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16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

CyprusScene 18th March review from the TRNC.

Hello, my friends, my name is Chris Elliott and I would like to welcome you to our latest CyprusScene review from Northern Cyprus and apologise that we were unable to bring you our e-newspaper last week.

We have been very busy not only publishing news and reviews but also making it and we completed and published a video interview with The British Residents' Society and Stephen Day about the progress of the UK Government lobbying campaign calling for recognition of the TRNC which has attracted high viewings.

It seems I was mentioned in the recent Cyprus Today newspaper in which Stephen Day's "Good or Bad" article about the BRS sponsored UK lobbying campaign said "The TRNC Media have given great support, including Cyprus Today and the ever-active Chris Elliott with his regular supportive podcasts."

Strange our media name CyprusScene was not mentioned but then we know who we are.

So, what else has been happening, well following on from the TRNC mourning period for their citizens

lost in the Turkey earthquake we have seen both social and other events starting again and the publication of the relevant news and reviews.

Such has been the shift in incoming contributions we have decided to shift back to a midweek publication so we capture both weekend and early week contributions for the enjoyment of our readers.

TRNC President Ersin Tatar and Foreign Minister Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu, have been busy with many statements being made and in particular at the recent Extraordinary Summit of the Organisation of Turkic States and the ongoing complaints and criticism by the so called Republic of Cyprus so I guess the TRNC is making good progress towards recognition and equal status.

It's good to see that social events are starting again and where we can be sharing news of events to take place and reviews of those held.

Having been waiting for my TRNC Residency application to be approved, I took the time to visit the Ministry of Interior and knocked on a few doors and received big smiles and was led to an office where a lovely young lady went and retrieved my file made a couple of



phone calls and said your application is approved and with permit in hand was able to leave the TRNC and went shopping in the south for a few archery items.

I am still managing to make a little time for myself through my archery hobby and this coming weekend I will be meeting with the Lambusa Archers on Saturday for a training session and then on Sunday we will be taking part in archery competition which for me, will be the first ever and I will be publishing a review of that event.

For those local readers who would like to contribute news and reviews

for publication in our website, e-newspaper, social media and podcasts do please send it early so we have time include this in our midweek publications.

Well, we have now come to the end of another week and thank you for your interest and support and will be back again next week with more news and reviews for your interest and enjoyment.

So, thank you again my friends and I wish you a safe and happy week and do please click to like our work and perhaps make a donation to Buy Me A Coffee.

Goodbye.

Thank you for your support and if you would like to show your appreciating do BUY me a COFFEE

<https://www.buymeacoffee.com/chrismycypZ>



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Click here to watch the CyprusScene video

<https://youtu.be/ifwEjpiwj0o>

16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Tatar: Our people Deserve Independence, Freedom and Dignity



President Tatar addressed the 26th Eurasian Economic Summit organized by the Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation in İstanbul on 14th March 2023. The Summit, which was inaugurated the previous evening and will continue with sessions on various topics, was attended by presidents, diplomats,

opinion leaders and civil society representatives from 44 countries.

In his speech, President Tatar pointed out that he is different from the other speakers, noting that as the president of an unrecognized country, whose people have been subjected to inhuman isolation and restrictions he had limited or no

access to international organizations and therefore; highly appreciated the value of this opportunity provided by the OTS summit.

President Tatar stressed, “The Turkish Cypriot people deserve to live in their own independent State, in freedom and dignity”.

He also underlined that as contemporary and respected members of the international community, the support to be given to the struggle of the Turkish Cypriot people is of critical importance. President Tatar expressed his gratitude to the members of the Marmara Foundation, who have been organising this summit for 26

years, and pointed out that this meeting provided an opportunity for those whose voice could not be heard”.

The President emphasised that there is no common ground between the two Sides which is needed in order to start new formal negotiations that is based on the sovereign equality and equal international status of the Turkish Cypriot People, adding: “I have always advocated that there is a need for the two Sides to have dialogue and cooperation that will serve sustainable peace and stability in Cyprus and the region.”

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office

FM Ertuğruloğlu Attended the OTS Meeting in Ankara

TRNC Foreign Minister, Tahsin, Ertuğruloğlu, went to Ankara to attend the Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) and the Extraordinary Summit of the OTS hosted by the Republic of Türkiye.

Minister Ertuğruloğlu was guest of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, and attended the Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers and the Extraordinary Summit of the OTS with the theme of ‘Disaster-Emergency Management and Humanitarian Assistance’ on 16 March 2023.

Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Hungary, Turkmenistan, and the TRNC also



attended the Council of Foreign Ministers Meeting of the OTS.

The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus was admitted to the OTS as an Observer Member State with its constitutional name at the

9th OTS Summit Meeting held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan on 11th November 2022.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office



16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Tatar addressed the Extraordinary Summit of the Organisation of Turkic States



President Ersin Tatar addresses the Extraordinary Summit of the Organisation of Turkic States in Ankara

“I believe that the call for the formal recognition of the TRNC and for the end of the inhuman isolation imposed on Turkish Cypriot People is of great importance for the member states of the Organisation of Turkic States.”

“The TRNC is the representative and indomitable guardian of the Turkish presence in the eastern Mediterranean and the defender of the rights and interests of the Turkic world.”

“They can come and sit at the negotiating table to find a settlement to the Cyprus issue once our inherent rights and our inherent equal rights are accepted.”

“Turkish Cypriot struggle for existence is against those who ignore the Turkish presence on the island of Cyprus.

President Ersin Tatar has called for “concrete steps” to be taken by member states of the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) with regards to the formal recognition of the TRNC and putting an end to the inhuman

isolation of the Turkish Cypriot People.

The President made the call during his address at the Extraordinary Summit of the OTS, being held at the Presidential Complex in Ankara. President Tatar said: “I believe that together we will overcome the inhuman isolation imposed on my people, and I expect and hope that concrete steps will be taken in this direction.” President Tatar, who participated in the summit on the invitation of the Republic of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, emphasised that the TRNC is the “representative and indomitable guardian of the Turkish presence in the eastern Mediterranean”, and is protecting the “rights and interests of the Turkish world” in the region.

Held under the theme of “Humanitarian Aid”, the meeting was held for the head of states between 12.00pm to 2pm local time. The Extraordinary Summit of the Organisation of Turkic States, of which the TRNC is an observer member, was held upon the request of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Summit was attended by President of the Republic of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Azerbaijan İlham Aliyev, President of Kazakhstan Kasım Cömert Tokayev, President of

Kyrgyzstan Sadir Caparov. President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Ersin Tatar, Prime Minister of Hungary Viktor Orbán and the National Leader of the Turkmen People and the Chairman of the People’s Council of Turkmenistan Gurbangulu Berdimuhamedov.

The summit commenced with the opening address of President Erdoğan, who made particular reference to the participation of President Ersin Tatar at the Extra Ordinary Summit of the OTS.

Erdoğan: “Our family council has become stronger with the joining of the TRNC”

During his address, President Erdoğan made specific reference to the participation of President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Ersin Tatar at the Extra Ordinary Meeting of the OTS and stated: “Our family council has become stronger with the participation of the TRNC. We have embodied our support for the Turkish Cypriot people. We will continue our struggle for the recognition of the TRNC and the removal of the isolations that the Turkish Cypriot people have been subjected to.”

Following the speech by President Erdoğan, a video of the aid activities of OTS member states and observers was screened, and a minute’s silence was observed for those who lost their lives in the recent devastating earthquakes in Türkiye. This was followed by speeches by head of states who attended the summit, the President of the White Beards Council Binali Yıldırım and the OTS Secretary General and Kyrgyzstan’s Ambassador to Ankara Kubanicbek Ömuraliyev.

President Tatar: “The Republic of Türkiye is a great state that shall heal its wounds at the earliest possible time.”

President Ersin Tatar commenced his address by greeting the head of states on behalf of the TRNC and expressing his pleasure for being at the summit with his compatriots. President Tatar shared his sadness about the earthquake disaster that occurred in Türkiye on February 6, and said that right after the earthquake, the TRNC, like other countries, dispatched emergency units and expert personnel to the region as quickly as possible, and that all people living in the TRNC also showed unprecedented unity and sent aid voluntarily to the region. President Tatar stated that dozens of states, including OTS member states, rushed to the aid of Türkiye at her time of need, which “is an indicator of just how strong the relations are between Türkiye and the international arena”.

“There is no doubt that we will do whatever it takes and shall stand in solidarity with Türkiye”

President Tatar continued: “Unfortunately, we lost tens of thousands of our compatriots in the disaster of the century. In the presence of the President [Erdoğan], I reiterate my condolences to the great Turkish Nation and a speedy recovery due to the losses suffered as a result of the earthquakes. May those who lost their lives rest in eternal peace and I wish for patience and strength to the bereaved families who lost their loved ones. I wish

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continued ... Ersin Tatar address to the Organisation of Turkic States

those who were injured a speedy recovery.”

President Tatar added: “As the TRNC, we also lost people and we are in deep sorrow and mourning for the tens of thousands of lives lost here as well as the loss of lives of two student Volleyball teams we have called our Champion Angels, of the Gazimağusa Türk Maarif College, their teachers and family members, who were visiting Adiyaman, to participate in a tournament. Furthermore, we also lost other people and relatives of our citizens who were residing in the areas affected by the earthquakes. We share the great pain and sadness. I wish God’s mercy once again for all those who died and reiterate my sincere condolences to everybody.”

Expressing that the Republic of Türkiye is a “great and powerful state”, President Tatar said: “The Republic of Türkiye is a great state that can heal its wounds as soon as possible. In these efforts, I have no doubt that we, as the TRNC, and countries that make up the Organisation of Turkic States, will mobilise all our means and do whatever we can in solidarity with the Republic of Türkiye.”

The President added that “the organisation of this summit is both important for us in terms of timing and enhancing our solidarity, because it is being held at a time when there are intense ongoing efforts to heal the deep wounds of the earthquake disaster”.

“The catastrophic earthquakes have reminded us that we should always be prepared for natural disasters”

Noting that the February 6 earthquakes have “reminded us on the need to be prepared against natural disasters at all times”, President Tatar emphasised the “importance of determining what should be carried out in order to minimise the damage and losses stemming from an earthquake, by benefitting from science and institutional memory”.

President Tatar said: “In this period, when we once again realise the importance of the survival of our people, the defence of our country and the struggle against different types of natural disasters, we appreciate that it is vital to closely follow technology and the world in the mission of saving lives, providing effective, adequate, educated and



conscious service. The importance on the need to have a fast and systematic working mechanism that is prepared and active for every eventuality has emerged once again.”

Expressing his belief that the Turkic world will establish a “closer relationship through cooperation in the field of disaster and emergency management”, President Tatar pointed out that the TRNC is excluded from similar humanitarian initiatives under the umbrella of the United Nations and the European Union due to unfair political grounds. He emphasised that he is honoured to be representing the TRNC at the Organisation of Turkic States.

President Tatar stated his wish for the initiative taken at the Extraordinary Summit of the OTS to yield positive and tangible results, and for coordinated and effective cooperation against possible disasters in the Turkic geography to be realised, and for the Turkic peoples, who have deep historical and cultural ties, to stand by their cognates in difficult times.

Source:

**PRESIDENCY OF THE
TURKISH REPUBLIC OF
NORTHERN CYPRUS**



16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

President Ersin Tatar statements following meetings with Nava and DiCarlo



“If a meeting is to take place between the Greek Cypriot leader Christodoulides and the UN Secretary-General Guterres, then I will also request to meet with Guterres”.

“It is unfair to Turkish Cypriots that Mr. Christodoulides is going to meet with the head of states of EU member states”.

“All these create inequality, and this inequality is the biggest obstacle to the solution of the Cyprus problem”.

President Ersin Tatar held separate meetings with Mario Nava, the Director General for Structural Reform Support at the European Commission, and Rosemary DiCarlo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs.

Following the meetings, President Tatar held a press conference where he stated that he discussed many issues with Mario Nava that included the permission of TRNC authorities with regards to Koruçam and the EU financial assistance and the UN Development Programme which was used to construct the Cooperation Centre that is to be inaugurated on March 18, 2023. President Tatar stated that he put forward his discomfort and

disappointment that no official of the TRNC had been invited to take part in the opening ceremony.

Stating that the Supreme Coordination Board had recently made an assessment on this development, President Tatar added that the matter was also brought to the agenda of the Council of Ministers by the Prime Minister. President Tatar said that the Prime Minister, Ünal Üstel, had sent a letter to the EU condemning this situation which disregarded the TRNC.

“I clearly explained the sensitivities of the matter to Mr. Nava in our meeting today,” President Tatar said. “Mr. Nava has confirmed to us that the relevant mayor and an MP has been invited to the opening.”

President Tatar said: “It is not possible for us to ignore the existence of the TRNC and its laws and to surrender our authority to the initiative of others. The TRNC has its own official bodies of authority. We conveyed this reality and our discomfort of what has taken place to Mr. Nava. There are approvals and certain procedures that are followed, in accordance with our laws, for such inaugurations and openings. We conveyed these issues and, I believe, they have shown

understanding to this matter.”

Stating that the TRNC supports and attaches importance to cooperation in committees established on different issues such as irregular migration, health, economy, criminal matters and earthquakes, President Tatar emphasised that the authorities of the TRNC should be taken into consideration in these matters.

Natural Resources Issue

Stating that they discussed with Mr. Nava the issue of natural resources around the island, President Tatar said: “It is accepted by the international community that the natural resources of the island of Cyprus belong both to Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots. I conveyed the view to Mr. Nava, that if serious steps are going to be taken in the future, the issue of natural resources should be taken up in committees to be formed with the support of Türkiye and that TRNC authorities should be present in these committees.”

Meeting with DiCarlo

In reference to his meeting with Rosemary DiCarlo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and Peacebuilding, President Tatar stated: “Ms. DiCarlo extended the regards of the UN Secretary-General and expressed her condolences with regards to the loss of life in the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye last month, which also resulted in the death of 49 TRNC citizens including the children of the volleyball teams of the Türk Maarif College of Gazimağusa, their coaches and parents.”

With regards to the Cyprus issue,

President Tatar stated that “Ms. DiCarlo explained to us that she is conducting research as to whether it is possible to start a new negotiations process, following the election of a new Greek Cypriot leader”.

President Tatar said: “We explained to Ms. DiCarlo the past, realities and essence of the Cyprus issue, and the positive dialogue and technical committee work at the point we are in. However, we conveyed to her in detail that our new policy, which we first put forward at the 5+UN informal meeting held in Geneva in April 2021, is valid and that we can enter into formal negotiations with the acknowledgement of our sovereign equality and equal international status, which is our inherent right.”

We will never accept EU involvement in Cyprus issue.

President Tatar stated that the EU has taken a biased position against Turkish Cypriots with regards to the Cyprus issue, adding: “The EU has taken a position that a settlement in Cyprus, for them, is about how to integrate Turkish Cypriots into the usurped ‘Republic of Cyprus’ within the EU. We will never accept this. We will never accept the EU becoming part of the Cyprus issue. We explained our position on this issue to Ms. DiCarlo.”

The President underlined the need for the UN to treat the two Sides in Cyprus with equality, adding: “If a meeting takes place between the UN Secretary-General Guterres and Mr. Christodoulides in the future, then I will also request a meeting

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continued President Ersin Tatar - Nava and DiCarlo statements

with the Secretary-General. It is great injustice and unfair that Mr. Christodoulides will meet the heads of state of other EU member states at our expense. This situation and lack of equal treatment is precisely what has caused inequality between the two Sides, and this political and economic equilibrium between the two Sides needs to be established. The current situation of ignoring the Turkish Cypriot People, who are one of the equal co-owners of this island with the

same rights as the Greek Cypriot People, is unfair and both sides not being treated equally is the root cause and obstacle which prevents a solution from being reached in the Cyprus issue."

Cyprus issue also has a regional dimension to it

Stating that the Cyprus issue "also has a regional dimension" to it, President Tatar said it is important to have the approval of Türkiye as one of the Guarantor

powers, which he said is "important for the continuation of stability and peace in the eastern Mediterranean". The President reiterated that the TRNC will "never accept the EU becoming involved in the Cyprus issue, which I have clearly conveyed to both Mr. Nava and Ms. DiCarlo today".

When questioned by the press as to "why the UN is insisting on using collapsed plans, and how this is being conveyed to Turkish

Cypriot officials", President Tatar said that the UN General Secretariat is different and that they are trying to maintain equality between the two Sides, but that the main problem is the UN Security Council resolutions that refer to a bizonal, bicomunal federation.

Source: PRESIDENCY OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

BRS update CyprusScene on the UK Government Lobbying campaign

Hello, my name is Chris Elliott and I am pleased to welcome back to CyprusScene, BRS President Peter Wilkins and Hakan Redif together with Stephen Day who was instrumental in suggesting that the British Residents' Society who were representing their British Citizens members in Northern Cyprus were perhaps in an ideal position to start a Lobbying Campaign through which all registered British Citizens could request the British Government change it's policy of rejecting the equal rights of those traveling to and from or living in the TRNC.

To watch and listen to this video please click link shown.

For those readers who would like to learn more of this UK lobbying campaign, please click the link shown to watch the previous video



Click here <https://youtu.be/wJAdreHAsso>



Click here https://youtu.be/veB6zoiKL_o

16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Ersin Tatar: We oppose the involvement of the EU on the Cyprus issue



President Ersin Tatar met UN Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus Colin Stewart

“We completely oppose the involvement of the EU on the Cyprus issue”

President Ersin Tatar received the UN Special Representative and Head of the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus Colin Stewart, prior to the planned visit of the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Rosemary DiCarlo next week.

The meeting, which was also attended by Special Representative of the President, M. Ergün Olgun, and members of the negotiating team, lasted about an hour.

Holding a press conference following the meeting, President Tatar stated: “We reiterated our position that formal negotiations could be started after the sovereign equality and equal international status of the Turkish Cypriot People is reaffirmed because this is our inherent right. Our position is unequivocal and clear. At this present time, the current circumstances are not palatable to start new negotiations. Our new policy is fully supported by Guarantor and Motherland Türkiye.”

President Tatar stated that he is pleased with the bilateral technical committees established jointly between the two Sides, to facilitate daily life and that the continuity of these committees should be secured.

President Tatar added: “We have put forward our new policy in the meetings we have held for the past two years, which is fully supported by the Republic of Türkiye. Mr. Stewart is also putting a lot of effort into this issue, and I thank him and his team for their efforts. Similar issues will of course come up again during the visit of Ms. DiCarlo next week.”

President Tatar stated that he will be heading to Ankara on the evening of March 15 with the invitation by the Republic of Türkiye President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan to attend the summit of the Organisation of Turkic States on March 16 and therefore no discussions were held with Mr. Stewart with regards to having a tripartite meeting with the Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Christodoulides and Ms. DiCarlo at this time.

“Nobody can force us to start formal negotiations,” the President said. “Such a situation cannot and will not happen. We will stand by what we have said in order to help create certain conditions through diplomacy.”

Pointing out that the struggle of the TRNC is carried out together with Motherland Türkiye, President Tatar emphasised that there are two separate States in Cyprus which are the realities of the island that should be accepted. “Turkish Cypriot People were expelled by force of arms from the Partnership state apparatus of the Republic of Cyprus,” the President said, adding: “The Greek Cypriot Side rejected many plans and attempts to reach an equality-based settlement over many decades. The Turkish Cypriot People have effectively been governing themselves as a State, and we resisted all the attempts to make Cyprus a Hellenic island. The Turkish Cypriot People have effectively been governing themselves and established their own State which has been in existence for the past 60 years.”

President Tatar stated that during the meeting with Mr. Stewart, he explained that the Turkish Cypriot People do not accept the mentality that the ‘Republic of Cyprus’ “is the sole sovereign rulers of the island of Cyprus, nor that it is competent to legitimately represent the whole island or the Turkish Cypriot People”. He added: “In Cyprus, there are two Sides and they each have their own separate administrations who have taken and enacted numerous decisions over very many years”.

Stating that he has proposed for the two Sides to “cooperate with regards to earthquake issues,” the President said: “We have declared that we are open to cooperating with the Greek Cypriot Administration on matters related to a probable earthquake. We see such a cooperation on earthquake issues as benefitting both Sides, and we will be raising this in our meeting with Ms. DiCarlo.”

“Nobody outside the two Sides, three Guarantor powers, and the UN can be involved in the Cyprus issue”

When asked about Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Christodoulides’s efforts to involve the EU in the process, President Tatar stated: “We completely oppose further involvement of the EU on the Cyprus issue. This is because Greece and South Cyprus are both member states of the bloc, who are trying to involve the EU in the Cyprus issue.”

President Tatar stated that no third party, except the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot Sides, and Guarantors Türkiye, Greece and the UK, and the UN, can sit at the table with regards to the Cyprus issue. He said the EU has “no place” as a side.

President Tatar said that Christodoulides’s effort to involve the EU, which is on the side of the Greek Cypriots, is “deliberate”, but that the Turkish Cypriot side shall

never allow it and stated that he conveyed this to Mr. Stewart.

Upon being asked a question with regards to fresh news reports in South Cyprus over Greek Cypriot militarisation, President Tatar said: “We put forward six cooperation proposals in July of last year, with regards to how the two Sides can cooperate on hydrocarbons in the eastern Mediterranean, sharing fresh water piped 80km undersea from Türkiye to our Geçitköy dam, how we can connect our electricity grids through a feasible interconnection system via Türkiye to the EU, how we can work on transition to green energy, clearing the entire island of Cyprus from land-mines and how we can work together to tackle the issue of irregular migration. Whilst we are making these cooperation proposals, it is saddening to see that the Greek Cypriot Side is working to bolster its military capacity, which is also dangerous with regards to peace and stability in the region. The Republic of Türkiye is obliged to provide security to the Turkish Cypriot People.”

Noting that the armament of the Greek Cypriot Side and escalation of tension in the eastern Mediterranean does not benefit anyone, President Tatar stated: “We desire peace, prosperity, development, and cooperation, in the interests of the two Peoples in Cyprus. I reiterate our six cooperation proposals we conveyed to the Greek Cypriot Side in July 2022 via the UN Secretary-General. This island does not only belong to the Greek Cypriot Administration. There are two founding partners on this island. We have as much say as they do in the resources both on and around the island. The whole world knows this,” he said.

Source:

PRESIDENCY OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Will we collaborate with them?

Readers mail..

By Prof. Dr. Ata Atun...

Leaders of the Greek Cypriot Administration of Southern Cyprus in the past and present have committed the same political error. They both assert that they wish to live in harmony and create a “so-called” single state with the Turkish Cypriots, and they are unafraid to take whatever measure to deny them the right to life.

The hatred that Greek Cypriots have displayed towards Turkish Cypriots and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, TRNC, is one of the two political-related incidents that occurred last week.

They are unaware that their outrageous efforts and hostilities to keep the TRNC from participating in international political contexts and to disregard its existence are eroding the bonds between the island’s Turkish and Greek Cypriot residents and escalating their animosity.

They will eventually realize that

they have destroyed the peace that was going to be established on the island by adopting these hostile attitudes and ignoring them, and that they will not be able to find a single Turkish Cypriot to reach out to them in a friendly manner, to greet them with a smile, and to offer them assistance.

The 146th Inter-Parliamentary Union Meeting was held in Bahrain, and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) flag was flown during the meeting. Annita Dimitriu, the Speaker of the Assembly of the Greek Cypriot Administration of Southern Cyprus, requested that the flag be taken down and made a demeaning statement about the TRNC in a letter to the Speaker of the Bahraini House of Representatives.

The usage of the TRNC flag at a special Organization of Turkic States meeting in Ankara was condemned by Southern Cyprus, another member of the EU, in an unpleasant political move.



Will we collaborate with them?

Even in these two incidents, the question of “How will we partner and live together with these Greeks who did their best to oppress us and impose an inhumane embargo on us for years,” which is in addition to the past inhumane treatment of the Turkish Cypriots, crossed the minds of the Turkish Cypriots.

The President of TRNC Ersin Tatar feels that the EU, UN, and US views that presume only the Greek Cypriots have the right to discuss the Cyprus issue are no longer acceptable. He is committed to clarify that there are Turkish Cypriots on the island of Cyprus

and that they have the right to speak about the Cyprus issue in every situation and location.

He no longer intends to put up with the Turkish Cypriots’ lack of speaking rights about the Cyprus problem and the reality that only Greek Cypriots have had that privilege for years.

The Turkish Cypriot people are an integral part of the Turkish world, as stated in the Organization of Turkic States Summit Statement. Despite all of the Greek Cypriots’ protests, it is guaranteed that the future will not be like the past...

Fly Kibris Airlines Introduced in the TRNC



The introduction of Fly Kibris Airlines (Fly KHY) was held at Ercan Airport’s new terminal building. Fly KHY’s Airbus A 320 aircraft will make its first scheduled flight from Istanbul Airport to Ercan Airport on Thursday, April 16, with 174 passengers.

At first, Fly KHY will organize 2 daily reciprocal flights to Istanbul and 1 daily reciprocal flight to

Ankara and Izmir. It was also announced that Fly Kibris Airlines is planning charter flights to Northern Cyprus from Erbil, Tehran, Pristina, Amman and Baku as of May 21.

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office

16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Foreign Minister Ertuğruloğlu: “TRNC will be admitted as a member”



TRNC Foreign Minister Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu, responding to the criticisms in the Greek Cypriot press regarding the ‘TRNC becoming an observer member of the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS)’ said: “This membership has been realised, it will continue and the day will come when it will turn into full membership”.

Minister Ertuğruloğlu, who attended the Extraordinary Summit of the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) hosted by the Republic of Türkiye, made a statement to the AA correspondent regarding the participation of the TRNC in the Extraordinary Summit of the OTS and said that their observer

membership in the organisation with its constitutional name and flag is an extremely important and historic event.

Reminding that he attended the Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OTS, Ertuğruloğlu stated that the efforts of those who do not accept the observer membership ‘particularly the Greek Cypriot side’ to have it terminated will fail.

Referring to the news released in the Greek Cypriot press after the TRNC’s participation in the summit with its flag, Ertuğruloğlu said that this was not surprising because the Greek Cypriots are intolerant of the presence of the Turkish Cypriots.

Emphasising that the Greek Cypriots have been spoiled by the world at

large, the Minister noted that the Greek Cypriot side never wanted to accept the fact that the Turkish Cypriots are a people having an equal state in the island of Cyprus.

Stating that the European Union admitted the Greek Cypriot side to the EU unilaterally in violation of the membership criteria and the Greek Cypriot side has been using this membership in different ways against the TRNC, Minister Ertuğruloğlu added that the Greek Cypriots consider the TRNC becoming an observer member of the Organisation of Turkic States as a step towards recognition.

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office

President Tatar: “TRNC’s attendance at OTS Summit is very meaningful”

President Ersin Tatar made a statement to the Anadolu News Agency (AA) correspondent regarding the Extraordinary summit of leaders of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS) and said that attending the summit was an important milestone in Turkish Cypriots’ struggle for freedom and independence.

“Participating in such an international organization with our constitutional name, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, for the first time together with other presidents, delivering a

speech, having our photos taken in front of our flags with other presidents is very meaningful and valuable for us” President Tatar added.

Addressing the summit, Tatar called on OTC members to help TRNC take the place it deserves in the international community and urged them to take concrete steps against the isolation of the Turkish Cypriot people.

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office



TRNC represented at the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers Meeting



The 49th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was held in Nouakchott, the capital of Mauritania, on 16-17 March 2023.

The TRNC was represented at the meeting by Mustafa Kemal Beyazbayram, Director of OIC Relations of the TRNC Ministry

of Foreign Affairs. Beyazbayram also held various contacts within the scope of the meeting.

Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is an observer member of the OIC under the title “Turkish Cypriot State” as of 2004 and regularly participates in the meetings of the Organisation.

16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

The Tatlisu Belediye Herb and Culture Festival



By Heidi Trautmann....

This Sunday, the 19th March 2023 the well-known Herb and Culture Festival took place after it had been postponed due to the earthquake in Turkey and now the Belediye decided to carry it through wishing to give support to the victims.

Tatlisu is a charming mountain village with an important historical background. The municipality and its mayor are known to support culture and the arts.

The festival was opened opposite the Belediye building in the open at 10.00 am in the presence of many honourable guests who were then led across the festival ground with many stands displaying home-made delicacies and handicrafts. I bought a bottle of Tatlisu Olive Oil. The first station was the exhibition of last year's art and culture event, a workshop 'Paper Oven Cooking on the Sea' organised by Ipek Denizli Art Studio, curated by Bedia Kale and in cooperation with the Tatlisu Municipality and the ceramic artist Serdar Aslan. A workshop of several days down by the sea creating ceramic objects using ancient primitive methods, in memory of the island's history. The objects were today again displayed and explained by Ipek Denizli.

Two of the artists, Roya Alagheband and Omid Kalantar who had participated in that workshop have invited me to come with them. I enjoyed seeing the objects in natura.

Along one of the village streets was an exhibition of paintings remembering an International Painting Workshop in Tatlisu some years ago also organised by the artists Ipek Denizli and Arif Albayrak; I heard it mention that the paintings will have a home in one of the buildings the Belediye had determined as a museum.

It was a lovely Sunday morning strolling through this charming village, meeting many friends among the artisans and the audience, among them Mustafa Tozaki, who sat in front of the Municipality with his sketch block drawing people in his well-known caricature style.

I hope the clouds we saw coming fast over the mountains did not affect the Festival and the many activities during the rest of the day. On the way home we enjoyed our Turkish pancakes filled with cheese and spinach.

To see more of my pictures please go to my Facebook page as under.

Click here <https://www.facebook.com/heidi.trautmann.1>



16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Hikmet's Wonderland in 2023

By Heidi Trautmann....

With a nostalgic feeling, I drove up to Hikmet's garden exhibition as I have done all the years before because spring does not really begin without having visited his wonderland. And so did all his friends and fans and we stood together in this paradise and exchanged news while we had the feeling that here, in this pure nature refuge, nothing has changed and hopefully nothing will ever change. I greeted the one or other cactus sculpture, also grandpa and grandma in front of his door, I went around the house and got charmed again by the wild offer of colours, the colours of spring.

The enchanted garden will be open for visits until April 09, daily from 10.00 – 17.00 hrs. Do not miss it, you might not see young Mr. Spring at all this year because he is busy in Hikmet's wonderland. With his invitation to honour spring, Hikmet Uucam at the same time asks us to remember those who have left the garden of life, the victims of the earthquake, and also very recently his brother. Yes, Hikmet, we shall do that. May they rest in peace.

I attach here my texts of the last years because every year there was something worth remembering.

The last time I visited Hikmet's garden was in 2019, the sun was shining and his guests, friends, artists, also tourists who had heard about him, were sitting on the wide terrace above Lapta with a view onto the blue sea and the wide sky of spring with a glass of wine in their hands. Click here

Now, in mid-March 2022, after two years of the pandemic it was pretty cold today, with no sunshine and people were wearing their winter coats. Miss Spring, where are you, I asked and she answered: "the sun has taken leave to try to put some sense into Mr. Putin's head". Oh my, that may take longer.

Nevertheless, spring has definitely arrived, at least in Hikmet's garden with all might, up in the hills of Lapta, with all its lovely colourful messengers. Hikmet told me proudly that he found some specimens of spring flowers, which were believed extinct, but he took them home and planted them in his garden to give them a new future.

I greeted the old cacti in his garden, relatives of which I have on my balcony, one of them, I think must be at least 40 years old, if I am not mistaken.

But you also meet old friends at his yearly garden exhibition, regulars, habitués, who come to experience spring in a concentrated form, who come to buy seeds and baby cacti from him.

Again, Hikmet had prepared a special exhibition in his studio house, small nature clay pendants on a leather cord – hung up on a dry branch in his studio, and we all gathered around it to pick our favourites, I bought one to add to my collection. Yes, we should always be aware of the importance of our nature, without a thriving nature we would die.

To see more pictures please visit my Facebook page on the link below.



Click here <https://www.facebook.com/heidi.trautmann.1>

16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Spring Concert for the Elderly on 20th March, 2023



By Heidi Trautmann....

Held at the Spectrum Hall of the Girne American University.

Girne Municipality invited the Turkish Classic Music Ensemble under the baton of Ihsan Gürel to bring a concert for the Elderly to celebrate spring together, the month of rebirth and love.

And they came, whole families came and brought their parents and grandparents, but also some young people, who love classic Turkish music. There were musicians playing old classical instruments and a mixed choir with 20 members, and a narrator who came forward to introduce each following piece and he narrated the story of it, and his words were accompanied by music in the background.

I sat back in my seat and listened what the musical stories were, I imagined to be visiting a village and those were ordinary days, the women and men were pursuing their daily work, and

while they worked they were singing.... and for each song, one singer of the choir stepped forward and took over their role, and the choir answered and confirmed the story told.

I remember the people in my childhood were also singing during their work, it gave them the rhythm to work with, beating the dough for the daily bread or brushing the washing, or going out into the field and cutting the grain or grass.

It was good to remember that in those days we raised our own voices and made music and the birds and the wind did the accompaniment..... and everybody in the audience, I saw, was clapping hands and at the end were singing along with the choir and I realized that they still remembered the lyrics. A precious journey into the past which must not be forgotten.

To see more pictures please visit my Facebook page



Click here <https://www.facebook.com/heidi.trautmann.1>



16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

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16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

Forthcoming Events



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- 6 STRANGE UNION
- 7 ALPER CENGİZ & FRIENDS
- 8 BREAKFAST WITH JAZZ
- 9 M.I.L. POP / ROCK BAND
- 10 FUNNY SOULS
- 11 ALPER CENGİZ & FRIENDS
- 12 LADY M. JAZZ DUO
- 13 STANDARTS TRIO feat. SÖLEYMAN TOGGU
- 14 THE HEALERS
- 15 SERDAR TÜRKAL BAND
- 16 ORLEA KARANLIK QUARTET
- 17 ROCK'N ROLL LOVERS
- 18 THE GREAT FLOOD

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16th March 2023 to 22nd March 2023

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Lefkosa 228 3311
Gazi Mağusa 366 5310
Guzelyurt 714 2140
Lapta 821 8512

HOSPITAL

Girne 8152266/815 2254
Lefkoşa 228 5441;
Gazi Mağusa 3662876/3665328
Güzelyurt 714 2125

ELECTRICITY

Electrical faults **188**
Lefkoşa 225 3436
Girne 815 2223
Gazi Mağusa 366 5514
Güzelyurt 714 2122

FIRE

Emergencies **199**
Forest Fire **177**
Girne 815 2111
Lefkosa 227 1259
Gazi Mağusa 366 5389
Guzelyurt 714 2200

WATER









Water problems:
Lefkoşa 228 3315
Girne 815 2118
Gazi Mağusa 366 4483
Güzelyurt 714 3516

AMBULANCE

Emergencies **112**

8-day Weather Forecast

25th March to 1st April

Sat 25th  20° 11°	Sun 26th  21° 9°	Mon 27th  23° 10°	Tue 28th  23° 9°
Wed 29th  19° 7°	Thu 30th  16° 7°	Fri 31st  17° 7°	Sat 1st  18° 7°

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Local Football Fixtures For Weekend 25/26 March

By Richard Beale....

I have chosen matches in possible ex pat locations, with matches marked **** of what I think are games that are the “pick of the weekend”.

ALL KICKOFFS 3-00pm, unless stated.

SL = Super League, L1 =League 1, BTM = BTM League 1



Sat Mar 25	Çetinkaya TSK	SL	Mağusa Türk Gücü	Lefkoşa Atatürk Stadium
Sat Mar 25	Doğan Türk Birliği	SL	CB Gençlik Gücü	Girne 20 Temmuz Mete Adanır Stadium.
Sat Mar 25	Esentepe KKSİK	L1	Pera L.Gençler Birliği SK****	Esentepe Erdal Barut Stadium
Sat Mar 25	Miracle Kasıyaka ASK	L1	Binatlı YSK	Karşıyaka Şengül Törehan Stad.
Sat Mar 25	Geçitkale GSK	BTM	Valdili TCBSK****	Geçitkale Stadium ko 11-30am
Sat Mar 25	Kaplıca Karadeniz 61 SK	BTM	Türkmenköy ASK****	Kaplıca Emre Genç Stadium ko 11-30am
Sat Mar 25	Tiatısu HOBŞK	BTM	Denizli SK	Beylerbeyi Dr Ali Özsoy Stadium ko 11-30am
Sun Mar 26	Küçük Kaymaklı	SL	Gönyeli SK	Lefkoşa Hüseyin Ruso Stadium.
Sun Mar 26	Göçmenköy İYSK	SL	Hamitköy ŞHSK****	Lefkoşa Stadium
Sun Mar 26	Yonpaş Dimpulinar	SL	Merit Alsancak Yeşilova SK****	Famağusta Dr Fazıl Küçük Stadium
Sun Mar 26	Göçmenköy İYSK	SL	Doğan Türk Birliği	Lefkoşa Atatürk Stadium
Sun Mar 26	Baf Ülkü Yurdu	L1	İncirli SK	Güzelyurt Üner Berkalp Stadium
Sun Mar 26	Girne Halk Evi	L1	Lapta TBŞK****	Girne 20 Temmuz Mete Adanır Stadium.
Sun Mar 26	Dem Çanakkale	BTM	1461 İskele Trabzonspor	Famağusta Muhsarem Dövec Stadium ko 11-30am
Sun Mar 26	Karaoğlanoğlu SK	BTM	Miracle Demirhan SK	Orhan Dural Stadium (behind Mountain View Hotel) ko 11-30am

KAPLICA STORM HITS ISKELE

Results: KURSTAN 1461 İSKELE TRABZONSPOR 2 KAPLICA KARADENİZ 61 SK 5

By Richard Beale....

Literally, a storm both of weather and football were raged on 1461 İskele as the heavens and Kaplıca conjured up a gale of biblical proportions that rained down on the Akova Eray Vudalı Stadium.

Sunday, March 19: İktisatbank BTM League 1 Red Group : Akova Eray Vudalı Stadium

Never have I seen a football match played in the most horrendous conditions and I think the first thing we must do is applaud both teams, the officials and of course the spectators who braved the elements.

Luckily the surface at Akova is synthetic if it was played on grass the match would have been abandoned.

The match started in bright sunshine though in the distance rain laden black clouds were building accompanied by the odd rumble of thunder.

The opening minutes were calm enough with the home team enjoying more of the territory and taking the lead in the 13th minute. Kaplıca rallied and equalised in the 29th minute from the penalty spot.

Literally, the game erupted in the 41st minute when Kaplıca were reduced to 10 men when Mehmet Sülün was involved in a clash with Çağrı Mert. Mehmet got up and pushed the İskele player to the ground, who fell theatrically leaving referee Olgun Canık no option but to furbish the red card. Though this was the correct decision the Gods in the sky were not pleased, unleashing their fury on the players below with hailstones, torrential rain, thunder, and fork lightning. This carried on

for the rest of the half, during the interval as spectators sought what cover they could,

I was stranded on the pitch, they lock the gates to keep out the fans or keep in the players in I sought desperately to look for refuge. I managed to find a kind of half-a-bus shelter, made of metal which was little bit scary with fork lightning about !

Kaplıca Goalkeeper Kurşat must have fancied not getting wet and he was replaced at the break by Yasin Okur. (Kurşat collided with a post just before the break and was injured)

The match restarted with the same horrendous conditions with Kaplıca having a strong breeze behind.

Though down to 10 men I have never seen such a one-sided match as the visitors ran in 4 goals and could have scored more but for some fine saves from the İskele goalkeeper Mehmet Dağal. The referee stopped the match around the 60th-minute mark with thunder, lightning all round, and the monsoon of rain, players, and officials seeking shelter in the replacement benches. I continued to watch the match and sat on the floor under my bus-like shelter, I got wet but not saturated.

After a 10-minute break, the referee restarted the match in the same conditions with Kaplıca continuing to dominate though İskele managed to score a late consolation goal.

For the first time maybe players were glad to be replaced and seek the dressing rooms though their substitutes wouldn't be too happy in coming on.

Under the new management of Mürsel Aluntaş, this was a vital and must-win for Kaplıca as they re-join the pack



seeking a promotion play-off place

GOALS ;

13 mins: Kaplıca dealt poorly with a cross from the left failing to clear their lines, YUNUS ALMAS first attempt was blocked but he hammered home his second attempt. 1-0

29 mins: Kaplıca Ogün was upended in the box —KAĞAN GÖRNEÇLİ scoring from the penalty. 1-1

49 mins: From a Kağan corner from the left Kaplıca leading goalscorer DENİZ SERT headed past the goalkeeper. 1-2

51 mins: OGÜN DURSUN scoring direct from a free kick some 35 yards out, the ball skidded off the wet surface, though goalkeeper Mehmet might have been distracted by Deniz lunging at the ball. 1-3



62 mins: Another Kağan corner this time headed home by ERAY GENÇ 1-4

70 mins: Eray breaking up an attack in his own half sent a superb through ball into the path of Deniz, as the goalkeeper came out the ball rebounded to İBRAHİM ÇELİK to slot home 1-5

80 mins: A late consolation goal for İskele after a good build-up on the left, ÇAĞRI MERT AÇIKGÖZ shot gathered pace off the wet surface and sped past Yasin. 2-5

MEN OF THE MATCH – The match officials for getting this match finished.

MAN OF THE MATCH : ERAY GENÇ – scored a goal, and assisted in another was all over the pitch just like the rain.



GREAT ESENTEPE WIN IN A MUD BATH!

Result: ESENTEPE KKSK 2 LAPTA TBSK 0.

By Richard Beale....

Torrential rain before the match started resulted in pools of water on the pitch, which made conditions treacherous but Esentepe overcame this and difficult opponents, to maintain their grip on a top 6 finish.

Saturday, March 18, 2023: AKSA League 1: Esentepe Erdal Barut Stadium.

Weather: Drizzle at the start, then cloudy and overcast.

Heavy torrential rain in the Esentepe area put this match in doubt but Referee Mustafa Öztuğay gave the pitch a thorough examination before the start and gave it the ok. Most of the pitch was covered in pools of water, especially in the goalmouths but as the game wore on it drained well. Apart from 5 minutes of rain when the match started it remain cloudy and overcast as soon as the final whistle blew the heavens opened again.

The pools of water lead initially to some comical moments with players losing their feet and the ball getting stuck in the water. Esentepe adapted to the conditions better, playing no-nonsense football, whereas Lapta who has some talented players were trying to play their normal short passing game. Lapta is a tall side with defenders Sezer, Orhan, and Necip towering over the Esentepe players but they were probably hampered by the conditions trying to turn quickly.

These would have been ideal conditions for Esentepe leading goal scorer Deniz Kıbar, short, quick, skilful he would have had a field day in these conditions but he is still recovering from a hamstring problem.

Esentepe got what they wanted an early lead in the 5th minute an Emek cross was headed back across goal and there was young striker EGE CAN AÇIKPORTALI to hook the ball home and record his 6th goal of the season. 1-0.

Esentepe suffered a blow in the 18th minute with Captain Nersin Osman suffering a reoccurrence of a hamstring injury he was replaced by the veteran Okan Kıbar who had a fine match after coming on.

Lapta was getting plenty of possession buzzing around the Esentepe goal and it took some good blocks from Devran and Okan to prevent the visitors equalising.

Against really the run of play Esentepe increased their lead in the 34th minute when Melih by the left-hand by-line saw his cross handled by Doğuş, referee Mustafa Öztuğay was in a perfect position and awarded a penalty. The dependable “my left foot” EMEK KIRILMAZ duly dispatched the spot kick. 2-0

Esentepe rode their luck again when Devran attempting a clearance, sliced the wet ball just over his own crossbar.

Deep in first-half injury time teenager Salih Karal almost scored his first senior goal for Esentepe shooting just over the bar.

HALF-TIME SCORE : 2-0

Emek who had taken over the Captaincy from Nersin and was leading by example sent a “screamer” from 40 yards just past the left-hand post in the 48th minute.

Esentepe had appeals for another



penalty turned down in the 54th minute as Emre appeared to be upended by Necip just inside the box, this time Referee Mustafa waved aside the home team’s appeals.

Esentepe were dominating the play and put together a great move in the 67th minute, Goalkeeper Osman’s long throw out, involving Ege on the left whose cross was “dummied” by Melih to substitute Semih to strike a fierce shot and Lapta goalkeeper Okyanus made a fine diving save pushing the ball away.

Lapta was pushing men forward but could make no impression on a rock-steady Esentepe defence, this led them vulnerable to fast raiding breakaways by the home team.

In the 73rd minute, another fine Esentepe move saw the fast-raiding Mustafa Soytürk being sent away on the right by Semih, his cross found Melih whose shot was brilliantly pushed over the bar by Okyanus.

FULL-TIME SCORE: 2-0

SUMMING UP: A deserved win, a hard-working professional performance in trying conditions. All of the squad played their part one way or another. The battle was won in

midfield where Esentepe is very fortunate to have 4 talented players who complement each other. TUĞRA KILIÇ, the anchor in midfield, won many challenges, EMRE MUTLU again all action performance both in attack and in defence, and SALIH KARAL, full of running and energy. Now approaching the veteran stage of his career İLYAS NIYAZI now playing in an unaccustomed left-side roll, has the experience and talent showed good touches. A sound defence, restricted Lapta, and up front Ege Can and Melih really worked hard. Goalkeeper Osman Erdoğan not only growing physically is growing in statue with every match, his handling in wet conditions was exceptional. Esentepe’s next match is a real toughie – on Tuesday away to 3rd place Yeniboğaziçi – a Battle Royale.

ESENTEPE TEAM: Osman (gk) : Mahmut Izoğlu (Mustafa 46), Devran, Nersin © (Okan 18), Emek : TUĞRA ; Emre, Salih (Şahin 80), Ilyas (Semih 65) ; Melih, Ege Can (Hüseyin 80)

LAPTA TEAM: Okyanus (gk) ; Doğuş,(Baris 46) Necip, Sezer, SÜleyman, Tarkan, Samet (Mustafa Yaşar 46), Göksel (Mustafa Asrın 80), Berkay, Orhan (Hasan 73), Ahmet, Şelcuk (Mazium 80).