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CYPRUS LEADING

WHAT CLIENTS SAY ABOUT US:

- '...the firm is well known for the high quality of services'
- '24/7 support and prompt response to our queries'
- 'always providing solutions analyzing all possible scenarios'
- '...the firm has exceptional grasp of Corporate matters...'

FULL RANGE SERVICES LAW FIRM

Corporate and M&A

Commercial Law

Tax Law

International Tax Planning

Banking & Finance

Capital

Markets

Intellectual **Property** 

**Trust Law** 

Corporate Services



## Our Firm

Our Firm, is based in the island of Cyprus and engages in the provision of a broad spectrum of legal services. Our Firm, among other areas, has extensive experience in the areas of Corporate and Commercial law, Mergers and Acquisitions, International Tax Planning and Shipping Law and have the legal knowledge and expertise to assist our clients in financial transactions and private equity deals.

The Firm consists of a highly trained and expert legal team with considerable experience in the specific practice areas we specialize and we are able to service clients' needs by ensuring speed of execution of assignments efficiently with personalised attention. Our legal team is assisted when needed by other professionals

such as auditors and other financial advisors within the corporate environment and we are able to offer to clients a 'one-stop' cost effective service.



Through our affiliated corporate service provider GLOBALYSIS CORPORATE SERVICES LIMITED, licensed and regulated under the Cyprus Bar Association, our Firm is able to service our clients' needs locally and globally in all major jurisdictions as

we have developed strong relations with affiliated firms in many jurisdictions offering corporate services, international legal and tax services as well as formation and administration services for International Business Companies (IBCs), as most of the clientele we service is foreign.

We dedicate to service our clients with personalised attention, offering them legal solutions tailored to their particular needs and requirements, combining both skill and knowledge and application of professional excellence. Furthermore, we constantly aim to provide our clients with high quality professional legal advice in their engagement of their business activities in both domestic and cross border level.

## Cyprus: An International Business Center

Cyprus is ideally suited for international business due to the many benefits it has to offer. Its geographic location and excellent commercial infrastructure coupled with numerous tax incentives are among the factors, that have assisted Cyprus towards becoming an important International Business Center. The island's 42 double tax treaties offer ample opportunities for international tax plan-

ning to legitimately reduce the overall tax burden for businesses and their shareholders. Cyprus has double tax treaties in force with the following countries:

Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait,

Kyrgystan, Lebanon, Malta, Mauritius, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia,

South Africa, Sweden, Syria, Tadzhikistan, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America.



## Corporate and M&A and Commercial Law

The Firm's corporate and commercial team comprises of specialised lawyers with major experience in Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions and Commercial law. Our Firm has undertaken complicated corporate international cross border transactions as well as domestic transactions and also has provided assistance to top tier international law firms on complex issues in relation to Cyprus law. Our Firm can undertake and has advised clients on the following legal aspects:

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Joint ventures and cross border transactions
- Company formation
- Partnership formation, drafting of partnership agreements

and dissolutions

- Legal due diligences
- · Provision of legal opinions
- Preparation and review of shareholders and related agreements
- Re-domiciliations
- Corporate reorganization, reconstruction, and optimization of business structure
- Corporate governance
- Liquidation and insolvency proceedings
- Loan, agency and distributorship agreements
- Lease, hire-purchase agreements
- International tax planning
- Corporate finance

- Inter-company agreements
- Joint ventures and venture capital transactions
- Capital restructurings
- Compliance with stock exchange requirements and corporate governance
- Formation and obtaining of regulatory permits for specialized investment vehicles such as International Collective Investment Schemes
- Formation of Trusts
- Corporate management, Secretarial and Fiduciary services (domiciliation services etc)

# Banking and Finance Law

'We dedicate
to service our
clients with
personalized
attention'

Increasing banking and finance work has led our Firm to extensive expertise on a variety of corporate finance transactions. In Cyprus and abroad, the Firm has handled complex corporate finance transactions enabling clients to benefit from the Firm's experience and expertise. Our Firm has provided clients internationally with legal advice on Cyprus law aspects of loan and security transactions in both domestic and cross border level. The Firm, through its specialised legal team and associates in Cyprus and abroad, offers a broad

spectrum of banking and finance expertise:

- Domestic and Cross-Border Loan and Security transactions
- Assistance in listing and floatation of securities
- Security documentation including charges over assets and undertakings of companies
- Financing and security structures for borrowers and lenders
- Loan documentation
- Project finance and asset finance

- Indemnities and Guarantees
- Legal opinions and legal due diligences
- Letters of Credit and Bank Guarantees
- Acquisition, Corporate and Project finance
- Refinancing of existing debts and recovery of loans
- · Registration of charges
- Compliance with Security laws
- Lease and hire purchase agreements
- Collateral and restructuring of existing loans

## **Capital Markets**



Over the years our Firm managed to develop a specialised department offering professional services in the field of capital markets. Our team comprises of legal experts with extensive knowledge and expertise on capital markets law and related corporate matters.

Areas of practice include:

- Listing and floatation of securities;
- Listing of debentures of Cyprus companies in foreign exchanges;
- Public offerings and listings of securities on key international stock exchange platforms;
- Acquisition of stakes in Cyprus listed and private companies;

- Provision of legal assistance with private offerings and placements of securities;
- Provision of legal advice on Corporate Governance matters and Cyprus stock exchange laws;
- Provision of legal advice on rights of security holders;
- Legal assistance in capital raising transactions.





## Tax Law & International Tax Planning



Our Firm has considerable experience when it comes to advising clients on various tax matters including, but not limited to, international tax planning.

The Firm's legal team is constantly alert for new developments in Cyprus and internationally on tax matters, and aims to always provide clients with

effective tax planning structures.

The Firm emphasizes on minimising tax liabilities for clients while taking into account their international cross-border business activities and objectives. Cyprus has concluded a significant number of Double Tax Treaties with many countries and the Firm is always in a position to advice clients in the most tax efficient manner of tax advantages available.

Moreover, the Firm has been requested by a number of international law firms to advice on various tax matters under Cyprus law, and in association with expert Audit Firms, is in a position to offer to clients a full services package.

Some of the Firm's services include:

- Provision of tax opinions
- Legal advice on International Tax Planning
- Legal and Tax advice on Cyprus Taxation, Stamp Duties and VAT
- Incorporation of companies in Cyprus or abroad
- Provision of accounting and audit services in association with preferred providers
- Maintenance of companies
- Advice on application of Double Tax Treaties concluded by Cyprus
- Tax Authority services

'Our Firm has

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reputable

organizations

in both

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cross-border

level'

## **Intellectual Property Law**

Our Firm is able to provide legal advice on all intellectual property matters, including but not limited to, patents, copyrights, and registration of trademarks and licensing.

The Firm has extensive experience in the following areas:

- Registration, protection and acquisition of intellectual property
- Licensing and franchising

- Patents, trademarks, copyright infringements, and 'passing-off' actions
- Application of intellectual property
- Competition law and agency law



## Trusts, Asset Protection & Real Estate



The property department of our Firm can undertake any commercial and residential property related matter,

asset protection and use of trusts. Our clients range from local and nonresident corporate and private clients.

Areas of practice include:

- Cyprus International Trusts
- Sale and purchase agreements
- Lease agreements and property finance matters in relation to commercial real estate
- Agreements for real estate develop-

ment

- Applications to relevant authorities for necessary permits in respect of acquisition by non-residents of immovable property in Cyprus
- Drafting wills, obtaining probate, and estate administration planning

The department is also supported by specialised lawyers who have considerable experience in real estate matters as well as wills, trusts and administration of estates.



## Shipping Law and Ship Registration

Our Firm has considerable expertise in the field of admiralty and shipping law. Furthermore, our Firm undertakes all related procedures for the registration of ships and ship registry related transactions. Such undertakings include:

- Applications related to Registry transactions with regards to ships, small vessels, yachts etc.:
- Parallel (bareboat) registrations:
- Registration of shipping companies;
- Expert advice on ship registrations, transfer of ownership of vessels, change of vessel names, related searches etc.;
- Claims for loss or damage to cargo;
- Freight and off-hire disputes;

- Drafting and reviewing of agreements;
- Security and enforcement of mortgages;
- Advice on related company law and tax matters.

Our Firm has advised and provided litigation support to a wide range of clientele dealing in the field of admiralty and has assisted in the resolution of commercial and legal issues in both domestic and cross-border level. Through our network of professional maritime lawyers in various jurisdictions, we are in a position to service and offer full support to our clients. Our Firm is able to register, administer and manage both pleasure and commercial vessels in all major flag states. Our Firm is well known for its speed in registrations and cost efficiency. For more information

on the countries we offer such services, please refer to the Corporate Services section of our website.

The following are some of the services we offer word-wide:

- Yacht registration in all major flag states;
- Radio, EPIRB and ComSat licensing and registration;
- Assistance with MCA coding for commercial registration;
- Assistance with surveying;
- Tax and VAT planning and advice;
- Marine insurance;
- Marine financing;
- Crew health insurance and payroll;
- Banking and card facilities;
- · Legal advisory services.

"Excellence!
Our measure,
our motto,
our goal"

## **Immigration Law**

Our Firm is able to provide our clients (individuals and corporate entities) with legal advice and assistance on all matters relating to immigration law.

Among others, our services include:

- Immigration permits;
- Permanent residence permits;
- Employment permits;
- Citizenship applications;
- Visas

For more information on economic citizenship programmes please contact us at info@yiannakas.com.cy or +357 25 573 175.



## **Employment Law**

Our Firm can advice on any aspect of employment law. We have considerable and extensive experience and have advised our clients in the following employment law areas:

- Redundancies;
- Recruitment;

- Termination of employment;
- Collective dismissals;
- Contracts of employment, policies and related procedures;
- Information and consultation;
- Equal opportunities and avoidance of discrimination;
- Social insurance;
- Employer and Employee obliga-

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- Data protection issues;
- Health and Safety;
- Mediation and Litigation before the Industrial Disputes Court;
- Other employment law related areas.





#### European Union & Competition Law



Our EU and Competition team can cover all aspects of European Union (EU) Law and Cyprus & EU Competition Law. Our Firm has advised and assisted both local and international clients on all aspects of national and EU Competition Law, including the following:

- Merger Control notifications before the Cypriot Commission for the Protection of Competition (CPC) and the European Commission;
- Advice on effective compliance with national and European Competition rules or other sectorial regulations;
- Advice on potential violations of EU and Competition Law;
- Advice on EU developments;
- Any other EU and Competition related matter.

## Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Our Firm has a wide litigation practice, covering all areas of general and commercial law. We have been involved in all types of disputes, including national and international arbitration, commercial, intellectual property, banking and finance, tax issues, bankruptcy, insurance, shipping, real estate, securities, family, successions and controversies raised during the enforcement of civil and commercial judgments procedures, including the following.

- · Company and partnership disputes
- Banking and finance disputes
- Landlord and tenant disputes
- · Personal injury claims
- Insurance claims
- Contract claims
- Negligence, including professional negligence
- Debt collection
- Employers' liability
- Employment disputes

Bankruptcy and insolvency

Matrimonial law

• Road traffic accidents

Admiralty claims

"Your

challenge is

our

progress"



## **Energy Law**

Our Firm has extensive experience in advising investors in a wide range of energy projects . Our Firm, among other, have assisted international and local clients with the following:

- · Oil and gas law
- Applications for exploration licences
- National and EU energy law
- Public procurement procedures

- Negotiation and drafting of all types of energy agreements
- EU funding opportunities
- Tax related matters
- Other





# **Corporate Services**

Our Firms serves clients with a broad spectrum of corporate services. Our Firm is in a position to offer to its clients a full service package including the following:

- Incorporation of Companies;
- Provision of shelf-companies;
- Provision of registered office address:
- Provision of corporate or individual directors and shareholders;
- Company secretarial services;
- Book-keeping, VAT registration and administration;

- Company management and administration services through nominee directors and company administrators;
- Opening and administration of bank accounts;
- Trust and custodial services;
- International re-invoicing structures:
- Receiving, handling and forwarding of correspondence and representation services;
- QROPS & QNUPS;
- Yacht registration;
- Aircraft registration.

Our Firm is able to provide Offshore Company Incorporation and any of the above services in more than 25 jurisdictions world-wide.

For more information on Offshore Company Incorporation and the jurisdictions we offer our service please email us at

info@yiannakas.com.cy

" Cost effective,
accurate,
personalized and
professional
legal and
corporate
services"

## We offer services at 25 jurisdictions

Abu Dhabi Bahamas

Bahrain

British Virgin Islands

Cape Town

Curacao

Denmark

Dubai

Gibraltar

Guernsey

Hong Kong

Isle of Man

Johannesburg

Malta

Mauritius

Netherlands

Portugal

Samoa Islands

Seychelles

Shanghai

Singapore

Switzerland

Turks & Caicos Islands

United Kingdom



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The Limassol Marina!