





Short presentations

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|  | <p>Emete İmge - President of Universal Patient Rights Association She was born in Nicosia, Cyprus in 1960. After studying economics during the undergraduate program, she completed her master's degree in communication. She lives in Nicosia and works as HR Manager at the Development Bank. She is an activist and a volunteer in the Cyprus Turkish Civil Society since 1993. She was one of the founders of Cyprus Turkish Diabetes Association and Universal Patients' Rights Association (UPRA). She is currently serving as the president of the Universal Patients' Rights Association. She voluntarily provides facilitation services, consultation and mentoring to Turkish Cypriot CSOs. She conducts capacity building trainings such as "Advocacy and Lobbying", "Networking" "Volunteer Management" for the members of the civil society organizations. She also supports the civil society actions working on the "Smoke Free" Regulations and she is a member of the Tobacco Control Round Table Group. She is also Steering Committee member of "Civic Space" Civil Society EU Project. She was appointed as a patients' representative to the Technical Committee of the Health at the Presidency Office during the on-going UN negotiation process for re-unification of Cyprus.</p> |
|  | <p>Ahmet Varoğlu - North Cyprus Thalassaemia Society The Society was established in 1978 and they have 150 Thalassaemic patients in northern part of Cyprus. Cyprus is one of the first countries who began compulsory Thalassaemia carrier test implementing for obtaining official marriage certificate since 1980. He is involved in the Cyprus Turkish Thalassaemia Society since 1988 working for awareness for Thalassaemia in our country. The Society's main targets are: providing best treatments for Thalassaemia patients; increasing the quality of life; organising blood donation campaigns. The Society also carries out lobbying activities.</p> |
|  | <p>Dr. Ayşe Zeki - Refugee Rights Association MD, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist She was born in Canada to Turkish Cypriot parents. She graduated from Hacettepe University Medical School, Ankara, Turkey in 2000. Between 2001 and 2005 she lived in Canada and worked as an observer and volunteer in several hospitals affiliated with Toronto University School of Medicine. Then she returned to Cyprus and worked as a general practitioner for a year at a private hospital. In 2006, she started her residency training at Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Department in Hacettepe University Medical School. She has been serving as one of the first five children and adolescent psychiatry specialists in northern part of Cyprus at Barış Mental Health Hospital in Nicosia and Mağusa State Hospital in Famagusta. She was elected as a board member of the Cyprus Turkish Medical Chamber for the second term and is currently the president of Refugee Rights Association in North Cyprus. She is also an active member of the education committee of the Association for a Traffic- Accident-Free Life. She serves as a member of the Prime Minister's Commission on</p> |

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| | <p>Fight against Drugs and Probation Committee for Drug Related Crimes. She is a member of the steering committee of Patients' Voice Project Universal Patient Rights Association.</p> |
|  | <p>Beran Erkmen Küfi - Representative of Ministry of Health on Patients' Voice Project Steering Committee She is a chemist by education. In 1992 she started to work as a chemistry teacher at the Ministry of Education. In 1996 she applied to Ministry of Health and started to work in State Laboratory as a Chemist. During her Laboratory years she took courses at Hıfı Sıha Institute in Ankara (about Nitrosamines in pacifiers and Nitrosamines in cloth). In 2008 she took courses about wastewater and drinking water in USA with Fulbright scholarship. After 2013 she began to work in Ministry of Health coordinating EU studies within the Ministry. During 2014-2015 she worked as a health attaché in İstanbul. Now she is back in Cyprus in the Ministry of Health again. She worked on gender studies with NGOs like Cyprus Women Solidatry Council and FEMA (Feminist Activity Group). At the moment she represents the health authority working with Universal Patients' Rights Association since March 2016.</p> |
|  | <p>Günay Kibrit - Cyprus Turkish Orthopedic Association He was born on 9 May 1967 in Paphos, Cyprus. After completing his primary and secondary education, he completed a undergraduate program of Business Management School of Anatolian University, and he is currently continuing master's program at the same department. He began working as a civil servant in 1987 and was retired in 2015. He is physically disabled from birth due to consanguineous marriage of his parents and is bound to a wheelchair. He became active within the Cyprus Turkish Orthopedic Association from 1989 and served at different positions and since 2013 he is serving as the president. He is a basketball player since 1993 and he also coaches the disabled basketball team. Between the years 2006-2010 he has served as the president of the Sports Federation of the Disabled. He is a board member of Universal Patients' Rights Association. He is married and has a daughter.</p> |
|  | <p>Remzi Tinazli - Cyprus Turkish Free-Lancer Doctors Association He is a privately-employed rhino laryngologist working at a University Hospital and has been an active member of Cyprus Turkish Free-Lancer Doctors Association (CTFLDA) since 2004. The CTFLDA was established in 1985 and since its establishment the Association has been working on transformation of the problematic Turkish Cypriot healthcare system into a patient-oriented mechanism in harmony with universal health laws. The Association also takes legal action whenever necessary. In one instance the Association took the minister of health took court last year and the verdict will be announced in the following months.</p> |

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| | <p>The Association also works actively on fight against drug addiction and takes part in the Commission on Fight against Addiction. CTFLDA is currently working on an advocacy campaign in order to add a course on addiction within the curriculum.</p> <p>Among the activities the Association also carries out social work with volunteering doctors. In that framework volunteering doctors visit elderly homes and provide health advisory systems free of charge.</p> |
|  | <p>Erhun Şahali - Private sector representative on UPRA's board member</p> <p>He was born in Nicosia in 1977. After completing his secondary education at Famagusta Türk Maarif College, he studied International Relations and Political Science consecutively at University of Istanbul, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Kent at Canterbury (UK) and Middle East Technical University, Ankara. Since many years, he has been active in numerous civil society organisations and acted as founding member or board member. He has participated to large number of conferences and seminars either as a speaker or as a participant both in Cyprus and various countries. At the moment, he is involved in private sector and is running his own business in Famagusta. He is fluent in English, French and Greek and speaks Russian at a basic level. He is married.</p> |
|  | <p>Emine Çolak - Turkish Cypriot Human Rights Foundation</p> <p>She is one of the founders of the Turkish Cypriot Human Rights Foundation established in 2005 and served as its president for 10 years. The Foundation's aim and activities include monitoring and improving the level of respect for human rights in northern part of Cyprus.</p> <p>The Foundation worked on gender equality, children's rights, human trafficking, refugee rights, torture and detention conditions, missing persons, property rights, disabled rights, and LGBTI rights. In time the Foundation facilitated the establishment of new NGO's to deal with the specific fields and continue to support the work being done by Refugees Association and Queer Cyprus as well as other rights based initiatives. Activities have included awareness rising through conferences, seminars, brochures, exhibitions and other methods. The Foundation have received international support from the EU the UNHCR and other local and international donors. The Foundation's biggest project was a monitoring exercise producing reports in Turkish and English under 10 headings of human rights from the perspective of legislation, implementation, applicable standards and how to achieve them.</p> |
|  | <p>Beran Dağtaş Djemal - Patients' Voice project Communication and Advocacy Officer</p> <p>Shel received her BS in Political Science from Middle East Technical University and Post Graduate Diploma in International Conflict and Cooperation from The Stirling University, Scotland. she has been active in the civil society sector for more than 10 years and was one the founders of Cyprus Community Media Centre which serves to more than 30 organisations in Cyprus across the divide.</p> <p>Currently working as Advocacy and Communication Expert for the Patients' Voice project ran by Universal Patient Rights Association, she worked in numerous right based projects both</p> |

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| | <p>professionally and voluntarily and focuses her work on designing advocacy and awareness raising campaigns for improvement of human rights in Cyprus.</p> |
|  | <p>İzlem Sönmez – Patients' Voice Project Manager She completed her MA in Applied Social Research in University of Manchester and received her BA in Public Relations and Advertisement from Eastern Mediterranean University. Since 2006 she started to work at the Management Centre of the Mediterranean and had the chance to be involved in bi-communal projects which were funded by EU and UNDP-ACT as a Project Coordinator. Afterwards, she continued her career as a Communication and Press Relations Manager in Cyprus International University. During her career she worked voluntarily in several CSOs that actively working on advocacy. Currently, she is working as a Project Manager of Patients' Voice project which is implementing by Universal Patient Rights Association.</p> |



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