



Security Council

Distr.: General
5 January 2026

Original: English

United Nations Operation in Cyprus

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The present report on the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) covers developments from 12 June to 15 December 2025. It brings up to date the record of activities carried out by UNFICYP pursuant to Security Council resolution [186 \(1964\)](#) and subsequent Council resolutions, most recently resolution [2771 \(2025\)](#), since the issuance of the reports of the Secretary-General on UNFICYP ([S/2025/447](#)) and on his mission of good offices in Cyprus ([S/2025/448](#)).

2. As at 12 December 2025, the strength of the military component stood at 723 (631 men and 92 women, or 12.8 per cent women across all ranks, compared with the global peace operations target of 12 per cent women by 2025), while that of the police component stood at 59 (34 men and 25 women, or 42 per cent women compared with the overall global target for 2025 of 25 per cent women) (see annex).

II. Significant political developments

3. The peace process saw an increase in dialogue during the period under consideration. In July, the Secretary-General convened an informal meeting in New York in a broader format with the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders and the representatives of the guarantor Powers Greece, Türkiye and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The parties reviewed progress on the six trust-building initiatives agreed in March: the creation of the Technical Committee on Youth; initiatives on the environment and climate change, including the impact on mining areas; the restoration of cemeteries; the opening of four crossing points; demining; and solar energy in the buffer zone. In addition, they came to an understanding on four more initiatives, namely, a consultative body for civil society engagement, the exchange of cultural artifacts, an initiative on air quality monitoring, and addressing microplastic pollution. In September, the Secretary-General hosted a trilateral meeting with both leaders in New York. The Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on Cyprus, María Angela Holguín Cuéllar, remained engaged with the parties throughout the reporting period.

4. On 24 October, Tufan Erhürman took office as the new Turkish Cypriot leader following a leadership election held on 19 October. He and the Greek Cypriot leader, Nikos Christodoulides, met in November and December on the island under the



auspices of the United Nations. More details are provided in the report of the Secretary-General on his mission of good offices in Cyprus ([S/2026/9](#)).

III. Activities of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

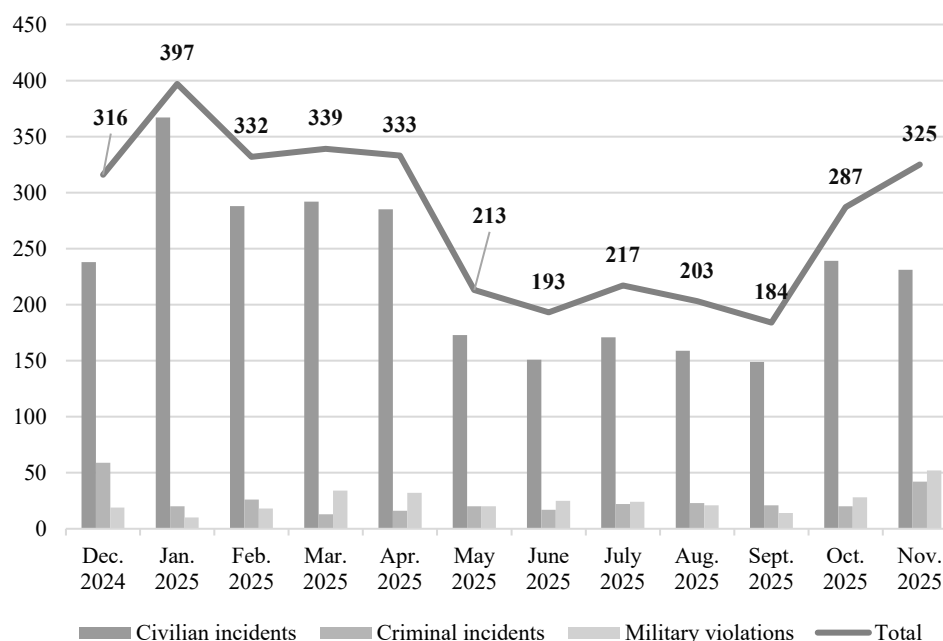
5. UNFICYP maintained its presence in and around the buffer zone and conducted more than 15,000 military and police ground patrols, as well as air patrols, to monitor the ceasefire lines and to ensure that both sides observed and maintained the military status quo. The mission also continued to actively manage civilian activities in the buffer zone, to contribute to the maintenance of law and order and to support people-to-people contact across the island.

6. During the reporting period, UNFICYP put in place the Secretariat-wide contingency measures to ensure continued safe and effective mandate implementation in view of the ongoing liquidity crisis. As part of those measures, the mission reduced its military strength by 60 contingent personnel and 4 military staff officers, paused the deployment of 5 United Nations Police positions and kept 13 civilian posts vacant. UNFICYP was able to conduct only approximately 20 per cent of planned helicopter patrols between September and November. Ground patrols were extended in both distance and coverage to mitigate the reduction in observational capacity. The reduced personnel across all components has required strict prioritization of risk-based operational duties and strained resilience. The mission's capacity to promote people-to-people contact was curtailed and support for civil society, including in relation to advancing the women and peace and security agenda, was disrupted. Programmatic activities supporting intercommunal trust-building were delayed or cancelled, given that only one third of the planned programmatic funds were available. In October alone, there was a 57 per cent reduction in intercommunal activities compared with the same month in 2024. Multi-phase infrastructure projects, including those intended to enhance the safety and security of peacekeepers, were postponed.

A. Prevention of tensions in and around the buffer zone

7. Military violations on both sides continued. The mission continues to observe the deliberate modernization and long-term military investment along the buffer zone, as well as concerning long-term trends of the eroding integrity of the buffer zone. The disregard of the sides towards the mandated authority of the United Nations persisted.

Figure I
Number of incidents in the buffer zone (December 2024–November 2025)



Source: Unite Aware.

8. The Republic of Cyprus removed portions of the unauthorized, discontinuous concertina wire fence stretching from Astromeritis to Mammari inside the buffer zone erected in 2021. As at 15 December, approximately 6 km of the 14 km fence had been removed.

9. The situation on the Pyla/Pile plateau remained stable and the number of incursions by Turkish Cypriot police declined for the second consecutive reporting period. The implementation of the understanding on arrangements for the Pyla/Pile plateau, which has been paused since November 2023, remains a challenge, with no agreed way forward.

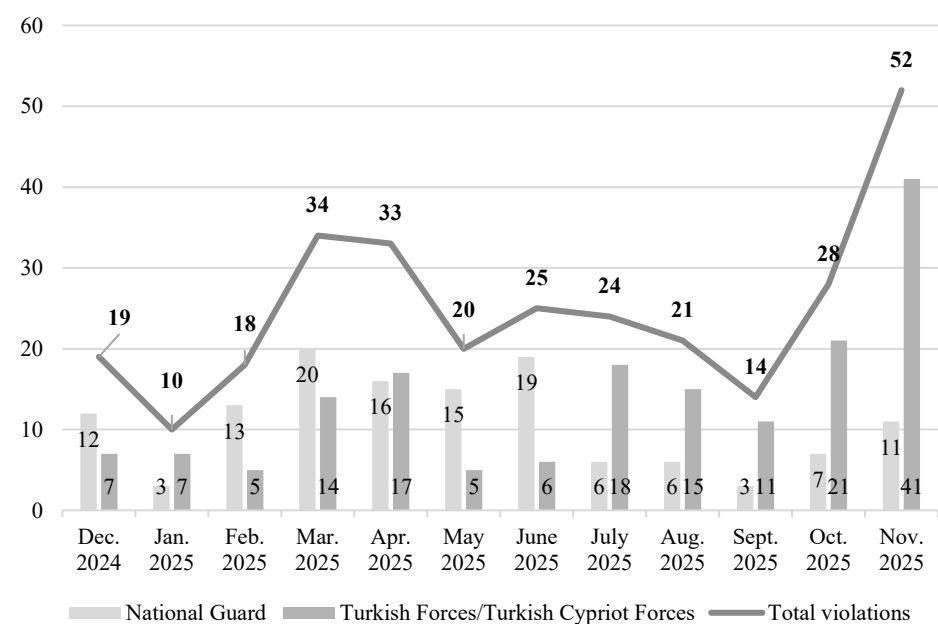
10. In Varosha, no steps were taken to address the call made by the Security Council in its resolution [2771 \(2025\)](#) for the immediate reversal of action taken since October 2020. UNFICYP did not observe any significant change in the 3.5 per cent of the area of Varosha for which it was announced in July 2021 that the military status had been lifted in preparation for renovation. However, during the reporting period, UNFICYP observed the renovations of facilities, including the installation of windows, air-conditioning units, solar panels and utility connections. Many visitors also continued to visit parts of the town that were made progressively accessible to the public. No change was observed to the previously reported trench and berm system constructed by the Turkish Forces south of the built-up part of Varosha and stretching nearly 4 km along the northern ceasefire line, which remains a military violation. UNFICYP also continued to observe the recurring use of commercial drone overflights. Access to the entire area of Varosha by UNFICYP patrols has remained significantly constrained since 1974. In relation to the status of Varosha, UNFICYP continues to be guided by relevant Council resolutions. Accordingly, the mission and the Secretariat have repeatedly expressed concern over any developments in the fenced-off part of the town. The United Nations continues to hold the Government of Türkiye responsible for the situation in Varosha.

11. In Strovilia, the mission’s freedom of movement remains limited, and the liaison post continues to be overstaffed by Turkish Cypriot security forces.

B. Prevention of a recurrence of fighting and maintenance of the military status quo

12. As at 30 November, UNFICYP recorded a slightly higher number of military violations compared to the previous period – 34 by the National Guard and 112 by the Turkish Forces – for a total of 146 compared with 133 violations (78 by the National Guard and 55 by the Turkish Forces) between 12 December and 30 May 2025. Liaison and engagement with the opposing forces continue to be important channels to de-escalate local tensions in the buffer zone. The mission continues to be concerned by these military violations because they contribute to the long-term militarization of the buffer zone and undermine United Nations authority. Construction by Turkish Forces accounted for half of the military violations during the reporting period.

Figure II
Number of military violations (December 2024–November 2025)



Source: Unite Aware.

13. There was a slight slowdown in the installation of military-grade surveillance systems (towers with camera/sensor devices) along the buffer zone during the period under review, owing possibly to the near completion of the projects by both sides. However, they remain a major concern for UNFICYP owing to their potential destabilizing effect. As at 30 November, the National Guard added 3 new camera/sensor devices, for a total of 28 devices on their 34 surveillance towers. The Turkish Forces erected 2 new surveillance towers and installed 6 new devices, for a total of 64 towers and 66 devices.

14. Other types of unauthorized constructions were also observed during the reporting period. Both sides continued to install new closed-circuit television camera

sites: 8 by the National Guard and 15 by the Turkish Forces. As at 30 November, the National Guard had a total of 130 such camera sites, of which 2 remained inside the buffer zone, while the Turkish Forces had 134. The number of prefabricated concrete firing positions remained relatively stable, with 1 addition by the National Guard, bringing the total to 340, 13 of which are deep inside the buffer zone. The Turkish Forces have 12 along the northern ceasefire line.

15. There was no movement by the sides to implement de-escalatory steps in and around the buffer zone as called for by the Security Council in its resolution [2771 \(2025\)](#), nor to address previously reported serious violations. This includes the camera and satellite dish installed in November 2023 by the Turkish Forces on top of an abandoned house inside the buffer zone known as Maria's House and the corresponding two camera sites installed by the National Guard in the same area, along with the 13 National Guard prefabricated concrete firing positions inside other parts of the buffer zone. Installations inside the buffer zone are of specific concern because, in essence, the sides have moved forward from the United Nations-established ceasefire lines and, in so doing, undermine the neutral status and integrity of the buffer zone. Similarly, the previously reported trench system comprising 11 concrete bunkers along the southern ceasefire line, installed by the National Guard in the middle of a civilian photovoltaic park located partly inside the buffer zone, has not been removed. UNFICYP continues to encourage the sides to establish a direct mechanism for military contact.

16. The mission continued to strenuously object to the Republic of Cyprus authorities' policy of requiring civilian buildings along the southern ceasefire line to incorporate military positions. Not only are such installations military violations, but they also dangerously obscure the distinction between civilian and military facilities. In August 2025, the previously reported neurological research institute on the edge of the buffer zone, in close proximity to the United Nations protected area, completed its construction of integrated military positions/firing ports.

17. The Security Council's call, in its resolution [2771 \(2025\)](#), for the sides to agree on "a plan of work to achieve a mine-free Cyprus" gained traction during the reporting period. At the Secretary-General's informal meeting in a broader format on 17 July 2025, the sides reconfirmed demining as one of the trust-building measures. However, the 29 suspected hazardous areas across the island remain uncleared, including four active minefields in the buffer zone: three under the National Guard and one under the Turkish Forces.

C. Management of civilian activity and maintenance of law and order

18. Managing authorized and unauthorized civilian activity in the buffer zone to prevent possible civil-military tensions has increasingly taken outsized attention and resources from the mission. The mission held 35 outreach meetings with the local communities and published regular media campaigns to raise awareness on the parameters and conditions to enable safe farming in the buffer zone, and escorted farmers in some sensitive areas. In several instances, Turkish Forces reacted to Greek Cypriot hunters and farmers coming too close to the northern ceasefire line. In November, Turkish Forces entered the buffer zone on five occasions to challenge the presence of Greek Cypriot farmers and to contest the delineation of the ceasefire line in Déneia, an area west of Nicosia. UNFICYP presence on the ground quickly defused the situations.

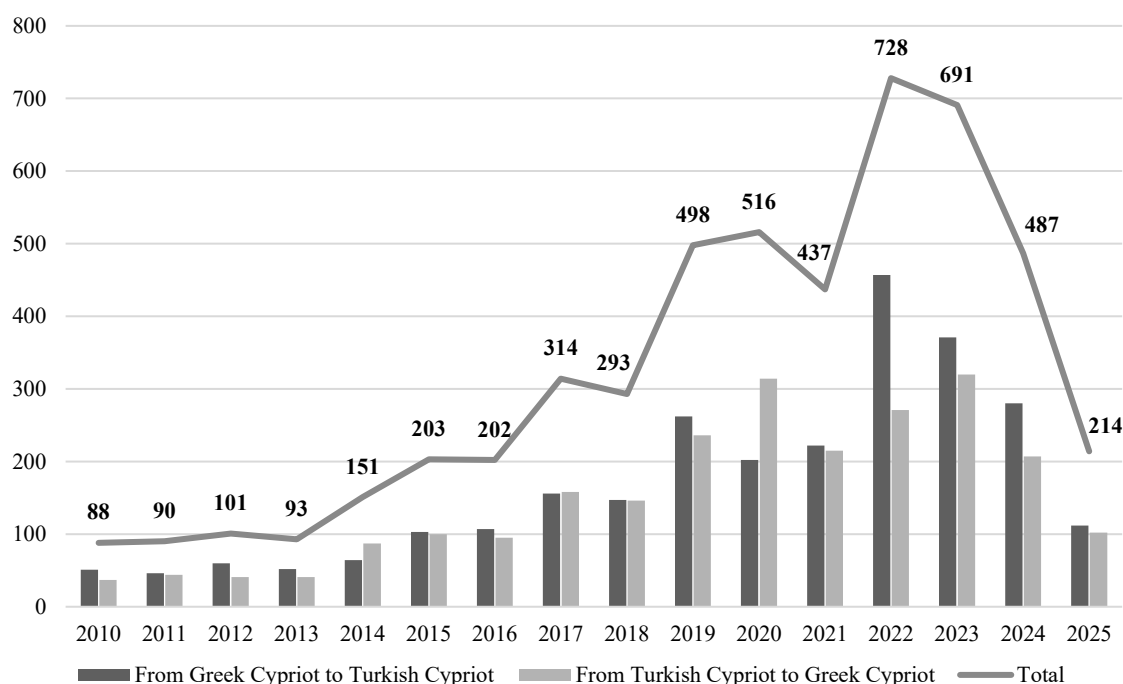
19. As at 30 November, UNFICYP had recorded 48 incidents of unauthorized hunting, a 10 per cent increase compared with the same period last year. Since 2022, maps produced by the game and fauna services of the Republic of Cyprus indicate

large swaths of the buffer zone as permissible hunting zones, notwithstanding the mission's repeated requests to adjust the maps, thereby indirectly encouraging the public to trespass into the buffer zone. Allowing individuals with weapons into this zone poses significant security risks.

20. The mission assisted the Greek Cypriot police in the successful arrest of smugglers in Athienou. The Joint Contact Rooms, facilitated by UNFICYP under the auspices of the Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters, continued to regularly exchange information and serve as effective coordination mechanisms.¹

Figure III

Number of information exchanges in the Joint Contact Rooms



Source: Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System.

21. In the bicommunal village of Pyla/Pile and surroundings, criminality associated with the 11 illegal casinos and 1 nightclub persisted. To help to contribute to public safety, UNFICYP maintained its community-oriented policing foot patrols throughout the village.

22. The University of Central Lancashire in Pyla/Pile continued to operate in the buffer zone without authorization from UNFICYP. No progress was registered in resolving the matter of the large unauthorized construction project associated with the university.

¹ For more information about the Technical Committees, please see the report of the Secretary-General on his mission of good offices in Cyprus ([S/2026/9](#)).

D. Intercommunal relations, cooperation and trust-building

23. During the reporting period, UNFICYP facilitated 163 activities, of which 30 were intercommunal events that attracted 2,979 participants, and supported/hosted 121 activities at the Ledra Palace Hotel in the buffer zone.

24. As part of its efforts to strengthen youth-driven peacebuilding, the mission supported two newly established intercommunal youth groups, formed as a result of previous UNFICYP-supported activities. The groups organized four youth workshops in the Nicosia and Famagusta regions that attracted more than 100 participants, focusing on issues related to identity, language, gender equality and the involvement of young people in the peace process. Building on the intergenerational partnerships that UNFICYP facilitated, the “Fashion Heritage Network” organized an exhibition in which young designers joined forces with local artisans to reimagine traditional and endangered craftsmanship such as hand loom weaving and embroidery, through contemporary, sustainable fashion, engaging 700 people (420 women and 280 men) from both communities.

25. In an expression of their commitment to increased cooperation, both Nicosia municipal offices and local partners, together with UNFICYP, organized an intercommunal festival along the Ledra street crossing point in June. The event featured small businesses and cultural activities from both communities and attracted a large audience. In Pyla/Pile, intercommunal engagement increased, with both communities participating in joint initiatives, and is an encouraging sign of renewed cooperation since the crisis of August 2023 on the plateau.

26. Representatives of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot political parties held monthly meetings under the auspices of the Embassy of Slovakia (see the report of the Secretary-General report on his mission of good offices in Cyprus ([S/2026/9](#))).

E. Facilitation of access and humanitarian functions

27. UNFICYP continued to provide regular humanitarian assistance for Greek Cypriots and Maronites residing in the north and Turkish Cypriots residing in the south, through visits to both communities, humanitarian deliveries, post-mortem transfers, visits to detention facilities and the monitoring of court proceedings. During the reporting period, UNFICYP carried out deliveries of basic provisions to 283 Greek Cypriots and 45 Maronites in the north, facilitated three post-mortem transfers of Greek Cypriots through the checkpoints and monitored 20 court hearings, including 1 Turkish Cypriot who was arrested in the south on 7 June 2024 and 5 Greek Cypriots in the north who were arrested on 19 July 2025 (3 of whom were subsequently released in November). A delivery of unavailable medications to the Turkish Cypriot side was also facilitated through the Technical Committee on Health with the support of UNFICYP.

28. As at 12 December, the mission facilitated access for 37 religious and commemorative events across or inside the buffer zone. The Turkish Cypriot authorities approved 28 of 57 requests channelled through UNFICYP for religious services in the north, comparable to the 28 of 59 during the same period in 2024. The continued smooth cooperation between UNFICYP and both sides enabled the facilitation of the crossing of 771 Turkish Cypriots from the north to Kokkina for the annual commemoration event on 8 August.

29. For the 2025/26 academic year, the Turkish Cypriot authorities approved the appointment of all seven Greek Cypriot teachers to serve at the Greek Cypriot schools in Rizokarpaso. A teaching position for the Maronite school at Kormakitis has yet to

be filled owing to demands by the Maronite community for a Maronite teacher. With respect to the handover of school textbooks, Turkish Cypriots considered 37 of the 97 books for the primary school curriculum and 54 of the 191 books for secondary schools to contain “incendiary language” and noted that “indoctrinating enmity and racism have the potential to negatively affect the future relationships of young generations”.

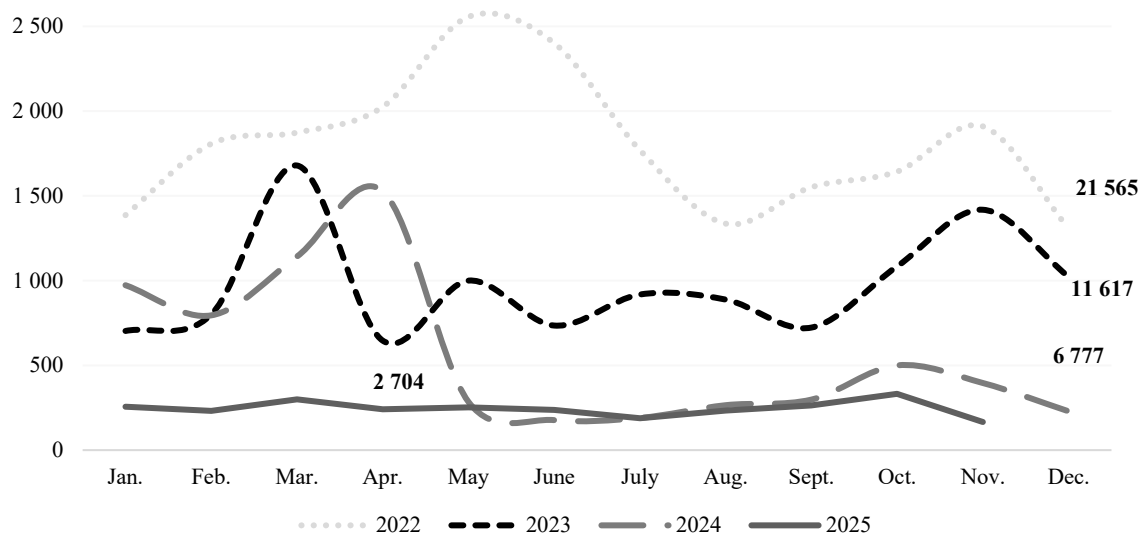
30. Crossing trends reversed during the reporting period, which saw fewer Greek Cypriots crossing into the north and an increased number of Turkish Cypriots crossing into the south. The issue of crossing points has increasingly become a source of frustration for Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. The long delays at the main vehicular crossing point at Agios Dometios/Metehan in Nicosia, owing to lane closures and upgrades to technical systems, persisted. The enlargement project commenced in the first week of December 2025. More details are provided in the report of the Secretary-General on his mission of good offices in Cyprus ([S/2026/9](#)).

F. Refugees and asylum-seekers

31. As at end of November 2025, 2,704 persons lodged new asylum applications in 2025 in the Republic of Cyprus, of whom 2,136 had crossed the Green Line irregularly, representing 79 per cent of the total number of asylum-seekers. The new asylum applications have decreased by some 59 per cent in 2025 compared with the same period (January to November) in 2024, a trend driven mainly by the sharp decrease of direct boat arrivals after May 2024, which continues throughout 2025. By the end of November 2025, the first-instance backlog stood at 15,959 pending applications, a 22 per cent decrease compared with December 2024. Syrians accounted for 72 per cent of the total backlog, at 11,482 cases, reflecting a 17 per cent reduction since December 2024, driven in large part by the 2,582 explicit withdrawals submitted by Syrian applicants in 2025. At the appeals stage, 7,392 cases remained pending before the International Protection Administrative Court as of November 2025, representing a 6 per cent increase since December 2024.

32. The asylum-seekers who remained stranded in the buffer zone between May and November 2024 and who were admitted to asylum procedures in the Republic of Cyprus pending relocation to other European Union member States were eventually granted access to reception benefits. Some 22 formerly stranded asylum-seekers have already been relocated, while 37 remain in the Republic of Cyprus.

Figure IV
Number of asylum applications registered in the Republic of Cyprus (2022–2025)



Source: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

G. Gender and women and peace and security

33. During the reporting period, UNFICYP held 38 meetings, events or activities related to the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda and advancing gender equality through intercommunal action, with the aim of increasing women's participation in decision-making, an example of which was the "Life Again" project, a series of intercommunal workshops geared towards healing intergenerational trauma, where Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot women shared their experiences of the direct and indirect consequence of the conflict, which can help to shape the peace and security discourse. On 1 October, UNFICYP supported a traditional food workshop attended by Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot women who had developed a partnership over the past year that was propelled by their connection with the formerly mixed village of Agios Theodoros, where many of them come from.

34. Furthermore, UNFICYP integrated an intersectional approach within the Youth Champions for Environment and Peace programme, held in September 2025, to raise understanding of the differential impact of environmental issues on women, men, boys and girls, as well as other intersecting identities. Furthermore, another youth-driven event, "Reimagining Cyprus: Identity, Equality and Coexistence", brought the discussion to broader segments of the population, who reflected on how issues of gender equality affected their everyday lives, with two additional workshops in other cities envisaged for 2026.

35. During the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence campaign, from 25 November to 10 December UNFICYP, together with women's civil society, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the British High Commission, held a series of workshops and events featuring a foundation based in the United Kingdom working on education and awareness-raising to create societies that are safer for women and girls. The events targeted university aged students, refugees and asylum-seekers, along with an intercommunal event that included the

perspectives of local civil society organizations working to combat violence against women and girls. UNFICYP also joined the global campaign with a series of profiles of military, police and civilian staff raising their voices against gender-based violence.

IV. Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus

36. The bicommunal teams of scientists of the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, supported by the United Nations, are mandated to recover, identify and return the remains of persons who went missing during the periods of 1963/64 and 1974, as well as during the intervening period. Eight teams of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot scientists carried out excavations throughout the island, exhumed the remains of three persons and identified eight individuals as missing persons during the reporting period. Since the start of its operations in 2006, the Committee has exhumed or received the remains of 1,713 persons on both sides of the island.

37. To date, of the 2,002 missing persons on the Committee's official list, 1,062 have been formally identified and their remains returned to their families for dignified burials, including 2 during the reporting period.

38. On 7 July 2025, the Committee held a public event to launch the Committee's new strategy for the period 2025–2030. The launch was attended by family associations of missing persons from both Cypriot communities and representatives from the diplomatic community. On 11 December, the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders visited the anthropological laboratory of the Committee in Cyprus. They expressed appreciation for the effective humanitarian work of the Committee and emphasized the critical importance of keeping it free from political interference. They also appealed to anyone with information regarding potential burial sites to share it with the Committee and assured that the principle of confidentiality would be strictly observed.

39. The Committee continued its efforts to gain access to additional information on the location of the burial sites of missing persons from the archives of countries that maintained a military or police presence in Cyprus between 1963/64 and 1974. The Turkish Cypriot office of the Committee continued to have access to Turkish army aerial photos taken in 1974 and the Greek Cypriot office of the Committee continued to research the Republic of Cyprus National Guard archives of 1974. The Committee is also utilizing a web-based geographic information system application that facilitates the seamless sharing of information among its three offices.

V. Conduct and discipline and sexual exploitation and abuse

40. UNFICYP maintained its efforts to ensure strict adherence to the United Nations policy of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse. In close coordination with the Regional Conduct and Discipline Section based at the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, the mission implemented activities related to prevention, enforcement and remedial action regarding misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud and prohibited conduct in the workplace.

41. The mission received no allegations of sexual exploitation and/or abuse. However, one allegation of sexual harassment and four allegations of possible unsatisfactory conduct cases were recorded and are being thoroughly investigated.

VI. Financial and administrative aspects

42. The General Assembly, by its resolution [79/303](#), appropriated an amount of \$57.3 million for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, inclusive of the voluntary contribution of one third of the net cost of the Force, equivalent to \$19.9 million, from the Government of Cyprus and the voluntary contribution of \$6.5 million from the Government of Greece.

43. As at 1 December 2025, unpaid assessed contributions to the special account for UNFICYP amounted to \$26.8 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at that date amounted to \$4,237.8 million.

44. Reimbursement of troop costs has been made for the period up to 30 June 2025 and contingent-owned equipment has been made for the period up to 31 December 2024.

VII. Observations

45. The taking of office by the new Turkish Cypriot leader and the boost in engagement between the leaders raised renewed, albeit cautious, hope for a new moment of opportunity to move forward on the Cyprus issue. I am encouraged that, over the past year, there were no significant incidents within the buffer zone and that the sides exercised restraint from major unilateral actions.

46. I note, however, that no progress has been made by the sides to de-escalate the growing military modernization along the ceasefire lines and to reverse their actions in and around the buffer zone. I continue to urge both sides to cease their military construction violations, which, in effect, seek to permanently alter the military status quo of the buffer zone. At the same time, the policy of deliberately blurring the distinction between military and civilian by disguising military positions within civilian structures raises serious concerns. Invoking the imbalance of forces on the island cannot justify such violations. I reiterate my call to both sides to engage in a direct military contact mechanism and urge them to actively pursue avenues for dialogue, including, where necessary, with the facilitation of UNFICYP. I stress the need, once again, for all parties to respect and abide by the United Nations impartial delineation of the buffer zone – the only delineation recognized by the Security Council.

47. While UNFICYP plays an essential role in de-escalating low-level tensions and safeguarding the integrity of the buffer zone, its ability to curb unauthorized activity is limited without the full cooperation of both sides. I echo the call of the Security Council in its resolution [2771 \(2025\)](#) and stress that it is incumbent on the sides to respect the integrity of the buffer zone and prevent unauthorized military and civilian activities within and along the ceasefire lines.

48. The continued pause in the implementation of the understanding regarding arrangements for the Pyla/Pile plateau is not conducive to stability. I urge both sides to continue to engage with the mission to find a way forward.

49. Beyond the buffer zone, I reiterate the importance of the parties refraining from taking unilateral action that could raise tensions and compromise a return to talks, while also calling upon all parties to engage in dialogue to resolve their differences. In that respect, I reiterate my concern over the situation in the fenced-off area of Varosha and the lack of response to the Security Council's call for a reversal of the actions taken since the announcement of the partial reopening of the fenced-off town in October 2020. I further recall the Council's decisions related to Varosha, notably in its resolutions [550 \(1984\)](#) and [789 \(1992\)](#), and the importance of adhering fully to

those resolutions, reiterating that the position of the United Nations on this matter remains unchanged. I also deplore the restrictions on the freedom of movement of UNFICYP imposed in Varosha, in Strovilia and elsewhere, and reiterate my expectation that the ability of the mission to patrol and implement its mandated activities will be restored in full. I recall that the mandate provided by the Council to UNFICYP is not limited to the buffer zone, but also extends to the entire island.

50. I remain concerned about the harmful impact of disinformation and divisive narratives, which erode trust, polarize communities and undermine efforts toward a shared and peaceful future. I urge the leaders to make further progress on inclusivity in facilitating reconciliation and supporting intercommunal contacts, including in schools, to advance a culture of peace, while also ensuring that the voices of civil society organizations are meaningfully included in the political decision-making. I am encouraged, however, that young people continue to be active agents of peace and are, through the United Nations Youth Champions for Environment and Peace, driving change from the grassroots up.

51. I note that previous calls for the sides to step up efforts to achieve greater economic and social parity and to broaden and deepen economic, cultural and other forms of cooperation remain limited. Crossing points should facilitate the movement of people and goods, and the full implementation of the Green Line Regulation would represent a meaningful step to help to increase the volume of intra-island trade. This, together with deeper economic, social, cultural, sporting and other ties and contacts, would help to enhance intercommunal contacts and address the longstanding concerns of the Turkish Cypriots regarding their isolation and the trust deficit between the communities.

52. In their efforts to promote closer cooperation between the communities, local and international actors continue to be confronted with challenges and obstacles linked to the status of the north and concerns relating to “recognition”. While the United Nations policy on Cyprus is maintained and decisions of the Security Council on the matter are upheld, I reiterate that concerns about recognition should not in themselves constitute an obstacle to increased cooperation.

53. With regard to the continued contribution of UNFICYP to peace and stability and to the creation of conditions conducive to a political settlement, I recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the mission for 12 months, until 31 January 2027.

54. Notwithstanding the implementation of contingency plans to reduce expenditures, it is essential that the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations ensure that the mission is provided with adequate and predictable resources for achieving its mandate.

55. I would like to thank the partners, in particular the European Commission, that have provided support for the work of both United Nations missions in Cyprus, the United Nations Development Programme and the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, and that have contributed to the implementation of important confidence-building measures. I also thank the 44 countries that have contributed troops, police or both to UNFICYP since 1964 and pay tribute to the 187 peacekeepers who have lost their lives in the service of peace in Cyprus.

56. Lastly, I express my gratitude to my Special Representative and Head of UNFICYP, Khassim Diagne, for his dedicated leadership of the United Nations presence on the island. I also extend my thanks to all the women and men serving in UNFICYP for their steadfast commitment to the implementation of the mandate of the mission and the cause of peace on the island.

Annex

Countries providing military and police personnel to the United Nations operation in Cyprus (as at 12 December 2025)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Number of military personnel</i>
Argentina	221
Austria	3
Bangladesh	1
Brazil	2
Canada	1
Chile	6
Ecuador	2
Ghana	1
Hungary	9
India	1
Mongolia	3
Pakistan	2
Paraguay	12
Russian Federation	4
Serbia	6
Slovakia	218
Slovenia	6
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	225
Total^a	723

<i>Country</i>	<i>Number of police personnel</i>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6
China	5
Germany	3
Indonesia	4
Ireland	14
Italy	4
Jordan	6
Montenegro	2
Nepal	4
Romania	3
Russian Federation	3
Serbia	2
Slovakia	3
Total^a	59

^a Of the military personnel, 631 are men and 92 are women. Of the police personnel, 34 are men and 25 are women.

UNFICYP

DECEMBER 2025

UNITED NATIONS
Geospatial

