

BSBMUN VI

Addressing the Cyprus Territorial Conflict - Political Committee

Study Guide



Head Chair: Maria Luísa Ferreira

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Letter from the Chairs:

Welcome, delegates!

We are honored to be chairing such an exciting special committee: Addressing the Cyprus Territorial Conflict. We comprehend this is a troublesome situation for all, given the pandemic, and the fact this is the first Online BSBMUN to ever be held. Accordingly, if you have doubts, suggestions, or simply wish to discuss the topic, do not hesitate in contacting us. We will be more than happy to help. This year's committee is full of decisive challenges, to be solved through negotiation, persuasion, and dedication.

We aspire for amazing debates, in which delegates are engaged during dynamic committee sessions, filled with discussions, and passionate speeches! Throughout the committee gatherings, we look forward to the active participation of delegates, challenging each others' reasons. Creating a safe and non-judgmental environment, in which delegates are free to speak, from beginners to experienced, we strive to proffer POCO as a place which you leave being a better delegate, and a more conscious citizen.

Concerning the Cyprus Territorial Conflict, we hope that you find the issue as alluring as we did. In addition to the information in this guide regarding the dispute itself, we do expect you to do extra research on the matter, including your delegation's point of view, respectively. We will have a couple of busy, busy days together, at the least! Therefore, let's get on with its delegates, and enjoy the sessions together, learning, representing the real-life committee accurately, and meeting new people! Without further due, you will get to know a bit better the rather 'off-centered' people who have set up this committee for you:

Hello, delegates! My name is Maria Luísa Ferreira, but you can call me Malu. I am currently a junior at St. Nicholas School in São Paulo, and I am incredibly excited

to serve as head chair for the Political Committee of the BSBMUN VI conference alongside Luana Mayer. I have been actively participating in MUN since Year 9, and ever since my first conference, I knew it would encourage me to share my ideas, point of view, become a more open-minded person and stand up for what I believe. What I love the most about MUN is how it makes me feel so empowered, and I hope you all feel this way during this edition of BSBMUN. While I am not going crazy about school, you can see me dancing, drawing, listening to music, watching any series on Netflix that talks about queens and kings, and spending a whole year deciding on what outfit to wear tomorrow (I love fashion, hehe). Besides that, I love to learn history and debate politics, especially politics in Brazil! If you want to chat about arts, movies, politics, fashion, or have any doubts, don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to meeting all of you :)

Maria Luísa Ferreira
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Hi, delegates! My name is Luana Mayer, still, feel free to call me Lua! Currently, I am a Junior at St. Nicholas School, in São Paulo, and I am extremely thrilled to be chairing BSBMUN VI's Political Committee together with Maria Luísa Ferreira. Model United Nations turned me into a much more confident, and knowledgeable person, building who I am. Also, it enhanced my debating and researching skills, shaping the way I perceive the world and those around me. I look forward to presenting the same opportunity to all of you, with a sense that you can change the world! Being fascinated with MUN since the end of Y9, I have always pictured being a Chair. I love being immersed in discussions during conferences, continuously defending my arguments. Other than in the conference room, when not dying with schoolwork, I will most likely be spending time with my friends, quality time with my family, or simply chilling at the beach; always with a full agenda haha. I love dancing, reading, listening to music, and watching Netflix (especially the series Friends). Plus, I recently discovered a passion for kitesurfing and Hawaiian canoeing. Also cherishing politics, economics, history, and literature, if you ever want to discuss an intriguing topic with me, or have any questions in regards to MUN, school, personal matters, you are more than welcome to reach out! Do not hesitate to contact me. Hoping to meet all of you!

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Committee Description

The Uncommon Political and Decolonization Committee was made as a result of the joining of the Fourth Committee and the Extraordinary Political Committee of the Joined together Countries. As one of the four primary committees of the UN Common Gathering, the SPECPOL has as of now contributed abundantly towards the method of decolonization around the world. The committee has created 80 countries into independent states, which have from there on ended up a portion of the UN. The committee includes an assorted extend of germane and progressing topics, counting the control of peacekeeping operations, the Joined together Countries Help and Works Agency for Palestinian Displaced people within the Close East (UNRWA), universal participation in external space, nuclear radiation, and the dissemination of data, as well as other critical points based on decolonization itself. In recent years, the General Assembly has allocated the following agenda items related to decolonization to the Fourth Committee:

- Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations;
- Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations;
- Offers by the Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories; and
- Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

During this year's BSBMUN conference, the Political Committee will debate the topic: Addressing the Cyprus Territorial Conflict. The ongoing situation, mainly between Turkey and Greece - two Nato allies - reflects upon interests and sovereignty claims over the maritime

jurisdiction of the eastern Mediterranean and energy resources. Additionally, other countries such as Israel, France, Italy, Egypt, and Cyprus further complicate the circumstances. The provocative display of both sides has been escalating hence bringing up a tense political environment.

The matter is of high importance, given it is an ongoing issue much discussed. Not only do we raise our knowledge of the world, but endeavor to become citizens that, in the future, might aid to prevent, or settle another conflict as such. The dispute, which goes back over half a century, is still driving the Mediterranean, and other nations, exasperated. Correspondingly, shall we discuss on how to settle the matter, with great enthusiasm, respectively, dealing with a diverse set of political issues, together with the UN peacekeeping, and peaceful uses of outer space - such as but not limited to, Cyprus.

Topic A:

Addressing the Cyprus Territorial Conflict



Aim: Evaluate and find possible solutions to the ongoing tensions between Turkey and Greece; reflecting upon interests and sovereignty claims over the maritime jurisdiction of the eastern Mediterranean and energy resources, with a greater focus on gas exploration.

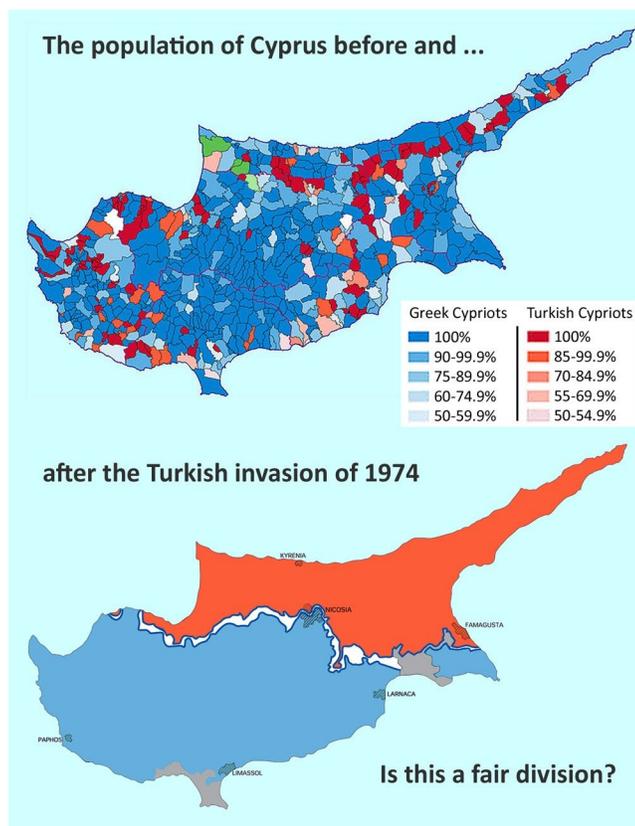
Background Information:

History of Cyprus:

Cyprus has been through an ongoing conflict since 1571. It has had a troublesome past, which assists in comprehending its current situation, including the gas dispute. The battle of Lepanto - 1571, with the population mainly Greek, befell as the Ottoman Empire, which later became known as Turkey, conquered the island. Accordingly, there was a shift of the Greek populace, to a Greek majority along with a Turkish minority. Numerous uprisings took place against the Ottoman Empire rule, which lasted almost 300 years. In 1820, Greece successfully fought a war toward independence against the Ottomans, coming under the British rule in 1878. Through a secret treaty with the Ottomans, Cyprus came under the British administration, settling that the British protect its territorial sovereignty from Russia while securing its strategic position to defend trade routes to India through the Suez Canal. Nonetheless, the Ottomans kept their sovereignty over the island. Still, in WW1, Cyprus was annexed to Great Britain, given the British and Ottomans shared opposing doctrines; with the Greek Cypriots already expressing their will for enosis, the unification with Greece. During the decolonization of Great Britain, as they had too much territory, the nation did not want to lose Cyprus, as such was exceedingly valuable to be given up.

The Turkish minority remained relatively content under British rule. However, the Greeks were dissatisfied. Correspondingly, with $\frac{3}{4}$ of Greek Cypriots, and $\frac{1}{4}$ ethnically Turkish living together in diverse neighborhoods, in 1955, the EOKA was formed. The strong nationalist guerrilla organization formed to end the British rule in Cyprus, with the goal to also unite Greek Cyprus and Athens. Several protests and rallies were held. As a response, in 1958, the TMT, the Turkish Resistance Organization was established, seeking to divide the island in two. During the first decade of WW2, following protests of Greek Cypriots, the British were willing to offer Cyprus self-government, while not giving up its claims on the island. Archbishop Makarios III was the first elected leader, a strong advocate of enosis by the beginning of his term. Such relieved some of the colonial tension between the nations, however, it was not enough. Thus, with a Greek President, and a Turkish Vice-President, the two countries and Britain, composed

the guarantors of Cyprus, giving the country its independence in 1960. The self-determined country was yet not allowed to form a union among the guarantors, and the three countries had the right to intervene in Cypriot affairs to maintain the status quo.



*"The population of Cyprus before and after the Turkish invasion of 1974".
Pavlos-Andronikos.Id.Au, 2020, http://pavlos-andronikos.id.au/cyprus_issue.htm.*

In 1963, President Makarios made proposals for constitutional changes due to governmental dysfunctions, also removing several Turkish rights. Escalating tensions among Turkey and Greece led to an outburst of ethnic disorder, with its peak in December, "Bloody Christmas." One year later, a UN resolution was passed, deploying a peacekeeping force to Cyprus, as the island was on the brink of an all-out civil war. A potential battle between the two NATO members, Greece and Turkey, was also likely. Therefore, even with the UN force, the country resumed its ethnic struggle. The USA, even not publicly involved, operated through the CIA extensively. The power feared Cyprus joining the Soviet Union, as Makarios exhibited a

relation toward communism. Hence, London and Washington secretly agreed that a potential way to solve the impasse would be to partition the island between Greece and Turkey. Both lands even encouraged Turkey to invade Cyprus, taking control of a portion of the island.

The Greek government was taken by a far-right military junta in a coup d'état, ousting the democratically elected prime minister in 1967. Greece's military junta had backed the overthrow, which was carried out by the Cyprus National Guard. Archbishop Makarios III had displayed some opposition in the unification with Greece. Hence, Greek Cypriots replaced him with a pro-Enosis nationalist president - Nikos Sampson, staying in the presidency for two days. After the successful coup, not only was the USA content, and NATO did nothing, but the Turkish felt they wanted to have more influence over the island. As a response, Turkey invaded Cyprus, seizing $\frac{1}{3}$ of its territory, with five thousand Greek Cypriots fleeing their homes - all in a matter of days. The UN then called for a ceasefire. The international community, which once favored Turkey, given they underwent a coup that had the intention of unifying with Greece, now turned into universal condemnation; especially after the second invasion of Cyprus. Operation Attila Two was the second incursion of Cyprus, a full-scale invasion. 200,000 Greek Cypriots were forced to abandon their homes. Acknowledging the invasion, EOKA-B took action, raiding Turkish-Cypriot community villages. Nonetheless, by the end of the intrusion, Turkish Cypriots accounted for 37% of the island.

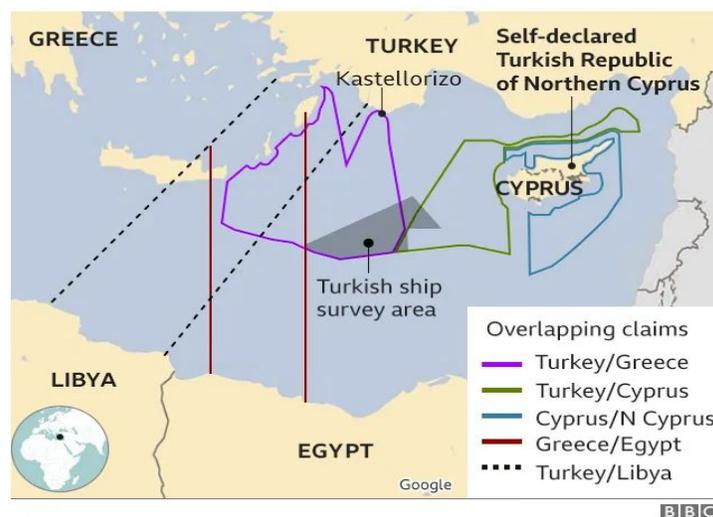
Cyprus was then partitioned, with a UN buffer zone, "The Green Line." Such remains until today. Cyprus is split politically, ethically, and physically. In 1983, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus was proclaimed, yet only Turkey recognized it as a Turkish-Cypriot territory. The rest of the community views their land as an occupied region, along with only perceiving Cyprus as one nation - naming it the Republic of Cyprus. As a divided nation, Cyprus, in 2004, joined the EU. The island continues to be a place of conflict, given its strategic position in geopolitics, and currently, tensions escalate over Turkish Med drilling plans.

Gas resources dispute:

There is nothing new about ethnic conflicts and skirmishes between Greece and Turkey. Historically, Greece and Turkey differed on the status of Cyprus, which broke into two following the 1974 war between them. The outcome was the formation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, recognized exclusively by Turkey. The Greek islands' connection to the Turkish mainland has also been a point of contention. Most importantly, because of a number of disagreements over the demarcation of exclusive economic zones (EEZ), territorial waters, maritime shelters, international flight rights, and the demilitarization of Greek islands in the Aegean Sea, the two nearly went to war in 1996.

The ongoing crisis is due to the competition between the two countries for hydrocarbon deposits in the territorial waters and the Cyprus EEZ. Turkey argued that the goods of Cyprus should be shared, and last year it pulled back from fracking. Ankara, however, signed an agreement with the UN-recognized Libyan Government of the National Accord (GNA) to create an EEZ from the southern coast of Turkey to the northern coast of Libya, ignoring the coastal waters, EEZs, and continental shelf of Crete.

Greece and Turkey have overlapping claims in the Eastern Mediterranean



Greek-Turkish claims in the Eastern Mediterranean, © BBC, 25 August 2020

Greece and Egypt reached an agreement in early August 2020, creating an EEZ between the coasts of the two countries, which contradicted the Turkish-Libyan Agreement. This resulted in the decision by Turkey to send the research ship Oruc Reis to the small Greek island of Kastellorizo. Tensions have been high since the collision, with Turkey threatening Greece to war if it continues to not withdraw its naval vessels from the region. France and Italy submitted warships and held military exercises with Greece.

The legal issues:

The eventual settlement of the maritime conflict and the de-escalation of tensions in the region was further complicated by legal uncertainty. Greece's maritime claims are based on the Seville map, which gives full territorial waters (12 nautical miles) and EEZ (200 nautical miles) to any Greek island. Turkey dismissed the map, approved by the European Commission in the early 2000s, as "unjust and unequal." Since, according to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the territorial waters of Ankara and the continental shelf have potentially been harmed by the chart, Turkey is not a signatory to the Convention and hence lacks this legal resource. Ankara's maritime deal with the GNA, which deliberately dismisses the coastal waters and the EEZ of Crete, further complicates the situation. This is in breach of UNCLOS, of which Greece is a signatory.

Current Situation:



Photo of Aug. 31 by the Greek Defence Ministry, warships from Greece, Italy, Cyprus and France participate in a joint military exercise south of Turkey in the eastern Mediterranean Sea. (Greek Defence Ministry via The Associated Press)

In August 2020, tensions between Greece and Turkey over natural gas and oil fields in the Eastern Mediterranean, intertwined with maritime claims, rapidly escalated. Turkey dispatched the Oruc Reis research vessel on 10 August 2020, followed by warships, to search for hydrocarbon deposits in the waters between Crete and Cyprus, which Greece considers to be its own. Since then, Greece has reacted by sending warships to the region, and vessels from both countries have collided.

Greece and Turkey have had a long-standing history characterized by disputes. Currently, territorial conflicts are driving a parting of both nations. Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, with 1.1 million people. Its past is marked by “tension and conflict due to the diametrically opposed interests of Greece and the Greek-Cypriots on one hand, and Turkey and the Turkish-Cypriots on the other,” as stated by George Christou. In recent months, struggle

among both states reached a fever pitch. On the 28th of August, for instance, during Greek-led military exercises, Turkish fighter jets hounded Greek aircraft that approximated a Turkish-designated no-fly zone. An eminent current escalation of the tension is the maritime boundaries and resource rights in the Aegean and eastern Mediterranean.

Since 2011, once Cyprus internationally recognized government in the Greek sector discovered offshore gas, both Greece and Turkey want to claim their rights over the sea, obtaining the gas. Greece has been quarreling with Turkey over maritime zones around the island, where it has granted licenses to multinational companies for oil and gas research. The Eastern Mediterranean is rich in natural gas. It has been estimated, by the US Geological Survey, that deposits run trillions of cubic meters, worth trillions of dollars, and millions of barrels of oil. The substantial gas and oil discoveries in the eastern Mediterranean over the past decade made the demarcation of exclusive economic zones (EEZs) a more pressing matter, given both countries pose competing claims.



Offshore drilling rig off Limassol, Cyprus; by Petros Karadjias

In 2018, Greece proposed an ambitious project for a pipeline for the Israeli field to Italy, via Cyprus and Crete, hence supplying gas to southern Europe. Yet, it is uncertain whether the European market is in need of extra gas beyond what is already supplied by the near-completed Turkish pipeline that carries gas from Russia and Azerbaijan. Following, in January 2019, there is the EastMed Gas Forum. Such is an international organization by Greece, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Italy, Jordan, and Palestine established as an international body only on January 16th of

2020. Cyprus, the Greeks, and Israel are, like Turkey, exploring for gas. The “East Mediterranean Gas Forum,” EMGF is launched by the three countries along with Egypt, Jordan, Italy, and Palestine. However, Turkey and Lebanon had been excluded, despite both carrying out exploratory drilling the previous year. Nonetheless, Turkey’s claims to the Eastern Mediterranean waters have been challenged by Cyprus; likewise those of Lebanon - disputed by Israel. Ankara claims that Turkey has the right to invest in gas projects as the country with the longest coastline in the region.

In response, Turkey signed an EEZ with the Libyan Government in November 2019, a national agreement that places a large part of the region between Crete and Cyprus in the EEZ of Turkey and divides Israel and the EEZ of Cyprus. Angry reactions from Athens were caused by the deal, which rendered it undemocratic. The Turkish-Libyan agreement implies that there is not a continental shelf on the largest Greek island, Crete, let alone the much smaller Kastelorizo off the Turkish (Lycian) coast. The deal was said by Greece to be geographically absurd, as it ignored the presence of the Greek island of Crete between the coasts of Turkey and Libya. Owing to Turkish fracking in the eastern Mediterranean off the coast of the split island of Cyprus, tensions are now running high between Athens and Ankara and the European Union has prepared sanctions against Turkey in retaliation. Besides, Turkey also began drilling for oil and gas near Cyprus, raising the tensions with EU members, including Greece. Erdogan then gave Turkey's neighbors a note, stating that “without Libyan or Turkish permission, any exploration operations or a pipeline is "no longer legally possible.” Brakel responded that in some aspects of the Cyprus issue Turkey had a point “but it is, of course, a little difficult to combine an offer to talk with threats.”

In January 2nd, 2020, the deal of the pipeline was signed, and on the 19th of July, approved - to be completed by 2025. Such will be 1 900 km subsea, carrying natural gas from the eastern Mediterranean’s rapidly developing gas industry to Europe. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan warned, on August 13, that any attack on the Turkish drilling vessel Oruç Reis, which is searching for oil and gas in the waters claimed by both Turkey and Greece, will be extremely expensive. Such was stated after a collision between Greek and Turkish navy frigates

that left foreign actors on high alert. The Turkish military official also mentioned that a drone would escort their drilling ships, even after strong criticism by Cyprus and its EU partners. Also, the area in which Turkey is claiming exploitation rights is declared as a continental shelf. Greece affirmed that all its inhabited islands are surrounded by a 200-mile exclusive economic zone (EEZ), according to the UN Convention on the law of the Sea. Hence, such halts Turkey's exploitation rights into a small corner around the Gulf of Antalya

Additionally, by August 6th, 2020, a deal was also signed by Greece and Egypt - blocking the Turkish maritime options. The agreement established the EEZ of the two countries, along with agreeing that it contributes to the security and stability of the region, along with acknowledging the promising oil and gas reserves of the land. Cairo and Athens stand against Ankara, given Turkey's aggressive offshore moves, including the use of Turkish naval and air forces in and around the Greek islands and Cyprus; the maritime delimitation agreement with the Libyan government; Turkey's seismic survey vessels in the eastern Mediterranean, and their threat to start a military attack on the Sirte oil region. Cairo warned Turkey that any move further will involve a direct confrontation with the Egyptian armed forces. After the EEZ had been concluded, Turkey backtracked its vow to suspend exploration.

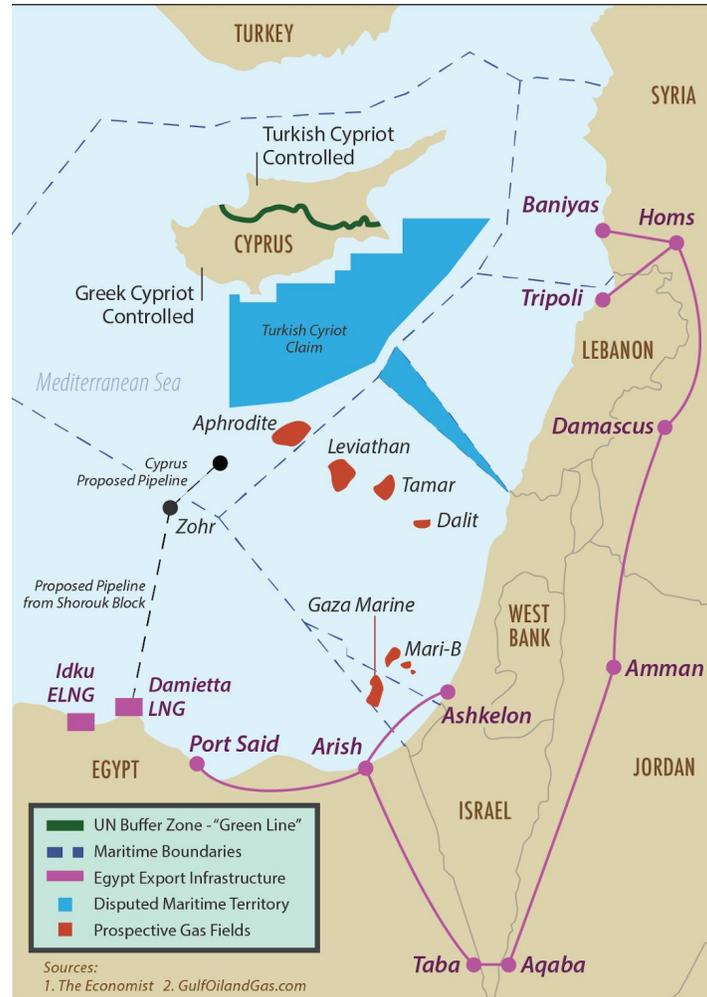
The rush for Mediterranean gas continuously threatens to push Greece and Turkey into war. The deepening dispute between both NATO countries raises fears of naval conflict in the Aegean Sea. The crisis is becoming even more intense with Macron, leading those of the EU to oppose Turkey's military foreign policy, saying Turkey can no longer be seen as a partner in the Mediterranean. France offered the possible sale of 18 Rafale jets and its military support to the Greek prime minister. Such was discussed in a meeting of the Med7 group of southern Mediterranean leaders on the French island of Corsica at an EU council meeting on September 23rd. Topics such as but not limited to, imposing severe sanctions on the already struggling Turkish banking sector over its demand for access to large swaths of the eastern Mediterranean will also be addressed.

Moreover, Germany is being the lead mediator between Turkey and Greece. It is endeavoring to calm the dispute. Currently, Germany is warning Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the Turkish president, that their current strategy is a “commercial dead end,” and they are trying to exploit illegal claims on gas reserves for no private gas company is going to come into an affiliation with them.



Turkey's Oruç Reis in the eastern Mediterranean; by Anadolu Agency

Finally, Turkey continues to see the impasse as a geopolitical issue of the 21st century, being a chance to challenge treaty settlements made amid the collapse of the Ottoman empire. They stated, “it is a defensive doctrine after our continental shelf was stolen by Greece and Cyprus [and] represents the greatest geostrategic challenge of the century.” On the other hand, Greece, along with France are seeing Turkey’s actions as imprudent, with Macron increasing the French naval presence in the sea, calling for a withdrawal of the Turkish reconnaissance ship, along with other Turkish naval ships. The risk of a naval clash between Greece and Turkey either by accident or design is also rising. The fear of the conflict becoming out of control is leading to urgent conferences, and several efforts by NATO to start technical naval deconfliction.



Proposed Routes for Gas Monetization, and Turkey's claims over maritime territory;

@turkeyheritage.org

Past UN Actions or Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue:

The UN tried to solve and developed resolutions to overcome conflicts from the past between Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus. When Turkey invaded Cyprus, seizing $\frac{1}{3}$ of its territory, with five thousand Greek Cypriots fleeing their homes. The UN called for a ceasefire. Additionally, by the end of the intrusion, Turkish Cypriots accounted for 37% of the island.

Cyprus was then partitioned, with a UN buffer zone, "The Green Line." Such remains until today.

A United Nations initiative to settle one of the Cyprus crisis was the Annan Plan, sometimes referred to as the Cyprus reunification plan. The numerous parts of the resolution were based on the claims put forward in the meetings held under the UN's auspices by each group (Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots). The plan was for the Republic of Cyprus to be restructured into the United Republic of Cyprus.

Concerning the current situation among both NATO countries, the EU Parliament developed a resolution on the 17th of September of 2020 in Brussels; Preparation of the Special European Council, focusing on the dangerous escalation and Turkey's role in the Eastern-Mediterranean.

"A. whereas the Eastern Mediterranean, an area of strategic importance for the EU and a key area for the peace and stability of the entire Mediterranean and Middle East regions, is blighted by a long-standing, multi-layered set of disputes of political, economic and geostrategic natures; whereas escalating tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean are fuelled by unilateral steps by Turkey, including military action, the lack of inclusive diplomatic dialogue and the regrettable failure of efforts to mediate the conflict;

B. whereas since the discovery of offshore natural gas reserves in the early 2000s, Turkey has challenged its neighbors with regard to international law and the delimitation of their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs); whereas the discoveries of significant gas reserves in the Mediterranean, including the discovery of the Leviathan field in 2010, followed by the Zohr gas field, the largest ever natural gas discovery in the Mediterranean Sea, off Egypt in 2015, sparked interest in the region and led to further exploration and drilling in 2018 and 2019;

C. whereas Turkey has not signed the UNCLOS to which Greece and Cyprus are parties, due to the ongoing maritime dispute over the delimitation of an EEZ; whereas the developing Law of the Sea, inherently complex, is interpreted differently by Greece and Turkey; whereas there are mutual claims that the interpretation of maritime law by the other side is against international law and that the activities of the other side are illegal; whereas the above-mentioned dispute over the delimitation of EEZs and continental shelf between Turkey on the one side and Greece on the other side has remained unresolved since November 1973;..."

From the EU Parliament Resolution, Preparation of the Special European Council, focusing on the dangerous escalation and Turkey's role in the Eastern-Mediterranean.

Key Terms:

EEZ

Exclusive Economic Zone

Enosis

The political union of Cyprus and Greece, as an aim or ideal of certain Greeks and Cypriots.

Ethnarch

Greek Cypriot community

Sovereignty

Sovereignty is the full right and power of a governing body over itself, without any interference from outside sources or bodies.

Taksim

Turkish for “division” - separation of the island for Greeks and Turks

Positions of Major Blocs and Countries

Cyprus:

Cyprus is a country located in the Middle East, officially called the Republic of Cyprus. It has been the foremost focus in the gas dispute, being extremely affected by both Turkey and Greece. The land is divided in two, with one side coordinated by Greece, and the other by Turkey. However, Turkey’s claim over part of Cyprus is seen as non-legit by the international community. Concerning the issue at hand, the island of Cyprus has been continuously presented with a troublesome history. Accordingly, they seek peace, along with their maritime rights. Being in close connection to Greece, Italy, and France also

having the majority of its population as Greek Cypriots, Cyprus looks forward to defending its sovereignty, and for Turkey to withdraw its vessels from the territory.

Turkey

Turkey argues that Greece is claiming the Aegean Sea economically as purely Greek, even though Turkey has a greater length of coastline in the eastern Mediterranean. It also claims its right over maritime territory while defending its sovereignty, eager to continue its maritime exploration. Additionally, the nation aspires to secure a share of the natural resources in the eastern Mediterranean. Plus, along with the Turkish Cypriot community, they are willing to reduce its political/ economic dependence on its neighbors, therefore, the gas being prominently worthy of the country.

Greece

Aiming to solve the conflict peacefully, Greece wants to defend its sovereignty, and for Turkish vessels to retreat, respecting the maritime deal. The nation endeavors that Turkey remove its legal stance; and together with Cyprus, with help from Italy and France, is willing to protect its territory and its rights. Further, they seek to continue with their ambitious pipeline project from the Israeli fields to Italy, via Cyprus and Crete, supplying gas to southern Europe.

France

Just after the Turkish vessel, the Oruc Reis began its journey, France expressed concern. It said that Turkey would adhere to its obligations in the conflict, refrain from disruptive acts, and ensure good behavior. France has diplomatic arrangements with the United Arab Emirates, Greece, Cyprus, and Egypt, all directed at reducing the actions of Turkey. In addition, the crisis with Macron is getting increasingly serious, causing EU countries to

oppose Turkey's military foreign policy, claiming Turkey can no longer be seen as a partner in the Mediterranean.

Libya

Libya is a driving force for Turkey to have stepped up its explorations in areas deemed to be part of its EEZ. It allowed Turkey to dispatch armed naval escorts with drilling ships, extending Turkey's search in the seas between Crete and Cyprus. Its EEZ agreement with Turkey exhibits the tight connections of the gas conflict to Libya's civil war, and of it not being a country with unlimited goods.

Timeline of Important Events:

1571	The battle of Lepanto
1820	Greece successfully fought a war toward independence against the Ottomans.
1878	Cyprus under British rule.
1923	Lausanne Treaty
1955	The creation of the EOKA
1958	The creation of TMT (Turkish Resistance Organization)
1960	Cyprus independence
1974	The war between Greece and Turkey
2018	Greece proposed a project for a pipeline

January 2019	EastMed Gas Forum.
November 2019	Turkey signed an EEZ with the Libyan Government.
January 16 of 2020	International organization by Greece, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Italy, Jordan, and Palestine established
July 19, 2020	Pipeline project approved
August 6, 2020	Deal signed by Greece and Egypt - blocking the Turkish maritime options.
August 10, 2020	Turkey sent the Oruc Reis research vessel accompanied by warships to disputed waters.
August 28, 2020	During Greek-led military exercises, Turkish fighter jets hounded Greek aircraft that approximated a Turkish-designated no-fly zone.
October 1, 2020	Libya- Turkey maritime deal

Relevant Documents and UN Resolutions:

1. The UN plan for settlement (Annan Plan)
2. UN Paris Climate Treaty
3. UN Law of the Sea
4. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
5. UN-recognized Government of National Accord (GNA)
6. Annan Plan, UN Resolution
7. EU Parliament Resolution, Preparation of the Special European Council, focusing on the dangerous escalation and Turkey's role in the Eastern-Mediterranean.
8. Joint Statement EU-US Energy Council

Guiding Questions For Debate:

1. Does the delegation view Turkey's actions as morally correct? What is in agreement with the nations' prospects?
2. To what extent does the UN Law of the Sea support Greece's claims?
3. Should the maritime divisions be indeed reevaluated?
4. What measures should be taken if a country commits illegal activity? Must there be any?
5. Should Greece or Turkey continue their exploration of gas? Must one be halted or a new division of territory set? How can the countries reach a consensus?
6. How can the resources acquired be put into practice/ use?
7. How can unfoldings of the controversy over gas be evaluated?
8. How far is the pipeline project proposed by Greece acknowledged as required?

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