**Bi-communal Peace Initiative United Cyprus**

**Declaration**

The Bi-communal Peace Initiative United Cyprus, consisting of more than 60 member or supporting organizations and groups, notes the following:

1. We welcome the positive climate that prevailed between the two leaders, Anastasiades and Akinci in their first meetings . The response of citizens, genuine and spontaneous, was an expression of their willingness to support progress towards a solution. Clearly the right timing for constructive negotiations is there and it should be seized with determination and without any further delay.
2. The declared common vision of both leaders is **the creation of a bi-zonal, bi-communal United Federal Cyprus with a single international identity, single citizenship and single sovereignty, based on the political equality of the two communities, as defined in the relevant UN resolutions and the agreements of the two community leaders. Inherent in that vision is the creation of a peaceful island and a prosperous future of the new generation of Cypriots.** To that end they have declared their common will to work relentlessly to achieve that
3. We salute their declared common vision and equally their declared common will to work towards achieving this end. The winds of change are sweeping across the island, shattering the barbed wire on the territory and in the minds of the people of the country. This sense of hope and urgency is inspiring and empowering the forces of peace and reunification, Turkish-Cypriots and Greek-Cypriots: united we salute this as a people’s victory and resolve to follow it through so that it leads to peaceful reunification.

4. **We call upon the two leaders to progress swiftly along the path of negotiations. The progress already achieved at the negotiating table is far more significant than publically accepted. The remaining chapters have been exhaustively debated and the issues are mature enough for decisions to be taken. Provided the parties refrain from revisiting issues already agreed progress can readily be achieved.** They need to utilise in full and without any hesitation the current momentum that creates the right atmosphere building on covered ground, dealing only with outstanding issues.

5. We strongly believe that with mass popular support, imaginative initiatives and ideas that push for solution we can succeed in overcoming fear and the inertia cultivated by the forces supporting the status quo and create an atmosphere of hope and expectation for reunification and peace. **We call upon all organizations, groups and movements supporting this route to unite in action.** We resolve to work tirelessly and without fear as one force, together as a bi-communal movement, to scale up our efforts so as to build the momentum and boost people’s confidence and drive towards solution.

**Supporting Organizations:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** |  **Cyprus Turkish Teachers Trade Union - KTÖS** |
| **2** |  **Cyprus Turkish Secondary Teachers Trade Union - KTOEÖS** |
| **3** |  **Customs Workers Trade Union - GÜÇ-SEN** |
| **4** |  **State Workers Trade Union- ÇAĞ-SEN** |
| **5** |  **EMU Unity and Solidarity Trade Union - DAÜ-BİR-SEN**  |
| **6** |  **Turkish Cypriot Civil Servants Trade Union - KTAMS** |
| **7** | **Pancyprian Federation of Labour PEO** |
| **8** |  **Cyprus Publisher’s Association - KYa B** |
| **9** | **Revolutionary Workers Union Federation Dev- İŞ** |
| **10** | **Limassol Civil İnitiative ‘Solution-Reunification-Peace”** |
| **11** | **Proodeftiki Primary School Teachers movement** |
| **12** | **Proodeftiki Secondary School Teachers movement** |
| **13** | **United Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot Teachers Platform** |
| **14** |  **İskele Citizens Initiative** |
| **15** |  **Municipal Workers Trade Union - BES** |
| **16** | **Socialist İnitiative** |
| **17** | **United Democrats Youth organization** |
| **18** | **Bi-communal Initiative of Relatives of Missing Persons and Victims of 1963-74 events - Together We Can**  |
| **19** | **Symfiliosi / Uzlaşma / Reconciliation** |
| **20** | **Peace Association** |
| **21** | **New Cyprus Association**  |
| **22** | **Left Wing** |
| **23** | **Association of Turkish Cypriot Artists and Authors** |
| **24** | **Federation of Cypriot Organizations in Greece - OKOE** |
| **25** | **Federation of Cypriot Organizations in Greece - Youth OKOE**  |
| **26** | **Bi-communal Choir For Peace in Cyprus** |
| **27** | **Cyprus Turkish Physicians Trade Union - TIP-İŞ** |
| **28** | **Publishers Trade Union - BASIN-SEN**  |
| **29** | **BARAKA Cultural Group** |
| **30** | **Cooperative Workers Trade Union - KOOP-SEN** |
| **31** | **Cyprus Turkish Association for Democracy - KTDD** |
| **32** | **Cypriot Science Education Health and Solidarity Association - KIBES** |
| **33** | **KGP** |
| **34** | **Cyprus Youth Platform** |
| **35** | **Bi-Communal Peace Initiative** |
| **36** | **Cyprus Reunification Movement** |
| **37** | **German-Cypriot Forum** |
| **38** | **Workers Democracy** |
| **39** | **Youth Against Nationalism** |
| **40** | **NGO Support Centre** |
| **41** | **IKME Sociopolitical Studies Institute** |
| **42** | **Hands across the Divide** |
| **43** | **Association of Historical Dialogue and Research** |
| **44** | **United Cyprus Platform of the Overseas Cypriot Organizations** |
| **45** | **Stop the War Coalition** |
| **46** | **Kontea Heritage Foundation** |
| **47** | **Committee for a Radical Left Coalition ERAS** |
| **48** | **New Internationalist Left** |
| **49** | **Drasy- Eylem** |
| **50** | **GAT -Gender Advisory Team** |
| **51** | **Cyprus Academic Dialogue** |
| **52** | **Turkish Cypriot Businessmen Association**  |
| **53** | **Famagusta Our Town** |
| **54** | **Cyprus Sustainability Institute** |
| **55** | **Famagusta Initiative** |
| **56** | **KISA – Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism**  |
| **57** | **Bicommunal Kyrenia Initiative** |
| **58** | **Cyprus Writer's Union** |
| **59** | **Epilogi Limassol cultural movement** |
| **60** | **Politia** |

**The** **Bi-communal Peace Initiative United Cyprus**

**June 2015**