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Cyprus NGO awarded three-year contract by European Commission

Published on July 22, 2010

CYPRIOT non-governmental organisation Future Worlds Centre (FWC) based in Nicosia, has been awarded a contract from the European Commission for a three-year EU project entitled, "Human Rights and Reconciliation - Civil Society Acts Beyond Borders".

The project aims to empower civil society actors, youth, and local authorities in Israel and the Palestinian territories through a comprehensive set of structured dialogue workshops, civil society trainings, as well as multi-communal public debates, round tables and conferences.

With the assistance of partners, the Palestinian Dialogue Centre (PDC) in the Palestinian Territories and the Association for Progressive Education in Honour of Meir Yaari (YAARI) in Israel, FWC will be utilising the strategies that have proved most effective from their years of experience in conflict resolution work in Cyprus.

From July 26-30, a group of Palestinians and Israelis will be in Larnaca, to participate in a series of SDD workshops facilitated by Dr. Aleco Christakis, father of the science and Dr. Yiannis Laouris, president of the board of FWC.

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Laouris says the aim is to empower these stakeholders to "act in a more coherent manner for jointly agreed upon aims, enhancing the enforcement of equal standards, participation of women and youth, thus strengthening democratic processes and promoting peaceful resolution of conflicts".

"This is a great honour for Cyprus and for peace builders in the region to be recognised for their efforts and expertise", FWC said in a statement.

Formed in 1991, FWC has a long history of activities and projects that promote peace and reconciliation in Cyprus.

Thu, July 22nd 2010 at 02:56

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THE EUROPEAN Parliament's (EP) Legal Affairs Committee last night upheld by an 18-to-five majority vote a ruling saying the European Commission cannot bypass the Republic of Cyprus to implement direct trade with the Turkish-occupied north.

UN's Ban 'worried' about the talks

UN SECRETARY-General Ban Ki-moon yesterday telephoned the two leaders to express his concern at the "slow" pace of the talks in recent weeks and urged them to make "concrete advances".

According to a UN spokesman, Ban called President Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Dervis Eroglu separately to discuss "the state of the UN-supported talks on Cyprus".

PRESIDENT DEMETRIS Christofias came out on the defensive yesterday, insisting he was not a "masochist" after reports that he had rejected a tripartite meeting with the UN Secretary-General and Turkish Cypriot leader.

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