



Athanasios  
**KTORIDES**  
FOUNDATION

Dear Friends,

Good morning.

Can we imagine a Cyprus that is no longer an island? Its borders extending to meet the Middle East and Europe? Can we imagine our little country as an important energy player?

I recognize that as a vision it sounds ambitious, like any idea that wants to make a difference or assert future possibilities, even if at the beginning they seem unimaginable. We need as a country to start building castles in the air and then do whatever it takes to create the most solid of foundations to support our dreams.

Today is the formalization of a strategic alliance, I would say a friendship, between a philanthropic, non-profit organization and a leading academic institution in Cyprus. The "Action for Europe" aspires to build on knowledge and develop projects that will contribute to the energy development of Cyprus.

We begin by establishing a Scholarship that will encourage research into the exploitation of the most abundant resource available to Cyprus, namely the sun. We want to inspire researchers to focus their attention on our natural wealth and to exploit it imaginatively and efficiently for the common good of our people.

It is said that a journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step. I would like to thank the Rector, my friend, Constantinos Christofides, and the Senate of the University of Cyprus who have chosen to be our wise companions.

As the Athanasios Ktorides Foundation, whose executives have in their professional lives rich experience in managing electricity in South East Europe, we shall offer expertise and generous financial support. We shall do whatever we can to make sure that this journey is fruitful for the generations of today and tomorrow.

Dear friends, be assured that we shall find other opportunities to celebrate humanity and creativity together.

Thank you.