

17 January 2014  
Nicosia, Cyprus

Your Excellency Mr. Anastasiades,  
Your Excellency Mr. Erođlu,

The Greek Turkish Forum in its first annual meeting in 2014 has had its first opportunity to reflect on the efforts that have been made over the last few months to agree to a joint communiqué as the first step in working towards an early settlement of the Cyprus problem.

We would like to congratulate the two Leaders on the efforts made to date and to express the strong hope of all members of the Greek Turkish Forum and its Cyprus Chapter that the joint communiqué will be issued as soon as possible.

The Forum has followed with great satisfaction the progress achieved to date. Media reports however suggest that although we are very close to an agreement on the communiqué there are also a few difficulties.

All members of the GTF and its Cyprus Chapter believe that an important opportunity would have been missed if the work carried out thus far is not successfully concluded and communicated.

We have reached two conclusions regarding the overall situation. Critical to the ultimate success of the ongoing effort to achieve a settlement is the active involvement of civil society in Cyprus. We believe that until now insufficient efforts have been made to involve civil society and call on the two Leaders, as also on the United Nations Good Offices Mission, to rectify this.

The second conclusion is that it is inevitable not all the fears and concerns of members of the two communities can be met through the text of the joint communiqué. It will be necessary in the course of subsequent negotiation of the core issues that these remaining fears and concerns should be addressed.

Therefore, we hope you proceed with the joint communiqué as soon as possible, considering that this will open the road both to the exchange of visits to Ankara and Athens, and also to the negotiation of core issues.

With our appreciation for your efforts to date and hopes for an early success,

Yours sincerely,

*C. Carras*

Costa Carras  
Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Üstün Ergüder  
Coordinator

cc: United Nations Good Offices

Signed by members of the Greek Turkish Forum and its Cyprus Chapter who met in Nicosia on 16 and 17 January, 2014:

Costa Carras, Elias Clis, Emine Çolak, Xenia Constantinou, Thanos Dokos, Achilleas Demetriades, Üstün Ergüder, Konstantinos Filis, Ioannis Grigoriades, Evanthis Hatzivassiliou, Erol Kaymak, Niyazi Kızılyürek, Paulina Lampsas, Alexandros Lordos, Manthos Mavrommatis, Nikos Moudouros, Charis Psaltis, Ahmet Sözen, Oya Talat, Yaşar Yakış, Rana Zincir Celal