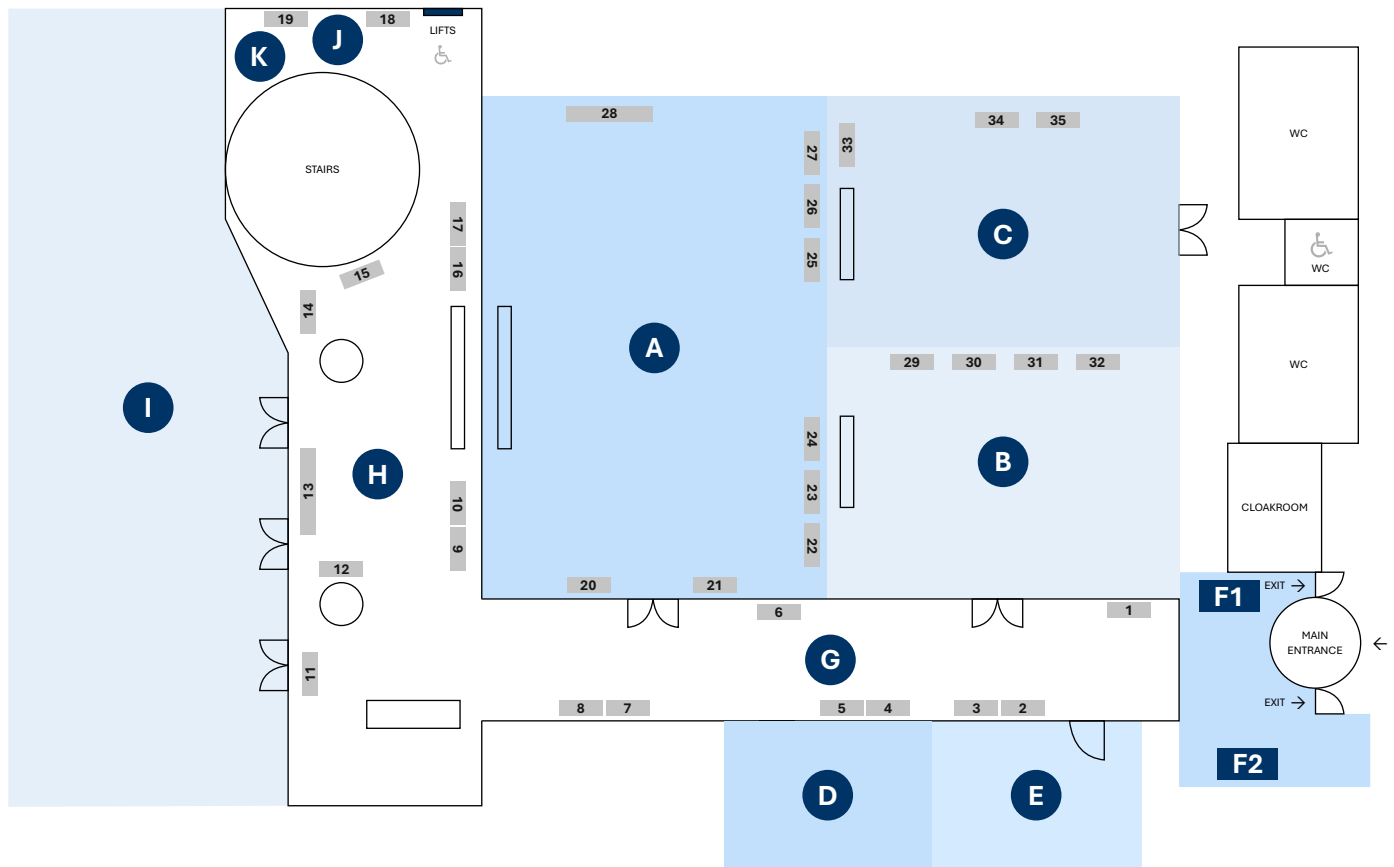


*the cyprus diaspora forum 2026*  
*programme*

6 - 9 MAY 2026, AMARA HOTEL, LIMASSOL, CYPRUS



# CONFERENCE ROOMS AND NETWORKING AREAS *floor plan*



## NETWORKING AREAS

- A CONFERENCE ROOM A
- B CONFERENCE ROOM B
- C CONFERENCE ROOM C
- D MEETING ROOM D
- E PRESS ROOM
- F1 REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION DESK
- F2 PHOTO WALL
- G EXPO AREA (MAIN HALL)
- H EXPO AREA AND INDOOR NETWORKING SPACE
- I OUTDOOR NETWORKING AREA
- J FASHION EXPO
- K CYBC PRESS AREA

## EXHIBITORS

- |      |   |      |                                    |
|------|---|------|------------------------------------|
| F 1  | Registration Desk                       | J 18 | Michalis Pantelidis                |
| G 1  | Welcome Magazine                        | K 19 | RIK (CyBC)                         |
| G 2  | 242.group                               | A 20 | Finance Magnates                   |
| G 3  | ICAP People Solutions                   | A 21 | AMARA                              |
| G 4  | Grizzly Entertainment                   | A 22 | Digital Tree                       |
| G 5  | Digital Security Authority of Cyprus    | A 23 | Michael Kyprianou Law Firm         |
| G 6  | Minds in Cyprus                         | A 24 | Equine Capital Partners            |
| G 7  | Medousa Developers                      | A 25 | Cyprus Seeds                       |
| G 8  | Alpha Bank                              | A 26 | European Legal Training Centre     |
| H 9  | ATG Funds                               | A 27 | KPMG                               |
| H 10 | MultiBase GmbH                          | A28  | Research and Innovation Foundation |
| H 11 | IKMADA                                  | B 29 | Solsidus Law                       |
| H 12 | University of Cyprus                    | B 30 | Bybloserve                         |
| H 13 | bbf:                                    | B 31 | Frangos Law                        |
| H 14 | Invest Cyprus                           | B 32 | Display Art                        |
| H 15 | Family Office Connect Cyprus            | C 33 | Junior Achievement Cyprus          |
| H 16 | Athlos Capital                          | C 34 | Cypriots In the City               |
| H 17 | Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry | C 35 | Larnaka 2030                       |

6 MAY 2026 | AMARA HOTEL, LIMASSOL

# *vip cocktail event*

The VIP Cocktail Event and Opening Ceremony of the Cyprus Diaspora Forum officially launches a major global Cypriot gathering at the AMARA Hotel in Limassol, bringing together senior officials, diplomats, business leaders, investors, sponsors, speakers, and diaspora members. The evening includes a high-level networking reception followed by a formal opening that sets the Forum's vision and highlights Cyprus as a hub for innovation, education, collaboration, and opportunity, alongside cultural performances celebrating Cypriot heritage.

## PROGRAMME

<b>19:30</b>	ARRIVAL ENTERTAINMENT	<b>SONARE DUO</b> Christina Efthymiou, Musician Flutist Kyriakos Costa, Composer and Pianist
<b>20:30</b>	OPENING PERFORMANCE	<b>CYPRUS CHORAL ASSOCIATION</b> Conducted by Nikolaos Therapontos, Artistic Director and Founder
<b>20:45</b>	OPENING WELCOME	<b>EVENT HOST</b> Emilia Papadopoulos
<b>20:50</b>	HIGHLIGHTS	<b>KEY MOMENTS</b> Cyprus Diaspora Forum® 2025 CYDIA Awards® 2025
<b>21:00</b>	OFFICIAL WELCOMES	Demetris Skourides, Chief Scientist for Research, Innovation and Technology Philokypros Roussounides, Secretary General, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry Marios Tannousis, CEO, Invest Cyprus Thanasis Tsokos, Director General, RIK Paul Lambis, Founder and CEO, Cyprus Diaspora Forum
<b>21:05</b>	MUSICAL PERFORMANCE	Aliki Chrysochou, Critically Acclaimed Soprano and Classical-Crossover Artist
<b>21:10</b>	FASHION PRESENTATION	<b>CYPRriot SILK STORIES</b> A Fashion Presentation by Michalis Pantelidis Hair by Christos Artemiou, Artemiou Hair Designs Makeup by Valentino Nicolaou, The Makeup Project Styling by Andronikos Orfanou Garments by ERA Department Stores
<b>21:30</b>	DRONE LIGHT SHOW	<b>GRIZZLY ENTERTAINMENT</b> A drone light spectacle honouring the spirit of research, innovation, education, and collaboration
<b>21:45</b>	GUEST PERFORMANCE	Evangelia
<b>21:55</b>	EVENING ENTERTAINMENT	Myrto Meletiou, International Vocalist and Cultural Ambassador Panagiotis Peidis, International Guitarist and Musical Director

7 MAY 2026 | AMARA HOTEL, LIMASSOL

*day one: agenda*

08:00 – 09:00 Registration

## CONFERENCE ROOM A

09:00 - 11:45 RIF-Powered Session: Cyprus: From Emerging Hub to Global Player  
 11:45 - 12:00 Coffee Break  
 12:00 - 12:20 Keynote Experience: Athlos Capital - Your Global Wealth Hub in Cyprus  
 12:20 - 13:00 Fintech and Banks: Impact and Innovations in Financial Technology  
 13:10 - 13:30 Keynote Experience: A New Page: Cyprus as a Global Family Office Hub  
 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch  
 14:30 - 15:05 Strategic Wealth Management in Cyprus: Protection, Mobility and Crypto in an Era of Volatility  
 15:10 - 15:40 The Soltesz Institute: A unique learning experience in Payments and Banking  
 15:50 - 16:20 BLIS GLOBAL Solutions Showcase – Growing your business  
 16:30 - 16:55 Keynote Experience: Turn your Data into Profit  
 17:00 - 17:30 AI-Driven Markets: Reimagining Cyprus' Business Strategy in 2026  
 17:30 - 17:50 RegTech and AI: Shaping the Future of Compliance and Regulation  
 17:50 - 18:10 Coffee Break  
 18:10 - 18:35 Fireside Chat: Demetrios Mallios  
 18:40 - 20:00 Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry Entrepreneur's Showcase Event  
 20:00 - 21:00 Wine and Cheese Reception

## CONFERENCE ROOM B

09:00 - 09:45 Culture and Art: Shaping Artistic Identity  
 09:55 - 10:15 Lightning Talk: Dimitri Leonidas  
 10:15 - 11:00 Lights, Camera, Cyprus: Shaping a Mediterranean Film Hub  
 11:00 – 11:15 Film Pitch: The Summer Will Come  
 11:15 - 11:30 Coffee Break  
 11:30 - 12:20 Recruitment and Human Resources  
 12:25 - 13:30 Keynote Experience: Stephanos Papadopoulos: Levels of Connection 4.0  
 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch  
 14:30 - 16:30 Keynote Experience: Fokas Beyond: Mastering the Stock Market for Financial Freedom  
 16:45 - 17:00 Coffee Break

## CONFERENCE ROOM C

09:00 - 09:45 Energy and Sustainability: Driving Cyprus' Regional Impact  
 10:00 - 10:45 Digital Diplomacy and Cybersecurity: Cyprus' Role in Building Secure Digital Corridors  
 11:00 - 12:00 The Evolution of Legal Services in Cyprus  
 12:00 - 12:15 Coffee Break  
 12:30 - 13:30 Women in Leadership and Innovation: Shaping the Future of Business, STEM, and Research  
 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch  
 14:30 - 15:00 Keynote Experience: Matthew Zorpas: The Power of Creative Communities: Building Global Bridges Through Culture, Connection, and Purpose  
 15:00 - 15:50 Content Creation: Reaching Global Audiences  
 16:00 - 17:00 Marketing and Branding: A Stronger Global Identity  
 17:00 - 17:15 Coffee Break

7 MAY 2026 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

# day one: agenda

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOUNDATION-POWERED SESSION

## cyprus: from emerging hub to global player

7 MAY 2026 | 09:00 - 11:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



A dynamic and engaging morning exploring why Cyprus is rapidly emerging as a leading centre for innovation, entrepreneurship, investment and global collaboration. This RIF-powered session will bring together leading figures from research, technology, business and government to showcase Cyprus' growing international profile and the opportunities being created across the island. Attendees will also discover how members of the Cypriot diaspora can connect with, support and benefit

Emilia Papadopoulou (Host)	Media Journalist	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Demetris Skourides	Chief Scientist of The Republic of Cyprus	Cyprus
Theodoros Loukaidis	Director General, Research and Innovation Foundation	Cyprus
Marios Tannousis	CEO, Invest Cyprus	Cyprus
Stavros Stavrou	President, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Cyprus
George Georgiou	Co-Founder, President of The Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Australia	Australia
James Demetriou	Technology Innovator, Architect of Tech Ecosystems	Australia

*Note: All information was accurate at the time of publication. The organisers cannot accept responsibility for any alterations to the programme resulting from circumstances beyond their control, including but not limited to schedule changes, panel cancellations, speaker unavailability or non-attendance, and other unforeseen events.*

KEYNOTE EXPERIENCE

# *athlos capital: your global wealth hub in cyprus*

7 MAY 2026 | 12:00 - 12:20 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



SARA EOJOURIAN  
HEAD OF WEALTH MANAGEMENT



Sara Eojourian will deliver a keynote presentation showcasing Athlos Capital as a global wealth hub based in Cyprus, where she serves as Head of Wealth Management and Executive Director. Her presentation will provide valuable insights into the firm’s approach to modern wealth management and the strategic role Cyprus can play as an international financial centre.

Athlos Capital is a boutique investment firm renowned for its true independence and unwavering client focus. The firm partners with top-tier global institutions to provide access to bespoke investment solutions, utilising cutting-edge technology to ensure a seamless and sophisticated investment experience.

Attendees will gain practical insights into global wealth management strategies, the evolving needs of high-net-worth investors, and how Cyprus is positioning itself as a competitive hub for international capital and financial expertise.

FINTECH AND BANKS

# *impact and innovations in financial technology*

7 MAY 2026 | 12:20 - 13:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

A broad look at the evolving financial and innovation landscape in Cyprus, highlighting emerging opportunities, regional connectivity, and the ways in which businesses and institutions are adapting to a rapidly changing digital environment.

Yuriy Romanyukha (Moderator)	Managing Partner, ICLUB Global	Ukraine, Cyprus
Carissa Louca	Director, Credit Central Australia, Finance Broker	Australia
George S Georgiades	Attorney, Entrepreneur, Financial Thought Leader	USA
Lampros Vassiliou	Chairman and CEO, Teak Capital	Brazil
Nikogiannis Karantzis	Managing Director and CEO, ISX Financial	Cyprus

KEYNOTE EXPERIENCE

*a new page: cyprus as a global family office hub*

7 MAY 2026 | 13:10 - 13:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



**THEO PARPERIS**  
CHAIRMAN, FAMILY OFFICE CONNECT CYPRUS



Led by Theo Parperis, Chairman of Family Office Connect Cyprus (FOC), this informative discussion highlights the growing importance of family offices, their benefits to Cyprus and its wider society, and the role FOC has played in positioning Cyprus as an emerging destination for family offices. Family Office Connect Cyprus is a dedicated non-profit network committed to developing a premier ecosystem for family offices and their trusted advisers in Cyprus. The organisation fosters a supportive environment through member collaboration, promotion, advocacy on shared interests, and the exchange of industry best practices.

STRATEGIC WEALTH MANAGEMENT IN CYPRUS

*protection, mobility, and crypto in an era of volatility*

7 MAY 2026 | 14:30 - 15:05 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

Cyprus is emerging as a strategic hub for wealth preservation, mobility, and digital asset management, offering stability through its legal, financial, tax, and regulatory frameworks for HNWIs, businesses, and investors, while providing practical insights on cross-border structuring, asset protection, and navigating global financial and digital markets.

Dr. Demetrios Zamboglou (Moderator)	Group CEO of BitDelta	UAE
Andreas Athinodorou	CEO, ATG Funds	Cyprus
Costas Markides	Board Member, International Tax and Transfer Pricing Leader	Cyprus
Ivan Finman	Founder, FX-SERM	Ukraine, Poland, Cyprus
Michael Konstantinou	Head of Portfolio Management, Athlos Capital	Cyprus
Pavlos Economou	General Manager, Family Office Connect Cyprus	Cyprus
Savvas Savva	Co-Founder, Equine Capital Partners	Cyprus

7 MAY 2026 | DAY 1 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

THE SOLTESZ INSTITUTE

## *a unique learning experience in payments and banking*

7 MAY 2026 | 15:10 - 15:40 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



**VIKTORIA SOLTESZ**  
FOUNDER, THE SOLTESZ INSTITUTE



**SOLTESZ INSTITUTE**

A practical learning session on payments and banking, led by Viktoria Soltesz—an award-winning expert with over 20 years' experience in banking, payments, and taxation—who shares actionable insights from her Soltesz Payment Framework and international work helping businesses move money efficiently, securely, and transparently.

BLIS GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

## *growing your business*

7 MAY 2026 | 15:50 - 16:20 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



**NAJI A. HADDAD AND JADE W. DAGHER**  
BLIS GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

**blis**

BLIS Global Solutions will present a keynote on the future of financial and business planning for SMEs, highlighting the importance of strategic planning, collaboration, and global networks in improving access to funding, promoting best practices, and supporting sustainable growth.

MULTIBASE GMBH

## *turn your data into profit*

7 MAY 2026 | 16:30 - 16:55 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



**FELIKS GOLENKO**  
FOUNDER & CEO, MULTIBASE GMBH

**Multi  
Base**

Feliks Golenko explores how hidden profit leakage within everyday operations can be identified and addressed using data analytics and AI-driven insights, helping business leaders detect risks early, uncover growth opportunities, and make more precise, high-impact decisions.

AI-DRIVEN MARKETS

# *re-imagining cyprus' business strategy in 2026*

7 MAY 2026 | 17:00 - 17:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

This session explores how AI-driven markets can reshape Cyprus' business strategy in 2026, positioning the country as a regional hub for AI-powered business models, digital transformation, and connectivity between Europe, MENA, the Gulf, and Asia.

Demetris Stefani (Moderator)	Founder, Hivebreed, Brand and Growth Architect	Cyprus
Chrysanthos Alexandrou	Tech Entrepreneur, Co-Founder @Livenow	Cyprus
Iskander Mombekov	Co-Founder and CMO, Salutro Ltd, Professional Member of IFERP	Kazakhstan, Cyprus
Linus Erley	Business Consultant	Germany
Dr. Vassilis Agouridas	Founder and Managing Director of IKMADA	Greece, Belgium, Cyprus

REGTECH AND AI

# *shaping the future of compliance and regulation*

7 MAY 2026 | 17:30 - 17:50 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



**GIORGOS KONSTANTINOU**  
FOUNDER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR,  
K.G.K. REGUTECH ADVISORS LTD.



A dynamic presentation exploring how AI and machine learning are transforming the regulatory landscape, with insights into the current state of RegTech, its impact on compliance, and the key challenges facing both regulators and industry. The session will also highlight the importance of collaboration, emerging trends shaping the future of regulation, and practical perspectives on navigating an increasingly complex and technology-driven environment.

FIRESIDE CHAT

*demetrios mallios*

7 MAY 2026 | 18:10 - 18:35 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



**DEMETRIOS MALLIOS**  
FOUNDER AND CEO, AEON GROUP OF COMPANIES

Demetrios Mallios is a seasoned investor and entrepreneur with over 30 years' experience in investment banking, private equity, venture capital, M&A and corporate finance. He is the Founder, Chairman and CEO of The Aeon Group, Inc., a diversified holding company operating across a range of sectors, including technology, life sciences, real estate, natural resources and telecommunications. He is a *Dragon's Den* Greece alumni, having appeared on the popular television programme in which Dragons evaluate and invest in innovative start-ups. He has held multiple FINRA licences and has a proven track record of executing successful transactions in both private and public companies worldwide. His mission is to create value for shareholders, partners and portfolio companies by leveraging his expertise, network and long-term vision.

MODERATOR: YANNA DARILIS

CYPRUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY SHOWCASE

*going global: entrepreneurs on stage*

7 MAY 2026 | 18:40 - 21:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



This Showcase will feature six selected Cypriot companies, each given the opportunity to present their innovative products and technologies in a concise format, highlighting their key strengths and exploring opportunities for collaboration at both local and international levels. This session focuses on fostering meaningful partnerships through commercial agreements, outsourcing opportunities, and supplier collaborations.

Yanna Darilis (Host)	On Camera Talent, Executive Producer, Broadcast Executive	USA
Stavros Stavrou	President, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Cyprus
Alexis Pantazis	Co-Founder and Executive Director, Hellas Direct	Greece
Demetrios Constantinides	Founder and CEO, Eptagon Group	South Africa, Cyprus
Demetrios Mallios	Founder and CEO, Aeon Group of Companies	USA, Greece
Despina Panayiotou Theodosiou	CEO, Tototheo Global, President, Association of Cypriot Professionals in Greece	Greece

CULTURE AND ART

*shaping artistic identity*

7 MAY 2026 | 09:00 - 09:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

A discussion exploring Cyprus as a cultural crossroads, focusing on how digital tools can help preserve and promote its rich heritage globally, while also examining the island’s role in shaping Mediterranean identity through contemporary art, theatre, and cultural expression within a globalised context, alongside broader reflections on cultural heritage and international advocacy, including ongoing efforts to repatriate the Parthenon Marbles and the importance of returning and safeguarding iconic cultural treasures.

Philip Ammerman (Moderator)	Managing Partner, Navigator Consulting	Greece, USA, Cyprus
Andreani Panayide	Founder, Folkmona	United Kingdom
Andrew Michaels	Founder, Nine Lives Capital	United Kingdom
Angela Gerekou	Architect, Actor, Politician	Greece
Dr. Marilyn Panayi	Chair, Theatro Technis	United Kingdom
Nikoletta Polydorou	Executive Director, Sistema Cyprus	Cyprus

LIGHTNING TALK

*dimitri leonidas*

7 MAY 2026 | 09:55 - 10:15 | CONFERENCE ROOM B



**DIMITRI LEONIDAS**  
ACTOR

Dimitri Leonidas is a British Cypriot actor who has worked extensively across television and film. With a career spanning independent productions and major studio projects, he has shared the screen with renowned figures such as Anthony Hopkins, George Clooney, and Cate Blanchett, and has worked under the direction of Jon Stewart, Roland Emmerich, and Luc Besson. Showcasing his versatility, Dimitri’s roles have ranged from portraying a German-Jewish soldier in the Second World War tasked with recovering stolen artworks across Europe in the Sony film *The Monuments Men*, to playing Scorpus, the greatest chariot racer in history, in Amazon’s Roman epic *Those About to Die*. His stage credits include performing at London’s prestigious Almeida Theatre in a production of Ingmar Bergman’s *Through a Glass Darkly*, directed by Michael Attenborough.

MODERATOR: PAVLOS NEOCLEOUS

## LIGHTS, CAMERA, CYPRUS

*shaping a mediterranean hub*

7 MAY 2026 | 10:15 - 11:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

Cyprus is positioning itself as a dynamic Mediterranean film production powerhouse, aiming to attract international projects and establish a strong global presence in the industry. By leveraging its diverse landscapes, favorable climate, and strategic location, the country seeks to become a top filming destination with broad international appeal. At the same time, Cyprus is embracing film as a tool of cultural diplomacy, using cinema to share its unique identity, history, and heritage with audiences around the world, shaping a compelling global narrative that reflects its rich cultural legacy.

Pavlos Neocleous (Moderator)	Co-Founder and CEO, Semio Productions Ltd.	Cyprus
Agni Scott	Actress	United Kingdom
Daphne Alexander	Actress	United Kingdom
Lefteris Eleftheriou	Chairman of The Cyprus Film Commission	Cyprus
Pambos Michaelides	Serial Entrepreneur, Producer	Cyprus
Stephanie Leonidas	Actress	United Kingdom

## FILM PITCH

*the summer will come*

7 MAY 2026 | 11:00 - 11:15 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

**IOANNA KARAVELA**  
PRODUCER, EP:IK PICTURES

**ATHENA MANDIS**  
WRITER, DIRECTOR

**SOULLA CHRISTODOULOU**  
AUTHOR

A special film presentation on *The Summer Will Come*—a story of migration, identity, and the cost of freedom, exploring how displacement reshapes not only one life, but generations. Based on award-nominated novelist Soulla Christodoulou's book, *The Summer Will Come* was selected as a Barnet Libraries Book Club Read during London's Year of Learning Festival in 2019. The novel is currently under contract for Greek translation and is in development as a feature film, reflecting the author's commitment to bringing Cyprus-centred stories to international audiences.

Logline: As Cyprus rises toward independence from the British in the 1950s, Evangelia flees with her children to London to rebuild her life—but as both she and her homeland claim their freedom, she is forced to confront the quiet, irreversible cost of displacement.

MODERATOR: PAVLOS NEOCLEOUS

TALENT HUB CYPRUS

*recruitment and human resources*

7 MAY 2026 | 11:30 - 12:20 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

Cyprus is positioning itself as a talent hub by attracting global professionals while encouraging its diaspora and young graduates to return and contribute to the economy. At the same time, evolving HR strategies are focusing on smarter recruitment, stronger retention, and continuous talent development to support key sectors. Together, these efforts aim to reverse brain drain and ensure a sustainable, future-ready workforce.

Christiana Kyriacou (Moderator)	Director, Executive Search Cyprus, ICAP People Solutions	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Constantinos Lytras	Founder, Constant Growing and Leadership Coach	Cyprus
Christina Theodoulou	Founder, Wellness In Motion, Certified Wellness Coach, ACA	Cyprus
Eleni Savva	Executive, Life, NLP Coach , Empower Your Essence	United Kingdom, Cyprus

KEYNOTE EXPERIENCE

*levels of connection 4.0*

7 MAY 2026 | 12:25 - 13:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

**STEPHANOS PAPADOPOULOS**  
BUSINESS AND EXECUTIVE COACH

Join internationally acclaimed business and executive coach Stephanos Papadopoulos for an engaging session, Levels of Connection 4.0, where he shares insights from his extensive C-suite and global consulting experience. Participants will explore practical strategies to boost creativity, focus, and decision-making, gaining tools to make more confident choices in high-stakes environments.



FOKAS BEYOND

*mastering the stock market for financial freedom*

7 MAY 2026 | 14:30 - 16:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

**GEORGE FOKAS**  
GLOBAL STOCK MARKET EDUCATOR, INVESTING STRATEGIST

George Fokas is an experienced stock market educator who has spent over 25 years helping people invest with confidence through a proven, practical strategy. Since 2005, he has trained thousands worldwide by simplifying complex concepts and focusing on disciplined, results-driven investing, with a unique emphasis on securing income at the start of each transaction.



## ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

*driving cyprus' regional impact*

7 MAY 2026 | 09:00 - 09:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

Cyprus is positioning itself at the centre of the East Mediterranean energy transition, advancing regional integration and sustainability through renewable energy, the blue economy, and strong CSR practices. As part of its Green Cyprus 2035 vision, businesses across sectors are embedding corporate responsibility into their strategies by reducing emissions, investing in clean technologies, supporting communities, and promoting long-term sustainable growth and stakeholder trust.

Natasa Pilides (Moderator)	Former Minister of Energy, Commerce and Industry	Cyprus
Michael Damianos (Address)	Minister of Energy, Commerce, and Industry	Cyprus
Georges Panaghoulis	Head of Price Risk and Hedging, Island Oil Holdings	United Kingdom
Maria Anastasi	Groundwork Coordination Team	Cyprus
Panos Papanastasiou	Professor, University of Cyprus	Cyprus
Sofia Matsi	Executive Director, Cyprus Environment Foundation	Cyprus

## DIGITAL DIPLOMACY AND CYBERSECURITY

*cyprus' role in building secure digital corridors*

7 MAY 2026 | 10:00 - 10:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

Cyprus is emerging as a cybersecurity bridge between Europe and the MENA region, playing a strategic role in building secure digital corridors that protect financial systems, trade flows, and diplomatic channels in an increasingly interconnected world. At the same time, it is advancing digital diplomacy to strengthen its international influence, enhance global partnerships, and position itself as a trusted hub for secure digital engagement, supported by legal advisors, policymakers, and cybersecurity experts who ensure compliance, resilience, and robust digital governance.

Yiannos Georgiades (Moderator)	Managing Partner, Y. Georgiades & Associates LLC	Cyprus
Andreas Tsindos	CEO, MWENA Mobile	UAE
Diamandis Zafeiriades	Head, Digital Security Authority of Cyprus	Cyprus
Elias Athanasopoulos	Associate Professor, University of Cyprus	Greece

## CYPRUS LEGAL SECTOR

*the evolution of legal services in cyprus*

7 MAY 2026 | 11:00 - 12:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

Cyprus is positioning itself as a leading hub for cross-border legal services in the Mediterranean, supporting international transactions and global legal practice. Its legal sector is also adapting to digital change, including the impact of AI and evolving regulation. At the same time, Cyprus provides reliable legal support for diaspora and foreign nationals in areas such as property, inheritance, immigration, and business, with a strong focus on transparency, compliance, and trust.

Androulla Poutziouris (Moderator)	Founder and CEO, European Legal Training Centre	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Menelaos Kyprianou (Keynote)	Managing Partner, Michael Kyprianou & Co LLC	Cyprus
Georgia Thoma	Partner, Frangos Law	Cyprus
Kriton Papastergiou	Co-Founder and CEO, Casepal AI	Greece
Stephanie Georgiadou	Advocate, Head of Corporate Department, Y Georgiades & Associates LLC	Cyprus

## WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION

*shaping the future of business, stem, and research*

7 MAY 2026 | 12:30 - 13:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

This discussion highlights the role of women in driving innovation across business, entrepreneurship, AI, STEM, research, and academia. Panellists will share insights on breaking barriers, fostering inclusive leadership, and advancing gender equality while showcasing how women are shaping scientific and technological breakthroughs. The session also explores how to strengthen collaboration, build supportive networks, and inspire the next generation of women leaders and innovators.

Stella Koukounis (Moderator)	Managing Partner, Solsidus Law, Lawyer, Entrepreneur	Cyprus
Christiana Genie	CEO, Inner Growth Academy	Cyprus
Kelly Christodoulou	Founder, CEO TideMRV	Singapore, Australia, Cyprus
Olina Sokratous	Founder, Business Development and Legal Strategist	Cyprus
Tatiana Eleni Synodinou	Professor of Private and Commercial Law, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, University of Cyprus	Greece
Vaso Vardaki	Executive and Team Coach	Cyprus

THE POWER OF CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

*building global bridges through culture, connection and purpose*

7 MAY 2026 | 14:30 - 15:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

**MATTHEW ZORPAS**  
ENTREPRENEUR

Creativity has the power to unite, inspire, and redefine how communities thrive globally. In this talk, Matthew Zorpas explores how creative individuals—can use storytelling, collaboration, and digital platforms to build meaningful connections that elevate both personal identity and collective purpose. Drawing from over 17 years of international experience in fashion, lifestyle, and community building, Matthew shares how creativity can become a bridge between cultures and a catalyst for Cyprus’ global presence.



CONTENT CREATION

*reaching global audiences*

7 MAY 2026 | 15:00 - 15:50 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

Creative Cyprus explores how local creators, influencers, writers, and start-ups can use AI and digital platforms to reach global audiences and export culture in the digital age. It also positions Cyprus as a creative bridge between continents, where authentic storytelling is enhanced by emerging technologies. In 2026, Cypriot authors, journalists, and media professionals will increasingly harness innovative digital tools to craft compelling narratives and amplify the country’s cultural voice on the global stage.

Adonis Adoni (Moderator)	News Editor, Finance Magnates	Cyprus
Alex Christofi	Publishing Director at Transworld Publishers, Author	United Kingdom
Louisa Ioannidou	CEO, TheSoul Media	Cyprus
Margarita Orlova	Digital Influencer, Lifestyle Content Creator	Latvia, Spain
Martin Zarian	Award-Winning Full-Stack Brand Builder, Co-Founder, Factory 39, Balabook, Made in Cyprus Podcast	Armenia, Cyprus
Matthew Zorpas	Entrepreneur	United Kingdom
Rafaella Mehmet	Influencer, Social Community Builder and Creative Strategist, Lifestyle Content Creator	Cyprus

## MARKETING AND BRANDING

*a stronger global identity*

7 MAY 2026 | 16:00 - 17:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

Brand Cyprus focuses on strengthening the island's global identity by positioning it more effectively in international markets. It explores how Cyprus can leverage its rich cultural heritage through strategic storytelling to drive brand-led growth and visibility. A key element of this effort is the Cypriot diaspora, whose global presence plays a vital role in promoting the country's image abroad, supported by coordinated efforts from government and local communities to maximise its international influence.

Dora Christofi (Moderator)	Head of Marketing at Finance Magnates	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Adonis Violaris	Managing Director, CSN Media & PR CY Ltd	Cyprus
Agis Charalambous	Senior Associate, Michael Kyprianou & Co LLC	Cyprus
John Antoniadis	Chief Operating Officer, Phileleftheros Media Group	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Marianna Konina	Founder and CEO, Reputation City	Cyprus
Savvas Agathangelou	Co-Founder & Head of Marketing Strategy, The Luxury Playbook	Spain, Greece, Cyprus
Stavriana Nathanail	CMO, Digital Tree	Cyprus

8 MAY 2026 | AMARA HOTEL, LIMASSOL

*day two: agenda*

08:00 – 09:00 Registration

## CONFERENCE ROOM A

09:00 - 09:45 International Relations  
 09:50 - 10:50 Cyprus and the Gulf and MENA Regions  
 10:55 - 11:45 Cyprus as a Strategic EU Partner Bridging the Mediterranean and Central Asia  
 11:45 - 12:00 Coffee Break  
 12:00 - 12:40 Strengthening Cyprus–India Partnerships in Business and Creativity  
 12:45 - 13:30 Cyprus and Schengen  
 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch  
 14:30 - 15:15 Fireside Chat: Theo Paphitis  
 15:20 - 16:00 Keynote Experience: James Demetriades: Building E-Commerce Success with Freedom and Purpose  
 16:00 - 16:15 Coffee Break  
 16:15 - 17:30 Fireside Chat: John Kiriakou  
 17:30 - 19:00 Cyprus Diaspora Forum Startup Launchpad

## CONFERENCE ROOM B

09:00 - 09:45 The Strength of the Diaspora through Economic and Security Diplomacy  
 09:50 - 10:25 Keynote Experience: Minds in Cyprus  
 10:30 - 11:25 Repatriation to Cyprus: Bringing Talent Home  
 11:30 - 11:45 Coffee Break  
 11:45 - 12:30 Fireside Chat: Christophoros Papachristophorou  
 12:35 - 13:30 Real Estate and Investment: Cyprus as a Destination for Growth  
 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch  
 14:30 - 15:25 The Future of Hospitality and Tourism in Cyprus: Smart, Sustainable, and Authentic  
 15:30 - 17:00 Game Changer: Building Cyprus' Sports Future  
 17:00 - 17:15 Coffee Break

## CONFERENCE ROOM C

09:00 - 10:15 Health Frontiers: Advancing Care, Research and Innovation in Cyprus  
 10:20 - 10:45 Lightning Talk: From Island Roots to Global Impact: The Thalassaemia Story  
 10:50 - 12:00 Digital Health & Wellbeing: Innovation, Prevention, and Care in Cyprus  
 12:00 - 12:15 Coffee Break  
 12:15 - 13:30 Cyprus as a Global Destination for Education and Research Excellence  
 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch  
 14:30 - 15:40 Workshop: Future-Ready Skills for a Global Career - Navigating Opportunities after Graduation  
 15:50 - 17:50 Workshop: Junior Achievement Cyprus: Shaping Tomorrow Together: Youth meets Industry  
 17:50 - 18:05 Coffee Break

## MEETING ROOM D

11:00 - 13:30 Masterclass: Cyprus 2026: Operationalising Your EU Tech Hub

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

*cyprus as a bridge of diplomacy*

8 MAY 2026 | 09:00 - 09:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

Cyprus holds a strategic geopolitical position at the crossroads of Europe and the Middle East, giving it significant diplomatic relevance in a multipolar world. Despite its size, Cyprus leverages its position to exert meaningful influence within global alliances and international relations. Acting as a bridge of diplomacy, it works to strengthen bilateral ties, enhance trade and communication, and support diaspora communities, while building partnerships that reflect its unique role as both a regional and European actor.

Costa Constanti (Moderator)	Director, Constanti.org, Assistant Director, Diplomatic Academy Cyprus	Australia, Cyprus
Hon. Andrea Michaels	Former Minister & Member of Parliament, South Australia Senior Lawyer, NDA Law	Australia
H.E. Emily Pugin	Australian High Commissioner	Australia
H.E. Oren Anolik	Ambassador of Israel in Cyprus	Israel
Roberta Talarico	CEO, RT Circle Ltd	Italy, Cyprus
Sofronis Papageorgiou	Head, Cyprus Trade Center	Israel

## CYPRUS AND THE GULF AND MENA REGIONS

*creating new opportunities for collaboration*

8 MAY 2026 | 09:50 - 10:50 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

Cyprus is positioning itself as a gateway for Gulf–EU cooperation, playing a strategic role in connecting Gulf investment with European markets, particularly in business and energy sectors. At the same time, it is expanding partnerships across the MENA region, creating new opportunities for collaboration in finance, tourism, and other key industries within a shifting geopolitical landscape.

Yiannos Olymbios (Moderator)	Chairman of Cyprus Business Council - Dubai	UAE
Andreas Athinodorou	CEO, ATG Funds	Cyprus
Averof Neofytou	Former President of The Democratic Rally	Cyprus
Lia Lungu	Founder and Managing Partner, The Advisory Partnership (TAP)	UAE
Peter Stevenson	East Mediterranean Editor, MEES	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Valantis Mikrommatis	Vice President, Yellow Door Energy	UAE

## CYPRUS AS A STRATEGIC EU PARTNER

*bridging the mediterranean and central asia*

8 MAY 2026 | 10:55 - 11:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

Emphasising Cyprus' pivotal role as a strategic EU partner with Central Asia, the discussion will highlight opportunities for collaboration in energy, trade, innovation, education, and cultural exchange. By leveraging Cyprus' unique geographic position and longstanding ties across regions, participants will examine how stronger partnerships can enhance stability, sustainability, and shared prosperity for both the Mediterranean and Central Asia.

Natalia Kardash (Moderator)	CEO, Vestnik Kypra, Founder, Successful Business Leaders' Club, Expert on Cyprus and Business Advisor	Cyprus
Andreas Athinodorou	CEO, ATG Funds	Cyprus
Andreas Aristeidis	Doctoral Researcher in Political Science, University of Cyprus	Cyprus
Andriana Efstathiou	Partner, Frangos Law and Bybloserve	Cyprus
Theodoros Loukaidis	Director General, Research and Innovation Foundation	Cyprus
H.E. Nikolay Zhumakhanov	Ambassador of The Republic of Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan

## BUSINESS AND CREATIVITY

*strengthening cyprus–india partnerships*

8 MAY 2026 | 12:00 - 12:40 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

The Cyprus–India corridor strengthens economic ties between Cyprus' financial ecosystem and India's technology sector, fostering collaboration in investment, innovation, and talent exchange. At the same time, growing relations open opportunities across creative and business fields, from film and entertainment to blockchain and emerging technologies, building a dynamic bridge between culture, trade, and digital innovation.

Marina Zevedeou (Moderator)	Co-Founder and CEO, Aspen Trust Group, President, Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Cyprus	Cyprus
Demetris Skourides	Chief Scientist of The Republic of Cyprus	Cyprus
H.E. Manish Manish	High Commissioner of India to Cyprus	India
Serene Mary Tharian-Malayatoor	Entrepreneur, Board Member WICCI Cyprus	India, Cyprus
Stavros Stavrou	President, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Cyprus
Sunil Kapoor	Partner and COO, OL Shipping Group	India, Cyprus

## CYPRUS AND SCHENGEN

*enhancing cyprus' economic and diplomatic standing*

8 MAY 2026 | 12:45 - 13:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

Cyprus' potential accession to the Schengen Area presents significant opportunities for its economy, security, and tourism sector, enhancing its economic and diplomatic standing within Europe. It is expected to strengthen mobility, trade, and international trust, positioning Cyprus as a more influential European gateway and boosting its strategic advantage in regional and global connectivity.

Harris Georgiades (Moderator)	Chairman, Clerides Institute, Former Finance Minister of Cyprus	Cyprus
Iosif Frangos	Managing Partner, Frangos Law and Bybloserve	Cyprus
Marios Tannousis	CEO, Invest Cyprus	Cyprus

## FIRESIDE CHAT

*theo paphitis*

8 MAY 2026 | 14:30 - 15:15 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



## THEO PAPHITIS

RETAIL ENTREPRENEUR, TV DRAGON, PHILANTHROPIST

Theo Paphitis was born in Cyprus in 1959. Leaving school at 16 due to dyslexia, he began his career as a filing clerk at a Lloyds of London brokerage before discovering his passion for retail at Watches of Switzerland. He later gained experience in finance and property in a customer-facing insurance role. Returning to retail, Theo revived high street names including Ryman, Partners the Stationers, Stationery Box, La Senza, Contessa Lingerie, and Robert Dyas. In 2005, he co-purchased Red Letter Days with fellow Dragon Peter Jones, turning it around and selling it in 2017. In 2011, he launched the global lingerie brand Boux Avenue. In 2015, he established Theo Paphitis Retail Group, encompassing Ryman, Robert Dyas and Boux Avenue, totalling over 300 stores and 4,000 employees. In 2016 he added the iconic arts destination, London Graphic Centre, to his portfolio. A passionate sports enthusiast, Theo served eight years as Chairman of Millwall Football Club, achieving promotion to the Championship, an FA Cup Final, and European qualification. He co-founded sports marketing company Movie & Media Sports and is now Chairman of MB Partners, a boutique sports management agency. Theo is well known for his eight-year tenure on BBC's Dragons' Den (2005–2012), returning for series 17 (2019) and 18 (2021), investing in and mentoring numerous small businesses. He has appeared regularly on TV and radio as a business expert and current affairs commentator on programmes including Question Time, Newsnight, Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg, The One Show, BBC News and Radio and LBC. In October 2023, Theo became the first 'Dyslexia Empowerment Patron' of the British Dyslexia Association, advocating for a society that empowers individuals with dyslexia to reach their full potential. In 2025, he became the Visiting Professor of Entrepreneurship for the University of Derby. Theo is also a small business champion, supporting thousands through his free #SBS Small Business Sunday network in the UK.

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MODERATOR: EMILIA PAPADOPOULOS

## KEYNOTE EXPERIENCE

*building e-commerce success with freedom & purpose*

8 MAY 2026 | 15:20 - 16:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



## JAMES DEMETRIADES

FOUNDER AND CEO, UNDENIABLE LONDON AND ZAROS,  
E-COMMERCE ENTREPRENEUR AND MENTOR

James Demetriades is a 22-year-old entrepreneur and e-commerce mentor who has built multiple seven-figure online brands, including Undeniable London, several dropshipping stores, and now ZAROS — a luxury men's leather goods brand designed for ambitious founders and professionals. Having generated over £5.5 million in online sales in his early twenties, James now mentors entrepreneurs across the UK, Cyprus, and Europe, helping them to build profitable, sustainable e-commerce businesses that create financial, time, and location freedom. His work bridges brand-building, digital marketing, and modern wealth creation, combining strategic business development with a focus on discipline and mindset. James is passionate about empowering the next generation of entrepreneurs to take ownership of their future, build online assets, and design a life entirely on their own terms.

## FIRESIDE CHAT

*john kiriakou*

8 MAY 2026 | 16:30 - 17:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM A



## JOHN KIRIAKOU

CIA TORTURE WHISTLEBLOWER

John Kiriakou is a journalist and former CIA counterterrorism officer, as well as a former senior investigator for the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee and a former counterterrorism consultant for ABC News. In 2002, he was involved in the capture in Pakistan of Abu Zubaydah, who was at the time believed to be the third-ranking official in Al-Qaeda. In 2007, Kiriakou became a whistleblower by publicly exposing the CIA's torture programme, stating in an interview with ABC News that the torture of detainees was official US government policy and that it had been authorised by then President George W. Bush. He subsequently became the sixth whistleblower prosecuted under the Espionage Act during the Obama administration — legislation originally intended to punish espionage. As a result, he served 23 months in prison. Kiriakou is the author of eight books, including *The Reluctant Spy: My Secret Life in the CIA's War on Terror*; *Doing Time Like a Spy: How the CIA Taught Me to Survive and Thrive in Prison*; *The Convenient Terrorist: Abu Zubaydah and the Weird Wonderland of America's Secret Wars*; and *The CIA Insider's Guide to the Iran Crisis*.

MODERATOR: PHILIP AMMERMAN

## CYPRUS DIASPORA FORUM

*startup launchpad*

8 MAY 2026 | 17:30 - 19:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM A

The Cyprus Diaspora Forum Startup Launchpad is a dynamic platform where five innovative startups at different stages of growth—from early-stage concepts to scaling ventures—present their ideas in a fast-paced and engaging format. As Cyprus continues to emerge as one of Europe’s leading hubs for entrepreneurship and innovation-driven enterprises, this session offers a unique opportunity to explore groundbreaking solutions and connect with the founders, investors, and organisations shaping the startup ecosystem. The event also includes established initiatives and organisations ready to offer support, providing guidance on incorporation, legal structuring, intellectual property protection, helping entrepreneurs focus on building their companies, strengthening their brands, and driving sustainable growth.

Theodora Petrou (Host)	Founder and CEO, Market Inn Solutions	Cyprus
KPMG: Pangratos Vanezis	Board Member, Head of Innovative Deal Advisory and Startup Innovation Lab (SIL)	Cyprus
Yiasemis LLC: Ioannis Yiasemis	Partner	Cyprus, United Kingdom
Cyprus Seeds: Maria Markidou Georgiadou	Founder and Managing Director	Cyprus
33East: Yiannis Eftychiou	Partner, 33East	United Kingdom
Axioniq: Stelios Alexandrou	Co-Founder and CTO	Cyprus
Axioniq: Konstantinos Chiotis	Co-Founder and CEO	Greece, Cyprus
Amadema: Evelthon G. Iacovides	Co-Founder and Business Development Director	Cyprus
Amadema: Dr. Vassilis Drakonakis	Co-Founder and CEO	Greece, Cyprus
Heatwave: Connie Christofi	Founder, Creator	United Kingdom, Cyprus
RGS Healthcare Solutions: Stavros Therapontos	Co-Founder and COO	The Netherlands

## ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC INFLUENCE

*the strength of the diaspora*

8 MAY 2026 | 09:00 - 09:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

Cyprus' global diaspora plays a key role in strengthening the country's economic and diplomatic influence, leveraging international networks to support business, investment, and strategic partnerships. Through active engagement across industries and regions, Cypriot diaspora communities contribute to shaping global outcomes, demonstrating how these networks can translate cultural ties into real-world impact and long-term national advantage.

John Alexander Benis (Moderator)	Founder, To Kinima Tou Ethnous	USA
Andreas Farmakalidis	Founder, California Music Box	USA
Chris Christofi	Founder and CEO, Reventon	Australia
Neophytos Loizides	Professor in International Conflict Analysis	United Kingdom
Stavros Stavrou	President, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Cyprus
Varvara Ioannou	Founder, Food for Thought Network	Australia

## KEYNOTE EXPERIENCE: MINDS IN CYPRUS

*the brain gain initiative*

8 MAY 2026 | 09:50 - 10:25 | CONFERENCE ROOM B



## IRENE PIKI

DEPUTY MINISTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS

Minds in Cyprus is an official government initiative designed to encourage talented Cypriot professionals living abroad to return and contribute to the country's economic and social development. Launched by the President of the Republic of Cyprus, H.E. Mr. Nikos Christodoulides, the initiative connects skilled members of the diaspora with local employers, with a particular focus on sectors such as fintech, shipping, and technology. It targets Cypriots with substantial professional experience gained overseas, aiming to reverse brain drain through targeted incentives, including proposed tax exemptions on employment income. Minds in Cyprus also supports repatriation by offering guidance on the local business environment, mentoring, and access to career opportunities, positioning the initiative as a strategic "brain gain" effort to strengthen Cyprus' competitiveness in the global talent market.



HOST: LUCY LOIZOU

## REPATRIATION TO CYPRUS

*bringing talent home*

8 MAY 2026 | 10:30 - 11:25 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

Repatriation is increasingly seen as a key growth strategy for Cyprus, focusing on encouraging skilled Cypriots abroad to return and contribute to the economy. This includes developing incentives, strengthening national identity, and creating new opportunities that make Cyprus an attractive destination for returnees. A central part of this effort is fostering public-private partnerships, where government and the private sector collaborate to build career pathways, support networks, and targeted incentives that facilitate and sustain talent return.

Lucy Loizou (Moderator)	Managing Partner, International Family Law Group	United Kingdom
Eleni Iacovides	Founder and CEO, Sophrosyne Partners LLC	United Kingdom
Maria Petrides	Senior Manager, Executive Search, ICAP People Solutions	South Africa, Cyprus
Savvas Savvides	Senior Partner, Michael Kyprianou & Co LLC	Cyprus
Dr. Stylianos Kyriacou	Co-Founder and CTO, Reneubio	USA, Cyprus

## FIRESIDE CHAT

*christophoros papachristophorou*

8 MAY 2026 | 11:45 - 12:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM B



## CHRISTOPHOROS PAPACHRISTOPHOROU

FOUNDER AND MANAGING PARTNER, INVEL REAL ESTATE

Christophoros Papachristophorou is the Founder and Managing Partner of Invel Real Estate, an independent private equity real estate firm established in 2013, focusing on value-add and opportunistic strategies. The firm holds a market-leading position in Southern Europe, with assets under management exceeding €3.5 billion. Prior to founding Invel, Christophoros served as a Managing Director and Global Head of Deutsche Bank RREEF Opportunistic Investments (ROI), the private equity real estate arm of Deutsche Bank specialising in high-yield real estate investment strategies. During his tenure at RREEF, he completed and/or restructured more than 60 investments with a total gross asset value in excess of US\$20 billion. Among other notable transactions, he led the corporate restructuring, refinancing and repositioning of the French department store Le Printemps; the acquisition, repositioning and subsequent sale of La Rinascente, Italy's leading department store; and the acquisition, subsequent restructuring and sale of Newreal S.p.A., then the commercial real estate subsidiary of Enel, Italy's largest power company.

MODERATOR: PETER STEVENSON

## REAL ESTATE AND INVESTMENT

*cyprus as a destination for growth*

8 MAY 2026 | 12:35 - 13:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

Cyprus' real estate sector is evolving with smart cities, green homes, and technology-driven development, positioning the island as a leader in sustainable property investment. It is strengthening its appeal as a global hotspot for investors while also supporting diaspora and foreign nationals through innovative housing, incentives, and sustainable communities that drive long-term value.

Maria Pastella Hadjisoteriou (Moderator)	Head of Franchise Sales and Business Development, RE/MAX Cyprus	Cyprus
Anastasia Yianni	CEO, Cyprus Sotheby's International Realty	Russia, Cyprus
Artem Burtsev	Chief Marketing and Business Development Officer, bbf:	Russia, Cyprus
Gilad Tuffias	Head of Israel Branch, Michael Kyprianou & Co LLC	Israel
Omar Bin Faris Zuhair Awartani	Founder and CEO, Awartani Capital	Jordan
Tasos Loizou	CEO, Medousa Developers	Cyprus

## HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM IN CYPRUS

*smart, sustainable, and authentic*

8 MAY 2026 | 14:30 - 15:25 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

Cyprus is repositioning itself as a smart and sustainable destination by embracing technology-driven tourism experiences and responsible development models. The sector is expanding beyond traditional sun-and-sea offerings into luxury, wellness, and cultural tourism, marking a new phase of growth for the island. Cyprus is also exploring how to integrate innovation into hotels, resorts, and cultural attractions while preserving its authentic character and heritage, balancing tradition with modern digital experiences.

Pavlos Christou (Moderator)	Editor-in-Chief, FastForward	Cyprus
Andronikos Spyrou	Senior Project Manager, bbf:	Cyprus
Dr. Christos Angelides	Director General, Cyprus Hotel Association	Cyprus
Effie Athanasiou	Founder and CEO, Cyprusays	Australia
Minos Agathokleous	Director, Andys Motors Group of Companies	Cyprus
Peter Anders Hvass	Co-Founder, Cyprus Comic Con	Cyprus
Themis Violaris	CEO, Grizzly Entertainment	USA

## GAME CHANGER

*building cyprus' sports future*

8 MAY 2026 | 15:30 - 17:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM B

Cyprus is using sports to strengthen its diplomatic ties through regional tournaments while developing SportsTech and tourism to position itself as a Mediterranean sports destination. At the same time, it is expanding its sports economy by monetising niche sports through events, sponsorships, tourism, and partnerships, while boosting local participation.

Andreas Themistocleous (Moderator)	Vice President, Cyprus Basketball Federation	USA, Cyprus
Andreas Athinodorou	CEO, ATG Funds / Kyrenia Nautical Club	Cyprus
Constantina Pafiti	Member of The Board of Directors, Cyprus Sports Organisation	Cyprus
George Panagiotakis	World Champion Freediver	Cyprus
Kyriakos Ioannou	Athlete, Olympian	Cyprus
Milan Trajkovic	Track and Field Athlete, Olympic Champion	Cyprus, Serbia
Stavros Eromogenous	Professional Tennis Coach	Cyprus

## HEALTH FRONTIERS

*advancing care, research, and innovation in cyprus*

8 MAY 2026 | 09:00 - 10:15 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

Cyprus is tackling cancer and chronic disease through prevention, screening, improved access to treatments, and stronger patient care. Advances in biotechnology and medical research are translating innovation into real patient benefits, while collaboration between healthcare providers, researchers, policymakers, investors, and the diaspora is helping build a more sustainable, patient-centred health system.

Dr. Panteli Theocharous (Moderator)	Chief Executive Officer of VectorGen, Globally recognised Biotech Exec. & Patient Advocate	UK, USA
Evangelia Athanasiou	Biomedical Engineer, Entrepreneur, Startup Coach	Cyprus
Dr. Steven Petratos	Senior Research Fellow, Laboratory Head Regenerative Neuroscience and Development Group	Australia
Dr. Constantinos Heracleous	Founder and CEO, Podisense Ltd	Cyprus
Demetris Skourides	Chief Scientist of The Republic of Cyprus	Cyprus
Professor Constantinos Zamboglou	Full Professor, Medical Director, German Oncology Center	Cyprus

## LIGHTNING TALK

*from island roots to global impact: the thalassaemia story*

8 MAY 2026 | 10:20 - 10:45 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

On 8 May 2026, the global thalassaemia community will mark International Thalassaemia Day under the theme: “From Island Roots to Global Impact: The Thalassaemia Story.” Join international speaker Maria Hadjidemetriou and other industry professionals for an exclusive lightning talk, as she raises awareness and support for those living with thalassaemia. Maria is an Executive Board Member of the Cooley’s Anemia Foundation (CAF) and an Expert Patient Advisor for the Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF). She has spoken at global medical conferences and addressed the 72nd World Health Assembly on Patient Rights. Recognised for her advocacy, Maria received the CAF President’s Award in 2016 and the Patient Recognition Award in 2019. Don’t miss this inspiring and impactful conversation.

Maria Hadjidemetriou (Moderator)	Member of Board of Directors, Thalassaemia International Federation	USA
Dr. Androulla Eleftheriou	Executive Director, Thalassaemia International Federation	Cyprus
Dr. Michael Angastiniotis	Medical Advisor, Thalassaemia International Federation	Cyprus

## DIGITAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

*innovation, prevention, and care in cyprus*

8 MAY 2026 | 10:50 - 12:00 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

This discussion will explore key developments shaping the future of healthcare, from technological innovation and evolving models of care to broader approaches that enhance wellbeing and quality of life. It will touch on emerging trends in prevention, diagnostics, and patient-focused services, while also considering the growing role of digital tools and new areas of opportunity within the sector.

Fodi Kyriakos (Moderator)	Founder, Skilled Personnel Consulting	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Chris Wild	Government Adviser, Author, Campaigner, Public Speaker	United Kingdom
Dr. Christina Koni	Wellbeing Consultant	Cyprus
Elly Anastasiades	Licensed Counselling Psychologist	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Professor Katerina Kaouri	Reader and Director for Impact and Engagement	Wales, United Kingdom
Dr. Linda Papadopoulos	Psychologist, Author, Broadcaster	United Kingdom

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

*cyprus: a global destination for education & research*

8 MAY 2026 | 12:15 - 13:30 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

This session will highlight Cyprus' growing role as a hub for education and research excellence, focusing on innovation, global collaboration, and the development of a dynamic knowledge-based economy.

Christina Achilleos (Moderator)	Founder and Director, C.A. InnoEUsphere Limited	Cyprus
Andreas Karakatsanis	President of The Board, Cyprus University of Technology	Cyprus
Kleanthis Pissarides	Head of Academic Affairs and Student Welfare Services, University of Cyprus	Cyprus
Professor Maria Krambia Kapardis	Professor of Accounting, Cyprus University of Technology	Australia, Cyprus
Professor Panikkos Poutziouris, EIMF	Fellow, Cambridge Judge Business School	United Kingdom
Xenia Miscouridou	Professor in Statistics	UK, Cyprus

## FUTURE-READY SKILLS FOR A GLOBAL CAREER

*navigating opportunities after graduation*

8 MAY 2026 | 14:30 - 15:40 | CONFERENCE ROOM C



This session prepares final-year students to confidently enter the global job market, offering insights into personal branding, international career paths, and essential digital skills. It also touches on entrepreneurship and effective networking, equipping participants with the tools to navigate and succeed in an increasingly competitive and globalised environment.

Apostolina Michaelidou (Moderator)	Founder, Youth Coaching Lab	United Kingdom, Cyprus
Ioustini Pilidi	Dean's Office Coordinator, Faculty of Engineering, University of Cyprus   Career Development and Employability Expert	Cyprus
Cypriots in the City: Phanos Theophanous Charalambos Toumazis Ioanna Solomonides Panayiotis Joannides Petros Kkolas	Co-Founder, President of Cypriots in the City Founder, Cypriot Societies of London Analyst, CBRE London Vice President, Client Executive, Citibank Engineering Consultant	United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom
Kyriakos Kyriakides	Founder, Assets Accumulators	Cyprus
Nicola Solomou	Founder and CEO, Silverpen Careers	United Kingdom
Yiannos Georgiades	Managing Partner, Y. Georgiades & Associates LLC	Cyprus

## JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT CYPRUS

*shaping tomorrow together: youth meets industry*

8 MAY 2026 | 15:50 - 17:50 | CONFERENCE ROOM C

Led by Junior Achievement (JA) Cyprus and a member of JA Worldwide, 'Shaping Tomorrow Together: Youth Meets Industry' brings young talent and business professionals into a dynamic, interactive dialogue on the future of work, entrepreneurship and career readiness. Through guided roundtable discussions, participants will exchange perspectives, challenge assumptions and explore what success means in a rapidly evolving world.

This workshop offers a valuable opportunity for young people to gain real-world insights, practical advice and inspiration from experienced, internationally renowned and local professionals, while industry leaders can better understand the aspirations, concerns and potential of the next generation. Together, they will co-create ideas on how education, businesses and individuals can adapt to future challenges. Attendees will benefit from meaningful networking, fresh perspectives and actionable takeaways on skills, opportunities and innovation. Whether you are a young person shaping your path or a professional seeking to give back and stay connected to emerging talent, this session promises engaging conversations that matter.



## DR. ANTIGONI KOMODIKI

CEO, JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT CYPRUS



Dr Antigoni Komodiki is the Chief Executive Officer and a Board member of Junior Achievement Cyprus, a member of JA Worldwide, the largest organisation promoting entrepreneurship, financial literacy and workforce readiness among children and young people. With a strong background in education, having taught for 17 years, she has led numerous initiatives fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, including coordinating award-winning Erasmus+ projects. Her doctoral research focuses on developing environmental science agency through environmental entrepreneurship programmes. Recognised for her impact, she was named Woman of the Year 2023 in Innovation at the MF Awards, and in 2024 she received the IVLP Community Impact Award for the 'Young Female Leaders' programme, which empowers young women in leadership. She is currently serving as Chair of the Board of Executives and as a Board member of JA Europe.

## MASTERCLASS

*cyprus 2026: operationalising your eu tech hub*

8 MAY 2026 | 11:00 - 13:30 | MEETING ROOM C

Following the DAY ONE RIF-Powered session, this masterclass provides a definitive operational blueprint for founders and investors. Facilitated by leading experts from the innovation, investment, and professional services sectors, the session brings together startup scaling and investor deal flow.

Participants will move beyond policy into practical execution, exploring the €45 million funding landscape and the 2026 incentive stack, including the 3% effective IP tax and 8% flat tax on crypto and equity. Investors will benefit from exclusive briefings on the Innovation Certificate's 50% tax exemption and the €1 million VC match required for high-growth Disrupt grants. The session will conclude with real-world case studies, presenting the specific relocation and investment models used by Cyprus's most successful fast-scaling companies—offering a clear pathway to building a legacy within one of the EU's fastest-growing tech ecosystems.



RESEARCH  
& INNOVATION  
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**THE FUTURE**  
*is Ours*  
**TO BUILD**



**INNOVATION**  
*starts here*



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