



04/04/2025

Honorable Chair Harriet Schleifer
The Conference of Presidents of
Major American Jewish Organizations
633 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017

I turn to you on behalf of myself and my family, and on behalf of everyone to whom the Jewish people are dear.

Cypriot President Nikos Christodoulides is currently on a visit to the United States and intends to meet with leading financial and business entities to promote cooperation between them and companies in Cyprus.

We urge you to spread a broad call to all organizations and businesses, and to anyone who opposes anti-Semitism and hatred of Jews, to boycott any meeting with him.

President Christodoulides is currently holding Mr. Shimon Aykout, a 75 year old Israeli Jew with cancer, hostage for 9 months without trial and refuses to release him. Mr Aykout is a law-abiding person who has committed no crime. Mr. Aykout's alleged crime is being the father of a developer who has built homes in Northern Cyprus, a land occupied by Turkey for over 50 years in attempt to hold him accountable for claims against Turkey. Mr. Aykout is being held in the general population of the Central Prison in Nicosia without the benefit of a trial. President Christodoulides and Cyprus are consciously acting in violation of international law by abusing an elderly, cancer-ridden Jewish man to enact their scheme of disrupting business activity in Northern Cyprus by publicizing his arrest and improving their power in negotiations with Turkey.

President Christodoulides has been approached multiple times by President Herzog of Israel as well as by the Secretary General of the UN advocating for his release only to be rebuffed.

Please do not allow meetings of Jewish bodies with an anti-Semitic and abusive leader!!

Jack Afik Aykout

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jack Afik Aykout", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end.