



Westminster, United Kingdom

**Freedom and
Fairness**

For Northern Cyprus



Community meeting summary

Tuesday, 21 November 2023

The Freedom and Fairness for Northern Cyprus campaign and Lord Rogan of Lower Iveagh hosted the British Turkish Cypriot community in Westminster for our sixth community meeting with TRNC President, Ersin Tatar.

Attendees were joined by prominent parliamentarians, journalists, and community leaders in the House of Lords for a roundtable discussion about the future of TRNC-UK relations.



President Tatar updated attendees about the positive steps that his administration is making in securing direct flights to the TRNC from the country's neighbours. He also said that parliamentary support for direct flights in the UK is at an all-time high, with a growing cross-party coalition in favour of commencing them.



Attendees discussed how the British Turkish Cypriot community could engage more in politics and the democratic process - including how some could seek elected office as councillors or as Members of Parliament.



The President informed the group about his parliamentary meetings with MPs and peers from both Labour and Conservative parties, alongside the Liberal Democrats, Democratic Unionist Party, and Scottish National Party. He shared the support he had received from these members for direct flights, and for British recognition of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.



Lord Rogan, host of the event, described his experience visiting the TRNC and shared his analysis on the comparisons between Northern Ireland and Cyprus. He spoke about his work and that of his parliamentary colleagues in securing greater equality and recognition for Turkish Cypriots and the TRNC.



The group listened to prominent Barrister and former Member of Parliament, Michael Stephen, speak about the legal argument for commencing direct flights and UK recognition of the TRNC. His case can be read by [clicking this link](#).



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