

# BLUE BERET



## Commemoration of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and War of Independence

By Lieutenant Colonel László Ujházy, PhD

On 26 October 2017, service members of the Hungarian Contingent of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and a wide international audience commemorated the 61st anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and War of Independence in Camp Szent Istvan, Athienou. The celebration was honoured by the presence of his Excellency Erik Haupt, Head of Mission of the Hungarian Embassy in Athens, Kyriakos Kareklas the Mayor of Athienou, Major General Mohammad Humayun Kabir Force Commander of UNFICYP and Colonel Tim Wildish, UNFICYP Chief of Staff, among others.

Lieutenant Colonel László Ujházy, PhD summed up the major events of 1956 with a rich international overview. He concluded by saying that “the memory of 1956 was preserved by the Hungarians and the societies of democratic countries. As a tribute to the Revolution and War of Independence the new Republic of Hungary was declared in 1989 on the 33rd anniversary. A few days later, on 9 November 1989, the Berlin Wall – a symbol of

the division of Europe after World War II – came down. If this could happen in one part of Europe not too long ago, it could well happen in the foreseeable future in another part of Europe, this beautiful island, as well.”

The historical retrospect was followed by the presentation of awards and decorations. Finally, before the national anthem of Hungary, Major General Humayun greeted the participants. The Force Commander paid tribute to the martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice during 1956 and also appreciated the patriotism of the Hungarian people. He proudly noted the professionalism and excellent contribution of the Hungarian soldiers to UNFICYP. In conclusion, he affirmed that the Hungarian Contingent will keep up their good work and continue to fly the Hungarian flag high at all times.

Similarly to recent years, the senior national representatives and key leaders of the troop contributing countries to UNFICYP Sector 4 (Slovakia, Serbia and the Ukraine) as well as other high-ranking UNFICYP officials attended the ceremony.



### BLUE BERET



[www.facebook.com/UNFICYP](http://www.facebook.com/UNFICYP)  
[www.twitter.com/UN\\_Cyprus](http://www.twitter.com/UN_Cyprus)  
[www.unficy.org](http://www.unficy.org)

