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**TURKISH PRIME MINISTER RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN SAYS 2009 MAY BE THE YEAR FOR A SOLUTION IN CYPRUS**

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Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said that the year 2009 could be the year a solution is found to the Cyprus problem.

27 June 2009, Saturday 12:22

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Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said that the year 2009 could be the year a solution is found to the Cyprus problem.

Speaking at the Crans Montana Forum that is taking place in Brussels Mr. Erdogan touched upon the Cyprus issue.

He called on European official to restrict the Greek Cypriot side from trying to prevent a solution being found to the Cyprus problem.

Referring to Turkey's EU membership process, Mr. Erodogan said that Turkey had fulfilled Maastricht criteria. 'Turkey truly believes in the reforms that it has endorsed' said Mr. Erdogan.

He said Turkey was not entering the EU to be a burden on its shoulders but to take some burden off and added that he believed the EU would be gaining a lot with Turkey's accession into the union.

The Turkish Prime Minister is the guest of honor at the 20th yearly session of the Crans Montana Forum.

He will be presented with the PRIX DE LA FONDATION 2009 by H.R.H. Princess Astrid of Belgium and Mr. Jacques Barrot Vice President of the European Commission during the Forum.

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