TURKEY is Guilty

As a result of the violent Turkish invasion in July and August 1974:

Thousands of Greek Cypriots, soldiers and civilians, including women and children, were killed.

1/3 of the total Greek population of Cyprus were displaced (that amounts to about 200,000 people).

1,619 Greek Cypriots were declared missing. Decades later, only **765** of them have been identified (Committee on Missing Persons, September 2026); Turkey has never fully accounted for the rest. Many of these were last seen being sent for torture in Turkey, most of which are presumed dead, with relatives still hoping that one day they will find out what happened to their loved ones.

37% of the geographical area of the Republic of Cyprus is still under illegal military occupation, since 1974.

About 300 Greek Cypriots and Maronites remain enclaved in the occupied north today, out of more than 12,000 in 1974, living under strict Turkish stratocracy.

The Turks pillaged and completely destroyed Christian churches, monasteries and cemeteries, and **illegally traded** monuments and heirlooms abroad, in order to distort the Greek cultural heritage of the island. **Turkey forced the settlement** of thousands of Turkish people in the northern side of Cyprus, with a view of altering the initial population percentage.



The aftermath of the invasion

The **drama** of people losing their homes and families.

The **uncertainty** for the future of the prisoners of war.

The **grief** of the innocent children...

are all **human rights VIOLATIONS** and should be **condemned**.







15 November 1983

On 15 November 1983, the Turkish Cypriot leadership, backed and controlled by Turkey, unilaterally declared a pseudo-state in the occupied area, the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" ("TRNC"). This **illegal** entity is recognised **ONLY** by Turkey, while the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) verified that it is under the absolute control of the Turkish army. In addition, the ECtHR found Turkey responsible for many human rights violations in Cyprus.



Chronology, facts & sources:
metopo.org.uk/ cyprus-problem-overview

A brief chronology of events…

In **January 1950** a referendum expressed the national desire of the Cypriot people for "Enosis" – the union of Cyprus with Greece: 95.7% voted in favour (including Turkish Cypriots). The outcome was rejected by the British Empire, which ruled the island as a colony.

From **April 1955** an armed movement, EOKA, was organised, serving the ultimate objectives of freedom from British rule and the union of Cyprus with Greece.

Despite EOKA's struggle and military win over the colonial forces, Cyprus was never granted to Greece. The uprising stopped with the **Zurich and London Agreements (11 & 19 February 1959)**, which granted "guarantee" powers to Greece, the United Kingdom and Turkey, and two military bases to the UK.

On **16 August 1960** the Treaties of Establishment, Guarantee and Alliance were signed and the Republic of Cyprus was established. On **24 August 1960** UN Security Council Resolution 155 recommended its admission to the United Nations. Independence is celebrated every year on 1 October.

In **1963** the flawed constitution led to bi-communal clashes; Turkish Cypriots created 'pockets' closed to Greek Cypriots and their MPs abandoned Parliament. In **1964** Turkey's Air Force bombed the Tylliria area, using napalm bombs.

On **20 July 1974**, after a military coup in Cyprus on the 15th, Turkey, using its power as guarantor, invaded the island. On **14 August 1974** a second wave, without any excuse, captured Famagusta.

On **15 November 1983** the so-called "TRNC" was unilaterally and illegally declared in the occupied area.

Turkey violated Human Rights laws in 1974…

In seven resolutions on the Question of Cyprus (3212/1974 to 37/253/1983), the UN General Assembly demanded the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the return of the refugees.

…and continued doing so in 1983 and to this day.

UN Security Council Resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984) condemned the declaration of the so-called "TRNC" as legally invalid and called on all states not to recognise it.

What could you do to aid the Cypriot struggle for Justice?

The purpose of this leaflet is purely informative. We are firm believers that the first step to combating injustice is the imparting of knowledge. This is what will allow a more stable resistance foundation against any kind of human rights violation. Furthermore, it is of the utmost importance to proactively act against propaganda, false and misleading information, and inform other people of the situation in the small island of Cyprus.

Stand with **US**, stand with **FREEDOM**, stand with the **WORLD**: against the **violent invasion** and **continuous illegal occupation of Cyprus** by the state of Turkey.

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet.

METOPO Cypriot Student Movement is a non-partisan organisation, founded in 2006, where a group of students impulsively decided that they had a duty to defend their values and ideals. Amongst us are students deriving from different political backgrounds, whose common goal and ambition is neither self-projection, nor the promotion of any political party. As a movement based in the UK, we are constantly trying to resolve the issue of Turkish propaganda, and our aim is to awaken our fellow students. Our ambition is to help the development of conscientious citizens who are prepared to fight for their rights and freedom, and we ask for your support in our struggle.

"He who remains silent, is taken to consent"

metopo.org.uk

20 years · 2006–2026

Do you stand #WITHREFUGEES?

In 1974, the people of Cyprus became refugees in their own homeland. In order to escape the Turkish atrocities and barbaric crimes which threatened their lives, thousands of families were forced to flee their homes, leaving everything behind. **Refugees have a right to live with dignity and regain what legally belongs to them.**

In Cyprus – a small Mediterranean island and a member of the European Union since 2004 – people are still being deprived of some of the most basic human rights and freedoms. They are doomed to see their homes from a distance, since Turkish armed troops that are still illegally occupying almost half of the island forbid their return.

Imagine YOUR homeland being divided and YOUR family being forced to flee your home.

Could you imagine the cities of London, Berlin, Paris, Madrid, Canberra, Brussels, Amsterdam, Rome, Prague, Stockholm, Vienna, Moscow, Washington D.C., Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Beijing, New Delhi, Seoul, or **YOUR** capital city **being divided and being kept under illegal military occupation with armed troops restricting your access?**

