

ASSOCIATION OF RIZOKARPASSO IN BRITAIN
RESOLUTION

Adopted on the 6th March 2011 at the 37th AGM – 76th GM
of the members of The Association of Rizokarpasso in Britain

Rizokarpasso, in the occupied part of northern Cyprus, had 4,500 Greek Cypriot inhabitants in 1974, when Turkey invaded Cyprus. We now have only 260 enclaved Greek Cypriots in Rizokarpasso who on a daily basis are denied freedom of religious worship, as evidenced by the stopping of their Christmas Day Service on 25th December 2010 and other basic human rights. Our Association members were either born in Rizokarpasso or their parents or grandparents were born there. Most of our members are the legal owners of homes and properties in Rizokarpasso and since the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus have been denied the use, enjoyment, benefit and income from their properties. The continued occupation of Cyprus by troops and settlers from Turkey violates our members human rights, fundamental freedoms and social justice and the very principles at the heart of democracy. Furthermore, Turkey is in flagrant violation of the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions including General Assembly resolution 3212 (1974).

According to the Treaty of Guarantee, Britain, Greece and Turkey undertook to guarantee the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. Countries and organisations can and, we believe, should, choose to put pressure on Turkey to abide by UN Resolutions and the rules of international law and stop their illegal occupation of the northern part of the Republic of Cyprus and abuse of the Human Rights of Greek Cypriots.

In 1974 Turkey illegally invaded Cyprus and ethnically cleansed 200,000 Greek Cypriots, (who made up over 80% of the population), from 38% of Cyprus territory in the north, and still occupies their land and homes with 40,000 troops and 200,000 illegal settlers transported to colonize and change the demography of northern Cyprus, thus ignoring the Geneva Convention. UN Security Council resolutions 541(1983) and 550(1984) declare the self proclaimed "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," "legally invalid" and call upon all states not to assist this illegal secessionist entity in any way since to do so will lend credibility to the invasion, occupation and colonizing of northern Cyprus it will ignore the human rights abuses carried out since 1974.

We ask you to put pressure on Turkey to respect people's freedom of religious worship and to subscribe to European values, human rights, freedom and the rule of law especially since Turkey desires to join the EU and be regarded as a modern state. We also ask you to exercise your influence to ensure that any proposed solution for Cyprus honours democracy, human rights and international law, a solution which we believe should include the following:

- a) The return of all properties to their lawful owners.
- b) The return of all the refugees to their homes and properties in safety.
- c) The restoration of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots.
- d) The reunification of the island and people of Cyprus.
- e) The removal of all Turkish troops from Cyprus.
- f) The repatriation to Turkey of the over 200,000 illegal settlers in Cyprus.
- g) The full and effective investigation of the fate of all the missing persons