

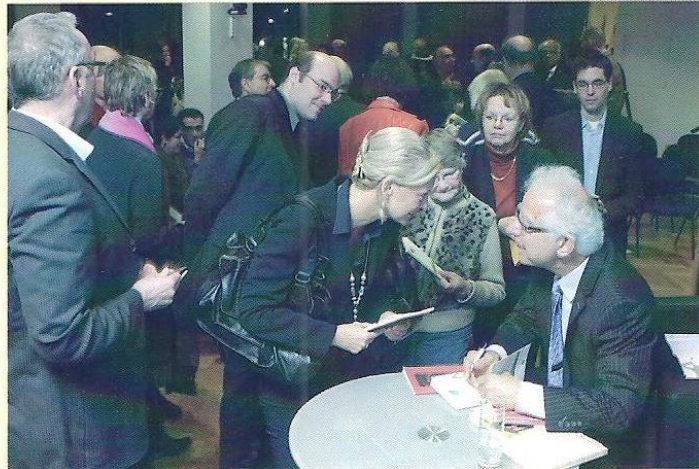
## A Literary Evening with Kyriakos Charalambides at the European Commission

In Berlin, a new series of literary events has commenced within the context of European Year of the Intercultural Dialogue 2008, with the close collaboration of three institutions: the European Committee of Berlin, the European Union National Institutes of Culture (EUNIC) (of which the Cultural Office of the Cyprus Embassy in Berlin is an associate member) and the Literary Workshop of Berlin.

On 9 November, Cyprus presented –as the last country in this literary series– one of the most authentic and pure poetic voices of Cyprus and Hellenism, the poet Kyriakos Charalambides.

The event, which was attended by approximately 180 people –most of them German– was held in the site of the European Committee in Berlin, next to the Gate of Brandenburg. In their addressing speeches, both the President of the E.C., Mr. Matthias Petschke, as well as the Ambassador of Cyprus in Berlin, Mr. Pantias Heliades, highlighted the historical importance of the date of the event, since on 9 November Germany celebrates the Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall; an event that marked the recent European history.

The Director of the Literary Workshop and coordinator of the event, Dr. Thomas Wohlfahrt, opened his presentation with a historical exposition of the political events in Cyprus, giving a clearer image of the poetry of Kyriakos Charalambides to the German audience. The poet cited and analyzed various poems in his native



*Kyriakos Charalambides signs his books*



*View of the event*

language from the whole range of his work; the poems were previously performed in German by a German actor.

The Cultural Office of Berlin had prepared, especially for this event, a small bilingual edition with the poetry of Kyriakos Charalambides, which was offered as a gift to all those attending and which was positively received by all the participants. The E.C. decided to continue this initiative, extending its scope to all the writers, from every member-state of the EU, in its second installment of this series of literary events.