

Folketingets Europaudvalg
Christiansborg, den 17. oktober 2001
Europaudvalgets sekretariat

Til
udvalgets medlemmer og stedfortrædere

Brev fra Mr. Denktas

Hermed fremsendes et brev fra den tyrkiske ambassadør, vedlagt et brev fra Mr. Denktas til kommissær Verheugen med anmodning om, at Kommissionen også hører tyrkisk-cyprioterne i Cypren-spørgsmålet.

Med venlig hilsen

Bjørn Einersen



EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
Ambassador

5 October, 2001

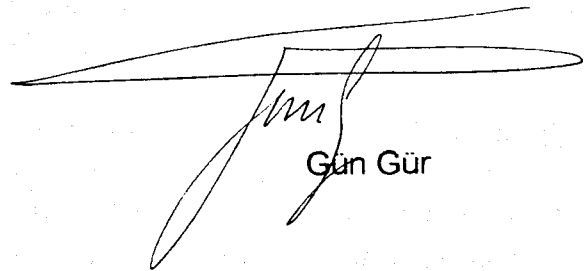
Dear Mr. Larsen-Jensen,

I attach hereby for your kind information the text of the letter dated 20 September 2001 by Mr. Rauf Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, addressed to Mr. Günter Verheugen, the EU Commissioner in charge of Enlargement.

As you can see, Mr. Denktaş appeals to Mr. Verheugen to be given equal time for a hearing before the relevant organs of the EU.

I hope you will find the letter to be challenging and thought-provoking.

Sincerely yours,



Gün Gür

Encl.: As stated

Mr. Claus Larsen-Jensen
Chairman of the EU Committee
Folketinget
Christiansborg
1240 Copenhagen K

"Dear Mr. Verheugen,

This is to thank you for the chance you gave me to talk to you in Zurich. I hope the exchange was useful in helping you understand that we are not anti-EU people but are very much concerned with our political status while entering the EU. **We are not - we never were- a minority in a Greek Cypriot island.** We were co-founder partners of the Republic of Cyprus having exactly the same rights as the Greek Cypriot partner. This partnership Republic was not a unitary state and one of the partners had no right, no mandate, to represent Cyprus or claim to be its government without the consent of the other. Each partner had its own democratic set up; each chose its representatives separately and each one of them had its Communal Administration completely independent of the joint partnership government. It is the violent destruction of the partnership and the usurpation of the title of the partnership Republic by the Greek Cypriot partner in 1963 that lie at the root of the Cyprus question.

We want a settlement of the issue through the **establishment of a new partnership based on the equal status of the two constituent partners** so that a new joint organ able to represent Cyprus internationally emerges prior to considering EU membership. This was the roadmap I had agreed with Mr. Vassiliou while discussing the Set of Ideas" and this constituted the basis on which we negotiated. All these were brought to naught by Mr. Clerides who, after winning the elections on the Greek Cypriot side and ousting Mr. Vassiliou, refused to continue the talks aimed at the establishment of a new partnership between the two equal parties.

Ever since Mr. Clerides has rejected everything which was and could have helped the formation of common ground and has concentrated on EU membership which he sees as a way of legitimizing their criminal attempt to convert Cyprus into a Greek Cypriot island. **That is why the Greek Cypriot party, after having achieved candidacy status vis-a-vis the EU, has vehemently rejected any suggestion of establishing a new partnership.** The 12 September 2000 statement of the United Nations Secretary-General, after three rounds of talks, to the effect that the objective of the two partners is to establish a new partnership, was countered by the unanimous decision of the Greek Cypriot Parliament. This should suffice to show that there is no common ground between the two parties yet.

I believed that in his last visit Mr. De Soto would concentrate his efforts on helping us find common ground. Apparently he had come with a pre-determined decision to invite both parties to meet the United Nations Secretary - General as a

prelude to beginning the talks. He was frank enough at his press conference, however, to publicly concede that the difference between the two sides is as wide as ever.

Attending talks under these circumstances is equivalent to inviting failure. Talks of this nature cannot lead to meaningful negotiation and would only have helped Mr. Clerides to continue with his belief that whatever happens they are "the Government of Cyprus"! I have told Mr. De Soto that I am prepared to engage in talks aimed at the preparation of the common ground. I, in fact, proposed to Mr. De Soto to arrange a face - to - face meeting between myself and Mr. Clerides in order to settle, once and for all, the issue of common ground. I could not get a positive response to this request.

We are at the 38th year of the Cyprus question and we are at the suffering end. But for the arrival of Turkey in 1974 there would be no Turkish Cypriot in the island to-day.

That is why we want a solid, permanent solution which will not give Greek Cypriots the right to do it again!

No one remembers the origins of the Cyprus problem back in 1963 and the cleansing operation which continued until 1974. Greek Cypriots feel quite free to put their false case to all concerned and get away with one-sided Resolutions at our expense. Our future, our vested rights under international Agreements, our liberty and democratic rights are at risk.

All I want is to be given equal time to be heard by EU organs who so freely condemn us as an intransigent "minority", and me, personally, as its intransigent leader. If defending the rights and liberties of my people in line with the Rule of Law is intransigence, I am ready to plead guilty to it. But that will not solve the Cyprus issue because my people will never accept the role of "minority" which the Greek Cypriot party, taking full advantage of the hi-jacked title of "the Government of Cyprus", have tailored for us.

Justice is what we seek. Justice cannot be done without listening to both parties in any dispute. That is why I appealed to you to help me get a hearing in the relevant organs of the EU. I hope you will be able to help in the name of justice and fairness. "

Yours sincerely,

Rauf R. Denktas
President

