

Cyprus Commemorates the 66th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Its Independence



Cyprus commemorated the 66th anniversary of the proclamation of its independence on Thursday, 1 October, with a major military parade in Nicosia, during which the BARAK-MX medium- and long-range air defence system was presented for the first time. The system was incorporated into the arsenal of the Cyprus National Guard Air Command in 2025.

For the first time, military contingents from Egypt and the United Kingdom participated in the parade, along with a CN-295 CASA transport aircraft of the Egyptian Air Force.

French Marines and United States Marines and sailors from the destroyer Roosevelt also participated, while two F-16 Viper fighter aircraft of the Hellenic Air Force conducted a low-altitude flypast over the parade.

The President of the Republic of Cyprus, Nikos Christodoulides, took the salute at the parade, which commenced at 11:00 am along Iosif Hadjiosif Avenue in Nicosia.

He was accompanied by Minister of Defence Vasilis Palmas; Greece's Minister of National Defence, Nikos Dendias; Chief of the Cyprus National Guard, Lieutenant General Emmanouil Theodorou; and Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff, General Dimitrios Choupis.



Units of the National Guard, Police, Fire Service, Joint Rescue Coordination Centre, Department of Forests, Civil Defence and Ambulance Service participated in the parade. Unmanned aerial vehicles were among the equipment presented, while a formation of four modern Airbus H145M attack helicopters flew over Nicosia.

The parade, which was held in the presence of the public, was also attended by the Chief of the Defence Staff of the United Kingdom, Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Knighton; representatives of the armed forces of Egypt, France and the United States of America; as well as ambassadors, defence attachés of foreign countries and other officials.





















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