

Corporate and Commercial Services



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ELIAS
NEOCLEOUS
& Co LLC

Elias Neocleous & Co LLC: Leaders in Corporate and Commercial Services

The major independent international rating agencies recognize the corporate and commercial team of our firm as leaders in Cyprus, with an enviable reputation founded on our client base, international experience, and extensive in-depth expertise in a wide range of business sectors. The team has a particular focus on complex, high-value cross-border projects with demanding timetables, and has an unmatched record of success in dealing with them. Our proven transactional skills and our multidisciplinary expertise, with specialists in competition law, intellectual property, litigation, real estate, financing, employment, financial services and taxation, allow us to deal with all the issues which may arise in the course of any assignment in a timely and cost-effective way.

“The input is always accurate, timely and practical. The firm is a reliable, technically expert and friendly partner to us”
- IFLR1000

Cyprus

Cyprus's strategic location and excellent business infrastructure, with a benign tax regime and an extensive network of double-taxation treaties, make it an ideal base for non-EU companies seeking to enter the EU market, and for EU and third-country companies seeking to broaden their horizons, especially with regard to Central and Eastern Europe. Cyprus is a common law jurisdiction, which makes the relevant legal aspects familiar to our clients and counterparts. The Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver of Cyprus (“Registrar”) is responsible for keeping the register of companies, partnerships, business names, trademarks, patents, industrial designs and for administering properties of insolvent legal and natural persons.

“Excellent service and accessibility and great value for money”
- IFLR1000

Our Services / Corporate

We provide bespoke advice to clients on formation, acquisition and dissolution of companies and partnerships in Cyprus and abroad, management and domiciliation services and assistance with day-to-day commercial matters, as well as support with all corporate, mergers and acquisitions and securities matters including:

- public and private mergers and acquisitions, takeovers, demergers and disposals
- corporate reorganizations and restructurings
- insolvency, inward and outward redomiciliations
- corporate governance
- public and private offerings
- purchases and sales of securities
- regulatory compliance
- formation and use of trusts





Cyprus and its Companies Law

The Companies Law of Cyprus, CAP 113, as amended (the “Companies Law”) drew substantially on the English Companies Act of 1948 and has been aligned with EU law since Cyprus joined the EU in 2004. Companies may be limited by shares or by guarantee. Companies which are limited by shares may be subdivided into private companies and public companies. Every company having a share capital is required to make an annual return to the Registrar at least once in every calendar year, setting out particulars relating to the company. A company need not file an annual return either in the year of its incorporation or the following year, provided that no more than 18 months elapse from the date of incorporation to the filing of the return. Moreover, every company is obliged to keep proper books of account as may be deemed necessary for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Law and International Financial Reporting Standards. Partnerships are registered in Cyprus under the Partnerships and Business Names Law, CAP 116, as amended, which is also based on English legislation. Cyprus law recognizes two forms of partnership, namely general and limited liability partnerships.

Reorganizing Companies in Cyprus

The Companies Law provides distinct means by which the capital structure of a company may be reorganized, including a compromise or arrangement between a company and its creditors, its members or any combination of them. In addition, the Companies Law makes specific provision for the merger and division of public companies, and transposes the provisions of the EU Cross-Border Directive into Cyprus law, enabling mergers between Cyprus companies and companies incorporated in any jurisdiction in the EEA. A cross-border merger in Cyprus is judicially scrutinized and is completed in two stages according to the pattern of the Directive. Cross-border reorganizations involving Cyprus companies and companies within the EEA may also be conducted through the establishment of a **Societas Europaea**. Cyprus legislation also contains detailed rules for the transfer of companies in and out of Cyprus.

“Very capable
and responsive”
- The Legal 500

Our Services / Commercial

- commercial agreements
- joint ventures
- public tender offers
- licensing
- procurement
- data privacy
- e-commerce
- agency and distribution agreements
- consultancy agreements
- concession and operating agreements

Building
on our heritage.
Innovating
for the future.

Contact Our Team

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Elias Neocleous & Co LLC is the largest law firm in Cyprus and is internationally recognised as a leading law firm in the South-East Mediterranean region.

We are the only Cyprus firm selected for Legal Business magazine's **"Euro Elite" top 100 firms** in Europe. We have more than 140 fee-earners and management team whose skills we leverage to assist clients. We serve clients out of three offices in Cyprus and out of an international network of offices in the main destinations for investment via Cyprus.

Our staff have unmatched experience in assisting clients in cross-border investment projects in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. Our attention to client service is what sets us apart.

For us the client comes first.

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