

**European
Elections monitor****1) Analysis** : Page 01 to 04**2) Results 1st round** : Page 05 to 06**3) Results 2nd round** : Page 07 to 08**Corinne Deloy**

Outgoing head of State Nicos Anastasiades is the grand favourite in the Cypriot presidential election

On 28th January next 550, 593 Cypriots are being called to ballot to appoint their president of the Republic. If one of the five candidates running wins more than 50% of the vote he will win the election directly; if this is not the case a second round will be organised on 4th February.

12 517 people are registered on the Cypriot electoral rolls abroad where in all 38 voting stations will be opened, including 15 in Greece and 10 in the UK. According to the most recent polls by CMRC, outgoing head of State Nicos Anastasiades (Democratic Assembly DISY) is due to win the first round of the election with 29.1% of the vote. Nicolas Papadopoulos (Democratic Party, DIKO) is due to win 21.1% and Stavros Malas (Progressive Workers' Party AKEL), 18.79%. The latter are therefore fighting for 2nd place, which is synonymous to qualification for the 2nd round of the election. The two other candidates are due to win under 5% of the vote each.

The Cypriot Constitution dates back to 1960, but has not been applied since the inter-community conflict of 1963. According to this text the presidential office is reserved to a Cypriot, the Vice-President goes to a Turk (the post is presently vacant). The president of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for a five-year mandate. Head of the executive, the latter appoints the ministers of the government that he leads.

30% of the government's seats and of the Vouli antiprosopon (House of Representatives, the only house of parliament), 24 out of 80, are reserved for the Cypriot Turkish community and remain vacant.

THE CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

5 people are officially running:

- Nicos Anastasiades (Democratic Assembly DISY), outgoing head of State;
- Nicolas Papadopoulos (Democratic Party, DIKO), son of Tassos Papadopoulos former head of State (2003-2008) is running as an independent, but apart from DIKO he is supported by the Solidarity Movement (KA), founded and led by Eleni Theocharous; the Ecologist Movement-Citizen Cooperation (KOSP) led by George Perdakis and the Movement for Social Democracy (EDEK) led by Marinos Sizopoulos;

- Stavros Malas (Progressive Workers' Party, AKEL), former Healthcare Minister (2011-2013), is standing as an independent. He was the unfortunate candidate in the previous presidential election on 17th and 24th February 2013 (he won 45.52% of the vote in the 2nd round);
- Giorgos Lillikas (Citizens' Alliance), former Foreign Affairs Minister (2006-2007);
- Christos Christou, leader of the far-right party People's National Front (ELAM).

THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

Outgoing President of the Republic Nicos Anastasiades, announced that he would be running for re-election on 14th October,

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indicating that he wanted to finish the work he had started in his first term in office. He is standing as the man who saved the Cypriot economy and the banking system from crashing and as the guarantor of Cyprus's economic stability.

He maintained, during the vote on the 2018 budget that the government would reward the Cypriot population for the sacrifices it had made. He hopes to revive employment and to bring the unemployment level below the 10% mark, which would be a first in Cyprus since 2011. "It does not matter what divides us now, in 2023, the person who succeeds me, if the Cypriots renew my mandate, will lead a free modern State that is perfectly compatible with the population's expectations," declared Nicos Anastasiades.

Nicolas Papadopoulos has chosen to focus on the middle classes. He has promised to review the austerity measures that were introduced during the crisis, notably those affecting social aid, such as the student, maternity, family and housing allowance. He also hopes to reform the retirement system and to double the amount received in the case of small pensions. Finally, he wants to create a capital fund to give back to those whose savings were seized in part in 2013.

Stavros Malas is defending the traditional positions of the Progressive Workers' Party regarding the economy, a position that is difficult to hold since the party lost the electorate's trust in terms of its management of the economic crisis between 2008 and 2013. We should remember that in April 2013 Cyprus faced a serious financial crisis, and had to call for international aid. The Troika (IMF, EU and the ECB) accepted to grant the island a total of 10 billion € on reserve that the government introduce several reforms (cuts in civil servants' pay, increase in taxes, including VAT, an increase in social charges etc.). Nicosia recovered growth again in 2015 (1.4%) after three years of recession, and the island officially left the rescue programme on 31st March 2016.

The candidates in the presidential election on 28th January and 4th February next will be taking part in a TV debate on 22nd January that will be broadcast on the CyBC and by the channels ANT1, Sigma, TVONE

and Alpha. The first part of the debate will focus on the issue of the island's division and the second on domestic affairs.

AN ISLAND DIVIDED FOR NEARLY 44 YEARS

Many Cypriots have never seen their island united. Since July 1974 it has been split by a green line that is monitored by the UN's Blue Berets. The latter has been present on Cyprus since 1963, the year of the first clashes between the Greeks and Turks, comprising the two communities which live on Cyprus.

On 15th July 1974, the National Garde, inspired by the military junta in office in Greece since 1967 overthrew Cypriot president, Archbishop Makarios III and replaced him with Nikos Sampson. On 20th July, Turkish troops landed in Kyrenia (north) to protect the Turkish minority living there. With the help of the Greek army Nikos Sampson's government managed to contain them (a delimitation which became the green line) before collapsing four days later. Turkey refused however to leave the part of the island that it now occupied, including after the fall of Nikos Sampson. On 30th July 1974, Turkey, Greece and the UK established a security zone guarded by the UN's Blue Berets and acknowledged the existence of two autonomous administrations. On 13th February 1975 the Turkish leader proclaimed an autonomous, secular and federated State of which he was elected president in 1976. In January 1977 Rauf Denktash and Makarios III agreed on the principle of a federal, dual community State, but the death of the latter on 3rd August 1977 brought negotiations to an end. The Turkish Republic of Northern Turkey proclaimed its independence in 1983. Turkey is the only State to acknowledge it at international level. To date, 35 000 Turkish soldiers have always been stationed on the northern part of the island.

The Republic of Cyprus has around 1.7 million inhabitants one third of whom are refugees (160 000 Cypriots fled their homes when the Turks invaded); 314 000 people live in the northern part of the island. On 11th November 2002 the UN proposed a third peace and reunification plan (after those of 1986 and 1992). The Annan Plan (named after the UN Secretary General

at the time) suggested the creation of a United Republic of Cyprus in the shape of a confederation comprising two largely autonomous States (one, Greek in the South and the other Turkish, in the north) based on the model of the Helvetic Confederation. This plan was put to referendum including all of the island's inhabitants on 24th April 2004. The Cypriots rejected it by 75.83%, whilst 64.90% of those living in the northern part of the island accepted it. 89.18% of the electorate voted in Cyprus and 87% in the northern party.

Whilst they were stepped up in 2016, negotiations over the island's reunification between the Republic of Cyprus and the northern part of the island led by President Mustafa Akinci have been at a standstill since July 6th last, since both sides failed to agree on the status of the Turkish forces on the island and because Ankara refused to give up its right to intervention.

Nicos Anastasiades stands as the man who can bring the country's division to an end. The outgoing President has said that he is prepared to take up negotiations again according to the parameters set by the UN Secretary General, so as to protect what has already been achieved so far. "Not finding a solution is in neither in the Greek Cypriots' interest nor in that of the Turkish Cypriots, nor in that of Turkey. I would like to believe that Turkey will understand the benefits of a solution," declared Nicos Anastasiades adding, "Another historic opportunity will arise if I am re-elected."

Differences over the question of the island's reunification between the three main candidates in the presidential election (Nicos Anastasiades, Stavros Malas and Nicolas Papadopoulos) are minimal even though the latter supports a harder line and accuses the outgoing president of the Republic of having made too many concessions during negotiations.

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REMINDER OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS ON 17TH AND 24TH FEBRUARY 2013 IN CYPRUS.

04

Turnout: 83.14% (1st round) and 81.58% (2nd round)

Candidates	No of votes won (1st round)	% of votes won (1st round)	No of votes won (2nd round)	% of votes won (2nd round)
Nicos Anastasiades (Democratic Assembly, DISY)	200 591	45.46	236 965	57.48
Stavros Malas (Progressive Workers' Party, AKEL)	118 755	26.91	175 267	42.52
Giorgos Lillikas (Movement for social-democracy, EDEK)	109 996	24.93		
Giorgos Charalambous (People's National Front, ELAM)	3 899	0.88		
Praxoula Antoniadou (United Democrats, EDI)	2 678	0.61		
Makaria-Andri Stylianou (independent)	1 898	0.43		
Lakis Ioannou (People's Socialist Movement, LASOK)	1 278	0.29		
Solon Gregoriou (independent)	792	0.18		
Kostas Kyriacou (independent)	722	0.16		
Andreas Efstratiou (independent)	434	0.10		
Loukas Stavrou (independent)	213	0.05		

Source : http://results.elections.moi.gov.cy/English/PRESIDENTIAL_ELECTIONS_2013/Islandwide & http://results.elections.moi.gov.cy/English/PRESIDENTIAL__EPANALIPTIKI_EKLOGI_ELECTIONS_2013/Islandwide

Outgoing head of State Nicos Anastasiades draws ahead in the first round of the presidential election in Cyprus but the

RESULTS
1ST ROUND

Outgoing head of State Nicos Anastasiades (Democratic Assembly, DISY) drew ahead in the first round of the presidential election organised in Cyprus on 28th January. He won 35.51% of the vote and took the lead over Stavros Malas, who is standing as an independent, but who is supported by the Progressive Workers' Party (AKEL), winning 30.24% of the vote.

The gap between the two candidates is less than announced in the polls.

Coming third with 25.74% of the vote Nicolas Papadopoulos (Democratic Party DIKO) finds himself in the position of kingmaker.

Christos Christou, the leader of the far right party People's National Front (ELAM) won 5.65% of the vote and Giorgos Lillikas (Citizens' Alliance) won 2.18%. The other four candidates won under 1% of the vote each.

Turnout totalled 71.88%, a sharp decrease in comparison with the figure recorded in the first round

Results of the first round of voting in the presidential election in Cyprus on 28th January 2018

Turnout: 71.88%

Candidates	No. of votes won (1st round)	% of votes won (1st round)
Nicos Anastasiades (Democratic Assembly, DISY)	137 268	35.51
Stavros Malas (Progressive Workers' Party, AKEL)	116 920	30.24
Nicolas Papadopoulos (Democratic Party, DIKO)	99 508	25.74
Christos Christou (People's National Front, ELAM)	21 846	5.65
Giorgos Lillikas (Citizens' Alliance)	8 419	2.18
Andreas Efstratiou (independent)	845	0.22
Charis Aristeidou (independent)	752	0.19
Michail Mina (independent)	662	0.17
Christakis Kapiliotis independent)	391	0.10

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Socio-economic issues dominated the electoral campaign, relegating the question of the island's reunification to second place. Negotiations over this have been at a standstill since 6th July last, since neither side has succeeded in agreeing over the status of the Turkish forces present on the island, with Ankara refusing to relinquish its right to intervention. *"The problem with the reunification of Cyprus is no longer high on the agenda because voters are tired and are no longer expecting the two sides to come to rapid agreement,"* indicated Harris Papageorgiou, director of the research centre Noverna.

"The choice has never been as simple. Either we opt for a future in which things are made possible or we choose a movement that caused the bankruptcy of our country. Either we are going to move forward, or we shall return towards the insecurity of the previous government. On Sunday next we are being called to choose a path of stability, which attracts investments, and creates jobs," indicated Nicos Anastasiades after the announcement of the results.

From an economic point of view the outgoing President of the Republic is standing as the saviour of the Cypriot economy and the guarantor of the country's economic stability. If he is re-elected he has promised to introduce a fund to help pay back some of his fellow countrymen's savings that were seized in 2013.

"The people have spoken, a new majority has expressed its desire for change," maintained Stavros Malas. *"The re-election of Nicos Anastasiades as President of the Republic would be synonymous to continuity in terms of the economic policy. Stavros Malas has undertaken an extremely careful campaign and has avoided making too many promises. However, the real question is whether he can manage his relations with the Progressive Workers' Party,"* wonders Sofronis Clerides, professor in Economics at the University of Cyprus.

The People's National Front, whose leader, Christos Christou came fourth said he would soon be sending out a questionnaire to each of the two candidates qualified for the second round of voting before deciding which one he will support on 4th February next.

Nicos Anastasiades re-elected President of the Republic of Cyprus

RÉSULTS
2ND ROUND

Outgoing head of State Nico Anastasiades (Democratic Assembly, DISY) won the Cypriot presidential election on 4th February in the 2nd round with 55.99% of the vote. He beat Stavros Malas, who was running as an independent candidate with the support of the Progressive Workers' Party (AKEL), who won 44.01% of the vote. In the 1st round organised on 28th January the latter won 30.24% of the vote and Nicos Anastasiades, 35.51%.

None of the 7 candidates eliminated in the 1st round of voting spoke in support of the two finalists.

Less than three quarters of the Cypriots went to ballot – turnout totalled 73.97% i.e. 7.61 points less in comparison with the 2nd round of the previous presidential election on 17th and 24th February 2013 in Cyprus. We should recall that it is obligatory to vote in Cyprus.

RESULTS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ON 28TH JANUARY AND 4TH FEBRUARY 2018 IN CYPRUS

Turnout: 71.88% (1st round) and 73.97% (2nd round)

Candidates	Number of votes won (1st round)	% of votes won (1st round)	Number of votes won (2nd round)	% of votes won (2nd round)
Nicos Anastasiades (Democratic Assembly, DISY)	137 268	35,51	215 281	55,99
Stavros Malas (Progressive Workers' Party, AKEL)	116 920	30,24	169 243	44,01
Nicolas Papadopoulos (Democratic Party, DIKO)	99 508	25,74		
Christos Christou (People's National Front, ELAM)	21 846	5,65		
Giorgos Lillikas (Citizens' Alliance)	8 419	2,18		
Andreas Efstratiou (independent)	845	0,22		
Charis Aristeidou (independent)	752	0,19		
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Source : <http://www.ekloges.gov.cy/English>

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"A new era starts tomorrow. The people are asking for cooperation and unity which we need in order to settle the challenges we face," declared Nicos Anastasiades when the results were announced.

The electoral campaign was dominated by economic issues. The outgoing president, who chose the tagline "Progressing in Stability" for his campaign, stood as a man of experience, the saviour of the Cypriot economy

and the guarantor of the country's economic stability. He promised to establish a fund to help pay back a share of his countrymen's savings that were seized in 2013.

"Nicos Anastasiades' asset is to have enabled Cyprus to recover from a serious economic crisis. Many voters doubt that he can solve the issue of the island's reunification, but in the end they voted with their purses. Stavros Malas was deemed partly responsible for the economic crisis at the beginning of 2010. The fact that the Democratic Party (DIKO) chose not to support either of the two finalists also helped Nicos Anastasiades, because voters are closer to the Democratic Assembly than the Progressive Workers Party," indicated Fiona Mullen, Director of Sapienta Economics.

"The reunification of our country is our greatest challenge. I shall work towards it with the same determination as before so that we can achieve our common goal: the end of foreign occupation and the reunification of our country. There will be neither victors nor losers, only Cyprus counts," declared Nicos Anastasiades.

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