

**GENERAL AGREEMENT  
ON TRADE IN SERVICES**

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**CYPRUS**

**Final List of Article II (MFN) Exemptions**

(This is authentic in English only)

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# **CYPRUS - FINAL LIST OF ARTICLE II (MFN) EXEMPTIONS**

<b>Sector or subsector</b>	<b>Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II</b>	<b>Countries to which the measure applies</b>	<b>Intended duration</b>	<b>Conditions creating the need for the exemption</b>	<b>Additional Comments</b>
All sectors	Permission for limited numbers of nationals of the European Union (EU) Member States to be employed or to exercise professions in specific occupations in Cyprus in accordance with criteria to be established unilaterally by Cyprus or in future agreements between Cyprus and the EU Member States	Member countries of the European Union	Until the time of full membership of Cyprus in the EU	The aim of the measure is to deepen existing links between Cyprus and the European Union and to gradually prepare Cyprus for full membership in the EU	Cyprus has a Customs Union Agreement with the EU and has applied for full membership. The preferential treatment of EU nationals, which will facilitate the exercise of professions and labour movements, may be granted to the EU in the future, either unilaterally on the part of Cyprus, or through bilateral agreement(s) between Cyprus and the EU Member States

CYPRUS (continued)

Sector or subsector	Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II	Countries to which the measure applies	Intended duration	Conditions creating the need for the exemption	Additional Comments
All sectors	Waiving of limitations to market access and national treatment in the area of commercial presence, including the movement of capital, with respect to the countries specified under column 3)	Member countries of the European Union and the EFTA countries	Indefinite	A gradual liberalization of commercial presence and in particular capital flows between Cyprus and the European Union is needed as a transitory measure in order to gradually prepare Cyprus for full membership in the EU, which is expected to be enlarged soon to include most of the EFTA countries. Bilateral agreements relating to the mutual protection and promotion of investments with some of the EFTA countries are under preparation.	Cyprus has a Customs Union Agreement with the EU and has applied for full membership
<u>Road Transport</u> - Passenger and Freight Transportation	Bilateral agreements between Cyprus and third countries on international road haulage (including combined transport) and passenger transport, according to which the provision of the transport service between	European countries, Jordan, and any country with whom an agreement may be concluded in the future	Indefinite	The need for exemption is linked to the regional specificity of the cross-border provision of road transport services	

**CYPRUS** (continued)

Sector or subsector	Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II	Countries to which the measure applies	Intended duration	Conditions creating the need for the exemption	Additional Comments
<u>Road Transport</u> - Passenger and Freight Transportation	Cyprus and the contracting parties or across the territory of the contracting parties is reserved or limited to vehicles registered in each contracting party whilst tax exemption for such vehicles is also provided				
<u>Human Health Services</u>	Provision to Cypriot citizens of medical treatment, not available in Cyprus, in selected countries with which bilateral agreements have been signed or will be signed in the future	All countries with whom medical co-operation might be desirable. (Agreements already exist with medical centres in Greece, the UK, and Israel)	Indefinite	The measure is necessary due to the existence or possible future signing of new bilateral agreements between Cyprus and third countries with whom Cyprus has geographical proximity or other special links	
<u>Audiovisual Services</u> - Transmission & Distribution of Radio and Television Programmes	National legislation in radio and television broadcasting taken in conformity with European Union directives and aiming at extending national treatment to works originating in certain European countries and also at ensuring that works meeting specific linguistic criteria are given minimum screentime access	Member countries of the European Union, parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Transfrontier Television or other European countries with whom an agreement may be concluded.	Indefinite	The measure aims at the harmonisation with the E.U. in the broadcasting sector and at the achievement of linguistic and cultural policy objectives	

CYPRUS (continued)

Sector or subsector	Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II	Countries to which the measure applies	Intended duration	Conditions creating the need for the exemption	Additional Comments
<u>Audiovisual Services</u> - Production & Distribution of Television Programmes and Cinematographic Works	Permission for service providers established in certain European countries to benefit from existing and future MEDIA or EURIMAGES programmes	European countries	Indefinite	Cyprus is a participant in the EURIMAGES programme and has applied for participation in the MEDIA programme	The benefits from the programmes are mandatory for participating countries
<u>Audiovisual Services</u> - Production & Distribution of Television Programmes and Cinematographic Works	Granting of national treatment on works covered by government-to-government co-production of audiovisual works, in particular in relation to distribution or access to funding	All countries with whom cultural co-operation may be desirable	Indefinite	The aim of the measure is to promote cultural links between Cyprus and certain countries	
<u>Public Social Security Services</u>	Provisions of bilateral agreements on social security concluded between Cyprus and certain countries	Australia, UK, Egypt, Greece, Austria, Canada, Province of Quebec, and any country with whom an agreement may be concluded in the future	Indefinite	To enable persons who are or become subject to the social security legislation of the contracting parties to maintain their social security rights if they move from one country to another, or to acquire such rights	These agreements which provide, inter alia, for totalizing periods of insurance or residence in the contracting States for purposes of eligibility to benefits are concluded between Cyprus and countries with whom there is movement of labour