seen as a strong symbol of the island's 32-year division. On 3 April 2008, Ledra Street was reopened in the presence of Greek and Turkish Cypriot officials.

Government

Cyprus is a Presidential republic. The head of state and of the government is the President who is elected by a process of Universal suffrage for a five-year term. Executive power is exercised by the government with legislative power vested in the House of Representatives whilst the Judiciary is independent of both the executive and the legislature.

The 1960 Constitution provided for a presidential system of government with independent executive, legislative and judicial branches as well as a complex system of checks and balances including a weighted power-sharing ratio designed to protect the interests of the Turkish Cypriots. The executive was led by a Greek Cypriot president and a Turkish Cypriot vice president elected by their respective communities for five-year terms and each possessing a right of veto over certain types of legislation and executive decisions. Legislative power rested on the House of Representatives who were also elected on the basis of separate voters' rolls.

Following clashes between the two communities the Turkish Cypriot seats in the House remain vacant since 1965. Turkish Cypriots refused to establish the state of affairs before the invasion of Cyprus as is evident in the Secretary-General of

the United Nations who said *The Turkish Cypriot leaders have adhered to a rigid stand against any measures which might involve having members of the two communities live and work together, or which might place Turkish Cypriots in situations where they would have to acknowledge the authority of Government agents. Indeed, since the Turkish Cypriot leadership is committed to physical and geographical separation of the communities as a political goal, it is not likely to encourage activities by Turkish Cypriots which may be interpreted as demonstrating the merits of an alternative policy. The result has been a seemingly deliberate policy of self-segregation by the Turkish Cypriots*^[52] By 1974 the two communities had returned to a more tolerant state of living.

In 1974 Cyprus was divided *de facto* into the Greek Cypriot controlled southern two-thirds of the island and the Turkish controlled northern third. The Turkish Cypriots subsequently declared independence in 1983 as the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus but were recognized only by Turkey. In 1985 the TRNC adopted a constitution and held its first elections. The United Nations recognizes the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus over the entire island of Cyprus.

The House of Representatives currently has 59 members elected for a five year term, 56 members by proportional representation and 3 observer members representing the Armenian, Latin and Maronite minorities. 24 seats are allocated to the Turkish community but remain vacant since 1964. The political environment is dominated by the communist AKEL, the liberal conservative Democratic Rally, the centrist Democratic Party, the social-democratic EDEK and the centrist EURO.KO.

On 17 February 2008 Dimitris Christofias of the AKEL was elected President of Cyprus, on AKEL's first electoral victory without being part of a wider coalition. Cyprus is currently one of only two countries in the world to have a democratically elected socialist government (the other being Nepal), and the only European Union member state under communist leadership. Christofias took

over government from Tassos Papadopoulos of the Democratic Party who had been in office since February 2003.

Districts

The Republic of Cyprus is divided into six districts: Nicosia, Famagusta, Kyrenia, Larnaca, Limassol and Paphos.

Map of Cyprus		
		
Districts	Greek name	Turkish name
Famagusta	Αμμόχωστος (Ammochostos)	Gazimağusa
Kyrenia	Κερύνεια (Keryneia)	Girne

Larnaca	Λάρνακα (Larnaka)	Larnaka/İskele
Lemesos	Λεμεσός (Lemesos)	Limasol/Leymosun
Nicosia	Λευκωσία (Lefkosia)	Lefkoşa
Paphos	Πάφος (Pafos/Bafos)	Baf/Gazibaf

Politics of Cyprus

Politics of the Republic of Cyprus takes place in a framework of a presidential representative democratic republic, whereby the President of Cyprus is both head of state and head of government, and of a multi-party system. Executive power is exercised by the government. Legislative power is vested in both the government and the House of Representatives. The Judiciary is independent of the executive and the legislature. Cyprus is a divided island. Since 1974, the legal government (The Republic of Cyprus) has controlled the south two thirds, and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus the northern one-third. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus has continued as the sole internationally-recognized authority on the island (as well as the UK being internationally recognized with respect to the SBAs), though in practice its power extends only to the government controlled area.

United Cyprus

The 1960 Cypriot Constitution provided for a presidential system of government with independent executive, legislative, and judicial branches, as well as a complex system of checks and balances including a weighted power-sharing ratio designed to protect the interests of the Turkish Cypriots. The executive, for example, was headed by a Greek Cypriot president, Archbishop Makarios III, and a Turkish Cypriot vice president, Dr Fazıl Küçük, elected by their respective communities for 5-year terms and each possessing a right of veto over certain types of legislation and executive decisions.

The House of Representatives was elected on the basis of separate voters' rolls. Since 1964, following clashes between the two communities, the Turkish Cypriot seats in the House remained vacant, while the Greek Cypriot Communal Chamber was abolished. The responsibilities of the chamber were transferred to the newfounded Ministry of Education.

By 1967, when a military junta had seized power in Greece, the political impetus for enosis had faded, partly as a result of the non-aligned foreign policy of Cypriot President Makarios. Enosis remained an ideological goal, despite being pushed significantly further down the political agenda. Dissatisfaction in Greece with Makarios convinced the Greek colonels to sponsor the 1974 coup in Nicosia.

Turkey responded by launching a military operation on Cyprus in a move not approved by the other two international guarantor powers, Greece and the United Kingdom using as a pretext the protection of the Turkish minority from Greek militias. The invasion is called "Cyprus Peace Operation" by the Turkish side. Turkish forces captured the northern part of the island. Many thousands of others, from both sides, left the island entirely. In addition to many of the Greek Cypriot refugees (a third of the population), many Turkish Cypriots (on whose pretext Turkey invaded) also moved to the UK and other countries where for the past 30 years they have lived as neighbours with the Greek Cypriots. In the

meantime Turkey illegally imported Turkish colonists to populate the occupied territories, thereby altering the ethnic make up of the occupied north. Under the Geneva Conventions of 1949, it is a war crime to transfer, directly or indirectly, the civilian population of a country power onto land under that country's military occupation.

Subsequently, the Turkish Cypriots established their own separatist institutions with a popularly elected *de facto* President and a Prime Minister responsible to the National Assembly exercising joint executive powers. In 1983, the Turkish Cypriots declared an independent state called the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), an action opposed by the United Nations Security Council. In 1985, the TRNC adopted a constitution and held its first elections.

Division of Cyprus

The capital Nicosia remains divided since 1963. The UN buffer zone separates the two sectors.

In 1974, following a coup sponsored by the Greek military junta of 1967-1974 and executed by the Cypriot National Guard the invasion of troops from Turkey (citing its authority as one of the three guarantor powers established by the Constitution), the Turkish Cypriots formally set up their own institutions with a popularly-elected separatist president and a Prime Minister, responsible to the National Assembly, exercising joint executive powers. Cyprus has been divided, *de facto*, into the Greek Cypriot controlled southern two-thirds of the island and the Turkish-occupied northern third. The **Republic of Cyprus** is the internationally-recognised government of the Republic of Cyprus, that controls the southern two-thirds of the island. Aside from Turkey, all foreign governments and the United Nations recognise the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus over the whole island of Cyprus.

Turkey, which does not recognise the Republic of Cyprus, and the Turkish Cypriot administration of the northern part of the island, do not accept the

Republic's rule over the whole island and refer to it not by its international name, but as the "Greek Cypriot Administration of Southern Cyprus". Its territory, a result of the Turkish invasion of 1974 and whose status remains disputed, extends over the northern third of the island.

The north proclaimed its independence in 1975. In 1983, the Turkish Cypriots declared an independent "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus", which has never been recognized by any country except Turkey. In 1985, they adopted a constitution and held elections—an arrangement recognized only by Turkey. For information pertaining to this, see Politics of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The Organization of the Islamic Conference granted it observer member status under the name of "Turkish Cypriot State".

Political conditions

The division of Cyprus has remained an intractable political problem plaguing relations between Greece and Turkey, and drawing in NATO, of which both Greece and Turkey are members, and latterly the European Union, which has admitted Greece and Cyprus and which Turkey has been seeking to join for over twenty years.

The most recent developments on the island have included the reopening of the border between the two sides, and the failure of an attempt to reunify the island under the terms of a United Nations-sponsored initiative guided by the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan.

None of the Greek Cypriot parties has been able to elect a president by itself or dominate the 56-seat House of Representatives. The 165,000 Greek Cypriot refugees are also a potent political force, along with the independent Orthodox Church of Cyprus, which has some influence in temporal as well as ecclesiastical matters.

The working of the Cypriot state was fraught with difficulty from the very early days after independence in 1960, and intercommunal tension and occasionally violence was, regrettably, a feature of the first decade of Cypriot independence. In 1963, the Cypriot president, Makarios, proposed 13 amendments to the Constitution in order to solve intractable difficulties in filling government posts. Whether this was an attempt to foster increasing unity by dissolving legal boundaries between communities, or to effect domination of the Turkish Cypriots by the majority Greek Cypriots, remains controversial. Whatever Makarios's intentions, violence erupted between Greek and Turkish Cypriots in December 1963 and by the following year the United Nations agreed to undertake peacekeeping operations (UNFICYP).

UN-sponsored negotiations to develop institutional arrangements acceptable to the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities began in 1968; several sets of negotiations and other initiatives followed.

After the 1974 invasion following a Greek junta-based coup attempt, Makarios secured international recognition of his Greek Cypriot government as the sole legal authority on Cyprus, which has proved to be a very significant strategic advantage for the Greek Cypriots in the decades since. Negotiations continued in the years after 1974 with varying degrees of regularity and success, but none resulted in a full reunification. On 15 November 1983 the Turkish Cypriot North declared independence and the formation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), which has been recognized only by Turkey. Both sides publicly call for the resolution of intercommunal differences and creation of a new federal system (Greek Cypriot position) or confederate system (Turkish Cypriot position) of government.

Following the 1998 presidential election, Klerides tried to form a government of national unity, by including six ministers from Klerides' Democratic Rally party, two ministers from the socialist EDEK, three from the Democratic Party (who broke ranks with party leader Spyros Kyprianou) and one from the United

Democrats. However, a national unity government was not achieved do to the leftist AKEL and centrist Democratic Party rejecting the offer, preferring to remain opposition parties.

Reunification, the Annan Plan and EU entry

The results of early negotiations between the Greek and Turkish politicians resulted in a broad agreement in principle to reunification as a bicameral, bi-zonal federation with territory allocated to the Greek and Turkish communities within a united island. However, agreement was never reached on the finer details, and the two sides often met deadlock over the following points, among others:

The Greek side:

- took a strong line on the right of return for refugees to properties vacated in the 1974 displacement of Cypriots on both sides, which was based on both UN Resolutions and decisions of the European Court of Human Rights;
- took a dim view of any proposals which did not allow for the repatriation of Turkish settlers from the mainland who had emigrated to Cyprus since 1974; and
- supported a stronger central government.

The Turkish side:

- favoured a weak central government presiding over two sovereign states in voluntary association, a legacy of earlier fears of domination by the majority Greek Cypriots; and
- opposed plans for demilitarisation, citing security concerns.

The continued difficulties in finding a settlement presented a potential obstacle to Cypriot entry to the European Union, for which the government had applied in

1997. UN-sponsored talks between the Greek and Turkish leaders, Glafkos Klerides and Rauf Denktaş, continued intensively in 2002, but without resolution. In December 2002, the EU formally invited Cyprus to join in 2004, insisting that EU membership would apply to the whole island and hoping that it would provide a significant enticement for reunification resulting from the outcome of ongoing talks. However, weeks before the UN deadline, Klerides was defeated in presidential elections by centre candidate Tassos Papadopoulos. Papadopoulos had a reputation as a hard-liner on reunification and based his stance on international law and human rights. By mid-March, the UN declared that the talks had failed.

A United Nations plan sponsored by Secretary-General Kofi Annan was announced on 31 March 2004, based on what progress had been made during the talks in Switzerland and fleshed out by the UN, was put for the first time to civilians on both sides in separate referendums on 24 April 2004. The Greek side overwhelmingly rejected the Annan Plan, and the Turkish side voted in favour. In considering the outcome it is interesting to note that whilst the Turkish colonists (who make up the majority in the occupied north) were allowed to vote, the refugees who had fled Cyprus had no right to vote in a referendum which would ultimately determine their future (their right to return and right to their property).

“ Communal federalists seem to be supportive of bi-zonality in its strongest form even at the expense of serious limitations on individual rights. Strong bizonality requires a minimal effort for the territorial coexistence of the Cypriot communities, a feature especially important for the Turkish-Cypriot community to form a clear majority in its constituent state. Thus, limiting the number of Greek-Cypriots in the Turkish-Cypriot constituent unit, and preventing them from using their political rights in the north, appears to be a necessary territorial mechanism that would secure bi-zonality. ”

In May 2004, Cyprus entered divided the EU, although in practice membership only applies to the southern part of the island which is in the control of the Republic of Cyprus. In acknowledgment of the Turkish Cypriot community's support for reunification, however, the EU made it clear that trade concessions would be reached to stimulate economic growth in the north, and remains committed to reunification under acceptable terms. Though some trade restrictions were lifted on the north to alleviate economic isolation for the Turkish Cypriots, further negotiations have not been a priority. There is now a focus on convincing Turkey to recognise the government of Cyprus, a requirement for Turkish admission advocated most strongly by Cyprus and France.

Constitution

The 16 August 1960 constitution envisioned power sharing between the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Efforts to amend the constitution sparked the intercommunal strife in 1963. This constitution is still in force, though there is no Turkish Cypriot presence in the Cypriot government.

Executive branch

Main office holders			
Office	Name	Party	Since
President	Dimitris Christofias	AKEL	28 February 2008
Vice-president	vacant		

The president, elected by popular vote for a five-year term, is both the chief of state and head of government; post of vice president is currently vacant; under

the 1960 constitution, the post is reserved for a Turkish Cypriot. The Council of Ministers is appointed jointly by the president and vice president.

Currently there are eleven ministries:

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environment
2. Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism
3. Ministry of Communications and Works
4. Ministry of Defence
5. Ministry of Education and Culture
6. Ministry of Finance
7. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
8. Ministry of Health
9. Ministry of the Interior
10. Ministry of Justice and Public Order
11. Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance

Legislative branch

The House of Representatives (*Vouli Antiprosópon/Temsilciler Meclisi*) has 59 members elected for a five-year term: 56 Greek Cypriot members chosen by proportional representation and 3 observer members representing the Maronite, Roman Catholic and Armenian minorities. 24 seats are allocated to the Turkish community, but are currently vacant.

Political parties and elections

Summary of the 17 February 2008 Cypriot presidential election results		
Candidates and nominating parties	1st round	2nd round

	Votes	%	Votes	%		
Dimitris Christofias	150,016	33.29	240,604	53.37		
Ioannis Kasoulidis	150,996	33.51	210,195	46.63		
Tassos Papadopoulos	143,249	31.79				
Marios Matsakis	3,460	0.77				
Kostas Kyriacou	1,092	0.24				
Kostas Themistocleous	753	0.17				
Andreas Efstratiou	713	0.16				
Christodoulos Neophytou	243	0.05				
Anastasis Michael	117	0.03				
Valid votes	450,639	100.00			450,799	100.00
Blank votes	4,410	0.95			7,768	1.66

Invalid votes	7,798	1.68	10,576	2.25
Turnout (out of 516.441 registered votes)	462,847	89.62	469,143	90.84
Source: Cypriot Government (http://www.ekloges.gov.cy/index.aspx?ci=en-GB)				

Summary of the 21 May 2006 House of Representatives of Cyprus election results

Parties	Votes	%	+/-	Seats	+/-
Progressive Party of Working People (<i>Anorthotikon Komma Ergazemenou Laou</i>)	131,066	31.1	-3.6	18	-2
Democratic Rally (<i>Dimokratikos Sinagermos</i>)	127,776	30.3	-2.7	18	-1
Democratic Party (<i>Dimokratikon Komma</i>)	75,458	17.9	+3.1	11	+2
Movement for Social Democracy-EDEK (<i>Kinima Sosialdimokraton Eniaia Dimokratiki Enosi Kentrou</i>)	37,533	8.9	+2.4	5	+1
European Party (<i>Evropaiko Komma</i>) ^a	24,196	5.8	+2.8	3	+2

Ecological and Environmental Movement (<i>Kinima Oikologoi Perivallontisto</i>)	8,193	2.0	±0.0	1	±0
United Democrats (<i>Enomeni Dimokrates</i>)	6,567	1.6	-1.0	0	-1
Other parties	10,298	2.4	+0.4	0	-1
Total	421,087	100.0		56	
Source: http://www.vouleftikes2006.gov.cy/index.aspx?ci=en-GB ^a Compared to New Horizons.					

Elections in Cyprus

Cyprus elects on national level a head of state - the president - and a legislature. The election of the President is direct, by universal suffrage and secret ballot. Voting is compulsory and every citizen over the age of 18 must vote, by law. The president is elected for a five year term by the people. The election of a new President takes place before the expiration of the five-year period of office of the outgoing President so as to enable the newly-elected President to be invested on the date that period expires.

Candidates for election must be citizens of the Republic of Cyprus and over 35 years of age. If there is only one candidate for election, he is declared elected.

A candidate to be elected needs more than 50% of the votes validly cast. If none of the candidates attains the required majority the election is repeated on the

corresponding day of the following week between the two candidates who received the greater number of votes. The candidate who receives the greatest number of votes at these repeated elections is deemed elected.

If there is a vacancy in the office of President, the vacancy is filled by a by-election taking place within a period not exceeding 45 days of the occurrence of such a vacancy.

In the event of a temporary absence or incapacity of the President to perform his duties, the President of the House of Representatives acts for him.

The **House of Representatives** (*Vouli Antiprosópon/Temsilciler Meclisi*) has 59 members elected for a five year term, 56 members by proportional representation and 3 observer members representing the Maronite, Roman-Catholic and Armenian minorities. 24 seats are allocated to the Turkish community. Cyprus has a multi-party system, with two or three strong parties and a third party that is electorally successful.

According to article 62(1) of the Constitution the number of representatives is 50. Out of this number 35 are elected by the Greek Cypriot Community and 15 by the Turkish Cypriot Community. The Turkish Cypriot seats remain vacant since 1964 when the Turkish Cypriot representatives withdrew from the House.

However, for the smooth running of the House of Representatives and of the Committees in particular, the House decided in July 1985 by adopting law 124, to increase the seats to 80. Of these 56 (70%) representatives are elected by the Greek Cypriot Community and 24 (30%) by the Turkish Cypriot Community, as provided in article 62(2) of the Constitution.

2006 Legislative election

Summary of the 21 May 2006 House of Representatives of Cyprus election

results

Parties	Votes	%	+/-	Seats	+/-
Progressive Party of Working People (<i>Anorthotikon Komma Ergazemenou Laou</i>)	131,066	31.1	-3.6	18	-2
Democratic Rally (<i>Dimokratikos Sinagermos</i>)	127,776	30.3	-2.7	18	-1
Democratic Party (<i>Dimokratikon Komma</i>)	75,458	17.9	+3.1	11	+2
Movement for Social Democracy-EDEK (<i>Kinima Sosialdimokraton Eniaia Dimokratiki Enosi Kentrou</i>)	37,533	8.9	+2.4	5	+1
European Party (<i>Evropaiko Komma</i>) ^a	24,196	5.8	+2.8	3	+2
Ecological and Environmental Movement (<i>Kinima Oikologoi Perivallontistoi</i>)	8,193	2.0	±0.0	1	±0
United Democrats (<i>Enomeni Dimokrates</i>)	6,567	1.6	-1.0	0	-1
Other parties	10,298	2.4	+0.4	0	-1
Total	421,087	100.0		56	

Source: <http://www.vouleftikes2006.gov.cy/index.aspx?ci=en-GB>
^a Compared to New Horizons.

2008 Presidential election

Summary of the 17 February 2008 Cypriot presidential election results

Candidates and nominating parties	1st round		2nd round	
	Votes	%	Votes	%
Dimitris Christofias	150,016	33.29	240,604	53.37
Ioannis Kasoulidis	150,996	33.51	210,195	46.63
Tassos Papadopoulos	143,249	31.79		
Marios Matsakis	3,460	0.77		
Kostas Kyriacou	1,092	0.24		
Kostas Themistocleous	753	0.17		

Andreas Efstratiou	713	0.16		
Christodoulos Neophytou	243	0.05		
Anastasis Michael	117	0.03		
Valid votes	450,639	100.00	450,799	100.00
Blank votes	4,410	0.95	7,768	1.66
Invalid votes	7,798	1.68	10,576	2.25
Turnout (out of 516.441 registered votes)	462,847	89.62	469,143	90.84
Source: Cypriot Government (http://www.ekloges.gov.cy/index.aspx?ci=en-GB)				

The British colonial administration drafted a constitution for Cyprus a few years after Cyprus was bought from the Ottomans (1878). The legislative assembly was to have 9 Greek Cypriot members, 3 Turkish Cypriot members (all elected) and 6 British ex officio members. The vote of the British head of the assembly weighted more in case of a 50%-50% disagreement. Thus traditionally the Turkish Cypriot and British members would cooperate and pass legislation despite the disagreements of the Greek Cypriot members. In 1931 Necati Bey, a Turkish Cypriot supporter of Kemal Atatürk was elected (in previous years Turkish Cypriot members were hailed from the Ottoman ruling class). Necati Bey agreed with the Greek Cypriot members on several issues. This made the British

governor, Sir Ronald Storrs to ignore the assembly when passing the bills. Angry Greek Cypriot members started a riot and the constitution was abolished.

The first municipal elections happened in 1943. Two of the winning mayors were members of AKEL: Ploutis Servas in Limassol and Adam Adamantos in Famagusta, and the other six were Greek nationalists. In 1946 the situation was reversed: 6 were either members or supported by AKEL, including Ioannis Klerides in Nicosia.

Presidential Elections

The first presidential elections for independent Cyprus took place in 1960. The bulk of EOKA supporters were in favour of Makarios III, whereas AKEL backed Ioannis Kleridis (father of Glafkos Klerides). Klerides was also backed by independent politicians, both left wingers like Ploutis Servas and right wingers like Themistoklis Dervis. The Turkish Cypriot community elected Fazil Küçük for the position of vice president unopposed.

The next elections were due in 1965 but were postponed as a result of the extraordinary situation created by the intercommunal strife. The term of office was extended by a law of the House of Representatives.

President Makarios distanced himself from his earlier *enosis* convictions in his 1968 presidential campaign and argued for the independence of Cyprus. He declared that Enosis was wishable but independence was possible. His opponent was the psychiatrist Takis Evdokas who was campaigning for Enosis. Makarios won the election. Turkish Cypriots were not participating in the government (see Cyprus dispute) but they had separate elections where Fazil Küçük was reelected as vice president.

In 1973 Makarios was reelected unopposed. Rauf Denktaş was elected vice president.

Following the death of Makarios in 1977, After his death in 1977 the then President of the House of Representatives, Spyros Kyprianou, assumed duties temporarily until 1978 elections

In the 1978 election, Glafkos Klerides was backed by his party, Democratic Rally whereas Spyros Kyprianou was backed by the other Greek Cypriot parties. Following the kidnapping of Kyprianou's son, Achilleas, Klerides did not run for the election and Kyprianou won.

In 1983 Kyprianou's Democratic Party (Cyprus) forged an alliance with AKEL based on an agreed agenda: the so called minimum program. Kyprianou was reelected in the presidential elections of that year. He was opposed by Glafkos Clerides, the leader of the right-wing Democratic Rally party and Vassos Lyssarides of the Socialist party, EDEK.

By 1985 AKEL was not satisfied with Kyprianou's policies, especially his position in negotiations (see Cyprus dispute for more) and the partnership collapsed. AKEL found its new candidate for the 1988 election in George Vasiliou who managed to get to the second round of elections together with Glafkos Klerides. Kyprianou did not get enough votes. With the added support of EDEK, whose candidate Vasos Lyssaridis did not do very well in the first round, Vasiliou won the second round.

While the Democratic Rally had been supporting Vasiliou in negotiating the Ghali set of ideas, as the 1993 elections were approaching it started criticising Vasiliou for not demanding enough. At the same time a partnership of Kyprianou's democratic party and Lyssaridis's EDEK was rejecting the spirit of the Ghali ideas all together and argued that both Vasiliou and Klerides were equally willing to compromise. The partnership received strong support by the Church and its candidate was Paschalis Paschalidis.

Paschalidis didn't make it to the second round, however the democratic party made an agreement with Klerides and supported him. Thus Klerides was elected

in 1993, defeating George Vassiliou, who again ran as an Independent candidate supported by AKEL and ADISOK, forming a government with members of both Democratic Rally and the Democratic Party.

The main issue of the 1998 election campaign was the purchase of S-300 anti-aircraft missiles from Russia. Klerides was backed by EDEK whereas the democratic party and AKEL were backing George Iacovou, ex minister in the Kyprianou and Vasiliou governments. Klerides won the election.

For the 2003 election EDEK leader Yiannakis Omirou declared himself candidate and the democratic rally initially backed him. Because of the course of negotiations Klerides asked to remain president for another couple of years, so the democratic rally backed him. This made EDEK turn to the opposition coalition already formed between AKEL and Democratic Party. The leader of the latter, Tassos Papadopoulos was chosen as a candidate. In the meantime the attorney general Alekos Markides disagreed with his party, Democratic Rally and ran as an independent candidate. Papadopoulos won from the first round.

Parliament Elections

The 1960 parliamentary elections were contested by three parties and a number of independent candidates. The right-wing "Patriot Front" won 30 seats, left-wing AKEL won five seats while the Pancyprian Union of Fighters did not win any seats. No parliamentary elections were held in 1965 because of the prevailing intercommunal tension.

Five parties contested the 5 July 1970 elections. Three of these, the Unified Party, the Progressive Front, and the opposition Democratic National Party, were right-wing, one, the Unified Democratic Union of Centre (EDEK), of the centre and the other, AKEL, left-wing.

The allocation of seats was as follows:

Part	No of Seats
-------------	--------------------

Unified Party	15
---------------	----

AKEL	9
------	---

Progressive Front	7
-------------------	---

EDEK	2
------	---

Independents	2
--------------	---

The third parliamentary elections took place on 5 September 1976, two years after the Turkish invasion. It was contested by the Democratic Rally, the Democratic Front(Democratic Party), socialist EDEK and left-wing AKEL. The right-wing Democratic Rally received about 26% of the votes, but due to a coalition ranged against it, was left with no Deputies.

The allocation of seats was as follows:

Party	No of Seats
--------------	--------------------

Democratic Front	21
------------------	----

AKEL	9
------	---

EDEK	4
------	---

Independents	1
--------------	---

In all the above parliamentary elections, the electoral majority system was used.

The fourth parliamentary elections took place on 24 May 1981. The elections were contested by the right-wing Democratic Rally, the centre Democratic Party, the New Democratic Front and the Union of Centre, socialist EDEK and left-wing AKEL and PAME.

The allocation of seats was as follows:

Party	No of Seats
--------------	--------------------

AKEL	12
Democratic Rally	12
Democratic Party	8
EDEK	3

In the above election, a type of proportional system with threshold was used.

The fifth parliamentary elections took place on 8 December 1985. Following a law passed by the House of Representatives the number of seats allocated to the Greek Cypriot community was increased from 35 to 56. The number of Turkish Cypriot seats was raised from 15 to 24.

The elections were contested by four parties - the right-wing Democratic Rally, the centre Democratic Party, the socialist EDEK and left-wing AKEL - as well as independent candidates.

The allocation of seats was as follows:

Party	No of Seats
--------------	--------------------

Democratic Rally	19
Democratic Party	16
AKEL	15
EDEK	6
Independents	0

Vassos Lyssarides, leader of socialist party EDEK, was elected House President. His candidature was supported by his party and by the Democratic Party.

The sixth parliamentary elections took place on 19 May 1991. They were contested by the following political parties or party groupings - the Democratic

Rally Party in coalition with the Liberal Party, the Democratic Party, the Socialist Party EDEK, AKEL-Left-New Forces Party and two new parties the Refugee Movement (PAKOP) and the Reformed Left (ADISOK), a splinter group from AKEL.

The allocation of seats was as follows:

Party	No of Seats
Democratic Rally-Liberals	20
AKEL-Left- New Forces	18
Democratic Party	11
EDEK-Socialist Party	7
Others	0

Alexis Galanos (Democratic Party) was elected House President with the joint votes of the Democratic Party and the Democratic Rally - Liberals coalition.

The seventh parliamentary elections took place on 26 May 1996. They were held under a newly-adopted system of proportional representation according to which a party receiving 1/56 of the valid votes or (1,79%) elected a House member. The new voting system encouraged the participation of more parties in the elections. The following political parties took part in the 1996 elections - the Democratic Rally - Liberal Party coalition, the New Horizons Party, the Democratic Party, the Movement of Free Democrats (of former President Vassiliou), the Ecologist Movement, the Socialist Party EDEK, the new Left (ADISOK) and the AKEL-Left-New Forces Party.

Spyros Kyprianou was elected House President.

The allocation of seats was as follows:

Party	No of Seats
--------------	--------------------

Democratic Rally-Liberals	20
AKEL-Left- New Forces	19
Democratic Party	10
EDEK-Socialist Party	5
Free Democrats	2
Others	0

Northern Cyprus presidential election, 2010

Background

The self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus—recognized only by Turkey as an independent state and legally a part of Cyprus—seceded after the 1974 Turkish invasion, which took place after a Greece-backed coup staged to unite the island.

The Turkish government has never acknowledged the Greek Cypriot administration. More than 30,000 Turkish soldiers occupy the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

An effort towards reunification failed in March 2003, as a proposal put forward by then United Nations (UN) secretary-general Kofi Annan was rejected by then Northern Cyprus president Rauf Denktash.

In April 2004, Greek Cypriots voted against a new reunification proposal sponsored by the UN in a referendum. In May 2004, the European Union (EU) recognized Cyprus as a member of the continental alliance. Since no reunification deal was struck, only the Greek side joined the EU.

Northern Cyprus held a legislative election in February 2004, which resulted in a victory for the Republican Turkish Party (CTP) led by Mehmet Ali Talat.

The president in Northern Cyprus is regarded as the leader of the Turkish

community in the island, and acts as chief negotiator in talks with the UN and other international organizations.

Denktash, of the Democratic Party (DP), decided not to run in the 2005 presidential election. He had served since February 1975.

Talat ran as the CTP candidate, vowing to reunify the island. Final results gave him the victory with 55.8 per cent of all cast ballots.

In his acceptance speech, Talat declared: "I want to give my hand to the Greek Cypriot people and the Greek Cypriot leadership for peace, to find a solution to our problem and reunify our island." Ferdi Sabit Soyer was appointed as prime minister.

In February 2008, Dimitris Christofias—a member of the Progressive Party of the Working People (AKEL)—won the Greek Cyprus presidential run-off vote with 53.37 per cent of the vote.

One of Christofias's main campaign promises was to resume peace talks with Turkish Cyprus. In March, Christofias and Talat agreed to restart reunification talks.

On Apr. 4, Ledra Street Crossing, a checkpoint dividing Greek and Turkish Cyprus in the capital city of Nicosia, was torn down.

In September, Christofias and Talat began official talks for peace and reunification of the Cypriot island.

In January 2009, the governing CTP scheduled an early legislative election for Apr. 19.

Final results gave the Party of National Unity (UBP) a majority in the legislature, with 26 of the 50 seats at stake. UBP leader Dervis Eroglu became prime minister for the third time, having served previously from July 1985 to January 1994, and from August 1996 to January 2004.

Christofias and Talat have continued to hold talks about finding a solution to the island's division.

2010 Presidential Election

Republican Turkish Party (CTP) leader Mehmet Ali Talat has been president of Northern Cyprus since winning the 2005 election. He is running for a new term in office.

Talat is contesting the ballot with current prime minister Dervis Eroglu of the Party of National Unity (UBP).

Talat and Greek Cypriot president Dimitris Christofias have been discussing reunification of the island since September 2008. The president of Northern Cyprus is the politician in charge of peace talks with Greek Cyprus.

On Dec. 30, Eroglu vowed to resume reunification talks after the presidential ballot if he wins, declaring, "As there will be no deal before the elections, the negotiations have to continue after the elections."

On Mar. 6, during an international conference, Eroglu acknowledged that the Cyprus conflict must be resolved not only for the Island's residents but for the sake of Turkey, saying, "We are aware of the importance of Cyprus, as it is in the center of the Eastern Mediterranean, on Turkish foreign policy."

Eroglu also referred to what he called the democratic culture of Northern Cyprus, saying, "Northern Cyprus is the most democratic country in the Islamic world with its level of freedom and democratic institutions."

On Mar. 8, Talat said he is running for re-election because he "will not be satisfied" until peace talks are complete, adding, "It is my mission to create the conditions where we can live together alongside Turkey, the Greek Cypriots, Europe and the international community."

A March poll by KADEM showed Eroglu slightly ahead of Talat amongst decided voters.

On Mar. 30, Talat said that if voters elect Eroglu reunification talks will die down, declaring, "My opinion is, the process will end." Eroglu is not an advocate of

reunification, but has hinted towards an official partition of the island into two different states.

Eroglu denied accusations that he will not sit at the negotiating table with Greek Cyprus if elected president.

Also on Mar. 30, Talat referred to the importance of his winning the ballot, saying, "Before 2004, Turkish Cypriots were totally excluded from the international community. (...) We brought them closer to the world. People should now decide whether to go back, or move towards the world."

Voting took place on Apr. 18. Final results gave Eroglu the victory with 50.38 per cent of the vote, followed by Talat with 42.85 per cent.

Eroglu vowed to press forward with negotiations, adding, "If an agreement merely dependent on the Turkish Cypriot side, a solution would have been found long time ago. The Greek Cypriot side should also continue to negotiations with the same understanding and intention. (...) The Cyprus dispute can not be left unresolved forever. It's time to find peace. No one should expect me to leave the negotiating table. We will be at the negotiating table for an agreement that will continue the existence of our people in this land with honour."

Political

Players

President:	Mehmet	Ali	Talat	-	CTP
Prime	minister:	Dervis	Eroglu	-	UBP

The president is elected to a five-year term by popular vote.

Legislative Branch: The *Temsilciler Meclisi* (House of Representatives) has 50 members, elected to five-year terms by proportional representation.

Results of Last Election:

President - Apr. 18, 2010

	Vote%
Dervis Eroglu - Party of National Unity (UBP)	50.38%
Mehmet Ali Talat - Republican Turkish Party (CTP)	42.85%
Tahsin Ertugruloglu - Independent	3.81%
Zeki Besiktepli - Independent	1.61%
Mustafa Kemal Tumkan - Independent	0.79%
Arif Salih Kirdag- Independent	0.43%
Ayhan Kaymak - Independent	0.14%

House of Representatives - Apr. 19, 2009

	Vote%	Seats
Party of National Unity (UBP)	44.07%	26
Republican Turkish Party (CTP)	29.15%	15
Democratic Party (DP)	10.65%	5
Communal Democracy Party (TDP)	6.87%	2
Freedom and Reform Party (ORP)	6.20%	2
United Cyprus Party (BKP)	2.42%	--
Politics for the People Party (HISP)	0.50%	--
Independents	0.14	3

The two main candidates were the current President Mehmet Ali Talat from the Republican Turkish Party (Turkish: *Cumhuriyetçi Türk Partisi*, CTP) and the incumbent Prime Minister Derviş Eroğlu from the National Unity Party (*Ulusal Birlik Partisi*, UBP). The parliamentary election the previous year had been narrowly won by the UBP.

Talat supported the negotiations for a new plan to reunify the island (and had also been in favour of the Annan Plan for Cyprus) whereas his opponent supports a "two-state solution".

The other five candidates (all of them independent) were:

- Mustafa Kemal Tümkan
- Arif Salih Kirdag
- Zeki Beşiktepeli
- Ayhan Kaymak
- Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu

Election

Turnout was 70%. The count on election night proceeded as follows:

- 20% of the vote counted: Eroğlu at 48.9%, Talat at 43.7%
- 32% of the vote counted: Eroğlu at 48.9%, Talat at 43.3%
- 40% of the vote counted: Eroğlu at 49.2%, Talat at 43.3%
- 48% of the vote counted: Eroğlu at 49.6%, Talat at 43.1%
- 60% of the vote counted: Eroğlu at 49.7%, Talat at 43.0%
- 96% of the vote counted: Eroğlu at 50.3%, Talat at 42.8%

Results

According to final results, Derviş Eroğlu got over 50% of the votes in the first round, meaning a runoff was not necessary.

Summary of the 18 April 2010 Northern Cyprus presidential election

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
------------------	--------------	--------------	----------

Derviş Eroğlu	National Unity Party (UBP)	61,491	50.38
Mehmet Ali Talat	Republican Turkish Party	52,302	42.85
Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu	Independent	4,648	3.81
Zeki Beşiktepeli	Independent	1,986	1.61
Mustafa Kemal Tümkan	Independent	964	0.79
Arif Salih Kırdag	Independent	521	0.43
Ayhan Kaymak	Independent	168	0.14
Total (turnout 76.37%)		125,294	100
Source: mahkemeler.net (XLS-file)			

Aftermath

Derviş Eroğlu of the right-wing National Unity Party (UBP) said that he wanted to continue negotiation on reunification of Cyprus: "My dream for a solution to the Cyprus problem continues. We will be at the negotiating table for an agreement that will continue the existence of our people in this land with honour."

The unrecognized Turkish Republic of North Cyprus (TRNC) held a presidential election on April 25, 2010, at the conclusion of the five-year term. In North Cyprus, the President is usually the more powerful figure and is the dominant position in politics. The incumbent President, Mehmet Ali Talat was first elected in 2005.

Political debates in North Cyprus obviously revolve very much around the question of reunification with Cyprus. The National Unity Party (UBP), which has dominated the TRNC's political life for most of its existence, opposes reunification and supports a two-state solution. The main opposition, the Republican Turkish Party (CTP) on the left favours reunification. The UBP and its longtime leader, former President Rauf Denktaş (in power 1975-2005), were quasi-omnipotent in Northern Cypriot politics until Cyprus' accession to the EU and the continued marginalization of the TRNC led to the victory of the CTP in the 2003 and 2005 legislative elections and Mehmet Ali Talat's election as President in 2005 following Denktaş's retirement. However, the lack of progress on the reunification issue since the defeat of the 2004 Annan Plan have probably led to a lower appetite for reunification within the population, and the UBP led by Derviş Eroğlu won the 2009 legislative elections and Eroğlu became Prime Minister.

Prime Minister Derviş Eroğlu was the UBP's candidate, and received the support of the Democratic Party, which holds 5 seats in the TRNC's Assembly. Incumbent President Mehmet Ali Talat ran for re-election with the support of the CTP.

Derviş	Eroğlu	(UBP)	50.38%
Mehmet	Ali Talat	(CTP)	42.85%
Tahsin	Ertuğruloğlu	(Ind)	3.81%
Zeki	Beşiktepelı	(Ind)	1.61%
Mustafa	Kemal	Tümkan (Ind)	0.79%

Arif	Salih	Kırdağ (Ind)	0.43%
Ayhan Kaymak (Ind)	0.14%		

Eroğlu's victory marks the end of CTP power in the TRNC, an era which lasted from around 2003 or 2005 until 2009 or 2010. The UBP now controls all levers of power, the only question now being the status of reunification talks. Eroğlu's victory is unlikely to spell a total end to these talks, but they may slow down or be stalled by the TRNC's more independent attitude. It will be interesting to see how the likely slowdown of reunification talks will affect politics in Cyprus, where incumbent pro-reunification Communist President Dimitris Christofias was elected in 2008 in a campaign where the issue played a large role and led to the first-round defeat of hardline anti-reunification incumbent Tassos Papadopoulos. Christofias and Talat, both leftists with trade union history, were on good terms, but it remains to be seen if this peaceful attitude can continue in relations between the two warring factions on the island.