The Cyprus Review (Fall 2021)

The Cyprus Review invites submissions
for a special section of its upcoming issue on

*I. Minority Groups in Cyprus:
A Critical Reappraisal*

There is a general scarcity of social science research, both quantitative and qualitative, about minorities in Cyprus. Social scientists tend to engage in a discussion of the main minorities of the island by focusing on their historical development, their culture, educational and linguistic issues, as well as their integration. Their relationship with the majority is mainly viewed through the lens of the Cyprus Question and the demands of minority groups themselves. The abnormal political situation prevailing on the island due to the Cyprus Question inevitably impinges on the definition of who should be included in the notion of a minority and has de facto translated into narrow avenues of research.

An extensive literature considering the social definition of minorities has noted that the social concept of a minority group implies a numerically smaller group in a certain society that differentiates itself by ethnicity, creed, doctrine, rituals, practices or otherwise. However, a numeric definition of such a group does not suffice to properly appreciate its social status. The number of its members is amenable to the historical contingency of its emergence and development and subject to change. Other variables, such as the pattern of interaction with other groups, the privileged access to political or financial resources of some of their leading members and the groups' smooth functioning are all relevant to social status. The size of a minority community does not exhaust questions of collective social status or everyday experiences.

With the objective of contributing to the development and proliferation of studies of minority questions focusing on Cyprus, the oldest Cyprological journal of social sciences, The Cyprus Review launches a call for papers for its forthcoming issue and invites all interested scholars to consider submitting original contributions in the Social Sciences widely defined and including the fields of International Affairs, Politics and Governance, , History, Law, Education and other related fields, always pertinent to Cyprus.

Following below is a highly indicative list of topics:

- The history of minority groups in Cyprus
- Minority identities in the Cypriot context
- Minority groups as political actors
- Politicians, opinion leaders, and minority groups
- Minority groups and state institutions/policy making
- Definitions, types, and classifications of minority groups in Cyprus
- Minority rights and human rights
- The law on the identification and protection of minority groups
- Cypriot civil society and minority groups
- Minority groups and cultural heritage
- Art, creation, and minority groups
- Legacies of minority groups
- Language, educational practice, and minority groups
- Inclusion, exclusion, identity, otherness, and minority groups
- Hate speech, segregation, polarisation, and minority groups

This is not an exclusive list. On the contrary, we urge prospective authors to think out of the box, endorse bold new ideas, and research the various aspects of this topical question. Articles should have a relevance to the case of Cyprus, thus enhancing Cyprological studies and research.

Submission Instructions

- Authors should consult the journal's guidelines for submission which can be found at: http://cyprusreview.org/index.php/cr/information/authors
- *The Cyprus Review* is available at http://cyprusreview.org
- For specific academic enquiries, please contact *The Cyprus Review Editorial Team* via <cy_review@unic.ac.cy>.
- Interested scholars should send their papers to the following email address <cy_review@unic.ac.cy> or submit their articles through our online platform available at the review's web page https://cyprusreview.org, **not later than 10 September 2021**.
- All submissions should be identified in the email subject with the heading **'CR MG'**

II. The State and Organised Social Groups in the Republic of Cyprus

The political and legal aspects of Cypriot institutions rarely utilise a "sociological imagination" that places State and administrative structures opposite or in relation to organised social groups and more broadly civil society actors, whether trade unions, professional organisations, social movements, networks, or campaigns. It is thus unsurprising that there is meager research on the political and legal aspects of State and administrative linkage to and interaction with social politics. How do social groups approach the State and what strategies do they craft to oppose it, utilise its structures and services, complement or influence it? What institutional response does collective action outside the State evoke by State and government institutions themselves?

In the Eastonian tradition, every democracy is an input-output system and thus institutional outcomes reflect either directly or indirectly the pressures on political and bureaucratic elites from society at large. Fleshing out the interactions or lack thereof in the processes between input and output can help draw conclusions about responsiveness, accountability, transparency, equality of access and the broader pathologies, historical inertia or openings in public governance. Overall, a key piece of information about democracy for social scientists is how hard the shell of formal governance is vis-Ã -vis organised society. These are important questions both at the time of another impending economic crisis, set off by the COVID-19 pandemic, and for Cypriot democracy in particular, which has been undergoing a legitimacy crisis in terms of high abstention, low trust in institutions, a generalised anti-politics sentiment, and corruption scandals.

This Special Section of *The Cyprus Review* will focus on **The State and Organised Social Groups in the Republic of Cyprus**. The issue intends to serve as a platform for inter-disciplinary studies in the domain of institutions and the nature, quality and challenges of contemporary democracy in Cyprus. We encourage authors to contribute to this effort through interrogating various aspects of State-society relations, with focus on the interaction between political institutions or their bureaucracies on the one side and organised social actors that mobilise for particular beliefs or interests on

the other side. At core, lies a key theme with four dimensions: the extent, ways, prospects, and limitations in the interaction between State and organised society.

We especially encourage original proposals on one or more of the following topics:

- Trade unions, sectional interests and the Cypriot State
- The State and value groups in Cyprus
- The State and emerging social movements
- Political and legal parameters of lobbying in Cyprus
- Local government structures and social groups
- Parties as linkage between social groups and the State
- Social group strategies towards the State
- The social roots of politicians in Cyprus
- State-society relations and crises
- Organised group experiences with public administration

This is not an exclusive list. Papers can research related aspects of State-society relations in the Republic of Cyprus and can be contemporary or historical in nature. All papers will be focused on Cyprus, so as to enhance Cyprological knowledge, but can be comparative in perspective.

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- Interested scholars should send their papers to the following email address <cy_review@unic.ac.cy> or submit their articles through our online platform available at the review's web page https://cyprusreview.org, **not later than 27 December 2021**.
- All submissions should be identified in the email subject with the heading **'CR S-OSG'**