



**Fédération Européenne  
des Médecins Salariés**  
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## Kıbrıs Türk Tabipleri Birliđi Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

Economic problems; have continued since the report we presented in May. As of September, the annual inflation has decreased from 120 percent to 80 percent. The Doctors' salaries were increased in line with the inflation rate and has remained around 2000 euros on average.

Healthcare problems; There is a shortage of specialist physicians in public hospitals and a general shortage of medicines in the country. Due to the insufficient budget of the Ministry of Health, there are serious problems, especially in the drugs used in cancer treatments. The construction of the new public hospitals that we need has not been completed for years. The new hospitals planned to be built in the other two districts could not be completed due to lack of budget. The construction of the state hospital in the Güzelyurt region started 6 years ago but has been left unfinished. The new hospital, which is under construction in Kyrenia which should have been completed last year, is said that hopefully will be completed in 2024. Due to the inadequacy of the existing hospitals in these two districts, the burden of the healthcare workers has increased even more with the increasing referrals to our largest state hospital in Nicosia.

Population problems; Since we do not have a serious population policy in our country, the infrastructure and personnel numbers required to meet the needs in two important areas such as health and education cannot be predicted and serious problems are being experienced. The foreign population living in our country has increased significantly in recent years and, in parallel, has caused serious problems in health services, education and even traffic. The last census was held in 2017 and was announced as 326,000. The actual population today is estimated to be between 800,000 and 1 million.

In our country the Ministry of Social Security financially contributes 80% to the drug prescriptions of employees in the private sector. Unfortunately, the prescription fraud that was revealed a week ago occupies our agenda. Investigations and arrests regarding this corruption, which mostly involves pharmacists and a small number of physicians, are still ongoing.

Most of our major problems waiting for solution remain the same because we didn't have good communications with our previous minister of health who changed two months ago. We are happy that our new minister, who is an orthopedist is willing to perform collaboration with us.

Cyprus Turkish Medical Association  
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