

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

December 29, 2020

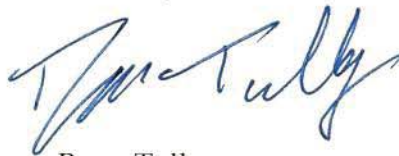
Dear Mr. Horiates, Mr. Larigakis, Mr. Christopher, Mr. Papastylianou, Mr. Zemenides, and Ms. Pappas,

Thank you for your letter to President Trump dated October 30. Please note that the United States government is closely monitoring the situation in Varosha and on several occasions has expressed to Turkish and Turkish Cypriot authorities our deep concerns over the reopening of part of Varosha and called for the reversal of such steps. In October, Secretary of State Pompeo spoke to Republic of Cyprus Foreign Minister Christodoulides and stated that the reopening of a part of Varosha is provocative, inconsistent with UN Security Council Resolutions 550 and 789, and not conducive to a return to settlement talks. The United States government supported action by the UN Security Council and welcomed the strong October 9 UNSC Presidential Statement on Varosha. The United States also called out Turkish President Erdogan's visit to Varosha in November as a step in the wrong direction. The United States continues to support a comprehensive settlement to reunify the island as a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation, an outcome which would benefit all Cypriots.

On Turkey, the United States has long expressed concern over Turkey's procurement of the Russian S-400 air defense system. As you have seen, the United States imposed sanctions on Turkey, on December 14 for its procurement of this Russian system, and we will continue to remain vigilant of Turkey's actions.

I want to thank the Greek and Cypriot diaspora community for your important contributions and continued engagement with the United States government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Tully". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ryan" and last name "Tully" clearly distinguishable.

Ryan Tully  
Senior Director for Europe and Russia