

Matt Qvortrup

Fair Voting?
The Regulation of Referendums in Cyprus in
Comparative Perspective

13 - 25

Using examples of regulation of referendums in advanced democracies, the article provides an account of the administrative framework regulating the two referendums on the Annan-Plan in Cyprus in 2004. While there is no legal international consensus on what constitutes a free and fair referendum, a number of conditions are necessary to ensure the legitimacy of the outcome. The conclusion for Cyprus is that in the TCC, the regulation of this referendum broadly met the international standards, whereas the level of regulation in the GCC fell short of these. Had the GC referendum not suffered from these perceived shortcomings it seems likely that much of the post-referendum debate about the legitimacy could have been avoided.

Niki Christodoulou and Pavlos Pavlou

Repatriation Issues in Cyprus

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This paper examines the problems and challenges that Cypriot returnees are expected to deal with upon their return to Cyprus after a sojourn abroad. A brief history of immigration and repatriation from and to Cyprus is presented and the Cypriot immigrants' linguistic repertoire in their host countries is described. The study chiefly focuses on the educational issues returnees face in Cyprus as well as on some linguistic and social aspects of their life. The study shows that returnees' limited competence in Greek poses a major obstacle in their education and is a factor that permeates all domains of their lives as they attempt to adjust and function as productive members of Cypriot society. Finally, the paper proposes ways in which some of the returnees' problems can be alleviated and overcome.

Andrekos Varnava

Recreating Rural Britain and Maintaining Britishness in the
Mediterranean: The Troodos Hill Station in Early British Cyprus

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Britain occupied Cyprus in 1878 for strategic reasons, but while these reasons were being questioned, it was decided to establish a hill station. This was the one thing that the British could agree on, namely that they wanted a space safe enough to protect them from the harsh summer, unhealthy towns and marshy plains of Cyprus. The Troodos Hill Station became the summer capital of the Cyprus Colonial Government within a year of the occupation of Cyprus. At Troodos, the officers of the civil and military establishments, expatriates and travellers, spent the sultry summer months. This paper will explore the original and changing role of the hill station and situate it within the colonial structure and imaginary. I will contend that it was vital in creating and maintaining British identity, namely the rural life of country Britain. It was only at the isolated confines of Troodos that the British could recreate the social and cultural setting of home, because it was only there where they could disengage from the social, political and cultural conditions of the cities. Thus, it comes as no surprise that the Cyprus Government had a protective attitude to its position there against the demands of the military authorities for land rights.

Costas Constantinou

The Differential Embodiment of Home:

Constructing and Reconstructing Identities among Refugees

81 - 101

It has been twenty years since the first refugees moved to the new-built refugee estate in Tahtakallas, within the walled city of Nicosia, near Famagusta Gate. The attempt of the government in the 1980s was to renovate and rehabilitate the area. The present study¹ aims to explore the attitudes of these refugees towards their new place of residence eighteen years after their resettlement. Was a common place a sufficient factor to construct Tahtakallas as a new community in its residents' minds? This question is rigorously analysed in this paper following interviews taken from twenty-five Tahtakallas' residents aged from nine to eighty-six years old.

Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou

Recent Strategies towards Cyprus' Membership of the

European Union: A Case Study on Trade

103 - 125

The present article draws on the theory developed in international relations and political sciences addressing the issue of the resolution of the Cyprus problem through EU involvement, referred to as the 'catalyst proposition', in particular in its 'subversion' version. Although it will be argued that the relevance of the catalyst effect of EU membership for Cyprus becomes more remote after 1999, this theoretical approach is nevertheless of great significance to explain issues related to Cyprus in a European context, as well as to examine the EU-Cyprus relations, at least until the Helsinki Summit. In particular, the legal dimension of the 'subversion' approach of the catalyst effect of EU membership will be examined with respect to Turkey's EU membership prospects. It will however be shown that the absence of any political reform in Turkey's policy towards Cyprus could well mean that the 'catalyst proposition', even in its 'subversion' version, has become inappropriate to address issues related to Cyprus within a European context. It would appear that there is a need for a new method of analysis of the integration of Cyprus into the EU. It is contended that socio-legal studies can offer this method of analysis of issues related to Cyprus in a European context, providing a link between law and policy and proving useful for Cyprus' successful integration into the EU. Socio-legal studies acknowledge the existence of new modes of governance, which produce regulations, which interact with the social field. In the case of Cyprus, there exist several social interactions created by European integration, due in particular to the island's specificities associated with the Cyprus problem. The EU has therefore built up a pluralistic approach leading to the European integration of Cyprus, of which EU general policies, but also Community primary and secondary legislation as well as ECJ case law are the main components. It is argued that the integration of Cyprus into the EU could provide a particular model of integration, based on the specific need to fully integrate Cyprus despite its unsolved conflict. Trade can be used as a case study in order to validate this hypothesis.

George Christoforou and Marios Katsioloudes

The Present and Future Prospects of E-Commerce in Cyprus

127 - 144

The work describes the current situation and future potential of e-commerce in Cyprus from a consumer perspective. It analyses the current condition of the e-purchase rate conducted by Cypriots and how that rate can be developed in the future. Within this work the researchers have obtained characteristics of Cypriots who either purchase or do not purchase from the Internet by giving a petition on gender, occupation and age. The research was then taken one stage further by analysing the underlying reasons that prevented or enforced Cypriots to make an online purchase. Lastly, the researchers examined certain case studies that might enforce Cypriots to purchase from the Internet. This has helped to define the possible constraints that Cypriots might face when conducting an Internet purchase, as well as obtaining solutions as to how to overcome those constraints.

Plus Commentary Article by:

Nicos A Pittas

Cyprus: The Way Forward

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Book Reviews:

Echoes from the Dead Zone: Across the Cyprus Divide

by Yiannis Papadakis

(IB Tauris: London, 2005) 224 pp.

and

From the East: Conflict and Partition in Cyprus

by Costas Yennaris

(Elliott and Thompson: London, 2003) 278 pp.

(Oliver P Richmond)

153-156

Place of Refuge: A History of the Jews in Cyprus

by Stavros Panteli

(Elliott and Thompson: London, 2003) 191 pp.

(John A Koumoulides)

157-159

Sources for the History of Cyprus

Volume CI: Enosis and the British: British Official

Documents 1878-1950. Selected and edited by Reed Coughlan

(Greece and Cyprus Research Centre: Altamont, New York, 2004)

xiv + 252 pp. (William Mallinson)

161 - 163