

**Speech of H.E. Dr. Krisztina Lakos
Ambassador of the Hungarian Republic to Cyprus
At the occasion of the presentation of his credentials
To His Excellency Mr. Nikos Christodoulides,
President of the Republic of Cyprus**

I have the honour to present today to Your Excellency the Letters of Credence by which Her Excellency Mrs Katalin Novák, the President of Hungary accredits me as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Hungary to the Republic of Cyprus.

Representing Hungary in Cyprus is an honour, a privilege but also a responsibility. You can rest assured that I will devote myself to this mission with enthusiasm and determination for our mutual benefit and for the European family to which our countries belong.

Cyprus and Hungary are linked by a historic relation of friendship and trust and maintain excellent bilateral contacts based on mutual respect and shared values. Throughout my mission, it will be my objective to develop it further in all dimensions. Our relations in the field of energy, education and tourism are already excellent.

After the difficult years of pandemia thousands of Hungarians have returned to the beautiful island of Cyprus to pay tribute to its beautiful nature, ancient culture and rich history. Several hundreds of Hungarian citizens have even chosen Cyprus as a second home, through marriage or profession.

Another important link between our countries is higher education. We are very proud of the young Cypriots who pursue their studies in Hungary. Those fellow Cypriot students who have graduated from Hungarian universities in the past decades are the strongest link and the best representation of friendship between our nations.

There are also outstanding potentials for further progress in the relations of Hungary and the Republic of Cyprus in the economic, security and cultural sectors. I hope that our economic and commercial ties will grow during my mission, as opportunities for new partnership exist in several promising sectors that are crucial to both for Cyprus and Hungary.

I wish to continue to expand our dialogue and cooperation in addressing core regional and global issues such as the challenges posed by migration and humanitarian crises in

our neighbourhood, as well as energy- and cybersecurity, climate change and water issues.

Both Cyprus and Hungary are committed to ensuring the continuous deep involvement of the EU with Eastern and Southern partners, especially in the light of the security challenges. The need for cooperation and joint action has become more crucial than ever.

As an EU Member State, and a friendly country of Cyprus and of the Cypriots, regardless of the community to which they belong, Hungary sincerely hopes and wishes perseverance that peace talks towards an agreement based on the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and in conformity with the EU principles and international law will resume in the very near future. We are aware of the fact that the reunification of the island grants a stable, prosperous future not only for the Cypriot people, but also for Europe and for the entire Eastern Mediterranean region

In conclusion, Mr. President, allow me to convey to you, to the Government and to the people of Cyprus the warm wishes of friendship and prosperity that the President of the Hungary expresses to Your Excellency.