

## Cyprus

Cyprus became independent from the United Kingdom in 1960. The republic has six *eparchies* (districts) with centrally appointed officers who are responsible for implementing central government policies (Council of Europe: Cyprus 2005, 2016; Varnava and Yakinthou 2011). The *eparchies* surpass the population threshold for regional government of an average of at least 150,000 inhabitants since the census of 2011. There have been plans to introduce directly elected district councils with the local elections of 2016 but enabling legislation was not adopted (Kombos 2017; National School of Government International 2014). We code *eparchies* as deconcentrated central government as of 1960.

Since a Cypriot *coup d'état* and Turkish invasion in 1974, the island is divided. One district and parts of two others are controlled by the Turkish–Cypriot government and the rest of the island is controlled by the Greek–Cypriot government.<sup>1</sup> The Turkish part proclaimed independence in 1983 as the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which is recognized by Turkey only. The Greek–Cypriot government continues to claim authority over the whole island, and EU funds and policies apply to Turkish Cypriots as well as to Greek Cypriots.

The local tier consists of municipalities and communities and the capital city of Nicosia does not have a special administrative status (Council of Europe: Cyprus 2016).

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<sup>1</sup> The average population size for the five districts controlled by the government of Cyprus is 168,000 and the average for the total of six districts is 189,000 (Council of Europe: Cyprus 2016).

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## Self-rule in Cyprus

			Institutional depth	Policy scope	Fiscal autonomy	Borrowing autonomy	Representation		Self-rule
							Assembly	Executive	
Eparchies	I	1960-2018	1	0	0	0	0	1	

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