

# Societal Cohesion – Minorities: Everyday lives in Cyprus



## “From the memories of our parents to the eyes of our children”

During the Modern history of Cyprus, minorities such as Maronites, Turkish-Cypriots, Latins and Armenians were living in the rural and urban areas of Cyprus. Stories, photos and heritage from the ancestors are being kept hidden in houses and photo albums. Digitising photographs, documents etc. via a digitization process of the island's cultural heritage led to the rediscovery and revitalisation of various forms of living within these minorities. This procedure has, also, contributed to enrich our understanding regarding their everyday habits as well as their intangible heritage such as customs, traditions etc. Our goal is to make their stories and photo albums available to the newer generations of these groups who still live on the island but, most importantly, to the world as a legacy.

The Turkish-Cypriot minority is the most populous one, followed by the Maronites, the Armenians and, lastly, the Latins.

A number of outstanding examples: (1) the photo of a village family having early dinner at Mora, (2) a Turkish-Cypriot elementary school during lunch time, (3) a photo of a villager and his oxen in Tymbou village, (4) a photo of the Bellapais village in the occupied area of Cyprus, (5) a Turkish - Cypriot family gathering at the front of their house, (6) a threshing floor, (7) a photo of Greeks and Turks at Peristerona village, (8) a photo from the village of Dhali with American journalists interviewing Turkish - Cypriot villagers at coffee shop and (9) a photo from an elementary School in Kormakitis during a sport activity.

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