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Resolutions and Declarations Bureau Meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria 13-15 April 2018

URGENT: We demand sincere courage from the Cypriot Leaders!

YES has been closely following the developments around the Cyprus Problem since the failure of negotiations at Crans Montana meeting in Switzerland. We find it extremely important to find a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus Problem under the UN Parameters: a bizonal, bicomunal federation with single sovereignty, single international identity and with political equality of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots.

After Crans Montana, it has been observed that there is a general compromise on the UNSG Guterres' framework that had been proposed. Under these circumstances, we see the process as an almost complete phenomenon. We find the Security and Guarantees Chapter of the negotiations are of crucial importance for the sustainability of the new federation, and we would like to see a deal which caters to the security needs of both Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities under the realities of the contemporary world as well as the Cypriot realities. In this sense, we also believe that Confidence Building Measures are of a particular importance especially in developing a mutual understanding for a solution and for the communities to get closer to each other in order to build a peaceful environment which does not tolerate nationalist extremisms. YES also wants to draw attention to the sensitive statements made by both leaders and underlines that the talk of a "velvet divorce" or a "parting of the ways" are equally unacceptable.

We welcome the decision by the Cypriot leaders to have a social dinner in order to discuss about the way forward. YES would like to encourage both leaders to take bold steps for a comprehensive settlement that will reunite the last divided capital of Europe and bring a much needed stability to the region while there are rising tensions at the EEZ of Cyprus and the Middle East. YES firmly believes and underlines the necessity of a federal solution to the Cyprus Problem under UN parameters and demands a restart of the negotiations with a mutual understanding and empathy towards each other for an end of the conflict.