

CYPRUS

Polity5 regime codes:

fac	scode	Polity	pers	bmon	bday	byear	emon	eday	eyear	exrec	exconst	polcomp
1X	CYP	8	3	8	16	1960	12	21	1963	8	7	7
1Xa	CYP	-77	4	12	22	1963	4	15	1968	-77	-77	-77
1Xb	CYP	7	6	4	16	1968	7	15	1974	8	6	7
1Xc	CYP	-88	0	7	16	1974	2	13	1975	-88	-88	-88
1O	CYP	10	44	2	14	1975	99	99	9999	8	7	10

PITF Problem Events:

- 1) 12/63-04/68 (ETH 12/63-4/64; REG 12/63-4/68)
- 2) 07/74-08/74 (ARC 07/74-08/74; ETH 07/74)

1X) Date of Change to Factional-Democratic: August 16, 1960 (independence)

Brief Explanation of Change To:

The Republic of Cyprus became independent on August 16, 1960, with the signing of the Zurich agreements. These agreements barred unification of Cyprus with Greece (*enosis*); they established a power-sharing structure based on separate Greek (c80%) and Turkish (c20%) ethnic-communities. A Greek-Cypriot, Archbishop Makarios, was elected president and a Turkish-Cypriot, Dr. Fedil Kutchuk, was elected vice-president. Separate, ethnic municipal administrations were set up in major cities and there was to be a 35/15 ethnic reservation of seats in the national legislature, a 60/40 ethnic split in the armed forces, and a 70/30 split in the Civil Service.

Identify Main Factions:

- *Greek Cypriots* — Greek Cypriots are the largest ethnic community of Cyprus, making up nearly 80 percent of the island's population. The main party, the *Patriotic Front*, favors integration and is led by Archbishop Makarios, the elected president of Cyprus. Opposition parties include the nationalist *Democratic Union Party*, led by John Clerides (which boycotted elections), the pro-communist *Akel Party* (which joined the Patriotic Front government), and the ultra-nationalist *Pan-Cyprian Union of Fighters* (comprising former members of the EOKA underground movement).
- *Turkish Cypriots* — Turkish Cypriots account for about 20 percent of the population. The main party, the *National Front*, is led by Dr. Kutchuk, the elected vice-president, and Rauf Denktash. An opposition party favoring integration, the *Turkish People's Party*, was formed but its leaders were assassinated on April 24, 1962.

Changes within Factional Period:

1Xa) December 22, 1963 (onset of political instability) – Disagreement arose over interpretation and implementation of the Constitution with the Greek Cypriots arguing that the intricate mechanisms set up to protect the interest of Turkish Cypriot were impediments to the government running efficiently. A crisis emerged in January 1963 when a presidential decree was issued abolishing the separate municipal administrations. Later, in November 1963, President Makarios promoted constitutional amendments intended to abrogate power-sharing. The proposed changes were opposed by the Turkish Cypriots and triggered intercommunal fighting in December 1963. The Turkish Cypriots ended their participation in the government.

Ethnic War: December 1963 – April 1964

Constitutional amendment proposed by President Makarios are unacceptable to the Turkish-Cypriots. This leads to communal fighting from 1963-1964, with a brief flare-up in 1967. UN peacekeepers intervene.

Adverse Regime Change (collapse of central authority): December 1963 – April 1968

Constitutional amendment proposed by President Makarios is viewed as unacceptable by Turkish-Cypriots. Democratic coalition of Greek and Turkish parties collapses and ethnic fighting ensues. Turks set up separate community in northern Cyprus.

IXb) April 16, 1968 (reconvening of government) – The Greek Cypriot decision to hold presidential elections on February 25, 1968, prompt the Turkish community to invoke constitutional provisions and hold elections for vice president on February 15. President Makarios and Vice President Kutchuk are returned to office. Makarios easily defeated a single opponent campaigning for enosis; Kutchuk ran unopposed. Intercommunal talks for a solution to the constitutional crisis began on June 24, 1968.

IXc) July 16, 1974 (onset of instability) – Greek military officials, angered by President Makarios' independence from Greece and his policy of nonalignment, backed a coup d'état by Greek Cypriot National Guard officers intent on enosis. The coup imposed Nicos Sampson as provisional president.

Adverse Regime Change: July 1974 – August 1974

Coup by Greek nationalists triggers Turkish invasion. Democracy restored in the southern half of the island while Turkish-Cypriots establish a de facto government in the North.

Ethnic War: July 1974

Military junta in Greece backs coup against Makarios, who escapes. Within days of the coup against Makarios, Turkish troops land in north and occupy a third of the island. Greek Cypriots are forced to flee their homes in the north as Turkish forces impose a separation between north and south.

10) Date of Change from Factional-Democratic: February 14, 1975 (defacto separation)

Brief Explanation of Change From: During a special joint meeting of the Executive Council and Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Turkish Cypriot Administration, the body which had been set up following the Turkish invasion of July 1974, a resolution passed establishing a Turkish Cypriot Federated State in that part of the island under Turkish occupation. The proclamation of the new state was denounced by President Makarios and Greek Prime Minister Konstantinos Karamanlis, but welcomed by Sadi Irmak, the Turkish Prime Minister. Turkish Cypriots no longer participate in the Cyprus polity; factionalism within the Greek community eases as a result.