



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing

Witness Biographies

Human Rights in Turkish-Occupied Cyprus: Erdogan's Record and Its Implications for the Ankara NATO Summit



Mr **Evangelos Savva** is appointed as the Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus in the United States since July 2023. He previously served as Ambassador of Cyprus to Finland with parallel accreditation to Estonia. Before taking office in Washington Ambassador Savva was Political Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus responsible for Multilateral Relations and Security Policy. Ambassador Savva was born in 1970 and holds a BA (Cum Laude) in Communications and Rhetoric, as well as an MA in Political Science (International Relations) from State University of New York in Albany.

He is married to Maria Papakyriakou (also a Cypriot diplomat) and they have two daughters.



Michael Rubin is director of policy analysis at the Middle East Forum and the editor of its daily *Middle East Forum Observer*. For over 22 years, he was a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, and he previously served as a senior lecturer at the Naval Postgraduate School, where he spent more than a year at sea onboard U.S. aircraft carriers, amphibious assault vessels, destroyers, and cruisers teaching courses related to U.S. national security in the Middle East and Africa. He also regularly taught courses regarding terrorism for U.S. Navy SEALs and the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation. A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Rubin received a B.S. degree in biology from Yale University in 1994 and a Ph.D. in history from the same institution in 1999. He has testified before the U.S. Congress more than two dozen times and is the author of six books, several dozen book chapters, and more than three thousand published opinion essays and articles. Rubin has extensive experience on the ground in the Middle East, both central and eastern Africa, and South Asia.



Savas C. Tsivicos was born in Innia, Paphos, Cyprus, and immigrated to the United States in 1982. He earned Bachelor's and MBA degrees from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a Master's degree from George Washington University. A prominent leader in the Greek-American and Cypriot communities, he has served as President of the Cyprus Federation of America, Supreme President of AHEPA, Chairman of the Justice for Cyprus Committee, and currently serves on the AHEPA Board of Trustees and the International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus. He has received numerous awards for his dedication to Hellenism, philanthropy, and Cyprus, including honors from the Presidents of Cyprus, the NECO Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and the Medal of Saint Paul. Professionally, he is the CEO of Cypreco Industries, Inc., a construction and engineering company specializing in government and commercial projects. He is married to Maria Gregos and has three children.



Sinan Ciddi is a senior fellow at FDD and director of the Turkey program. Sinan has over two decades of research experience focused on Turkish domestic politics and foreign policy, with bylines in *Foreign Policy*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Politico*, *Newsweek*, *The National Interest*, and 19FortyFive. He frequently provides commentary on various media outlets, including BBC, CNN International, DW News, France 24, the Greek Current Podcast, and CBS's John Batchelor Show. Sinan is also an associate professor of national security studies at Marine Corps University and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. Sinan is the author of *Kemalism in Turkish Politics: The Republican People's Party: Secularism and Nationalism* (Routledge, January 2009), a book that explains the electoral weakness of Turkey's main opposition Republican People's Party. He obtained his Ph.D. from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London in 2007 in the field of political science.