INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
BALKAN AND NORTH CYPRUS RELATIONS:
PERSPECTIVES IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND
STRATEGIC ISSUES

A Two Day Conference on 17-18 March 2011
At
Eastern Mediterranean University,
North Cyprus

Principal Sponsor: Center for Strategic Studies (EMU-CSS)

You are invited to participate in “International Conference on Balkan and North Cyprus Relations: Perspectives in Political, Economic and Strategic Issues.” This Conference aims at strengthening collaboration between CSS and likeminded think-tanks, strategic research centers and academic institution in the Balkan with a view to enhancing relations between North Cyprus and Balkan countries.

The Conference is conceived as an academic event of the highest standards, intended to bring world-class researchers, academics and policymakers to share research findings and ideas on the following vital topics of mutual interest.

POLITICAL: North Cyprus is still suffering from political isolation, despite having voted overwhelmingly for the UN Peace Plan, known as the Annan Plan, in referendum on May 24, 2004. Even though the Greek Cypriot side resoundingly rejected this Plan, it was rewarded by becoming a member of the European Union which ignored the ethnic division in Cyprus. The 2011 Conference is intended to explore ways and means of enhancing the status of North Cyprus internationally, particularly in the Balkan region.
ECONOMIC: Despite political isolation and economic barriers, North Cyprus has experienced rapid economic growth since 2002, achieving GNP growth rates averaging in excess of 10% p.a. Income per capita currently exceeds US$11,000 and is projected to rise to US$15,000 by 2012. We are interested in academic papers exploring growth prospects in small island economies such as North Cyprus dependent on tourism, higher education and offshore banking services, as well as on how to attract foreign investment and more trade relations with Balkan countries.

STRATEGIC: North Cyprus has become a strategic location as a result of developments in the energy sector:

- The opening of the Baku-Ceyhan Oil Pipeline Terminal at Iskenderun – Turkey, which located less than 70 km’s. away from the tip of Karpaz peninsula in TRNC, and
- Oil exploration agreements between Greek Cypriot authorities and Egypt and Lebanon, and
- The other pipeline projects such as “Nabucco” and “Blue Stream” which passes through Turkey and Balkan Countries.

Important Dates

Deadline for Abstracts: 25 October, 2010
Notification of Outcome: 5 November, 2010

Contact Information

Center for Strategic Studies
Eastern Mediterranean University
P.O. Box 95, Gazimağusa, North Cyprus
via Mersin 10, TURKEY

Tel: + 90 (392) 630 2648
Fax: + 90 (392) 630 2655
e-mail: dausam@emu.edu.tr
web: http://dausam.emu.edu.tr