

12th member of Commonwealth
CYPRUS UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED

ΚΑΤΟΠΙΝ ΟΜΟΦΩΝΟΥ ΑΠΟΦΑΣΕΩΣ ΤΩΝ ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΕΡΩΝ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΠΟΛΙΤΕΙΑΚΗΣ ΔΙΑΣΚΕΥΕΩΣ
Η ΚΥΠΡΟΣ ΚΑΤΕΣΤΗ ΧΘΕΣ ΜΕΛΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΠΟΛΙΤΕΙΑΣ
Ο ΜΑΚΑΡΙΟΣ ΠΡΟΣΕΚΑΛΗΘΗ ΕΠΙΣΗΜΩΣ ΕΙΣ ΤΟ ΛΟΝΔΙΝΟΝ
ΟΠΟΥ ΑΝΑΧΩΡΕΙ ΑΕΡΟΠΟΡΙΚΩΣ
ΤΗΝ 10^{ην} ΠΡΩΤΙΝΗΝ ΤΗΣ ΣΗΜΕΡΟΝ

CALL FOR PAPERS

The University of Nicosia, School of Law and the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London with the support of the Royal Commonwealth Society Cyprus Branch invite abstract submissions for a Conference on:

CYPRUS AND THE COMMONWEALTH 1961-2020

University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus | October 8-9, 2020

THE COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS YESTERDAY UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE APPLICATION OF CYPRUS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMONWEALTH AND PRESIDENT MAKARIOS WILL LEAVE NICOSIA THIS MORNING BY CYPRUS AIRWAYS COMET TO JOIN IN THE CLOSING STAGES OF THE CONFERENCE.

Cyprus thus becomes the 12th full member of the multi-racial organisation of free and independent States which has evolved out of the former British Empire. Although Sir Roy Welensky, Prime Minister of the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Federation, is by long tradition invited to join in certain of the deliberations of the conference, his country is not yet a member.

President Makarios will be the third Head of State attending the present conference. The others are President Nkrumah of Ghana and President Ayub Khan of Pakistan.

The news of the acceptance of the Republic's application for membership was communicated to the President yesterday by the U.K. Representative in Nicosia, Mr. W. A. W. Clark, after it had been telephoned to him from London. It came in the form of a message from the British Prime Minister, Mr. Macmillan, who is presiding over the conference. The message confirmed that the Prime Ministers had unanimously approved the Cyprus application and conveyed an invitation on behalf of the assembled Prime Ministers for the President to join them in London as soon as convenient.

To mark the beginning of a collaboration between the University of Nicosia and the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, we are holding a conference which will examine the relationship of Cyprus with the Commonwealth over nearly 60 years. The entry of Cyprus as a Commonwealth member in March 1961 marked a watershed in the history of the organisation. With a population of less than 600,000 at Independence, Cyprus was the first 'small state' to join the Commonwealth - an organisation in which small states now constitute a majority of members. And although a number of Commonwealth members - namely India, Pakistan and most recently Ghana

had adopted republican constitutions in the years following independence, Cyprus was also the first member to achieve independence and join the Commonwealth as a republic. Now, the majority of members are republics.

The accession of Cyprus proved controversial. Senior government officials in London questioned whether it was in Britain's interests, and doubts were expressed by some other Commonwealth members, while many of those in Cyprus who had fought for Independence were reluctant to see their country join an organisation so closely associated with the British Empire. Yet Cyprus has established itself as an active and enthusiastic member. It hosted the 1993 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting and its Foreign Minister has chaired the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group. The conference will seek to explore how Cyprus has both shaped and been shaped by the Commonwealth.

We seek papers that explore a variety of aspects of this relationship and its broader implications. These may include, inter alia:

- Debates around Cyprus joining the Commonwealth and the process of accession
- Cypriot diplomacy and the Commonwealth
- Trade and defence in a Commonwealth context
- Cyprus and the interests of small states
- The Commonwealth and the Mediterranean
- Cypriot diasporas in the Commonwealth
- Common law and common values
- The Commonwealth and the European Union

Interested scholars should email an abstract no longer than 500 words by **May 20, 2020** to: papaioakeim.m@unic.ac.cy. Scholars whose abstract has been accepted will be notified no later than **June 10, 2020**.

There are no fees to participate in this Conference. Participants are responsible for securing their own funding for travel and lodging.

Selected papers from the conference will be published in an edited volume and/or special issue of *The Cyprus Review*.

Please direct inquiries in connection with this Conference to:

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