



NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY
OF ATHENS
MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN SOUTHEAST
EUROPEAN STUDIES: POLITICS, HISTORY,
ECONOMICS



ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MASTER'S DEGREE
IN SOUTH EUROPEAN STUDIES

SPRING SEMESTER – ONLINE GUEST LECTURE
Monday 22 February 2021 – 16:00 Athens time (EET)

The Cyprus problem and the uneasy quest for a federal settlement



Associate Professor Aristoteles Constantinides

Course: International Law and Peaceful Settlement of Disputes in Southeast Europe
Professor Emmanuella Doussis
Join zoom meeting (tba)

Aristoteles Constantinides is an Associate Professor of International Law and Human Rights at the University of Cyprus. He holds a PhD in International Law from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. He was visiting scholar at the Universities of Amsterdam, Grenoble-Alpes, Vienna, and McGill, and member of the ILA Committees on Non-State Actors and on Recognition and Non-Recognition in International Law. Since 2014, he is one of the legal advisors of the President of Cyprus in the talks for the settlement of the Cyprus problem. His research interests and publications include the law of the United Nations, statehood and recognition, the Cyprus problem and international human rights law. In 2017, he received the teaching excellence award of the University of Cyprus.

Abstract

The lecture presents a historical and legal overview of the Cyprus problem. The first part examines the (reluctant) establishment of the Republic of Cyprus in 1960, the establishment of UNFICYP in 1964, the Turkish invasion of 1974, the proclamation (and non-recognition) of the 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus' in 1983, and the UN efforts for a negotiated settlement on the basis of a bi-communal and bi-zonal federation with political equality. The second part presents the major obstacles of such settlement, including the controversies over political equality of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, the conformity of the settlement with the EU acquis, the property issue, and the security framework.