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ΕΛΛΗΝΟΚΑΝΑΔΙΚΟ ΚΟΓΚΡΕΣΟ
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May 15, 2026

VIA EMAIL: stephen.fuhr@parl.gc.ca

The Honorable Stephen Fuhr
Secretary of State for Defense Procurement
House of Commons, Ottawa

Dear Minister Fuhr,

We are extremely concerned about your description of Turkey being a “trusted partner” and “valuable ally” during the discussions of expanding Canada-Turkey defense cooperation. On the contrary the opposite is true.

Turkey has undermined the Europe/NATO imposed sanctions on Russia; supports terrorism; occupies Cyprus; used illegally the Canadian technology (drone avionics) during the Nagorno-Karabakh war and in Syria killing thousands of innocent civilians and devastating the landscape; violating Greek sovereignty and are seeking half of the Aegean Sea and islands as its own. Turkey is known for violating human and religious freedoms, jailing journalists, political opponents and other critics.

These acts clearly show that Turkey is NOT a trustworthy partner. nor does it share our principles and values. Canada must be extremely cautious about renewing the military-industrial cooperation and even entering in a free trade deal with Turkey.

Canada does not need an authoritarian and brutal regime to develop a military industrial base. We should learn from our history: during WWII we produced artillery shells and a corvette a week. We have the resources and human expertise to go along without the help of an authoritarian regime.

Most of the Turkish military weapons are based on European and American systems, Let's look at our friends in Europe to develop partnerships since we share common values.

The Canadian Hellenic Congress strongly opposes Canada's developing and expanding military and trade ties with an authoritarian regime like Turkey.

Yours truly,

George Manios
President
Canadian Hellenic Congress

The Canadian Hellenic Congress is a national democratic communal institution that represents, advances, advocates, and promotes the interests and concerns of Canadians of Hellenic descent and Hellenism in general. The Congress is the national voice of Hellenes and their communities and/or organizations across Canada.