



24 March 2021

**CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE ON GREEK NATIONAL DAY  
AND THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREEK REVOLUTION  
ON 25 MARCH 2021**

The President of the Hellenic Republic, HE Katerina Sakellariopoulou,  
The people of the Hellenic Republic,  
Fellow South African Hellenes,

On behalf of the South African Government and the people of the Republic of South Africa, I have great pleasure in extending our congratulations to the Government of the Hellenic Republic, the people of Greece and the Hellenic-South African community, on the landmark occasion of the 200<sup>th</sup> celebration of the independence of the Hellenic Republic.

The South African Hellenic community has been able to demonstrate its South African patriotism while maintaining the Hellenic traditions that make it a unique part of the diverse social tapestry of our country.

As we join you in celebrating this landmark 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are also reminded of the support of the Hellenic Republic and Cyprus during the apartheid era and the contribution towards the liberation struggle of our own people here in South Africa, which in some respects emulated the 1821 liberation of Hellenes.

We also remember contributions of many South African Hellenes, such as the late Advocate George Bizos, Luli Callinicos, Costa Gazi and others. This influence continues in the younger generation of South African Hellenes who continue to work with our Government in addressing the challenges that confront our society today. As we share this celebration with you, we reinforce the ongoing friendship between our two nations.

Euxaristo kai Zito to ethnos (thank you and long live the people )

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'C. Ramaphosa', is written over the text 'Yours Sincerely,'.

**Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa  
President of the Republic of South Africa**