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.

GOVERNMENT
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 Antiprosopon (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

ECONOMY
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.)
as of October 2021