



3rd MEDMEP Session  
October 2019 - Nicosia, Cyprus

## Factfile | AFET (SEDE) Committee

### Brief description of the issue

The committee's responsibility is to come up with ways that the European Union can contribute in preserving the human rights of Cypriot people that have been violated and infringed since 1974 with the Turkish invasion and illegal occupation of almost half the territory of the island.

### Defining key terms

- Turkish invasion of 1974: In 1974 Turkey carried out a two-phase invasion in July and August, resulting in the occupation, up to this day, of 37.2% of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus.
- Enclosed people: Greek Cypriots that remain enclosed in the occupied area.
- Missing people: As a result of the invasion, the fate both military personnel as well as civilians remains unknown, still to this day.
- Green line: The United Nations Buffer Zone also known as the Green Line is the border between the Greek Cypriot side and the occupied part of Cyprus
- UNHRC: United Nations Human Rights Council
- EEZ: Exclusive Economic Zone
- HUDOC: European Court of Human Rights

### Stakeholders

Throughout its presence in Cyprus the United Nations has provided its assistance to the two main communities in their attempts to bridge their differences. Today, the United Nations is once again facilitating efforts to reach a mutually acceptable solution to the Cyprus problem.

The European Court of Justice initiated a State of Emergency Appeal Commission which started considering claims of Greek Cypriots in December 2017. The claims were based on the destruction and the occupation of their family homes, properties and all personal possessions.

Turkey continues its provocative and unlawful actions against the RoC through the conduct of illegal seismic surveys in the southern continental shelf and EEZ of Cyprus. Further to this and the intense militarisation of these areas by Turkey, Turkey is proceeding with hydrocarbon exploration drilling operations in areas falling within the continental shelf/EEZ



of the RoC. The aforementioned actions and surveys constitute a violation by Turkey of the sovereign rights of Cyprus and of international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, the relevant provisions of which have long been crystallised in customary international law and a threat to peace and international security contrary to the UN Charter.

### Measures already in place

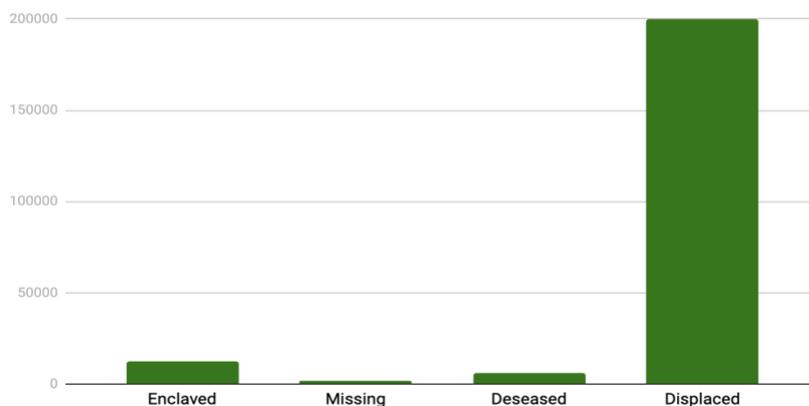
European Court of Human Rights: The Court dealt with 7,109 applications concerning Turkey in 2018, of which 6,789 were declared inadmissible or struck out. It delivered 146 judgments (concerning 320 applications), 140 of which found at least one violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

UNFICYP is one of the longest-running UN Peacekeeping missions. It was set up in 1964 to prevent further fighting between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities on the island and bring about a return to normal conditions. The Mission's responsibilities expanded in 1974, following a coup d'état by elements favouring union with Greece and a subsequent military intervention by Turkey, whose troops established control over the northern part of the island. Since a de facto ceasefire in August 1974, UNFICYP has supervised the ceasefire lines; provided humanitarian assistance; and maintained a buffer zone between the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces in the north and the Greek Cypriot forces in the south.

Cyprus peace deal negotiations: An effort done by the UN in order to reach a mutually acceptable solution that will stop the violations by the Turkish Republic and help Cyprus regain its independence.

Enclaved	12300
Missing	1619
Deceased	5750
Displaced	200000

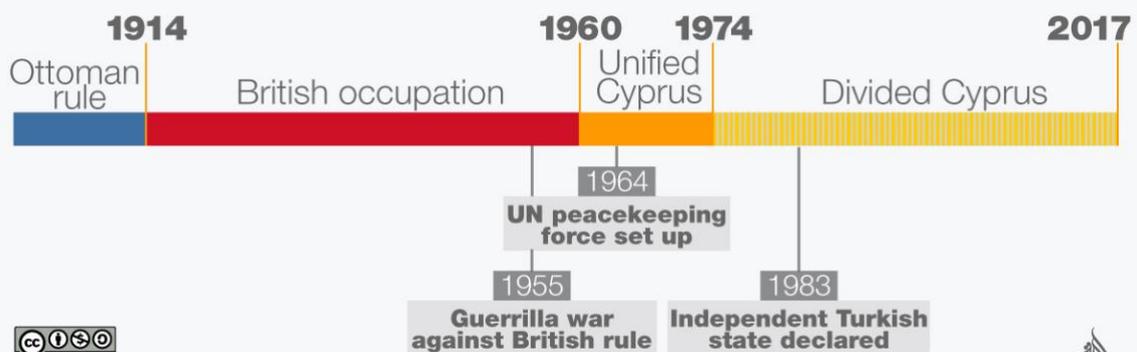
Turkish invasion's consequences on the people of Cyprus



# Cyprus: an island divided



## Timeline: Cyprus since 1900



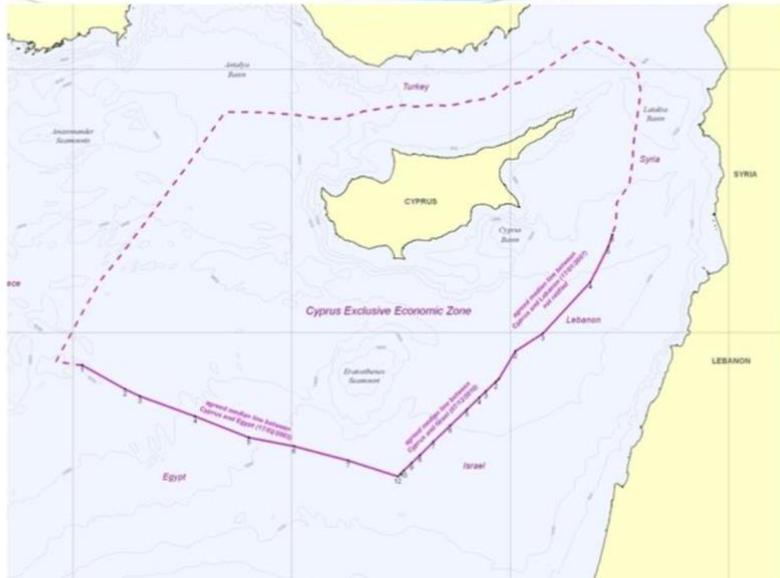
Source: Al Jazeera, AFP, United Nations  
Updated: February 2017



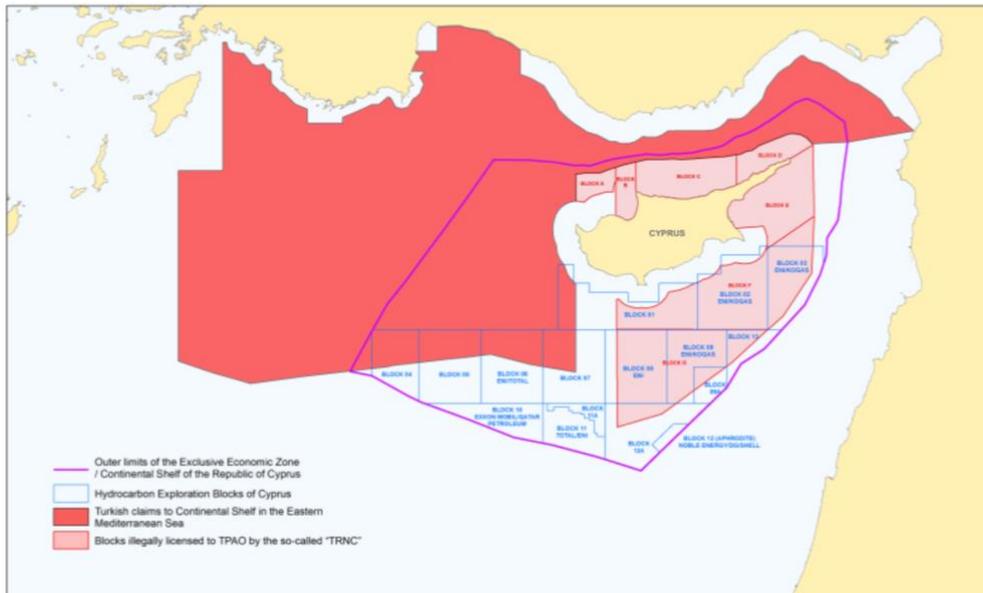
ALJAZEERA

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/interactive/2017/02/cyprus-island-divided-170216144739237.html>

## Cyprus' continental shelf/EEZ limits



## Turkish claims in Cyprus' continental shelf/EEZ



Source:

[http://www.mfa.gov.cy/mfa/mfa2016.nsf/3151B8BA8E492239C225840B00415D3C/\\$file/FOR%20WEB%20Presentation%20to%20EU%20HoMs%2031.05.2019%20\(FINAL%2031.05.2019\)ii.pdf](http://www.mfa.gov.cy/mfa/mfa2016.nsf/3151B8BA8E492239C225840B00415D3C/$file/FOR%20WEB%20Presentation%20to%20EU%20HoMs%2031.05.2019%20(FINAL%2031.05.2019)ii.pdf)