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**TRNC PRESIDENT ERHÜRMAN SAYS CYPRUS SETTLEMENT REQUIRES RECOGNITION OF EQUAL PARTNERSHIP**

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05.01.2026

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BRT (5 December 2026)

Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus President Tufan Erhürman has stressed that progress toward a solution to the Cyprus issue is only possible through policies that recognise Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots as equal partners, warning that approaches which ignore Turkish Cypriots cannot produce a genuine settlement.

In a written statement on Monday, Erhürman evaluated recent messages and steps taken by Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Christodulides, pointing to a serious contradiction between rhetoric on resolving the Cyprus issue and actions on the ground.

Erhürman noted that while Christodulides once again described a settlement as the top priority in his New Year message, parallel moves such as defence and energy cooperation with Greece and Israel have taken shape as what he described as an anti-Türkiye axis. He added that with 2026, the Israel   electricity interconnection has once again come onto the agenda, despite long-standing calls for energy cooperation among Cyprus, Türkiye, and Greece as a key incentive for a settlement.

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