

## MESSAGE OF THE C.C. OF AKEL TO THE 10<sup>th</sup> CONVENTION OF THE LEFT BLOC

The Central Committee of AKEL addresses its greetings to the  $10^{th}$  Convention of the Left Bloc.

Your Congress is taking place at a time when the working class and the popular strata are still suffering from the capitalist crisis. Vicious neoliberal policies serving the dominant EU doctrines have been imposed on countries such as Portugal, Cyprus and Greece. The need for the forces of the Left to develop their joint actions, intensify mass organized struggles for the defense of working peoples gains and rights, as well as for a radical alternative path and rupture with such policies has never been more imperative.

The forces of the Left must also struggle against the internationalization of international relations and the further militarization of the EU itself, the ongoing foreign imperialist interventions by NATO and its allies against sovereign states and peoples.

In Cyprus we are continuing our struggle to end the occupation of the northern part of Cyprus by Turkey, which for 42 years has continued with the tolerance shown by a section of the international community, headed primarily by the US, NATO and the EU ruling circles. We are struggling to reunite our island and people with the transformation of the Republic of Cyprus into a federal state. International solidarity has always been a powerful weapon in our struggle to put pressure on Turkey and for the implementation of the UN resolutions and the principles of International Law and UN Charter.

AKEL strives to develop its relations with parties of the broader Left based on mutual respect to the benefit of our peoples and countries.

With these thoughts, we address your Convention and convey a message of solidarity with the Portuguese people fighting for social justice, peace and prosperity.

The Central Committee of AKEL

24/6/2016