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**ANTONIO GUTERRES: ACTIONS IN CYPRUS UNDERMINING TRUST ARE DISCOURAGING AND CONTRARY TO MY CALLS**

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Cyprus Mirror (19 October 2026)

UN Secretary-General António Guterres has stressed that developments involving the obstruction of Turkish Cypriots cultural, sporting, political and diplomatic activities by the Greek Cypriot administration are discouraging and run counter to his repeated calls for efforts to strengthen mutual trust.

Guterres made the remarks in a letter responding to one sent by TRNC President Tufan Erhürman on August 28, 2026. In his reply, dated October 16, 2026, the UN chief said he had carefully noted the concerns raised over developments affecting Turkish Cypriots cultural, sporting, political and diplomatic activities, adding that such incidents were contrary to initiatives aimed at strengthening mutual trust.

In his original letter, Erhürman had drawn attention to attempts to prevent activities involving Turkish Cypriots, including music festivals, a training camp by Spanish football club Barcelona, and diplomatic contacts. He also outlined to the UN Secretary-General the negative atmosphere created by these developments.

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