

# Chrysostomides ADVOCATES AND LEGAL CONSULTANTS



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### The firm



Chrysostomides is a leading independent Cyprus law firm established in 1981. We are now one of the largest law firms in Cyprus, with a team of over 80 legal experts and paralegals, serving both local and international clients from our Nicosia and Limassol offices. Our work extends across a wide spectrum of practice areas and industry sectors, and our clients range from multinational corporations to private companies and individuals from a variety of jurisdictions and backgrounds.

We focus on each client's specific requirements and circumstances and provide customised, comprehensive legal services and workable solutions. In serving our clients, we strive for excellence and aim to meet their immediate and long-term requirements and goals. We value the trust our clients place in us and forge lasting relationships with them.

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## Key expertise



#### **Banking & Secured Financing**

Our firm's dedicated banking and secured finance team efficiently handles the complex and time-critical requirements of international high-value financing or refinancing transactions, including project financing, syndicated, subordinated and mezzanine financing, ship financing and related securities such as share pledges, floating charges, financial collateral and mortgages. It also advises on the compliance of new and existing banking products and payment solutions with current legislation and regulations, on bankers' custodian agreements, ISDA agreements and related products, asset preservation and security enforcement and procedures.

#### **Capital Markets**

We advise on all types of public offerings (including initial, secondary and dual) on regulated or non-regulated markets, both within and outside the EU, whose value extends from several tens of million to billions of EUR. We also advise on Pre- IPO private placements and secondary fundraisings (whether via placings or rights issues) across a wide range of industries and assist issuers, lead managers and arrangers in connection with the issue of bonds, notes and other securities to be listed on various recognised stock exchanges.

#### **Competition Law**

Our competition law team has in-depth knowledge and provides expert assistance to both local and international clients on all aspects of national and EU competition law, including the preparation and handling of merger control notifications before the Commission for the Protection of Competition (CPC) in Cyprus, representing clients before the CPC in rebuttal of allegations for anti-competitive agreements or concerted practices, and providing advice in order to ensure compliance with national and EU competition rules.

#### Constitutional, Public and Administrative Law

We advise and represent before the Courts, public bodies and other organisations regulated under constitutional or public law and we undertake on behalf of individuals, institutions and public servants, the filing of administrative recourses before the Administrative Court of Cyprus. Our highly experienced team also handles complex hearings before the Supreme Court on administrative appeals from the lower Court, as well as on the constitutionality of laws in the context of constitutional or electoral recourses.

#### Corporate & Commercial Law

Our firm deals with all aspects of corporate and commercial law and practice and has worked on some of the most significant and high-profile transactions involving Cyprus structures, valued at several tens of million to billions of EUR. We are regularly engaged in corporate and commercial transactions involving Cypriot vehicles, especially acquisitions of both private and public companies, joint ventures, local and cross border mergers, corporate restructures, transfers of corporate seats, secured project financing and securitization.

#### **Employment Law**

Our firm offers the full range of legal services related to employment law. Typical examples of our work include advice on HR issues, unlawful termination of employment, compliance with all aspects of anti-discrimination legislation, the protection of maternity, disciplinary and grievance procedures, data protection, the impact of company restructuring and reorganisations on employment, transfer of undertakings, redundancy and provident and pension funds issues. Our litigation team has extensive experience and expertise in the representation of clients before the Employment Law Tribunal and the courts of Cyprus on all such matters. We also regularly draft or review and advise on employment contracts, restrictive covenants, restraints of trade, confidentiality agreements, compromise and release agreements, as well as employment manuals.

#### **Energy Law**

We have been advising leading companies within the energy industry from the U.S., Russia, Ukraine, Canada, the Middle East/North Africa and the European Union for over three decades. Over the past decade, our work has centred on the renewable energy and natural gas sectors where we have had the opportunity to advise operators, financiers, investors or support services on wind farms, solar parks, and natural gas exploration projects and on the commercial and regulatory aspects of the emerging Cypriot energy market. In this respect, our expertise in energy law, combined with the firm's long-standing experience and broad-ranging skills in corporate and commercial law, finance, tax and competition law, ensure the delivery of a seamless service within the sector.

#### European Union Law

Our EU law dedicated team has an in-depth understanding of EU institutions and policies and combines extensive experience advising companies, industry associations and governmental bodies, in both the private and public sectors. The team assists clients in achieving their business objectives, offering representation across the main regulatory fields governed by EU law, including competition, trade, environment, free movement of goods and services, consumer protection, privacy and data protection. Our lawyers also possess considerable regulatory experience in specific regulated industries such as financial services, cosmetics, chemicals, technology, e-commerce and telecommunications.

#### Family Law

We advise and represent clients on all family law matters, divorce and separation, child custody, maintenance and child-care disputes, adoption, abduction, cohabitation, alimony, asset separation and management, pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements, and we often assist clients over procedures related to civil union. We specialise in international family law cases concerning child abductions. Within this field of practice, we recognise the importance of listening, understanding and then acting with the utmost discretion and care, the focus of our approach being to minimise as far as possible, the emotional and financial costs associated with what is, frequently, a stressful time for those involved.

#### **Immigration**

Our immigration team has extensive experience on all aspects of immigration law and citizenship applications and, where related, investment in immovable property and other assets. We provide personalised, efficient and comprehensive advice to a wide range of clients including ultra-high net worth and high net worth individuals, investors and their families or businesses. We regularly advise clients on the requirements and procedures for obtaining work permits and/or citizenship in Cyprus. We also have expertise in advising clients whose domicile or habitual residence is in Cyprus, on the administration of estates and their succession planning.

#### Intellectual Property

We have almost 40 years' experience in all fields of IP, trademark, patent, design and copyright law. Our team delivers a complete range of services, covering also the more contemporary developments associated with this area, such as online social platforms, online TV and video content services, online music sharing sites and videogame platforms, and the protection of confidential information and trade secrets. Our experienced professionals provide our clients with expert advice on all the above, but also undertake litigation proceedings to safeguard clients' rights. Some of the world's most respected companies, representing a wide variety of industries, have for decades entrusted us with their IP portfolio, the management of their anti-counterfeiting programmes and the enforcement of their IP rights in Cyprus. The fact that clients continue to do so and to repeatedly rely on the skills of our lawyers, bears testimony to our established expertise and the quality of our work.

#### **Investment Services & Funds**

Our team regularly advises on, and assists clients with the setting-up, licensing, passporting of services and regulatory compliance of Investment Firms, UCITS, AIFs and their managers and custodians. We also advise on related services, including the re-domiciliation into Cyprus of investment firms, funds and their managers, the listing of funds on regulated and unregulated markets, while at the same time assisting the directors and other key staff of investment firms and fund managers with any required Cyprus domiciliation, such as citizenship applications or tenancy agreements.

#### Litigation, Arbitration & Mediation

Our dispute resolution team is experienced in identifying and implementing the most appropriate solutions for our clients. either by pursuing or defending litigation or adopting other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, like arbitration and mediation. Our lawyers have extensive experience before the Cyprus Courts and various international arbitration courts and tribunals, and deal with highly complex cases in all areas. including business, commercial and corporate, tax, intellectual property, professional and product liability, antitrust, banking and finance, family law, administrative, employment and criminal law. Our firm regularly and effectively handles international multi-million EUR cases and boasts an exceptionally strong commercial and corporate litigation and arbitration practice, with particular emphasis on the issuance of interim relief (including freezing, search and disclosure orders) in aid of pending or anticipated litigation or arbitration proceedings, in both Cyprus and abroad.

#### Real Estate Law

We offer the full range of services involving immovable property, including advising on, and negotiating the terms of acquisitions, sales, transfers, financing or leasing. We provide assistance to both local and international clients and have represented the interests of major developers in multi-million EUR development projects and small buyers alike, offering comprehensive services, ranging from the initial advice until finalization of the property registration process.

#### **Taxation Law**

Through our understanding of the intricacies of the Cyprus tax system and by keeping abreast with international taxation trends, we work with our clients in a comprehensive manner to maximise their tax benefits, according to their overall objectives. Our firm has the expertise and experience to design, implement and defend tax planning structures built around the Cyprus tax regime, taking into account the challenges brought about by the ever-changing global economic environment and evolving tax regimes. We strive to enhance tax efficiency, risk reduction and avoidance of tax controversy, effectively and efficiently, in matters involving corporate tax, property tax, personal tax, employment taxes, VAT and customs duties.

#### Telecommunications, Media & Technology Law

We have a thorough understanding of the industry and extensive experience in handling complex legal TMT issues. Our team provides specialized, integrated and tailored advice to multinational and local companies operating across a range of industries, to include telecom service providers, network operators, hardware manufacturers, equipment suppliers, app and software developers, and online media platforms. We have developed significant expertise across different areas of law which underpin the field of technology and innovation, from regulatory issues to data protection and privacy, e-commerce, cybersecurity and IP, enabling us to offer our clients, whether being start-ups or established businesses, with meaningful legal advice and support to achieve their business goals and protect their assets.

#### Trusts, Wills & Estate Planning

We offer comprehensive succession planning legal services to serve clients' personal or business requirements, whether in transitioning or maintaining and maximizing the value of their assets. For over three decades, we have been dealing with the setting up and administration of trusts, assisting clients to safeguard and distribute family or business assets to the next generation or to further their objectives. Our team of highly skilled lawyers, some of whom carry over 25 years' experience in this field, advises on succession planning solutions, taking into account all-important tax considerations, ownership, future targets and challenges and continuity. In terms of family succession planning, we offer legal advice on, and draft wills, trusts and asset protection structures aiming to address the individual needs and circumstances of each client.

## International recognition

Our collective commitment to providing robust and comprehensive legal advice and services is recognised by the leading international legal directories, including Chambers Global, Chambers Europe, Chambers HNW and Legal 500 EMEA. We are consistently ranked among the Band 1 top firms in Cyprus for our main and key areas of practice, and our lawyers are listed among the leading practitioners, according to their respective specialisation.





Standout team advising on syndicated and secured financing, offering additional support on the restructuring of existing facilities and note issuances. Also experienced in regulatory matters.

Banking & Finance, Band 1, Chambers Europe "They are more than capable of dealing with very large and very complex international matters".

Private Wealth Law, Band 1, Chambers HNW

"Well-organised team that works well together" when advising on all aspects of IP.

Intellectual Property, Band 1, Legal 500 EMEA

Strong team offering expert advice on tax compliance and planning structures.

The responsiveness and understanding of the business are key assets of the firm.

Tax, Band 1, Chambers Europe

Prominent team capable of assisting clients with complex, cross-border acquisitions, divestments and mergers.

Corporate/Commercial, Band 1, Chambers Europe



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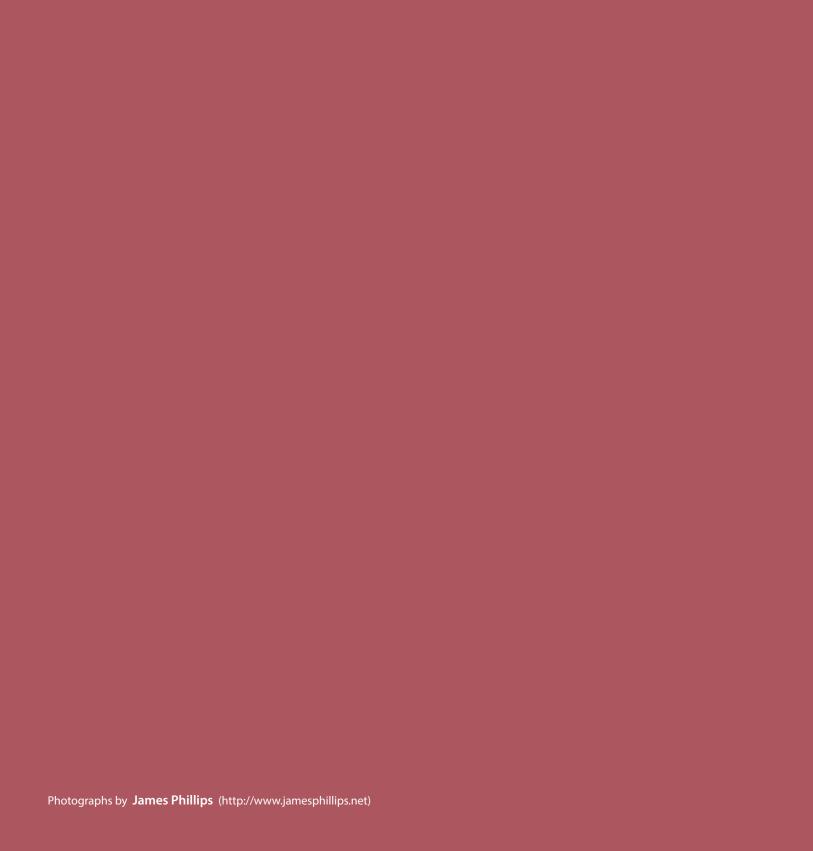
Through the collective work and shared expertise of a vigorous team coming from different educational backgrounds, cultures and professional experiences, we foster a firm based on trust and respect which is ready to offer, share and add value not only to its clients but society at large.

Commitment to

the community

Pro bono services and giving back to the community, are an integral part of our professional responsibility and culture, seeking to offer the same committed level of service to members of our society who are more challenged, or to aspiring new entrepreneurs. In the process, and in return, our members receive invaluable experiences and job satisfaction, making them stronger leaders in their respective practice areas.





#### **Our offices & Contact details**

#### Nicosia

1, Lampousas Street, 1095 Nicosia - Cyprus P.O.Box 22119, 1517 Nicosia - Cyprus

Tel: +357 22 777 000 Fax: +357 22 779 939

Email: info@chrysostomides.com.cy

#### Limassol

**124 Gladstonos Street, The Hawk Building** 2nd Floor Office, 3032 Limassol - Cyprus

Tel: +357 25 823 232 Fax: +357 25 726 425

Email: info@chrysostomides.com.cy

#### Our website

For further information on who we are and what we do please visit our website at www.chrysostomides.com

