Now or never in Cyprus Düzenleyen Suat KINIKLIOGLU Cuma, 11 Eylül 2009 Cyprus is back on the international agenda, with leaders of the island's rival Greek and Turkish communities engaged in intense n After all, the Cyprus conflict has dragged on since 1974, wearing out United Nations secretary-generals and special representativ In 2004, the European Union, the United States and a good part of the international community invested considerable energy in t Regrettably, the Greek Cypriot leadership at that time actively campaigned against the UN plan. Consequently, whereas 65 perce Today, many people might think that all of this is water under the bridge. But the fate of the Annan plan remains very much a part In 2008, the UN started a new negotiation process for Cyprus. Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoðan has given his full bl But it should be clear that the current talks are the last chance for a negotiated settlement on the island. So it is imperative that th The talks between Turkish Cypriot President Mehmet Ali Talat and Greek Cypriot President Dimitris Christofias are now entering The US is particularly well situated to contribute to the process in a positive manner, and its engagement at the appropriate level Contrary to many previous rounds of Cyprus negotiations, the issue this time is not confined to the island alone but embraces the Moreover, failure to resolve the Cyprus issue would deadlock already strained security cooperation between NATO and the EU. T It is for these reasons that the transatlantic community should invest its time and energy in the ongoing UN-sponsored talks. Neit Suat KINIKLIOÐLU

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