

EU Peacebuilding in Cyprus – A missed Opportunity?

When the Republic of Cyprus joined the European Union on 1 May 2004, the Union inherited a decades-long conflict. Since 1974, the Cypriot island has been divided into the Republic of Cyprus and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, separated by a UN buffer zone. To this day, Union membership and the enforcement of EU law remain de facto limited to the Republic of Cyprus and thus to the southern part of the island, which is mainly inhabited by Greek Cypriots. Arguably, the EU lost its most important means of exerting influence on the conflict parties, following the accession of Cyprus. Nevertheless, the Union, which has been working intensively to find a solution to the conflict since the early 1990s, remains for many the greatest source of hope for conflict resolution and reunification of the island. As a result, voices have increasingly been raised calling for the EU to take its place at the negotiating table of reunification talks, which have recently been stalled due to geopolitical tensions between Greece and Cyprus as well as Turkey.



Dimitris Vetsikas

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- A missed Opportunity?**

**Wednesday 26.05.2021
19:00**

 JUNGE
EUROPAISCHE
FEDERALISTEN
MARBURG-GIESSEN

More information: www.jef-hessen.de/ea-mrgi
online event

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But how can the European Union play a meaningful part in the negotiations and the peace process as a whole? What role do European-Turkish relations play in all this? And what impact will the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Cyprus on 30 May have on Cypriot reunification? On 26 May, we want to give an input on the topic and address and discuss these and many more questions with you.

Speaker of the evening: Jannis Kohlt, Master's student at the University of Marburg in Political Integration and Economic Globalisation. During his studies, he focused on peace and conflict studies and most recently conducted research on the Cyprus conflict for his master thesis and in preparation for his dissertation.

When? Wednesday, 26 May 2021, 7 P.M.

Where? BigBlueButton: www.jef-hessen.de/raum-mrgi

You are very welcome to register without obligation using the form on our website (www.jef-hessen.de/ea-mrgi). This helps us with the planning and we can remind you of the event shortly beforehand. If you have any questions in advance, you can also use the form to send us a message!

About us: We, students from different faculties and Young European Federalists (JEF), deal intensively with questions concerning the EU. The JEF is a Europe-wide and non-partisan youth organisation. We see ourselves as ambassadors of the European idea and have set ourselves the goal of bringing Europe closer to its citizens and, in particular, to inspire other

young people for the European project. As federalists, we advocate the creation of a European federal state, as we are firmly convinced that many of the challenges of our time can no longer be solved at national level, especially against the background of globalisation, but only jointly at European level.