

**Press remarks by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Constantinos Kombos,  
following his meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Andorra, Ms Imma  
Tor Faus**

***Lefkosia, 12 April 2024***

Dear Minister,

Dear Imma,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you today in Cyprus, in Nicosia. It is a good opportunity to meet again and have a discussion on a range of bilateral issues, and on a range of important regional and global developments.

We start from a very important standpoint that we share. Our two countries have the same dedication to the values of public international law and multilateralism. These are important parameters that set the framework for good bilateral relations. Evidence of that is the fact that we have just signed a Memorandum of Friendship and Cooperation, which will contribute further to the development of cooperation in areas of common interest, for the common benefit of our people and for our bilateral relation.

As I have said, we discussed a range of bilateral and regional issues.

Firstly, at the bilateral level, we believe that there is considerable room for improvement in terms of trade and investment in the education sector as well as the services sector. We discussed specific ways on how that can be progressing further. We are hopeful that the implementation of those proposals, those ideas, will be contributing in moving in that direction.

Secondly, I informed the Minister about recent latest developments as regards the Cyprus problem. I would like to publicly thank Andorra and the Minister for their principled position as regards, what is for Cyprus, a vital issue. At all for a, we have seen the tangible support that we have been getting from Andorra and on that front, we have to, once again, publicly express our appreciation.

I will reiterate that for the Republic of Cyprus, there is only one way to move forward as regards the Cyprus problem and that is the framework of the United Nations (UN) Security Council, namely bizonal bicomunal federation with political equality, as it is prescribed and described by the UN Security Council resolutions.

Thirdly, we discussed issues of common European interest. I congratulated the Minister for the successful conclusion of the negotiations for the Association Agreement with the European Union (EU).

Cyprus, being a member state of the EU for 20 years this year, we are fully aware of the benefits that one can identify with participation or association, in this case with the EU. These are benefits not only at the state level but primarily for the people. This is something that Cyprus would like to reaffirm and to project this message to the people of Andora.

We also discussed regional developments. We are all very much concerned about very recent developments, and the possible escalation and spillover of the conflict in the Middle East that would have catastrophic consequences for the region but also at the global level. This is something that we should all be sending a strong message of restraint and containment, because the consequences, as I have just mentioned, would be extremely problematic and catastrophic.

Finally, I would like to express to the Minister all the best wishes for a very successful organisation of the Games of Small States of Europe. You are organising them in 2025. We will be there and we wish you the very best of success.

Minister, once again, welcome to Cyprus and thank you for these very constructive discussions and deliberations.