Cyprus Posters Show That Greek Fascism is Still Alive

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on Enosis, the authors suggest "a unification on Enosis, the authors suggest "a unification of the island, like the tearing down of the Berlin Wall" to unite the two populations that had been separated so long. Unfortunately anyone will recognize that analogies between two incidents may result in a total misrepresentation of the truth. Comparisons between two seemingly alike but essentially different events is a tool frequently utilized by extremists in drawing desired conclusions which, not surprisingly, point in their direction. The analogy presented by the creators of the board is utterly misleading. The fall of the Berlin Wall not only represented the union of two large groups of people of the same ethnic background whose country had once been divided and was segregated by the results of the Second World War; but it also represented the end of the long struggle of those crushed under the load of communism for decades to achieve democracy.

In the Cyprus case, we are dealing with different ethnic groups, who at no point in their history have shared a single independent and democratic nation status. As the Turkish side, we acknowledge that both sides suffered a great deal as a result of the conflict between the two groups, such as those Cypriots from both ethnic groups who were dislocated and had to move North or South, leaving behind their homes, belongings, property, and sometimes even family members.

However, it should also be understood that it is also very difficult, if not impossible, for the Turkish side to forget the bloody EOKA (the terrorist organization supporting Enosis on the island) murders of children, women, and whole families of Turkish Cypriots in the 1960s, such as the killings of 24 Turks in Lefkosa (Nicosia) in December 1963 and planned assaults against the Turkish villages of Cicilikate and Bogazici in November 1967. These were pieces of an organized attempt to eradicate the Turkish population. Despite all counter-evidence, we still hope that our belief in a peaceful and democratic solution to the situation on the island is shared by the Greek Cypriot side.

There have always been people with extreme views and opinions in every community. But while heading into the 21st century in an age of democracy and tolerance, freedom or any other anti-democratic policy founded on any type of discrimination on the basis of race, culture, religion, or sex is not the way to reach compromise. Especially if what is put forward by one of the sides is the crumbled remains of a decayed, internationally, and officially despised policy of 30 years ago, with an attempt to keep it from falling apart by misrepresentation of reality and diversion from the truth.

There are always two sides to any story. Yet, no matter how understanding we try to be, it is offensive to come face to face with hatred, lies and racist remarks. Our consolation is our awareness that these views only reflect the opinions of some vocal extremist groups and not the majority of the Greek Cypriot community.