

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

We would like to bring to your attention to two recent State Department actions that are inconsistent with wishes recently expressed by 132 Members of the House, including the Chairmen and Ranking members of the Foreign Affairs and Appropriations Committees and a majority of the members of the pertinent subcommittees. We believe that these actions are inconsistent with your wishes and policies.

On February 3, 2010 U.S. Ambassador to Turkey James Jeffrey said that, "Turkey...doesn't invade neighbors. It has security concerns in Cyprus..." This statement contradicts the rationale and purpose of the European Parliament's resolution enacted February 10, 2010 which called on Turkey to withdraw its troops from Cyprus. It also contradicts universally accepted facts such as the peaceful intermingling of Greek-Cypriots and Turkish-Cypriots across the green line on at least 15 million occasions and the hundreds of years that the two communities have lived together in harmony.

In addition, as you know, American credibility was severely injured in 2004 when our State Department supported Cyprus settlement provisions referred to as "unacceptable to Western democracies." The reference was made in a letter to President George W. Bush and signed by a majority of the Senators on the European Subcommittee of the President's party. Since America's 2004 endorsement of such policies, Turkey's attitude toward the principles of "Western democracies" has regressed. Since 2004 Turkey has greatly curtailed its movement toward meeting the criteria set by the EU and Western democracies, according to a recent EU report. Ambassador Jeffrey must be careful to be sure that his language does not contribute to faulty Turkish beliefs contributing to their movement away from the EU and western democracies.

Finally, we are concerned that the State Department's recent decision to not provide the Cyprus government with \$2.5 million for the Limnitis crossing of the Green Line in Cyprus. If we are to restore America's credibility after the 2004 debacle, we must be responsive to such modest requests to help facilitate continued peaceful interaction between Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

We would greatly appreciate your efforts to correct these two developments regarding Cyprus.

Sincerely,