

CYPRUS

Update: 28th November 2024



Geography

Area: 9,251 km² (of which 3,355 km² are in north Cyprus)

Coastline: 648 km

Capital: Nicosia

Official language: Greek



Population

Population: 1,362,551 (2024 est.)

Crude natural change rate: -3.9‰ (2023)

Crude migration rate: 9.9‰ (2023)

First time asylum applicants: 11,910 (2023)

Population: 16.1% under 15 years old (2023)

Population: 16.6% above 65 years old (2023)

Foreign residents: EU nationals 11%, non-EU nationals 8% (2021)

Life expectancy: men 80.4 years, women 84.7 years (2023)

Religion: Orthodox christians 89.1%, Roman Catholics 2.9%, Protestants 2%, Muslims 1.8%, other 1.4%, none 0.6%, unspecified 1.1% (2011 est.)

Source : Eurostat, The CIA World Factbook



Political Representation

Parliamentary composition in November 2024:

- 17 seats DISY (Democratic Rally, right)
- 15 seats AKEL (Progressive Party of Workers' Party, radical left)
- 9 seats DIKO (Democratic Party, center right)
- 4 seats DIPA (Democratic Front, center)
- 3 seats EDEK (Movement for Social Democracy)
- 3 seats ELAM (National People's Front, far right)
- 2 seats KOP (Movement of Ecologists)
- 2 seats independent
- 1 seat independent socialist MP



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Economy

Currency: Euro

GDP : € 31,340 million (2023)

GDP per capita (PPS): € 29,080 (2023)

GDP growth: 2.6% (2023)

Unemployment: 5% (September 2024)

Inflation: 0.69% (September 2024)

Budget balance: +3.8% of GDP (2023)

Public debt: 70.5% of GDP (Q2 2024)

High performance sectors: services, tourism

Stock of foreign direct investment from the entire world: 1,542% (2022)

Source : Eurostat, Trading Economics, Données mondiales



Political System

Independent Republic, Presidential regime:

Constitution of 6th August 1960: although some clauses are no longer applied since the crisis of 1963 led to a retreat of the Turkish Cypriot community from governmental activities.

Head of State: Nikos Christodoulidis, elected in 2023 for five years by direct universal suffrage. The duties of the Head of State and the Head of Government are combined.

Monocameral legislative power:

The House of Representatives comprises 80 seats (56 for the Greek Cypriotes and 24 for the Turkish Cypriotes which are vacant).

The representatives are elected for five years according to a system of proportional representation.

The last parliamentary elections on 22nd May 2016, strengthened the coalition in office: the democrats and the communists won one and two seats more than during the last elections respectively.

Institutions and political situation:

Applicable only to southern Cyprus. The Turkish part in the north, which is not recognized by the international community, has its own institutions.

Annan plan/Reunification:

11th November 2002 - Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General, presented a peace plan to reunite the island into one confederal State comprising two independently administered communities. 24th April 2004 - the Greek Cypriotes rejected the UN reunification plan (75.83% of the votes) while the Turkish Cypriotes approved it (with 64.91% voting yes). The Greek Cypriotes decided to keep the Turkish community in the north out of the European Union. Negotiations have resumed in September 2008 and are still ongoing. The UN would like peace to end in view of organising a new referendum over the reunification plan.