



HELLENIC PARLIAMENT



المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية
مجلس النواب



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

**1st Trilateral Meeting of the Presidents of
Cypriot, Hellenic and Jordanian Parliaments**

Dead Sea, Jordan 15 April 2019

Joint Statement

The President of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, the President of the Hellenic Parliament and the Speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, having gathered in their 1st Trilateral Meeting, on 15 April 2019, in Dead sea – Jordan , they have expressed their commitment and support to the outcome of the trilateral summit by His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al- Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, His Excellency Nicos Anastasiades, President of the Republic of Cyprus and Alexis Tsipras, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, in their meeting in Amman on 14 April 2019 ,which reviewed the progress achieved in many areas of common interest including energy, agriculture, tourism, health, education, trade, investment and information technology.

They strongly reaffirm their support for a comprehensive, just, negotiated and lasting settlement of the Israeli- Palestinian conflict based on the two- state solution and in accordance with international law, relevant UN resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative. They maintain their common position that the status of Jerusalem, the holy city of the three monotheistic faiths, must be determined within the framework of a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that guarantees the establishment of an independent, viable and contiguous Palestinian state on pre-June 1967 lines, with East Jerusalem as its capita,l living side by side with Israel. We emphasize the relevant United Nations' Security Council and General Assembly resolutions on the status of Jerusalem.

they reaffirm their support to the endeavors of His Majesty King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein, the Custodian of Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem, in safeguarding such sites and preserving the legal and historic status-quo therein, and

in accordance with the declaration of the 1st Summit of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the European Union (EU) member states held on 24-25 February 2019 in Sharm El-Sheik, Egypt.

They support the ongoing efforts for the resumption of the negotiating process, under the Good Office Mission of the UN Secretary General, for a just, comprehensive and viable settlement of the Cyprus problem, in line with the relevant United Nations Resolutions, international law, and the principles upon which the European Union is founded.

They underline that a comprehensive settlement would not only benefit the people of Cyprus, but also significantly contribute to peace and stability of the region.

Based on their constructive discussions regarding prospects of further promoting regional cooperation, particularly in three selected fields, namely energy, tourism and education and culture, the Presidents of the three Parliaments have resolved to further deliberate on these matters and eventually on other matters of common interest, with the aim of producing tangible results through joint initiatives and actions.

In this context, they have agreed to further strengthen cooperation between the three Parliaments through regular exchanges and in the framework of international parliamentary organizations. The usefulness of further expanding cooperation to the level of competent parliamentary committees, to promote the exchange of knowledge, best practices and legislative experience, was also highlighted.

The Presidents have agreed to fully exploit the potential of parliamentary diplomacy and to consider the possibility of cooperating with other Parliaments of countries in the region, which share the same principles.

The Presidents of the Parliaments of Cyprus, Greece and Jordan, have stressed the significance of turning energy into a catalyst for peace and prosperity and of promoting energy security, in strict compliance with international law and the respect of States' sovereign energy rights. The three Presidents have focused more particularly on joint initiatives and actions, which aim at further promoting energy saving, energy efficiency, environmental protection at combating marine pollution and

Water desalination. In this context, the benefits of maximizing the use of renewable energy sources were highlighted. They have also agreed to further encourage synergies in the fields of research and innovation with respect to energy between competent institutions and stakeholders from the three countries.

The Presidents of the three Parliaments have also discussed ways to further promote cooperation in the field of tourism, more specifically through joint tourist packages targeting new markets, as well as by diversifying and upgrading common thematic travel. A particular point was made of the need to further engage the diasporas of the three countries, whose contribution can be very substantial, also in this field. Moreover, the three Presidents have agreed to promote the creation of educational exchange programmes for tourism professions between the three countries.

In the fields of education and culture, the Presidents of the three Parliaments have discussed possible ways towards further fostering mutual understanding and closer people-to-people relations. Facilitating and promoting the teaching of the Arabic and Greek languages was given particular attention as a key instrument in this respect.

Moreover, the Presidents have highlighted the rich cultural heritage of the three countries. In this respect, they stressed the need to build on cooperation initiated at the bilateral and trilateral levels, aiming at combating the illicit trade of antiquities and of other cultural heritage treasures. The Presidents of the three Parliaments have affirmed their intention to promote the regular exchange of information and best practices, as a key tool in joint and parallel efforts by Cyprus, Greece and Jordan in this field.

It was agreed that the 2nd Trilateral Meeting of the Presidents of the Parliaments of Cyprus, Greece and Jordan, will be held in Athens and the third in Nicosia.