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18.11.2009

Press release issued by the Registrar

**GRAND CHAMBER HEARING  
DEMOPOULOS v. TURKEY AND 7 OTHER CASES**

The European Court of Human Rights is holding a Grand Chamber hearing today **Wednesday 18 November 2009 at 9 a.m.**, in the case of ***Demopoulos v. Turkey and 7 other cases*** (application nos. 46113/99, 3843/02, 13751/02, 13466/03, 14163/04, 10200/04, 19993/04 and 21819/04).

The hearing will be broadcast from 2.30 p.m. on the Court's Internet site (<http://www.echr.coe.int>).

The applicants are all Cypriot nationals of Greek-Cypriot origin. They claim to be the owners of movable and immovable property located in the northern part of Cyprus, which has been occupied by the Turkish army since 1974. They allege that the Turkish authorities are preventing them from having access to this property and disposing of it as they wish.

Under different heads, the applicants rely variously on Articles 1 of Protocol No. 1, 8 (right to respect for private and family life), 13 (right to an effective remedy), 14 (prohibition of discrimination), and 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The applications were lodged with the European Court of Human Rights between 1999 and 2004. On 19 May 2009, under Article 30<sup>1</sup> of the Convention, the Chamber to which the applications had been assigned decided to relinquish jurisdiction in favour of the Grand Chamber.

**The case will be heard by the Grand Chamber composed as follows:**

Jean-Paul **Costa** (France), **President**,  
Christos **Rozakis** (Greece),  
Nicolas **Bratza** (United Kingdom),  
Peer **Lorenzen** (Denmark),  
Françoise **Tulkens** (Belgium),  
Josep **Casadevall** (Andorra),  
Giovanni **Bonello** (Malta)  
Vladimiro **Zagrebelsky** (Italy),  
Lech **Garlicki** (Poland),  
Khanlar **Hajiyev** (Azerbaijan),  
Ljiljana **Mijović** (Bosnia and Herzegovina),  
Egbert **Myjer** (Netherlands),  
David Thór **Björgvinsson** (Iceland),  
Ján **Šikuta** (Slovakia),  
Mark **Villiger** (Liechtenstein),  
Päivi **Hirvelä** (Finland),  
Işıl **Karakaş** (Turkey), **judges**,  
Ann **Power** (Ireland),  
Karel **Jungwiert** (Czech Republic),  
Alvina **Gyulumyan** (Armenia), **substitute judges**,

and also Erik **Fribergh**, **Registrar**.

**Representatives of the parties:**

**Government: Zaim Necatigil, Agent,**Michael Wood, *Counsel*,Stefan Talmon, Sülen Karabacak, Kerim Uras, Kaan Esener, Deniz Akçay, Nahide Akyüzlü Aylanç, Didem Akpak, Tomas Furlong, *Advisers*;**Intervening Government:**Petros Clerides, *Agent*,Lord Lester of Herne Hill, Vaughan Lowe, Pushpinder Saini, Tom Richards, Stella Mary Joannides, *Counsel*;**Applicants in cases nos. 46113/99, 13751/02, 3843/02:**Achilleas Demetriades, *Counsel*,Joanna Loizides, Costas Paraskeva, *Advisers*;**Applicant in case no. 21819/04:**Alec Markides, *Counsel*,Polyvios G. Polyviou, Levon Arakelian, *Advisers*;**Applicant in case no. 14163/04:**Polyvios G. Polyviou, *Adviser*;**Applicants in case no. 10200/04:**Christos Clerides, *Counsel*,Nicolas Angelides, *Adviser*;**Applicants in case no. 13466/03:**Efie Vourkidou Liasides, *Counsel*,George Liasides, *Adviser*;**Applicants in case no. 19993/04:**Andreas Neocleous, *Counsel*;**Applicants in the eight cases:**David Anderson, *Counsel*,Philip Leach, *Adviser*.

Demetrios Lordos, Evdokia Charalambou Onoufriou, Dimitris Onoufriou and Nicolas Onoufriou will also attend the hearing.

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After the hearing the Court will begin its deliberations, which are held in private. A decision will be delivered at a later date. <sup>2</sup>

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*The European Court of Human Rights was set up in Strasbourg by the Council of Europe Member States in 1959 to deal with alleged violations of the 1950 European Convention on Human Rights.*

<sup>1</sup> Where a case pending before a Chamber raises a serious question affecting the interpretation of the Convention or the protocols thereto, or where the resolution of a question before the Chamber might have a result inconsistent with a judgment previously delivered by the Court, the Chamber may, at any time before it has rendered its judgment, relinquish jurisdiction in favour of the Grand Chamber, unless one of the parties to

the case objects.

<sup>2</sup> This summary by the Registry does not bind the Court.

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