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**Human Rights Council**

**Forty-ninth session**

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Agenda item 2

**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner  
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the   
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

Question of human rights in Cyprus

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

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| *Summary* |
| The present report, which covers the period from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021, provides an overview of human rights issues in Cyprus, including with respect to the right to life and the question of missing persons; the principle of non-discrimination; freedom of movement and the right to seek asylum; property rights; freedom of religion or belief and cultural rights; freedom of opinion and expression; the right to education; and the importance of adopting a gender perspective in the peace process. During the reporting period, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic continued to have an impact on a range of human rights related to the continued division of Cyprus. |
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I. Introduction

1. The present report was prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) pursuant to resolutions 4 (XXXI), 4 (XXXII), 17 (XXXIV) and 1987/50 of the Commission on Human Rights, and decision 2/102 of the Human Rights Council.

2. Cyprus remains divided, with a buffer zone maintained by the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). In its resolution 2587 (2021), the Security Council extended the mandate of UNFICYP until 31 January 2022. In that same resolution, the Council expressed full support for the Secretary-General’s ongoing engagement and the agreement by the parties to convene a further round of informal talks in the near future, and reiterated the importance of the sides and all involved participants to approach those talks in the spirit of openness, flexibility and compromise and to show the necessary political will and commitment to freely negotiate a mutually acceptable settlement under United Nations auspices.

3. In the absence of fully fledged negotiations, public confidence in the possibility of resuming peace talks and securing a negotiated settlement continued to drop, a situation exacerbated by the impact of the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and related restrictions on freedom of movement. Economic pressures also characterized the reporting period.

4. In March 2021, following the call made by the Security Council in its resolution 2561 (2021) for the two sides to agree on and implement confidence-building measures and to enable the technical committees to function effectively, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus and Head of UNFICYP, who also serves as the Deputy Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus, established regular meetings with representatives of the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot leaders. While limited progress was made during the reporting period on confidence-building measures, the regular meetings and intervening contacts provided important opportunities for discussing issues of concern.

5. Late in April, the Secretary-General convened an informal five-plus-one meeting on the Cyprus issue in Geneva. Sufficient common ground could not be found to allow formal negotiations to resume. However, it was agreed to continue the dialogue with the objective of moving in the direction of reaching common ground so as to allow for formal negotiations to resume.

6. Until she completed her assignment in the third quarter of 2021, senior United Nations official Jane Holl Lute pursued discussions with the two leaders and their representatives, as well as with representatives of Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. On 27 September, the Secretary-General hosted an informal lunch with the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders in New York.

7. Notwithstanding those efforts, public debate continued to focus on the divergent positions of the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots regarding the basis of the talks. Internal political developments on both sides created additional challenges and increased scepticism that any progress could be achieved. Furthermore, certain steps that were taken, in particular regarding the fenced-off area of Varosha, contributed to deepening divisions, despite the initiatives undertaken in certain technical committees.

8. To prepare the present report, in the absence of a field presence in Cyprus, OHCHR relied on a variety of sources with particular knowledge of the situation of human rights on the island and on the recent findings of international and regional human rights mechanisms. UNFICYP, the Secretary-General’s good offices mission, the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Programme, the International Organization for Migration and various stakeholders were consulted in the preparation of the report.

II. Challenges for the implementation of international human rights standards

9. United Nations human rights mechanisms have previously voiced their concerns about the factors and difficulties impeding the implementation of international human rights standards on the whole island owing to its continued division. As a result of the division, monitoring and reporting by international mechanisms on the human rights situation in the northern part of Cyprus has remained limited.

10. In its seventh periodic report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (dated October 2021), the State party noted that it could not ensure the application of human rights instruments to areas not under its effective control, adding that the information presented in its report related only to those areas over which it exercised effective control.[[2]](#footnote-3)

11. Against that background, civil society actors in the northern part of Cyprus strove to strengthen their capacity. In October 2021, five Turkish Cypriot civil society organizations formally established the Human Rights Platform with the support of the European Union through its aid programme for the Turkish Cypriot community. The Platform will focus on monitoring and reporting on human rights issues, including with reference to international standards and international organizations. It will also work to increase collaboration between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot civil society, build capacity and raise public awareness on human rights.

12. As noted by the Secretary-General, the declarations made by political actors on both sides in anticipation of the informal five-plus-one meeting contributed to increasing polarization between and within the communities. There was nevertheless some encouraging progress in the context of confidence-building and problem-solving, with United Nations facilitation.[[3]](#footnote-4)

13. The work of the 12 technical committees, facilitated by the good offices mission of the Secretary-General with the support of UNFICYP, continued with mixed success. After a long hiatus, the Technical Committees on Crossings and on Cultural Heritage met during the second half of 2021. Other technical committees, including the Technical Committees on Crime and Criminal Matters, on Health, on Broadcasting and Telecommunication and on Economic and Commercial Matters, also remained active. The beneficial role played by the Technical Committee on Health in the context of the pandemic was notable, as were the accomplishments of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. While progress was made on certain initiatives, including on a project resulting from extensive work carried out by the Technical Committee on Broadcasting and Telecommunication to introduce 5G broadband cellular networks across the island, various challenges – such as the composition of certain committees, the resignation of members from other committees and issues of terminology – arose in the second half of 2021, affecting the activities of various committees and halting or slowing down certain projects nearing completion.

III. Human rights concerns

14. The division of Cyprus continued to affect the exercise and enjoyment of human rights throughout the island, including with respect to the right to life and the question of missing persons; the principle of non-discrimination; freedom of movement and the right to seek asylum; property rights; freedom of religion or belief and cultural rights; freedom of opinion and expression; and the right to education. In addition, it remained important that a gender perspective be adopted in the peace process.

15. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect a range of human rights related to the continued division of Cyprus. Varying degrees of restrictions on movement were imposed, which deeply affected the socioeconomic situation of many Cypriots and triggered demonstrations on both sides. The estrangement between the two communities was exacerbated by the imposition of restrictions at the crossing points.[[4]](#footnote-5) In a positive development, on 2 June 2021, the two leaders reached an agreement for the reopening of all crossing points from 4 June onwards. The spokesperson for the United Nations in Cyprus noted that the reopening would facilitate free movement, promote people-to-people contacts, build trust and have an overall positive socioeconomic impact across the island for the benefit of all Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.[[5]](#footnote-6) In line with the agreement, the Technical Committee on Health provided a forum for continued synchronization and progressive adjustment of the two sides’ respective COVID-19 measures concerning the crossing points. On 10 July, 23 September and 18 November, the Technical Committee issued press statements through the spokesperson for the United Nations in Cyprus, adjusting the epidemiological level and restrictive measures to be employed.

A. Right to life and the question of missing persons

16. According to article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.[[6]](#footnote-7) Furthermore, article 1 of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance provides that any act of enforced disappearance is an offence to human dignity, placing the persons subjected thereto outside the protection of the law and inflicting severe suffering on them and their families. Any act of enforced disappearance also violates or constitutes a grave threat to the right to life.

17. As a result of the intercommunal fighting of 1963 and 1964, and the events of July 1974 and thereafter, 1,510 Greek Cypriots and 492 Turkish Cypriots have been officially reported as missing by both communities to the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus. During the reporting period, the tripartite Committee continued its bicommunal project on the exhumation, identification and return of the remains of missing persons thanks to funding from donors, in particular the European Union. As at 30 November 2021, the Committee had exhumed the remains of 1,179 individuals on both sides of the island and identified 1,022 missing individuals. During the reporting period, 16 persons were exhumed and 29 individuals were identified as missing persons and returned to their families for dignified burials. Additionally, 10 other individuals not on the official list of missing persons were identified and returned to their families.

18. COVID-19 restrictions placed limitations on the work of the Committee from March 2020 until March 2021. In April, COVID-19 restrictions were lifted.[[7]](#footnote-8) The Committee continued excavations in areas to which access had been granted in June 2019, with no recoveries made during the reporting period.

19. In order to obtain additional information on possible burial sites, the Committee conducted a three-week research visit to United Nations Headquarters archives in New York in October 2021 and concluded four years of extensive research of UNFICYP archives in Nicosia.

20. In its resolution 2587 (2021), the Security Council commended the ongoing work of the Committee and called upon all parties to continue their cooperation with the Committee’s work, in particular by providing full access without delay to all areas and responding in a timely manner to requests for archival information on possible burial sites.

21. On 31 August 2021, the European Court of Human Rights issued its judgment in *Vassiliou and others v. Cyprus*.[[8]](#footnote-9) The case concerned the State’s responsibility for the distress experienced by the wife and children of Christofi Vassiliou Pashias, a Greek Cypriot reservist who went missing in action in the northern part of Cyprus in 1974. Based on the facts as summarized by the Court, Mr. Pashias was captured by Turkish troops and executed between 14 and 17 August 1974. Although the Cyprus National Guard recovered his body from the battlefield on 17 August 1974, Mr. Pashias was buried in Lakatamia Military Cemetery in an unmarked common grave without having been identified. Twenty-six years later, in 2000, the State identified his remains and informed his family; Mr. Pashias was laid to rest in Xylofagou.[[9]](#footnote-10) The Court held that the Republic of Cyprus had violated article 8 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (European Convention on Human Rights), which protects the right to respect for private and family life. The Court noted that article 8 may impose positive obligations on the State to ensure respect for people’s private and family lives, as well as to notify the relatives of a person who has died, unbeknown to them but known to the State, so they can arrange a proper burial, among other things. While acknowledging that the State enjoys a certain margin of appreciation in implementing those obligations, the Court considered that the Republic of Cyprus had overstepped that margin. The Court held that, “after the report of 1993 about Mr. Pashias’ likely location, the authorities should have informed the applicants that the investigation was making progress and that their relative might be dead and buried in the unoccupied part of the country. By doing so, the authorities could have alleviated the applicants’ suffering”.[[10]](#footnote-11) The Republic of Cyprus has publicly stated that it would respect the Court’s ruling.

22. The Ministers’ Deputies of the Council of Europe continued to supervise the execution of judgments regarding Greek Cypriot missing persons and their families. On 11 March 2021, they underlined that, due to the passage of time, it remained urgent for the Turkish authorities to proactively provide the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus with all the assistance necessary to achieve tangible results as quickly as possible. The Ministers’ Deputies encouraged the Turkish authorities to continue to make sure that the Committee had access to all areas that could contain the remains of missing persons, in particular unhindered access to military areas, and urged the Turkish authorities to provide the Committee *proprio motu* with all information from all relevant Turkish archives, including military archives, relating to burial sites and any other places where remains might be found. The Ministers’ Deputies noted with interest the information provided on the progress of investigations conducted by the Missing Persons Unit and reiterated their call for the Turkish authorities to ensure the effectiveness and rapid finalization of the investigations. The Ministers’ Deputies insisted firmly on the unconditional obligation of Turkey to pay the just satisfaction awarded without further delay.[[11]](#footnote-12)

23. On 16 September 2021, the Ministers’ Deputies adopted an interim resolution strongly urging the Turkish authorities to pay the just satisfaction awarded in *Cyprus v. Turkey* (comprising compensation for the non-pecuniary damages suffered by the relatives of missing persons) without further delay.[[12]](#footnote-13)

24. On 9 June 2021, the Ministers’ Deputies issued a decision on the supervision of the execution of the judgment in *Kakoulli and Isaak groups v. Turkey*. They recalled that the cases in question concerned four killings and one life-threatening injury of Greek Cypriots in 1996, three of which took place in or around the buffer zone, due to the excessive use of force or firearms by Turkish or Turkish Cypriot military or police, and the lack of effective and impartial investigations. The Ministers’ Deputies invited the authorities to provide information indicating that domestic law does not allow the use of lethal force or firearms when it is known that the person to be arrested poses no threat to life or limb and is not suspected of having committed a violent offence. They also invited the Turkish authorities to provide information on the measures adopted or envisaged to secure independent investigations of actions of military personnel, and to provide their assessment of the need for measures to ensure that similar domestic investigations do not suffer from the deficiencies identified in the relevant judgments.[[13]](#footnote-14)

25. The presence of landmines and explosive remnants of war can have a negative effect on a number of rights, including the right to life. In its resolution 2561 (2021), the Security Council welcomed the announcement that 18 suspected hazardous areas across the island had been cleared of mines. Subsequently, in its resolution 2587 (2021), the Council urged the leaders of both communities to agree and continue a plan of work to achieve a mine-free Cyprus, in order to make expeditious progress towards clearing the 29 remaining suspected hazardous areas on the island.

26. Despite the request made by the Security Council, no progress was made during the reporting period regarding the clearing of the 29 remaining areas. The United Nations Mine Action Service continued to research options for the next phase of clearance activities to be presented to the two sides, with a special focus on the buffer zone.

B. Non-discrimination

27. According to article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Article 7 provides that all are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.[[14]](#footnote-15) Furthermore, all are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of the Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

28. The division of Cyprus, and its ongoing effects, have contributed to challenges to the full realization for all persons of the rights to equality and non-discrimination. Many people were internally displaced, including Greek Cypriots who had to move to the south of the island and Turkish Cypriots who had to move to the north of the island in 1974, as well as their descendants. An estimated 228,000 persons remain displaced.[[15]](#footnote-16) In addition, a number of other groups may be vulnerable to discrimination.

29. With regard to COVID-19-related restrictions, UNFICYP noted an increase in requests to resolve humanitarian concerns, such as post-mortem transfers, burial attendance, crossings of people for hospital visits and facilitation of the movement of medicine across the Green Line. The mission also continued to engage with the Maronite and Greek Cypriot communities living in the north, albeit in an altered rhythm and modality, and with Turkish Cypriots living in the south.[[16]](#footnote-17) For Turkish Cypriots living in the north, the European Union digital COVID-19 certificate was made available, but only for those who had been vaccinated and wished to obtain the certificate for the purposes of certain modes of travel and within certain dates.[[17]](#footnote-18) Although the Technical Committee on Health continued to be instrumental in overseeing the transfer of vaccines, challenges remained regarding the proportional transfer of European Union-approved vaccines to the Turkish Cypriot community.

30. During the reporting period, the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights received complaints alleging discrimination, including regarding the handling of applications for citizenship of children of Cypriots married to persons of Turkish origin and regarding the property rights of Turkish Cypriots in the south.[[18]](#footnote-19)

31. On 3 June 2021, the Cyprus Administrative Court issued its decision in *Ipekdal v. Republic of Cyprus*, regarding a mother’s request for the naturalization of her child, who was born in the northern part of Cyprus to a Turkish Cypriot mother and a Turkish father. The mother had applied to the Republic of Cyprus for her child to be registered as a citizen in 2013. At the time of the Court’s decision, the Republic of Cyprus had not yet taken a decision or provided a response. The Court found that, without any rationale, the Republic of Cyprus had continued for over seven years not to decide or respond to the applicant’s request and that such a long delay was unjustified. The Court held that there had been an omission of due action and declared the failure of the Republic of Cyprus to respond to the request invalid.[[19]](#footnote-20)

32. United Nations human rights mechanisms have consistently raised the issue of hate speech and hate crimes in relation to Cyprus. There were occurrences of politically or ethnically motivated attacks, such as the desecration of the Episkopi mosque on Greek Independence Day and the theft and destruction of a Greek flag in Pyla. However, as noted by the Secretary-General, such occurrences were counterbalanced by the swift and conciliatory response by community and religious leaders and political figures on both sides.[[20]](#footnote-21) For example, the vandalism to the Episkopi mosque drew criticism from across Cyprus, including from bicommunal initiatives such as the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. Two days later, the Religious Track of the Cyprus Peace Process welcomed, on social media, the speedy clean-up of the mosque by the relevant governmental authorities.

33. On 13 July 2021, the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights issued a statement regarding the phenomenon of speech promoting or inciting racism and xenophobia, including online. She noted that hate speech was a global phenomenon that was unfortunately quite common in Cyprus. She cited the number and nature of recent complaints received by her office regarding racist and xenophobic rhetoric, particularly publicly on the Internet. She noted the crucial role that the media could play in combating hate speech and the responsibilities of the police in combating public speech promoting or inciting intolerance against certain groups on the basis of race.[[21]](#footnote-22)

34. On 11 November 2021, the Commissioner for the Protection of the Rights of the Child published her position on statements made the previous day by a government representative regarding children with immigrant backgrounds. She noted that the statements intensified feelings of insecurity, xenophobia and intolerance. She stressed that the statements encompassed a wide and diverse group of children who are first and foremost children and must have their rights respected without discrimination. The Commissioner recalled the multicultural character of Cyprus and the need to promote peaceful coexistence and consolidate peace in society, and expressed the hope that all the obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child would be respected.[[22]](#footnote-23)

C. Freedom of movement and the right to seek asylum

35. According to article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State, as well as the right to leave any country, including their own, and to return to their country.[[23]](#footnote-24) Article 14 provides that everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

36. In Cyprus, crossings between the northern and southern parts of the island remain possible only through nine official crossing points, which limits freedom of movement. As mentioned above, freedom of movement continued to be limited even further owing to COVID-19-related restrictions, until the crossing points reopened on 4 June following the agreement of the two leaders. During the period under review, UNFICYP reported 1,067,406 official crossings through the buffer zone, compared with 1,378,862 crossings the previous year.

37. In June 2021, the European Commission acknowledged that Cyprus had been seriously affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which had disrupted all aspects of daily life, including movement of persons and goods across the Green Line. The Commission reported a sharp drop in the number of crossings by both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in 2020 compared with the previous year. That drop was attributed to the suspension of several crossing points for certain periods and to COVID-19-related restrictions imposed at other crossing points when they were open. The Commission noted that temporary restrictions may only be used in exceptional circumstances to respond to situations seriously affecting public policy or public security, and as a measure of last resort. Furthermore, temporary restrictions should last only as long as the circumstances that led to them persist and must at all times be proportionate and compatible with the European Union *acquis*. The Commission stated that it would continue to monitor the restrictions very closely.[[24]](#footnote-25)

38. During the period covered by the present report, there continued to be serious concerns regarding the human rights of asylum seekers and migrants in an irregular situation. Pushbacks from both the buffer zone and at sea were noted by the Republic of Cyprus, violating the prohibition on collective expulsions and placing migrants and asylum seekers at risk of refoulement. On 5 February 2021, five Syrian nationals, including two women, were intercepted in Pyla and directed back to the north by the Cyprus Police. Witnesses also reported that asylum seekers who presented themselves to the Cyprus Police at crossing points were denied access to asylum procedures. Some asylum seekers became stranded in the buffer zone. In one egregious case, three Cameroonian nationals, including a vulnerable woman, were refused access to asylum procedures when they presented themselves to the Cyprus Police at the Ledra Palace crossing point on 24 May 2021. As at 30 November, two of them remained stranded in the buffer zone, without access to adequate shelter, food, clothing, health or hygiene facilities. One of them was admitted to a hospital on an emergency basis on 9 October but was denied access to asylum procedures and pushed back to the buffer zone upon discharge from the hospital.

39. In his report to the Human Rights Council on the human rights impact of pushbacks of migrants on land and at sea, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants noted reports of migrants and refugees being pushed back from Cyprus to Lebanon and Turkey, without an individualized assessment having been made of their protection needs or of the risks they faced upon return. The Special Rapporteur also noted that Syrian refugees returned to Turkey from the northern part of Cyprus were particularly at risk of “chain refoulement” to the Syrian Arab Republic.[[25]](#footnote-26)

40. On 12 July, four United Nations special procedure mandate holders addressed a communication to the Republic of Cyprus concerning allegations of pushbacks of migrants at sea by the Port and Marine Police and the unreasonable use of force involved in some of those operations. The mandate holders had received information indicating that boats carrying migrants that had departed from Lebanon and Turkey had been intercepted and forcibly returned by the coast guard without individual assessments having been made of the migrants’ protection needs and without allowing the migrants to apply for international protection. In some instances, the authorities allegedly directed people on the boats to the northern part of the island.[[26]](#footnote-27)

41. On 8 September, the Republic of Cyprus replied to the communication, stating that no such incidents had taken place and that the allegations were unfounded. Specifically, it stated that “the division of Cyprus by a 180-kilometre-long ceasefire line creates unique conditions for the development of irregular migration” and that more than 70 per cent of applicants for international protection arrived either directly by sea or through areas of the country not under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus.[[27]](#footnote-28)

42. According to information provided by the Republic of Cyprus, at present the majority of asylum applicants arrive through the north. The lack of predictable access to the asylum procedure is likely to have contributed to an increase in irregular crossings through the buffer zone, putting asylum seekers at risk of exploitation and making them vulnerable to security incidents.

43. In the northern part of Cyprus, there continued to be concerns about the lack of an asylum system, as well as the conditions of detention for asylum seekers and the risks of refoulement. Access to the territory remained restricted and several hundred Syrians were returned to Turkey, including unaccompanied children and separated children who have parents or other close family members in the south.

44. The Secretary-General has noted that the issue of asylum seekers and irregular migration has been a source of tension between the sides. On a positive note, experts from both sides, including from several technical committees, held a first meeting on the topic in May 2021. The meeting was facilitated by the United Nations and attended by the UNHCR representative in Cyprus.[[28]](#footnote-29)

D. Property rights

45. According to article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others, and no one is to be arbitrarily deprived of their property.

46. With regard to property claims in the northern part of Cyprus, according to the Immovable Property Commission, as at 30 November 2021, a total of 6,999 applications had been lodged with the Commission since its establishment. Of those, 1,261 had been concluded through friendly settlements and 34 through formal hearings. The Commission had awarded a total of £325,416,657 in compensation and ruled for exchange and compensation in two cases, for restitution in three cases, and for restitution and compensation in seven cases. In one case, it had delivered a decision for restitution after the settlement of the Cyprus issue and in another case it had ruled for partial restitution.

47. With regard to property rights in the south, the Turkish Cypriot Properties (Administration and Other Matters) (Temporary Provisions) Law No. 139/1991 continued to provide for the administration by the Guardian of Turkish Cypriot properties that fall under that law. Turkish Cypriots continued to pursue their rights in respect of properties in the areas under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus, including in domestic forums. On 27 January 2021, the Nicosia District Court issued a decision in *Cufi v. Republic of Cyprus*, regarding a claim by the heir of a Turkish Cypriot property owner who had applied to the Court for an order enabling her to sell the property without the approval of the Guardian. She also sought a declaration that the above-mentioned Turkish Cypriot Properties Law was incompatible with the European Union *acquis*, in particular the principle of non-discrimination set out in Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin (Racial Equality Directive). The Court rejected the testimony of the claimant and the substance of the claim, and did not accept that the Law was non-compliant with the Racial Equality Directive.[[29]](#footnote-30)

48. The Ministers’ Deputies of the Council of Europe continued to consider the enforcement of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights regarding property rights. On 16 September 2021, they recalled that the Court had concluded that the law setting up the restitution, exchange and compensation mechanism provided for “an accessible and effective framework of redress in respect of complaints about interference with the property owned by Greek Cypriots”, and that the Court had expressed the opinion that compliance with the main judgment “could not be … consistent with any possible permission, participation, acquiescence or otherwise complicity in any unlawful sale and exploitation of Greek Cypriot homes and property in the northern part of Cyprus”. The Ministers’ Deputies invited the Turkish authorities to provide clarifications about the calculation of increases in property value and to also provide information regarding other ways to prevent changes to properties that are the subject of a pending claim for restitution before the Immovable Property Commission. They also invited the Turkish authorities to submit statistical data on the functioning of the Immovable Property Commission. They decided to resume consideration of the property rights of displaced Greek Cypriots at their meeting to be held in September 2022.[[30]](#footnote-31)

**Varosha**

49. The status of Varosha remained on the domestic and international agenda. In a statement transmitted by his Spokesperson on 21 July 2021, the Secretary-General expressed deep concern about the announcements made on 20 July by the Turkish Cypriots and Turkey regarding a further opening of the fenced-off town of Varosha. The Secretary-General recalled that he has repeatedly called upon all parties to refrain from unilateral actions that provoke tensions and may compromise the ongoing efforts to seek common ground between the parties towards a lasting settlement of the Cyprus issue.[[31]](#footnote-32)

50. On 23 July, the Security Council condemned the announcement by Turkish and Turkish Cypriot leaders, on 20 July, that a part of the fenced-off area of Varosha would be reopened further. The Security Council called for the immediate reversal of that course of action and of all steps taken on Varosha since October 2020. It stressed the importance of fully respecting and implementing its resolutions, and reaffirmed its commitment to an enduring, comprehensive and just settlement in accordance with the wishes of the Cypriot people, and based on a bicommunal, bizonal federation with political equality, as set out in relevant Council resolutions.[[32]](#footnote-33)

51. Furthermore, on 28 July 2021, the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe expressed hope that the statement of the Security Council would contribute to the renewal of settlement talks. She called for the human rights of all Cypriots to be fully respected on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions and in line with the guarantees provided by the European Convention on Human Rights.[[33]](#footnote-34)

52. OHCHR again recalls resolution 1987/50 of the Commission on Human Rights, in which the Commission considered attempts to settle any part of Varosha by people other than its inhabitants as illegal and called for the immediate cessation of such activities. Moreover, the Commission reiterated its calls for the full restoration of all human rights to the population of Cyprus, in particular to the refugees, and called for the restoration and respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots, including the freedom of movement, the freedom of settlement and the right to property.

E. Freedom of religion or belief and cultural rights

53. According to article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, which includes freedom to change their religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest their religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.[[34]](#footnote-35) Furthermore, article 27 provides that everyone has the right to freely participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.[[35]](#footnote-36)

54. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a negative impact on existing restrictions on gaining access to places of worship. Restrictive measures continued to prevent religious pilgrimages across the Green Line, which had previously been an important confidence-building measure. As the crossing points reopened, access to religious sites for worship and to events in the northern part of Cyprus became eased. During the reporting period, 50 requests to hold religious services and events in the northern part of the island were submitted to UNFICYP for facilitation, of which 22 were approved.

55. The religious leaders of Cyprus sustained their commitment to peacebuilding and religious freedom within the framework of the Religious Track of the Cyprus Peace Process, under the auspices of the Embassy of Sweden. Owing to COVID-19-related restrictions, on 7 June 2021 the religious leaders were able to meet for the first time in over a year. They issued several public statements to promote dialogue and stand up for freedom of religion or belief, including in response to cases of misuse, desecration and vandalism of places of worship, which occurred on both sides of the divide.[[36]](#footnote-37) On 27 April 2021, they issued a joint statement on the occasion of the informal five-plus-one meeting, expressing their wish for an end to the current stalemate and a resumption of the dialogue on the future of the island. They called on the leaders to “pay special attention to the living religious heritage of our island and improve our possibility to access, use and restore our places of worship and cemeteries that have been separated from their worshipers as a result of the decade-long unresolved Cyprus conflict”.[[37]](#footnote-38)

56. As part of the global “Faith for Rights” framework,[[38]](#footnote-39) the Office of the Religious Track continued to raise awareness about the Beirut Declaration on Faith for Rights and its 18 commitments. In the context of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence campaign, the Office of the Religious Track engaged in a process to reflect on actions to be taken to follow up on the Beirut Declaration, including the revisiting of religious interpretations that appear to perpetuate gender inequality and harmful stereotypes or even condone gender-based violence.[[39]](#footnote-40)

57. On 13 October 2021, the Executive Director of the Office of the Religious Track participated in the European regional forum on conflict prevention and the protection of the human rights of minorities, organized by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues. The forum resulted in a number of recommendations, including regarding the promotion of interreligious dialogue and of respect for freedom of religion or belief in peace agreements, particularly in respect of minorities.[[40]](#footnote-41)

58. On 28 April 2021, the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights published a statement regarding respect for religious freedom and cultural heritage. The statement was made in the light of Easter, Ramadan and the vandalism of the Episkopi mosque, as well as other recent incidents such as the desecration or misuse of places of worship and cultural heritage. The Commissioner underlined the right to freedom of religion, particularly in Cyprus, where the Constitution explicitly refers to both communities and religious groups. She stated that the message from the State should be one of zero tolerance for actions that violate human rights and disrupt the harmonious coexistence of people of different nationalities, ethnicities, religions and traditions. She stressed the indisputable necessity for all sides to take measures aimed at achieving respect for cultural heritage.[[41]](#footnote-42)

59. Notwithstanding the pandemic, the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage continued its weekly meetings and successful delivery of conservation and restoration projects across Cyprus. The Technical Committee completed conservation works at several sites, including the historic Afendrika archaeological site, two historic fountains and two Greek Cypriot and two Turkish Cypriot cemeteries, which were part of pilot projects. Additional sites benefited from emergency support work, and the Technical Committee has initiated a number of tendering processes for conservation works and designs island-wide. At the 2021 European Heritage Awards/Europa Nostra Awards on 25 September, the Technical Committee received the Grand Prix Award in recognition of the important restoration work it had carried out, the tangible cooperation between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots that it represented and its dedication to the preservation of historic monuments on the island.

F. Freedom of opinion and expression

60. According to article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, which includes the freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.[[42]](#footnote-43)

61. Following the conclusion during the previous reporting period of the Cyprus Media Dialogue project of the Representative on Freedom of the Media of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Representative continued to engage on media freedom in Cyprus. On 29 January 2021, she noted that she had met with the Ambassador of Cyprus to Austria to discuss the situation of media freedom and potential areas of cooperation. They also discussed issues related to the recently reported cases of online harassment and legal prosecution against several Turkish Cypriot journalists.[[43]](#footnote-44)

62. The Council of Europe Safety of Journalists Platform published several alerts regarding the safety of journalists and media freedom in the northern part of Cyprus. On 14 January 2021, the Platform reported that the Turkish Cypriot journalist Sener Levent had been summoned for a hearing before a court in Nicosia, in the northern part of Cyprus, on 24 December 2020, upon an order issued by the 21st Criminal Court in Ankara, Turkey. He was questioned in three pending proceedings over articles entitled “Kurds and us” (2016) and “Zorba the Cypriot” (2018) and a cartoon depicting an ancient Greek statue urinating on the head of the President of Turkey, Recep Erdoğan (2017). Mr. Levent was reportedly charged with insulting the President under Turkish Criminal Law No. 299/1 and informed that his statements before the Nicosia court were being sent to the Ankara court for evaluation.[[44]](#footnote-45)

63. On 18 January 2021, the Platform reported that the Cypriot journalist Esra Aygin had received death threats on social media after she posted a tweet regarding the responsibilities of the Turkish Cypriot leader, Ersin Tatar.[[45]](#footnote-46) On 22 January, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media posted a tweet calling for the multiple online insults and threats against Ms. Aygin to stop. The Representative stressed that all media workers must be able to report safely and referred to her resource guide on the safety of female journalists online.[[46]](#footnote-47)

64. On 31 March 2021, five United Nations special procedure mandate holders addressed a communication to the Republic of Cyprus, raising concerns about the deteriorating environment for civil society organizations in the context of a 2020 amendment to the Law on Associations and Foundations and Other Related Issues and, specifically, about the deregistration of the non-governmental organization Kisa. The mandate holders noted that the Ministry of the Interior had made comments about Kisa and other organizations working on human rights that could be considered defamatory, including by accusing them of cooperating with terrorist organizations, engaging in corruption and money-laundering and supposedly attempting to change the demographic and cultural identity of Cyprus.[[47]](#footnote-48) The Republic of Cyprus replied on 5 May, outlining non-compliances by Kisa that had led to its deregistration.[[48]](#footnote-49)

G. Right to education

65. According to article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to education; education should be directed to the full development of the human personality and the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and it should promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.[[49]](#footnote-50) The Declaration also provides that parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that is given to their children.

66. The European Commission continued to support socioeconomic development for the Turkish Cypriot community under its Aid Programme, including schemes to promote the right of Turkish Cypriots to education. These included projects on curriculum development and on a continuous professional development mechanism to improve teaching and learning, in pursuit of the long-term goal of aligning the education of Turkish Cypriot children with best international practice. The Commission also continued its scholarship programme to address the limited access of Turkish Cypriot students to European Union exchange and educational programmes. During the 2020/21 academic year, such scholarships were accepted by 127 undergraduate and graduate students, researchers and professionals.[[50]](#footnote-51)

67. In its resolutions 2561 (2021) and 2587 (2021), the Security Council called upon the two leaders to promote peace education across the island, including by further empowering the Technical Committee on Education to implement the recommendations contained in its joint report of 2017, and to address impediments to peace in school materials, including textbooks, as a contribution to trust-building between the communities.

68. The Imagine project, carried out under the auspices of the Technical Committee on Education and implemented by the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research and the Home for Cooperation with the support of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, continued its educational programme against racism and for a culture of peace. Activities with students had been paused since the start of the pandemic, although mono-communal and bicommunal training sessions with teachers continued. On 8 November, stakeholders reiterated their support for the Imagine project and the heads of the Technical Committee on Education expressed their readiness to resume activities with students.

69. UNFICYP continued to provide support to the Greek Cypriot schools on the Karpas Peninsula. For the 2021/22 school year, the Turkish Cypriot authorities approved four out of six teachers and accepted most of the schoolbooks – the exceptions being a few deemed to contain inappropriate references. UNFICYP continued to engage in the remaining two teacher positions, in respect of which three teachers were not approved.

H. Gender perspective

70. In its resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security, the Security Council called upon all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including: (a) the special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction; (b) measures that support local women’s peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution and that involve women in all the implementation mechanisms of peace agreements; and (c) measures that ensure the protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the Constitution, electoral system, police and judiciary. In addition, Sustainable Development Goal 5 calls for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including ending all forms of discrimination and ensuring women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

71. On 22 December 2020, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus approved the first five-year national action plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). According to the press statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the plan was prepared at the initiative of the Office of the Commissioner for Gender Equality in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in coordination with relevant ministries and services.[[51]](#footnote-52) While the plan was drafted in Greek, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) later supported its translation into Turkish and English.

72. In its resolutions 2561 (2021) and 2587 (2021), the Security Council recognized that the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women was essential in building peace in Cyprus and would contribute to making any future settlement sustainable, and encouraged the sides to ensure that the needs and perspectives of women were addressed in a future settlement. In its resolution 2587 (2021), the Council regretted the ongoing lack of meaningful participation of women’s organizations and youth in the settlement process, and called upon the leaders of both sides to submit to the Secretary-General by 15 December 2021 an action plan, in coordination with the Technical Committee on Gender Equality, to increase women’s full, equal and meaningful participation in peace talks and to provide direct support and encouragement to civil society organizations to enhance intercommunal contact and trust-building.

73. In responding to the requests of the Security Council, the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus and UNFICYP have been supporting the Technical Committee on Gender Equality to develop an initial draft action plan outlining elements aimed at ensuring women’s full, equal and meaningful participation in the peace talks.

IV. Conclusions

74. **The ongoing division of Cyprus continues to hinder the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons throughout the island. During the reporting period, the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions continued to further exacerbate the situation. Serious limitations on freedom of movement across the buffer zone were sustained for most of the reporting period and the number of official crossings decreased during yet another year.**

75. **Opportunities for direct engagement remained restricted, both within and between communities. Numerous people continued to face difficulties in accessing their economic, social and cultural rights. The effect has been particularly acute for persons and groups already in vulnerable situations. Although the leaders eventually reached an agreement for the reopening of all crossing points from 4 June 2021 onwards, serious efforts will be needed to recover the progress that had already been made in terms of trust-building.**

76. **Despite the challenges, numerous actors continued to promote and protect human rights. They included representatives of civil society, religious leaders and faith-based actors, and many of the bicommunal technical committees. It is worth noting that politically or ethnically motivated attacks were counterbalanced by the words and actions of community, religious, political and human rights actors on both sides.**

77. **The COVID-19 crisis has further exposed the underlying human rights concerns related to the continued division of Cyprus, highlighting patterns of discrimination, weaknesses and the impact of the division on the population. It has also underscored the fact that there is an opportunity and an imperative to “build back better” and to ensure that a human rights-based approach characterized by respect for the human rights principles of non-discrimination, participation, transparency and accountability underpins the dialogue and political process.**

78. **OHCHR recalls resolution 1987/50 of the Commission on Human Rights, in which the Commission called for the restoration and respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots. An impartial and in-country human rights capacity could ensure that the human rights issues faced by members of all communities in Cyprus are acknowledged and addressed. Engagement and technical cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms is encouraged, including through further visits by special procedure mandate holders, particularly to address the areas of concern highlighted in the present report. It is also imperative that OHCHR and other relevant actors have access to the whole island and to all persons affected and that they enjoy the full cooperation of the authorities of the Republic of Cyprus and of the Turkish Cypriot authorities.**

79. **Human rights do not have any borders. All stakeholders are thus obliged to uphold – without any discrimination – the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals within their territory or effective control. It is critical that all human rights protection gaps and underlying human rights issues in Cyprus be urgently and effectively addressed.**

1. \* The present report was submitted after the deadline in order to reflect the most recent information. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [E/C.12/CYP/7](http://undocs.org/en/E/C.12/CYP/7). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. [S/2021/635](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/635), paras. 27–28. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. [S/2021/635](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/635), paras. 6–7. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. See <https://uncyprustalks.unmissions.org/statement-united-nations-spokesperson-cyprus-2nd-june-2021>. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. See also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, art. 6 (1). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. [S/2021/635](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/635), para. 48. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. Application No. 58699/15, judgment of 31 August 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. Ibid. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. Ibid. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, 1398th meeting, 9–11 March 2021 (CM/Del/Dec(2021)1398/H46-32) on *Cyprus v. Turkey* and *Varnava and Others v. Turkey*. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Interim resolution CM/ResDH(2021)201. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, 1406th meeting, 7–9 June 2021 (CM/Del/Dec(2021)1406/H46-33) on *Kakoulli and Isaak groups v. Turkey*. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. See also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, art. 26; and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, art. 2 (2). [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, *Global Report on Internal Displacement 2021* (May 2021), p. 148. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. [S/2021/635](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/635), paras. 37–38. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. See [www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/eng/categories/important-announcements](https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/eng/categories/important-announcements). [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. See also paras. 45–52 below. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. *Ipekdal v. Republic of Cyprus*, case no. 944/106, 3 June 2021, Administrative Court. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. [S/2021/635](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/635), para. 29. See also paras. 35–44 below. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. See [www.ombudsman.gov.cy/ombudsman/ombudsman.nsf/All/9D9C31B0FEA3373FC2258714002FCBE5/$file/REPORT%20HATE%20SPEECH.pdf?OpenElement](http://www.ombudsman.gov.cy/ombudsman/ombudsman.nsf/All/9D9C31B0FEA3373FC2258714002FCBE5/$file/REPORT%20HATE%20SPEECH.pdf?OpenElement) (in Greek only). [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. See [www.childcom.org.cy/ccr/ccr.nsf/All/C73539ED28076223C225878A00426B1E?OpenDocument](http://www.childcom.org.cy/ccr/ccr.nsf/All/C73539ED28076223C225878A00426B1E?OpenDocument) (in Greek only). [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. See also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, art. 12. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. European Commission, “Seventeenth report on the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 866/2004 of 29 April 2004 and the situation resulting from its application covering the period 1 January until 31 December 2020”, COM(2021) 273, 2 June 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. [A/HRC/47/30](http://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/47/30), para. 59. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. See communication CYP 2/2021, available at <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=26498>. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. See <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadFile?gId=36545>. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
28. [S/2021/635](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/635), para. 44. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
29. *Cufi v. Republic of Cyprus*, case no. 4193/2008, 27 January 2021, Nicosia District Court. See also Corina Demetriou, “Cyprus – Court decision on a Turkish Cypriot property”, 15 September 2021 ([www.equalitylaw.eu/downloads/5496-cyprus-court-decision-on-a-turkish-cypriot-property-126-kb](http://www.equalitylaw.eu/downloads/5496-cyprus-court-decision-on-a-turkish-cypriot-property-126-kb)). [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
30. Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, 1411th meeting, 14–16 September 2021 (CM/Del/Dec(2021)1411/H46-36) on *Cyprus v. Turkey*. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
31. See https://www.un.org/press/en/2021/sgsm20834.doc.htm. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
32. [S/PRST/2021/13](http://undocs.org/en/S/PRST/2021/13). [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
33. See https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/developments-in-varosha-district-of-famagusta-cyprus. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
34. See also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, art. 18; and the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, art. 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
35. See also the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, art. 15. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
36. [S/2021/634](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/634), para. 9; and [S/2021/635](http://undocs.org/en/S/2021/635), para. 35. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
37. See [www.religioustrack.com/2021/04/27/rtcypp-press-release-27-4-2021/](http://www.religioustrack.com/2021/04/27/rtcypp-press-release-27-4-2021/). [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
38. See [www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomReligion/Pages/FaithForRights.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomReligion/Pages/FaithForRights.aspx). [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
39. See [www.ohchr.org/Documents/Press/faith4rights-toolkit.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Press/faith4rights-toolkit.pdf), p. 31. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
40. See www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Minorities/SR/regional-forums/Recommendations-Europe-Central-Asia-2021.pdf. [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
41. See [www.ombudsman.gov.cy/ombudsman/ombudsman.nsf/All/55B4D0F277BE7698C22586D8002  
    FD258/$file/AYT\_6\_2021\_\_.pdf?OpenElement](http://www.ombudsman.gov.cy/ombudsman/ombudsman.nsf/All/55B4D0F277BE7698C22586D8002FD258/$file/AYT_6_2021__.pdf?OpenElement). [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
42. See also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, art. 19. [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
43. See <https://www.osce.org/representative-on-freedom-of-media/477166>. [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
44. See https://fom.coe.int/alerte/detail/38386694. [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
45. See <https://fom.coe.int/alerte/detail/81635712>. [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
46. See <https://twitter.com/OSCE_RFoM/status/1352665517732069376>; and <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/2/9/468861_0.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
47. See communication CYP 1/2021, available at <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=26312>. [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
48. See <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadFile?gId=36185>. [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
49. See also the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, arts. 13–14; and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, arts. 28–29. [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
50. European Commission, Report to the European Parliament and Council, COM(2021) 272, 2 June 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
51. See <https://mfa.gov.cy/press-releases/2020/12/29/national-action-plan-unsc-resolution-1325/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-52)