



**EMBASSY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO
TO THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**

**SPEECH OF THE AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO ON THE
OCCASION OF THE CEREMONY OF PRESENTATION OF THE LETTERS OF
CREDENCE TO H.E. THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**

Nicosia, 16 December 2024

Your Excellency,

It is with great honour and pleasure that I present today my Letters of Credence as Ambassador of the Republic of San Marino to the Republic of Cyprus, a country with which San Marino shares deep and historic bonds of friendship.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey to you the warm greetings of Their Excellencies the Captains Regent, Francesca Civerchia and Dalibor Riccardi, and the Government of San Marino, as well as their best wishes for the success and prosperity of the friendly People of Cyprus.

In 2025, our two countries will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of official relations, 40 years of deep ties rooted in shared cultural values, respect for democracy, human rights, the rule of law and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, regardless of their size. San Marino, that does not cease to raise its voice in International Organisations on human rights, sustainable development, ongoing conflicts, nuclear disarmament and major institutional reforms of the United Nations, consistently supports the positions and candidacies of Cyprus in multilateral fora, most recently in the Council of Europe and the United Nations. Indeed, international fora serve as a powerful platform for smaller states. On this occasion, I would like to congratulate Cyprus on its recent election as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council for the term 2025-2027, a candidacy that we supported as an important achievement for Cyprus. Your country, like San Marino, has always been strongly committed to the promotion of human rights and will be able to face the current challenges, including the sensitive issue of human rights violations.

In today's complex scenario of ongoing conflicts and rising tensions, Cyprus, with its historically strategic geographical location, a meeting place of peoples and a crossroads of cultures, continues to respond swiftly and generously in defense of human rights and peace, acting as a corridor for humanitarian aid to Gaza.

As the new Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus, I am excited and eager to work with your Government and Authorities. I am confident that our countries will have the opportunity to further strengthen their already strong relations and cooperation, both bilaterally in the fields of economy, energy, culture and education, and multilaterally in the fora to which both our

REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO

Palazzo Begni – Contrada Omerelli, 31 – 47890 San Marino
T +378 (0549) 882 2227 - F +378 (0549) 882 422
amb.cipro@gov.sm



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countries belong, especially in the light of San Marino's ongoing path towards greater European integration. In this regard, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Republic of Cyprus for its constant support during the long negotiations of the Association Agreement between San Marino and the European Union and during the meetings of the European Commission. The broad availability and tangible support that your country has shown in this complex process is a clear proof of the deep and intensive cooperation between our two republics.

In 2024, Cyprus celebrates the 20th anniversary of its accession to the European Union. I am convinced that you will serve as an example and an ally for the challenges and reforms that my country is facing, especially in view of the Presidency that Cyprus will hold in the first half of 2026.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Turkish military occupation of part of the territory of Cyprus. San Marino has always supported the positions of Cyprus, in particular in the context of the execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, most recently during the vote at the Committee of Ministers' Deputies in Strasbourg. The mutual solidarity between our countries, Mr President, will continue to be a guiding principle for my Government.

Our shared vision and the honest dialogue between San Marino and Cyprus will allow us to face the global challenges ahead with awareness, responsibility and foresight, in the exclusive interest of a peaceful and prosperous Europe.

In conclusion, I am honoured to represent San Marino, the oldest Republic in the world, in Cyprus, a country that is both the origin and the meeting point of the most ancient peoples of the Mediterranean, and the cradle of the cult of the Goddess Venus in Paphos, whose religious and cultural importance has been recognised by its inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

It is therefore with great honour and pleasure that I present to you, Excellency, the Letters of Credence by which Their Excellencies the Captains Regent of the Republic of San Marino, Francesca Civerchia and Dalibor Riccardi, have appointed me to be the next Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of San Marino to the Republic of Cyprus, as well as the Letters of Recall of my predecessor.

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