## The cooperation possibilities for Cyprus and Kazakhstan are enormous

Signing of memoranda of understanding between the two countries on matters of aeronautical cooperation and tourism.

There are huge possibilities for cooperation between Cyprus and Kazakhstan, Foreign Minister Konstantinos Kombos said at the opening of the new consular office of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Nicosia.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, stated for his part that the opening of the Consulate General of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Nicosia is an important milestone in the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Cyprus and the Republic of Kazakhstan, underlining the deep importance that Cyprus attaches to such bilateral relations.

Addressing Giorgos Lakkotrypis, Mr. Kombos said that his dedication to strengthening relations between the two countries was of great importance and that everyone's task now is to make the most of the opportunity to further expand and deepen these bilateral relations.

Mr. Kombos added that he will sign (on behalf of the Deputy Minister of Tourism) together with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Mr. Roman Vassilenko, a memorandum of cooperation in the field of tourism, "another important area that will act as a springboard for increasing interactions between our people and awareness of our societies".

"We look forward to continuing the course we have started with the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the governments of Cyprus and Kazakhstan in the coming months. This agreement will undoubtedly pave the way for increased air connectivity between our two countries and create the conditions for direct flights, which have huge prospects not only for facilitating tourism and trade, but also for promoting exchanges, thus promoting a stronger bond between our peoples," he noted.

In his opening speech, the Honorary Consul of Kazakhstan in Cyprus, Mr. Giorgos Lakkotrypis, said that the opening of the Consular Office of Kazakhstan in Nicosia further strengthens the ties between the two countries and acts as a symbol of their commitment to strengthen cooperation in various fields.

Mr. Lakkotrypis continued, adding that in May 2023, Limassol held the first Kazakhstan-Cyprus business forum aimed at expanding dialogue and further strengthening bilateral relations, with more than 100 participants from government agencies and the private sector, while the two countries also discussed cooperation plans for 2023, such as holding political consultations, the signing of new agreements, as well as the start of direct flights between the two countries.

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Mr. Roman Vassilenko said in his greeting that Cyprus has made significant progress on its path as an independent state, in terms of strengthening its political position on the world stage, as well as ensuring the social and economic development and well-being of its citizens. He added that the two countries are connected by strong ties of friendship and cooperation, that the government of Kazakhstan intends to continue the high-level dialogue with Cyprus and that the intensification of political contacts will give the necessary impetus to these relations and, in this context, they are yielding of great importance in the first political consultations to be held during his visit. "Like Cyprus, Kazakhstan has established itself as a forward-looking state, known for its internal stability, economic progress and responsible foreign policy, and consistent social, political and economic reforms remain its main goal of our government," noted Mr. Vassilenko and added that today the people of Kazakhstan are working for a just Kazakhstan, where every citizen will enjoy equal opportunities, rights and protection, with the idea of justice in public policies being the highest priority.

In closing, the Ambassador of Kazakhstan in Cyprus, Mr. Satybaldy Burshakov, thanked Mr. Lakkotrypis and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kombos, for their presence at the ceremony, wished for further strengthening of bilateral cooperation.