

## Statement

### **For a United and Peaceful Cyprus**

The world is currently facing many challenges including wars and conflicts. Putting an end to these conflicts is key for sustainable development and a world where peace and freedom will prevail.

In this vein, Greek-Cypriots and Turkish-Cypriots have lived in a divided country since the Turkish invasion in 1974 while they deserve the right to live in peace and unity, without any interference from third countries. It is encouraging to see the significant progress that was made until the recent freeze of the reunification negotiations. For example, for the first time in the history of the negotiations, the leaders of both Communities swapped maps indicating the territory of each constituent state if a solution is found. Another first was that not only the two communities, but also the guarantors (Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom) sat down at one table in order to initiate the discussion on the chapter of security which is one of the biggest issues on the table.

Both communities have shown sincere will to unite once again. This strong will and struggle to reunify Cyprus must be supported and must be put as a top priority on the agenda of the International Community and the European Union, since for many Cypriots, the full membership of the European Union is the greatest guarantee for both communities.

The region around Cyprus is faced with many tensions and problems: wars, terrorism, the refugee crisis and economic crises. In this regard a peaceful, viable and lasting solution to the Cyprus issue will post a vigorous sign to the world that diverse societies, with people from different religions, cultures and backgrounds can live and work together in unity and peace.

The International and European Political Party Youth Organisations consider the Cyprus issue to be highly important and we will be following the process closely. On account of that, with this statement, we would like to express our hope for the resumption of the negotiations and our common full support for the achievement of a peace plan and fair reunification soon.

**DEMYC      Democrat Youth Community of Europe**

**EDS          European Democrat Students**

**EFAy        European Free Alliance Youth**

**FYEG        Federation of Young European Greens**

**LYMEC      European Liberal Youth**

<b>IFLRY</b>	<b>International Federation of Liberal Youth</b>
<b>IUSY</b>	<b>International Union of Socialist Youth</b>
<b>IYDU</b>	<b>International Young Democrat Union</b>
<b>JEF</b>	<b>Young European Federalists</b>
<b>YDE</b>	<b>Young Democrats for Europe</b>
<b>YEPP</b>	<b>Youth of the European People's Party</b>
<b>YES</b>	<b>Young European Socialists</b>