

Brussels, 29 April 2003

Statement by Pat COX on Cyprus

At the meeting of the President of the European Parliament and the Presidents of Parliaments of the Accession and Candidate States in Brussels today, the latest developments regarding the crossings in Cyprus were discussed.

Pat COX said: "I take a great sense of inspiration from the people's leadership that we are currently witnessing in Cyprus. The extraordinary events taking place, around the more than 100,000 crossings, are tantamount to a 'people's revolution'."

"The people have spoken loud enough to be heard in Brussels, and I hope, in other centres of authority. The people want a settlement and the people want a settlement now. I hope that the political class can find the wisdom and the serenity to meet the people's aspirations."