

ORGANISATION OF RELATIVES OF MISSING CYPRIOTS (UK)

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NEWS BULLETIN MARCH 2026

IDENTIFICATIONS (7): Theodoros Koumi from Paralimni, Nicos Violari from Kalo Horio Klirou, Rasal Ahmet from Kalavassos, Kiymet Hasan and Narin Hasan from Aloda, Ayse Hasan from Lapathos, Rahme Cemal from Santalaris. From the CMP figures now stand at: Greek Cypriots Identified 764, still missing 746. Turkish Cypriots 301 and 191 respectively.

STRASBOURG MEETING: A delegation of relatives travelled to Strasbourg ahead of discussions on the implementation of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) judgments in the *Cyprus v. Turkey* case concerning missing persons. The discussions took place within the Committee of Permanent Representatives (PRs) of the Council of Europe from 9–11 March 2026.

The delegation comprised one representative from each of the three relatives' organisations. Letters were submitted in advance and distributed to all PRs. Meetings were held with Mr Frédéric Dolt, Head of the Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, and Ms Dimitrina Lilovska, Head of Section, Department for the Execution of Judgments of the ECHR.

The purpose of the letters and meetings was to urge the PRs to reject Türkiye's proposal to terminate monitoring of the implementation of the judgments. The delegation emphasised that Türkiye has not yet fulfilled its obligations to the relatives or complied fully with the ECHR judgments, particularly regarding the provision of information to the CMP on burial and reburial sites.

The PRs, decided to resume consideration of the issue of the

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missing persons at the March 2027 DH meeting. We are very pleased with this decision.

The PRs also noted positively the fact that Türkiye recently announced to the Committee that the limitation of 50 metres in diameter for CMP excavations in military areas had been lifted. This will make the work of the CMP much easier and more effective.

NEWYEAR'S CAKE CUTTING: On Sunday 11th January and after the liturgy at St John's where a memorial was held for those identified and buried and prayers were said for those still missing, the Cutting of the New Year's cake took place in the church hall.

The event was honoured by the Cyprus High Commissioner Dr Kyriacos Kouros who in a short speech referred to the heartache of the relatives of the missing from both communities and the efforts made by the Cyprus Government and the Committees of the Organisations of the Missing for the solution of this humanitarian problem.

The President of our Organisation thanked Fr. Constantinos Mammouri and the rest of the clergy and the President of the church committee for the offering of a room for our meetings as well as the ladies committee of the church for their help on the day.

He offered special thanks to the High Commissioner for his presence, that honours our Organisation as well as the community, and for his interest and useful advice to our committee.

Closing his speech, he asked those present if anybody has the slightest piece of information regarding possible burial sites, no matter how unimportant seems to them, to pass it on to our committee. He wished everybody a "Happy New Year".

Fr. Constantinos then cut the cake and shared it to all singing the "kalanda".



DONATIONS: Mr L Loizou £300, Mr Y Kashimeris £100. **We thank you for your kindness and generosity.**