

**Demetris Syllouris**

**From:** DEMETRIOU Panayiotis [panayiotis.demetriou@europarl.europa.eu]  
**Sent:** Πέμπτη, 28 Φεβρουαρίου 2008 1:30 μμ  
**To:** PPE - Groupe Politique, Mep et Assistants  
**Subject:** Presidential elections in Cyprus

Dear colleague,

The Presidential elections in Cyprus took place on 17 February 2008 (Round 1) and on 24 February 2008 (Round 2). There were three main candidates:

1. President Papadopoulos, supported by the centre-right party "DIKO", the Socialist Party (EDEK) and other smaller parties;
2. Dimitris Christophias, President of the House of Representatives, supported by Marxist party (AKEL);
3. Ioannis Kasoulides, MEP, supported only by the centre-right party DISY (member of EPP-ED family).

The results of Round 1 brought Mr Kasoulides first (33.5%) and Mr Christophias second (33.3%). President Papadopoulos (31.8%) came third and consequently excluded. Thus, Mr Papadopoulos' party (DIKO) played decisive role in Round 2. Despite the preliminary decision of DIKO to support Ioannis Kasoulides it finally joined the Christophias' front. However, the result was very good for Mr Kasoulides, who enhanced his support having got 46.7% (Christophias 53.3%). Hence Mr Christophias has been elected as the sixth President of the Republic of Cyprus.

Although Dimitris Christophias is considered to be a Marxist-Leninist, his political record the last twenty years presents him to be theoretically only what he is considered to be. His programme has nothing to do with communism, and his philosophy on the Cyprus issue coincides more or less with that of DISY. He gave assurances before and after the elections that he will respect the social market economy, and that he will do his best to solve the Cyprus problem. \*

In conclusion nothing will change in Cyprus as far as the political and the economical system is concerned.

Our party DISY got out of the elections stronger. Thanks to the EPP-ED Group for its support and solidarity.

Best regards,

**Panayiotis Demetriou MEP**  
**Head of the Cypriot Delegation to the EPP-ED Group**

*European Parliament, Office ASP 8E250*  
*Rue Wiertz 60, B-1047 Brussels*

Tel: +32 228 45558  
 Fax: +32 228 49558  
[panayiotis.demetriou@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:panayiotis.demetriou@europarl.europa.eu)