The theme of the thesis: Music as a Medium for the Rapprochement of the Two Communities in Cyprus

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The author of the thesis Music as a Medium for the Rapprochement of the Two Communities in Cyprus, Christos Ioannou, is a student of both Music Education and Instrumental Performance (viola), Department of Music Education, Faculty of Education, Charles University, Prague. He has chosen the very current and relevant topic in accordance with his social, political, living and musical experience, with his educational background and future pedagogical and musical interest. He has tried to describe and identify the music relations between Greek and Turkish Cypriots during the period before and after independence of the country in 1960 and connect this history with contemporary possibilities of their coming in useful. The objective of this author's project has been to try to bring the people of both antagonistic communities of Cyprus closer to each other, to forget negative memories and promote positive ones, which could lead to a common understanding, respectfulness and cooperation.

Because of no material exists concerning the musical relationship between Greek and Turkish Cypriots before and after 1960, the author prepared a questionnaire. In the way of the method of interview he collected a lot of important information. He describes history of the national problem, bi-communal similarities and troubles in a wide spectrum of cultural and musical life. A very momentous chapter **Music in Education and the Goal of Coexistence** describes a lot of work which can and has to be done for the future better communal life in Cyprus and how important role could music play. I fully agree with the author, that music, and especially Cyprus traditional music, appears to be a common base for all Cypriots. Projects in music (cultural) education can bring positive results in coexistence and humanity in the divided island.

## Conclusion:

The topic of this thesis is inspiring and useful not only for Christos Ioannou's future profession but also for development, quality of vision and positive social progress of his country. The form is balanced and logical, the content in the whole work corresponds with the form and with author's aim of the thesis. Chosen and used literature and sources have an exceptional good quality for this topic. The methods are relevant. I value the written and graphical level of the thesis, too. The processing of the thesis has had a topical idea, the level of the result is very good.

It is my recommendation that this thesis be approved. I propose the evaluation **excellent**.

Prague, June 1st, 2010

Jana Palkovská