

Cyprus: Foreign Secretary urges progress at upcoming UN talks

News story

The Foreign Secretary is to use a visit to Cyprus to urge progress at the upcoming UN talks on the Cyprus settlement.



Prospects for the upcoming UN-led meeting on Cyprus settlement will be the main focus of Dominic Raab's first official visit to Cyprus, where he will meet the President and Foreign Minister of the Republic of Cyprus, and the Turkish Cypriot leader.

The Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, will visit Cyprus tomorrow (Thursday 4 February) to meet Cypriot leaders ahead of UN-led settlement talks in the next few weeks.

In the first Foreign Secretary visit to the island since 2016, he will reiterate the UK's support for achieving a just and lasting settlement of the division of the island and reaffirm the UK's commitment to the bilateral relationship during talks with President Nicos Anastasiades.

Ahead of the visit, the Foreign Secretary said:

The UK and Cyprus have deep, historic ties, spanning education, defence, trade and – most importantly – our people. The UK is committed to supporting our friends in Cyprus in the pursuit of lasting peace in this region.

We will be working closely with our Cypriot partners to drive forward a successful resolution to the conflict in Cyprus at UN talks in the next few weeks.

The Foreign Secretary will also meet Foreign Minister Nikos Christodoulides and Turkish Cypriot leader Ersin Tatar to emphasise the UK's commitment to supporting all the island's leaders in their efforts to negotiate a

settlement.

He will visit British military serving with the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) at their base in the historic Ledra Palace Hotel in the UN Buffer Zone. He will meet the Head of UNFICYP and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Cyprus, Elizabeth Spehar, to discuss the upcoming UN-led talks.

The UN is planning to host President Anastasiades, Turkish Cypriot leader Tatar and Government officials from the three guarantor powers of Cyprus (UK, Greece, Turkey) for talks in the next few weeks.

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