

President Anastasiades said that he had "very productive negotiations" with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

Russian navy vessels will dock in Cypriot ports as per an agreement signed between Moscow and Nicosia 25/02/2015

Anastasiades also accepted an invitation to visit Russia on May 9, to attend the celebrations commemorating Russia's victory over Nazi Germany in World War II.

Anastasiades on official visit to the Russian Federation



President Anastasiades with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow

President Anastasiades said to an audience at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO)

"During yesterday's meetings both sides had the opportunity to reaffirm our reciprocal political engagement to the same fundamental cause...

deepening our cooperation and further solidifying the deep political, cultural and religious links between our countries and peoples, which

have proved, from the period of the Soviet Union, resilient both through time and a number of different challenges,"

Cyprus is Russia's most credible ally within the European Union



Cyprus is Russia's most credible ally within the European Union, President Nicos Anastasiades said on 25/02/2015, during a meeting with Sergey Naryshkin, the Chairman of the State Duma, after which he signed a host of bilateral agreements with President Vladimir Putin.

Putin noted that Russian investments on the island exceeded \$33 billion, "which is over 80 per cent of all foreign investment on the island."

Also he said

"This is a most important demonstration of the principle of solidarity which has been characterising our relations and also proves that Cyprus and Russia continue to enjoy

a mutually beneficial partnership which, founded on a concrete basis, has a prosperous future: A partnership which both countries aim at further deepening and strengthening,"

"And I am pleased to note that during yesterday's meetings, especially with President Putin, the consistent constructive approach of Cyprus has been appreciated by the Russian side, proving that the bilateral cooperation between Cyprus

and Russia has withstood the regretful developments in EU – Russia relation," he added.

Russia and Cyprus signed eight bilateral agreements along with updated Memorandum of Understanding between the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission and the Central Bank of the Russian Federation which aims to additional strengthen ties and enhance cooperation between the two authorities, aiming to facilitate the exchange of information and the more effective investigation of any potential violations of the legislation governing the securities market.



Additionally the two countries also agreed/signed the following:

- To work together in the areas of science and education, through cooperation with research centers, youth organizations and sports associations. Russia also agreed to offer Cypriots with scholarships.
- To cooperate in matters of combating terrorism through information and experience exchange. An agreement on combating drugs and other illegal substances was also signed, and an agreement on cooperation in matters of technology and research.
- To look into possible ways of cooperation in the areas of commerce, energy, transportations, agriculture, tourism and culture. The agreement stipulates that both countries will try to support and encourage business ventures undertaken by the private sector in all the aforementioned areas.
- Also, the Protocol of the 8th Cyprus-Russia Intergovernmental Committee for Economic Cooperation was signed, as well as a Memorandum of Understanding between the ministries of defence of the two countries for cooperation in the naval field.

The Russian president presented Anastasiades with a 17th century icon of the Virgin Mary and a letter written by EOKA leader Georgios Grivas, following the Zurich-London agreements in 1959 and the Cyprus president Anastasiades gave Putin an icon of the Virgin Island

Commerce, Industry, Tourism and Energy Minister Giorgos Lakkotripis met with his Russian counterpart, Energy Minister Alexander Novak, with whom he discussed the possibility of cooperation in matters of energy, specifically natural gas.

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