

be entirely ignored. Conditions in Turkey may be amendable to military intervention, while a psychology of despair prevails in northern Cyprus.

The EU is clearly biased toward the Greek Cypriot side, by the virtue of Greek membership (in the EU). However, there may be derogations which could provide the Turkish Cypriots with safeguards (against the richer Greek Cypriots sweeping the three freedoms) and ensure that the TRNC is not further isolated in case the EU accepts only the Greek Cypriot side as a member.

### **What is necessary (internally and externally) for change**

- Due regard must be accorded to vital interests of both sides. Otherwise, there is a danger of "balkanisation" in the region.
- Hostile activities must stop in order for the two sides to cooperate. You can not claim you are pursuing peaceful negotiations and militarise at the same time. Similarly, you can not speak of partnership while you impose embargoes and act unilaterally.
- Addressing the constitutional agenda while pursuing confidence building may be a mistake as long as the two sides live in isolation.
- There is a need for a transforming gesture (moment). The prospects for this gesture seem to be pinned on EU membership.
- A better understanding of the Turkish Cypriot position is needed within the EU and around the world. Scholars from EU countries and Turkey could be brought together to address the role of the EU in Cyprus.
- An island-wide census could be conducted, involving scholars from both sides, to reveal and understand better civil society attitudes. Through the census, people who are amendable to negotiation or feel abandoned could be identified and empowered to rise above the ethnically predetermined positions and to make a difference.

### **Role of Canada and Recommendations**

Among the main reasons why Canada continues to be involved in Cyprus are:

- 29 years of peacekeeping duties, during which 27 Canadians died
- common membership in the Commonwealth
- common institutional traditions, such as the parliamentary and the legal systems.

Canada's experience with federalism may be instructive for the Cypriots. Moreover, the fact that Canada does not have vested interests in the Cyprus solution, to the same degree as the EU, the U.S., Greece or Turkey, may also be useful.

Canadian foreign policy toward Cyprus is largely determined by membership in the UN. While UN resolutions regarding Cyprus are a reality the UN members have to live with, there are ways of creating new realities. This has not been easy on the diplomatic level. However, research may well develop a basis for a shift.

Canada could play an important role in Cyprus for two main reasons. First, Canada's