



CYPRUS



INTRODUCTION

A former British colony, Cyprus became independent in 1960 following years of resistance to British rule. Tensions between the Greek Cypriot majority and Turkish Cypriot minority communities continue. In February 2014, after a hiatus of nearly two years, the leaders of the two communities resumed formal discussions under UN auspices aimed at reuniting the divided island.

GOVERNMENT¹

Chief of State

President Nikos ANASTASIADIS

Head of Government

President Nikos ANASTASIADIS

Government Type

presidential republic

Capital

Nicosia

Legislature

unicameral House of Representatives or Vouli Antiproson (80 seats; 56 assigned to Greek Cypriots, 24 to Turkish Cypriots, but only those assigned to Greek Cypriots are filled)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 9,251 sq km

Land: 9,241 sq km

Water: 10 sq km

Climate

temperate; Mediterranean with hot, dry summers and cool winters

Natural Resources

copper, pyrites, asbestos, gypsum, timber, salt, marble, clay earth pigment

ECONOMY¹

Economic Overview

services-based, high-income EU island economy; heavy tourism; sustained growth between recovery of national banking system and COVID-19 trade restrictions; high living standards; a known financial hub, its stock exchange functions as an investment bridge between EU-and EEU-member countries

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$33.67 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$37,700 (2020 est.)

Industries - tourism, food and beverage processing, cement and gypsum, ship repair, textiles, light chemicals, metal products, wood, paper, stone and clay products

Agricultural products - milk, potatoes, pork, sheep milk, goat milk, barley, wheat, poultry, olives, tangerines/mandarins

Exports \$16.1 billion (2020 est.)

ships, refined petroleum, packaged medicines, cheese, crude petroleum (2019)

partners: India 9%, Greece 9%, Libya 8%, UK 7% (2019)

Imports \$17.58 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, ships, cars, coal tar oil, packaged medicines (2019)

partners: Greece 16%, Italy 10%, Turkey 8%, Russia 5%, Germany 5%, UK 5%, China 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

1.3 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

1.11% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Greek 98.8%, other 1%

(includes Maronite, Armenian, Turkish-Cypriot), unspecified 0.2% (2011 est.)

Language

Greek (official) 80.9%, Turkish (official) 0.2%, English 4.1%, Romanian 2.9%, Russian 2.5%, Bulgarian 2.2%, Arabic 1.2%, Filipino 1.1%, other 4.3%, unspecified 0.6% (2011 est.)

Religion

Orthodox Christian 89.1%, Roman Catholic 2.9%, Protestant/Anglican 2%, Muslim 1.8%, Buddhist 1%, other 1.4%, unknown 1.1%, none/atheist 0.6% (2011 est.)

