



4th English-Cypriot Law Day

Friday 13 September 2019

Columbia Plaza Venue Centre, Limassol, Cyprus



The Bar Council





Welcome to the 4th English-Cypriot Law Day in Limassol, Cyprus.

The Cyprus Bar Association and Bar Council of England and Wales are pleased to welcome you to the 4th English-Cypriot Law Day in Cyprus.

#EnglishCypriotLawDay
@thebarcouncil
@CyBarAssociatio



Conference organisers



The Bar Council

Bar Council of England and Wales

The Bar Council of England and Wales represents over 16,500 practising barristers in England and Wales. We promote the Bar's high-quality specialist advocacy and advisory services, fair access to justice for all, the highest standards of ethics, equality and diversity across the profession, and the development of business opportunities for barristers at home and abroad.

www.barcouncil.org.uk



The Cyprus Bar Association

The Cyprus Bar Association is the professional body of lawyers with over 2,700 members. Cyprus Bar Association was established under the Advocates Law Chapter 2 in 1960 and it has been operating since then. All the necessary work of the Cyprus Bar Association, including administrative matters, was done voluntarily by the members of the Board and the President's office. In 1992, the Board decided to employ a full-time employee to do this work.

www.cyprusbarassociation.org

Programme Friday 13 September

Venue:

Columbia Plaza Venue Centre, Agiou Andreou 223, Limassol, Cyprus

08:30 – 09:00

Registration and coffee

09:00 – 09:20

Welcome by Bar Council and Cyprus Bar Association

Theodoros Ioannides, *President of the Cyprus Bar Association*

Amanda Pinto QC, *Chair-Elect of the Bar Council of England and Wales*

Stephen Lillie CMG, *British High Commissioner to Cyprus*

09:20 – 10:40

Session 1: New developments of importance to UK-Cyprus legal business

- New disclosure pilot scheme in the Business and Property Court in England and Wales
- Other developments in Civil Procedure in England and Wales
- Update on civil justice in Cyprus, including court reform e.g. new Commercial Court (with proceedings in English), Court of International Protection, reforms of the Court structure and the civil procedure rules
- Freezing injunctions in aid of foreign proceedings and Recast Brussels Regulation Article 35: some observations

Lucinda Orr, *Barrister and Partner at Enyo Law LLP, London*

Zachary Kell, *Barrister, Five Paper Chambers, London*

Achilles C. Emilianides, *Achilles & Emile C. Emilianides & A&E C. Emilianides, C. Katsaros and Associates LLC*

Charles Raffin, *Barrister, Hardwicke Chambers, London*

Charis Demetriou, *Managing Director at Charis D. Demetriou & Co. LLC, President of Limassol Bar Association, Cyprus*

Chair: Elena Efrem, *President of the District Court, Cyprus*

10:40 – 11:00

Tea and coffee break

11:00 – 12:00

Session 2: Brexit and its implications for Cyprus-UK legal practice

- Civil judgments regime in the UK post exit date and the recognition and enforcement of UK judgments in Cyprus and internationally post-Brexit: a return to old common law principles?
- Lawyers' immigration and practice rights post Brexit in the UK and Cyprus

Philip Marshall QC, *Barrister, Serle Court Chambers, London*

Stavros Pavlou, *Senior & Managing Partner at Patrikios Pavlou & Associates LLC, Cyprus*

Panagiotis Panagos, *Barrister-at-Law, Panagos and Panagos LLC, Cyprus*

Satinder Gill, *Barrister, Five Paper Chambers, London*

Chair: **Alexandros Tsirides**, *Managing Director, Costas Tsirides & Co. LLC, Cyprus*

12:00 – 12:10

Tea and coffee break

12:10 – 13:10

Session 3: Business crime panel

The international reach of business crime in the compliance age

- Unexplained wealth orders
- Bribery and corruption
- The 5th AML directive
- International criminal confiscation
- The growth of international registers of entities and individuals
- The practical use of investigative committee findings in criminal investigations and prosecutions

Jason Bartfeld QC, *Barrister, 187 Fleet Street, London*

Ian Smith, *Barrister, 33 Chancery Lane Chambers, London*

Elena Konnari, *Managing Director, Andreas Konnaris LLC, Cyprus*

Elias A. Stephanou, *Founder, Elias A. Stephanou LLC, Cyprus*

Moderator: **Pavlos Panayi QC**, *Member of the International Committee of the Bar Council; Barrister, 7 Bedford Row Chambers, London*

13:10 – 14:10

Lunch

14:10 – 15:10

Session 4: Sanctions Update

- How sanctions work – an update
- Sanctions in the real world – the Iran tanker (EU sanctions) and Huawei (US sanctions)
- Sanctions against Russia and Ukraine – Cypriot concerns
- Dealing with sanctions violations

Rachel Barnes, *Barrister, 3 Raymond Buildings Chambers, London*

David O'Mahony, *Barrister, 7 Bedford Row Chambers, London*

Andreas Michaelides, *President of the Limassol Bar Association, Limassol, Cyprus*

Nicholas Tsardellis, *Partner at Elias Neocleous & Co LLC, Cyprus*

Chair: Amanda Pinto QC, Chair-Elect of the Bar Council of England and Wales

15:10 – 15:40

Tea and coffee break

15:40 – 16:40

Session 5: Recent developments in international arbitration

- EU Dispute Resolution, arbitration and BITs (an update with emphasis on Achmea v Slovakia)
- The availability and use of interim Protective Measures in relation to international commercial arbitration

Emily A. Georgiades, *Managing Director at E.A. Georgiades & Co LLC, Cyprus*

Charilaos Velaris, *Partner at Velaris & Velaris LLC, Cyprus*

Frederico Singarajah, *Barrister, Hardwicke Chambers, London*

Chair: Achilleas Demetriades, Partner at Lellos P. Demetriades Law Office LLC, Cyprus

16:40 – 17:00

Closing remarks

Amanda Pinto QC, *Chair-Elect of the Bar Council of England and Wales*

Andreas Michaelides, *President of the Limassol Bar Association, Limassol, Cyprus*

17:00 – 18:00

Networking drinks reception

Office holders' biographies



Theodoros Ioannides President of the Cyprus Bar Association

Theodoros M. Ioannides graduated from the Pangyprian High School in 1965 and completed his military service (serving the majority of which as reserve lieutenant) in Cyprus.

Theodoros is the founder and Managing Director of the legal firm Theodoros M. Ioannides LLC. Since 2006, he has been the Chairman of the Cyprus Bar Association, Member of the Disciplinary Board and Member of the Legal Council. He represents the Cyprus Bar Association in the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), in the International Bar Association (IBA), in the Union of Balkan Bar Associations and in the Union of Balkan Law.

Since 1990 he has been President of the gymnastic association "Pancypria". He has been President of Olympiad of Neapoleos and is President of Cypriot Refugees unions, President of Judicial Commission of Volleyball (COV) and President of the Judicial Committee.



Amanda Pinto QC Chair-Elect of the Bar Council of England and Wales

Amanda Pinto QC is Chair-Elect of the Bar Council of England and Wales (Chair in 2020), having served as Chair of the International Committee for four years. She specialises in fraud, corporate crime, money laundering, corruption, art crime and business wrong-doing from chambers at 33 Chancery Lane.

She is co-author of Pinto and Evans on Corporate Criminal Liability. Amanda was appointed a part-time Crown Court Judge in 2003, QC in 2006 and Bencher of Middle Temple in 2014. She is a Trustee of the Slyn Foundation, which works to improve justice systems, the rule of law and understanding of human rights around the world. She is a champion of the First 100 Years project, celebrating 100 years of women being admitted to the legal profession and Deputy Chair of the Tate Members Council, representing over 140,000 members for the Tate Galleries.



Stephen Lillie CMG British High Commissioner to Cyprus

Stephen Lillie CMG was appointed British High Commissioner to Cyprus in April 2018. Previously he served as Director, Asia Pacific from July 2013 until April 2017.

Stephen served as British Ambassador to the Philippines (2009-13); Head of the FCO Far Eastern Department (2006-2009); Director of Trade and Investment at the British High Commission New Delhi (2003-2006) and British Consul-General at Guangzhou, China (1999-2003).

Previously, Stephen has also served in the European Union and Middle East Departments of the FCO and at the British Embassy Beijing. Stephen is a Chinese speaker, having studied the language in Hong Kong and London. He has a degree in Modern Languages from Oxford University.

Speakers' biographies



Rachel Barnes

Barrister, 3 Raymond Buildings Chambers, London

"One of the best navigators of the complex financial and trade sanctions regime" (Chambers & Partners 2018). Rachel is known for her strategic approach in cases of alleged sanctions and export control breaches. Clients value Rachel's US legal background, as well as her wider practice in cross-border criminal cases, extradition and MLA, and related public law and civil cases.

Rachel is regularly instructed by the SFO and FCA and is appointed to the Attorney General's Panel of Public International Law Counsel. She has taught law at Cambridge University and LSE and holds degrees from Cambridge (PhD & MA) and Harvard Law School (LL.M).



Jason Bartfield QC

Barrister, 187 Fleet Street, London

Jason Bartfield QC was called to the bar in 1995 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 2015. He is a specialist in serious organised crime including complex homicide, modern slavery and large-scale drug importation. His practice extends into fraud and financial crime, including insider trading, bribery, market manipulation, complex money laundering and tax fraud as well as proceeds of crime proceedings (defending both criminal and civil POCA applications). Jason also has a strong reputation in the fields of disciplinary and regulatory law, with an emphasis on sports law and professional disciplinary panels.

In recent years Jason has built a specialist international practice advising on, designing, drafting, operating and auditing anti-bribery/anti-money laundering/anti-slavery policies as required under UK and EU law for corporate bodies.



Achilleas Demetriades

Partner at Lellos P. Demetriades Law Office LLC, Cyprus

Achilleas has been named as a "Leading Individual" in the fields of EU & competition as well as intellectual property by the Legal 500. He was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1985 and the Cyprus Bar Association in 1988. He has developed a broad practice that includes both contentious and non-contentious matters, and spans intellectual property, competition law and human rights, representing both national and international clients. He is particularly sought after for his expertise in representing clients before the European Court of Human Rights. He is also a European Patent Attorney, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and has a keen interest in intellectual property matters, acting only on behalf of rights-holders and preparing and executing anti-piracy plans.

He was heavily involved in the drafting and enactment of the Patents Law in 1998 and is a founding member of the Copyright Association in Cyprus (Ένωση Δικαιωμάτων Πνευματικής Ιδιοκτησίας). Moreover, he is a member of the Human Rights Committee in the Cyprus Bar Association, and a founding member of the NGO TRUTH NOW in Cyprus.



Charis Demetriou

Managing Director at Charis D. Demetriou & Co. LLC, President of the Limassol Bar Association, Cyprus

Following his studies in the USA and United Kingdom, Charis returned to Cyprus and has practiced law since 2005 as a member of the Cyprus Bar Association. He currently manages his own firm, having as its main areas of practice civil and commercial litigation and dispute resolution.

Charis has an extensive experience in commercial arbitration, both as arbitrator and a lawyer. He is also an accredited mediator since 2016.

He was elected President of the Limassol Bar Association in 2017 and holds a position at the board of Cyprus Bar Association and Lawyers Pension Fund.



Elena Efrem

President of the District Court, Cyprus

Elena acquired LLB (hons) and LLM degrees from the UK, and became a barrister. After working as a lawyer, she pursued a career in the Judicial Service. Currently, as President of the District Court, she has served in criminal and civil jurisdictions. Elena's ongoing professional development includes diplomas in judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters of the EJTN, and certification as a HELP trainer of the Council of Europe. She is an appointed representative of the Cyprus Judiciary to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, organising training seminars on the Cyprus-based project 'Strengthening national policies to stop sexual violence against children'. She has also been appointed trainer of the Judicial School of Cyprus.



Prof. D. Achilles C. Emilianides

Achilles & Emile C. Emilianides & A&E C. Emilianides, C. Katsaros and Associates LLC, Cyprus

Professor Dr. Achilles C. Emilianides is a Professor of Law and Head of the Law Department of the University of Nicosia since 2010. He is a practicing advocate and a partner of the law firm Achilles & Emile C. Emilianides and managing partner of the Law Firm A&E C. Emilianides, C. Katsaros and Associates LLC. He is the editor of the Cyprus and European Law Review.

His major publications include: Media Law in Cyprus (Kluwer, 2015), Private International Law in Cyprus (Kluwer, 2015), Cypriot Succession Law (3rd Ed, Hippasus, 2015), Law and Religion in Cyprus (2nd Ed, Kluwer, 2014), Constitutional Law in Cyprus (Kluwer: 2013), Family and Succession Law in Cyprus (Kluwer: 2012), Religious Freedom in the European Union (Peters, 2011), The New European Private International Law of Contracts (Sakkoulas, 2009), Cypriot Law of Public Procurement (Dikaionomia, 2007) and Professional Law of Advocates (Dikaionomia, 2007 in Greek).



Emily A. Georgiades

Managing Director at E.A. Georgiades & Co LLC, Cyprus

Emily A. Georgiades is the founder and Managing Director of E.A. Georgiades & Co LLC law firm in Cyprus. She is an experienced international lawyer whose practice focus is on business law and securities regulations in the United States and Cyprus. She has advised high net worth clients on cross-border transactions, international litigation, arbitration and financial services advisory including capital venture raising in the US and the EU.

She is a former US judge who has served on the Executive Board of the NYS Administrative Law Judges Association as the Secretary and Vice-President, and on the Nominating Committee of the National Association of Law Judiciary in the United States.

Emily serves as an Arbitrator for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) in New York City, is a licensed lawyer in Cyprus, New York and a barrister in England & Wales of The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn.



Satinder Gill

Barrister, Five Paper Chambers, London

Satinder is a barrister specialising in business immigration into the UK. He works for businesses and education providers investing into the UK including global corporates, professional sports clubs, UK and international universities, professional service providers, investors and senior executives.

Satinder is regularly instructed on project work and complex corporate transactions by international and UK law firms on all aspects of business immigration, including under Tiers 1 and 2 of the Points Based System and in sponsor licensing.

He presents seminars on business immigration nationally and is a regular speaker at the annual MBL business immigration conference. Satinder is on the consultation board for PLC's business immigration content and has posted recent webinars for LexisNexis and PLC on the UK's future immigration system and on Brexit and Appendix EU.



Zachary Kell

Barrister, Five Paper Chambers, London

Zachary Kell is a commercial chancery barrister at Five Paper, with a focus on banking and finance, commercial dispute resolution, and insolvency and restructuring. Zachary has a specific interest in civil fraud, particularly in a commercial context, and is currently working on a claim in fraudulent misrepresentation relating to a joint venture in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court. Zachary has written on the new Disclosure Pilot ((2019) 7 JIBFL 474) and will be a contributor to Gough on Company Charges 3rd Ed. (to be published late 2019).



Elena Konnari

Managing Director of Andreas Konnaris LLC, Cyprus

Elena graduated from the University of Bristol with a bachelor's degree in law in 1999 and completed the Bar Vocational Course (BVC) at the Inns of Court School of Law in London in 2000. She qualified as a lawyer in Cyprus in 2001.

Elena is a highly experienced and well-rounded litigator having represented both individuals and corporate entities in multi-million euro actions. Elena has considerable experience in a wide range of practice areas including construction law, banking and finance and property law with an emphasis in the area of corporate and commercial litigation both domestically and abroad.

Utilising both her in-depth understanding of the global commercial market and her extensive knowledge and expertise on all aspects of company law and regulation, Elena has assisted to the completion of various related transactions and has advised on multiple aspects of anti-money laundering laws, financial regulations and compliance.



Philip Marshall QC

Barrister, Serle Court Chambers, London

"One of the Bar's most successful silks", Philip Marshall QC is a senior commercial and chancery silk who specialises in complex commercial disputes and commercial fraud, particularly international fraud. He continues to be involved in a number of high profile matters and is "selected for very sophisticated cases". In 2009 he was authorised to sit as Deputy High Court Judge (Chancery and Queen's Bench Division) and regularly acts and advises in several overseas jurisdictions including the British Virgin Islands, Bermuda and Hong Kong. He is called to the Bar of the British Virgin Islands. Philip is classified in Chambers & Partners as one of "the Stars at the Bar" and is recommended in eight different practice areas. He is a Legal Commentator for the BBC, ITV and Sky News and was The Times 'Lawyer of the week' for work on a major fraud case. Significant cases include: *Emmerson International v Renova Industries*; *Raj Al Khamah Investment Authority v Bedford & Ors*; *Orb v Ruhan & Ors*; *Mazey Properties v Harris*; *Constantin Medien v Ecclestone*; *Aeroflot v Berezovsky*; and *JSC BTA Bank v Ablyazov*.



Andreas Michaelides

Partner, Scordis, Papapetrou & Co LLC, Limassol, Cyprus

Andreas Michaelides is a partner at Scordis, Papapetrou & Co LLC. He has a law degree from the University of Bristol in the UK and has been practicing as an advocate since 1999. His areas of practice are international commercial litigation, arbitration, commercial and corporate law, regulatory, governance and compliance.

Andreas served as President of the Limassol Bar Association from January 2012 until September 2017. He has been a member of the Board of the Cyprus Bar Association since 2012.



David O'Mahony
Barrister, 7 Bedford Row Chambers, London

David O'Mahony specialises in cases in which international issues arise. He has particular experience in offshore issues. His practice has ranged across this field of the law being instructed in cases involving money laundering and criminal fraud, civil and commercial law (particularly fraud), arbitration (both commercial and investment arbitration), domestic and international financial regulation and international crime. He advises on public and private international law and international criminal law.

He has deep knowledge of the law of bribery and corruption.

David also advises on sanctions related issues (including in an offshore context). He has advised on a number of the sanctions regimes including in relation to Russia/Ukraine, North Africa and Iran. He has advised on historic sanctions issues. He has acted on both the government and corporate side of sanctions issues.

David has been instructed in cases in the UK, Africa, the Caribbean, Central Asia, the Channel Islands (particularly Jersey), the Gulf, the Indian subcontinent and South East Asia. He has been called to the Bar in Australia, the DIFC courts and the TCI. He is on the list of counsel at the International Criminal Court and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in the Hague, and has acted successfully for the UK government in the European Court of Human Rights. He has appeared as junior counsel in commission hearings in the Indian courts and in the Privy Council. He is on the Serious Fraud Office 'A' Panel for Proceeds of Crime Act cases.



Lucinda Orr
Barrister and Partner at Enyo Law LLP, London

Lucinda Orr is an English barrister and a partner in the specialist disputes firm of Enyo Law LLP, based in London. Lucinda has a general commercial litigation practice, with substantial experience of complex, high-value cross-border litigation and long trials. She has expertise in mutual legal assistance across jurisdictions, and also has extensive experience to disclosure-heavy cases in foreign languages and developing and delivering technical solutions to ease cost burdens for clients.



Panagiotis Y. Panagos
Barrister-at-Law, Panagos and Panagos LLC, Cyprus

Panagiotis Panagos graduated from the English School Nicosia in 1999 and holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from Manchester University, a Master of Laws (LLM) in Commercial Law from Cardiff University, as well as the title of Barrister-at-Law from the Inns of Court School of Law (City University London). He was called to the Bar in 2007 and he is a member of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn.

He was called to the Cyprus Bar in 2007 and since 2015 he has been a partner at Panagos & Panagos LLC. Panagiotis has extensive knowledge of both in and out of court procedures and represents clients in civil courts as well as at the Court of Appeal. He specialises in commercial litigation, insolvency, banking law and immovable property law.



Pavlos Panayi QC

Barrister, 7 Bedford Row Chambers, London

Pavlos appears and advises in frauds of all varieties, investigations and financial regulatory enforcement proceedings.

Recent fraud instructions have included large market manipulation, tax fraud, mis-selling, boiler room, banking and mortgage frauds. Recent regulatory instructions have included acting for a company and its controlling director in enforcement action, focusing on failing to declare and manage conflicts of interest in the context of southern Europe AIFs. Pavlos advises international clients in multi-jurisdictional matters, including those involving UK, Guernsey, Greek, Turkish and Cypriot law. Pavlos is on the approved list of Serious Fraud Office prosecuting counsel and has spoken at a variety of international conferences.



Stavros Pavlou

Senior & Managing Partner at Patrikios Pavlou & Associates LLC, Cyprus

Stavros Pavlou is the Senior and Managing Partner of Patrikios Pavlou & Associates LLC. He is an extensively experienced litigator and arbitrator, regularly praised as one of the top litigators in Cyprus, with an impressive portfolio of representing major international organizations, groups of companies, banks and high-net-worth individuals in complex commercial and other dispute resolution matters, including judicial and arbitration proceedings in the courts of Cyprus and abroad. He is a Fellow of CIArb and he has led the firm in becoming a member of the Russian Arbitration Association and the International Law Association. He actively participates and speaks in highly regarded international seminars and conferences and authors numerous articles in international publications.



Charles Raffin

Barrister, Hardwicke Chambers, London

Charles specialises in commercial and commercial chancery work and has a wealth of experience in domestic and international arbitration. He advises regularly on insolvency, company and corporate governance issues and disputes, civil fraud and related professional negligence matters. His broad commercial practice includes acting frequently in cross border sale of goods, agency and franchising disputes, as well as disputes arising out of construction projects.

Charles' practice has a strong international edge. He acts regularly for instructing firms and clients based in mainland Europe, Russia, the Americas, Caribbean (particularly the Turks and Caicos, Bahamas) and the Far East. Much of Charles' practice involves working with foreign counsel, expert witnesses of foreign law and with conflicts of laws issues. Charles acts as an expert of English law in foreign proceedings.



Frederico Singarajah

Barrister, Hardwicke Chambers, London

“Frederico is experienced as counsel and arbitrator in arbitrations under ICC, LCIA, UNCITRAL, ICDR, CIETAC, CAM-CCBC and LMAA rules. He is recognised in the International Arbitration Powerlist 2019 by the Legal 500 as being amongst the most senior and notable arbitration practitioners.

His practice covers banking and finance, mergers and acquisitions, commodities, transportation, natural resources, infrastructure and insurance cases. As a native Portuguese speaker (and working Spanish speaker), Frederico is sought out by states, state-entities and private companies in Latin American, Iberian and African disputes and can provide quick advice without the need for translations. He is currently instructed and sitting in various disputes from these regions.

Frederico has strong experience of energy cases involving upstream oil, wind, photovoltaic, hydro, nuclear and ethanol sectors within the energy sector.



Ian Smith

Barrister, 33 Chancery Lane Chambers, London

Ian works across a spectrum of commercial fraud, cyber fraud and misconduct cases. He represents clients in the civil and criminal courts, acting for both victims and accused persons. Most of his cases are large-scale international proceedings involving asset tracing in several jurisdictions. He has a specialist regulatory law practice, advising law firms and other businesses on anti-money laundering, counter terrorist finance, financial sanctions, anti-corruption and anti-tax evasion facilitation. He has written and edited a number of law books, including *Asset Recovery: Criminal Confiscation and Civil Recovery* (Oxford University Press) and *Commercial and Cyber Fraud, A Legal Guide to Justice for Businesses* (Bloomsbury). He is a member of the UK Attorney General’s panel of counsel for civil and EU work.



Elias Stephanou

Founder, Elias A. Stephanou LLC, Cyprus

Elias Andrea Stephanou, founder of the Elias A. Stephanou LLC, has been involved in criminal cases both as a prosecutor as well as a defence lawyer. He is regularly involved in complex criminal cases, provides criminal consultancy to high profile companies and individuals. Throughout the years, Elias has acted as a visiting lecturer at various law schools and academies delivering lectures on criminal justice and evidence law. Elias was also involved in criminal investigation committees such as the committee for the lethal explosion at Mari, examining the liability of senior government officials.



Nicholas Tsardellis

Partner at Elias Neocleous & Co LLC

Nicholas Tsardellis is a graduate of Newcastle Upon Tyne University and was admitted to the Cyprus Bar in 2004.

He is a member of the Board of the Cyprus Bar Association and a member of the Anti-Money Laundering Committee.

Nicholas heads the Nicosia Litigation and Dispute Resolution department of Elias Neocleous & Co LLC and has extensive experience in commercial litigation, including complex cross-border disputes, shareholder disputes and international trusts.

He is also highly experienced in serious criminal and human rights law cases and holds the title of Certified tutor of the European Program for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) of the Council of Europe.



Alexandros Tsirides

Managing Director, Costas Tsirides & Co. LLC, Cyprus

Alexandros Tsirides is the Managing Director of Costas Tsirides & Co. LLC. He has extensive experience in international litigation disputes in the areas of commercial and corporate law, civil fraud, conspiracy and contract. He has represented clients in multi-million disputes in the Cyprus courts both in stand-alone proceedings or in aid procedures in aid of foreign proceedings.

He also has extensive experience in corporate transactions such as IPOs, cross-border mergers, stock exchange listings and commercial agreements.



Charilaos Velaris

Partner, Velaris & Velaris LLC, Cyprus

Charilaos Velaris holds a degree (Licence) in Law and European Studies from the Université Robert Schuman – Strasbourg III and a master's degree in European and International Law from the same university. Charilaos subsequently completed an internship at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

He was admitted to the Cyprus Bar in 2010 and has since been a practising litigation lawyer at Velaris & Velaris LLC, where he represented a large number of foreign and Cypriot clients in cases relating to various aspects of the law, particularly in international commercial litigation, property disputes and corporate and banking secrecy. As from 2015, he is an associate lecturer at the Law Department of the University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN Cyprus).

In addition to Greek, Charilaos speaks fluent English, French, and Russian and has a very good command of German, Turkish and Spanish.

UK delegation biographies



Malcolm Cree CBE MA

Chief Executive, The Bar Council of England and Wales

Malcolm retired from the Royal Navy in 2016, in the rank of Rear Admiral. He served in all types of ship and commanded a Destroyer, and a Task Group in the Gulf. He deployed operationally all over the world.

Ashore, he specialised in corporate governance, financial planning, portfolio and programme management, ending his career leading a major business transformation programme.

On retiring, Malcolm worked for a management consultancy specialising in the practical application of decision science. He took over as Chief Executive of the Bar Council in August 2017. Malcolm has a BA in History (Bristol) and a master's degree in international Relations (King's College London). He was made a CBE in 2016.



Christian Wisskirchen

Head of International Policy, The Bar Council of England and Wales

After completing his undergraduate law degree at Bonn University, Germany, Christian specialised in public international law and human rights law (LLM, University of London). Subsequently he spent several years working in the field of human rights.

He joined the Law Society of England & Wales in 1999 as International Policy Executive (Europe) where he spent four years working on, among other matters, the implementation of the EU Lawyers Establishment Directive. Since February 2003 he has been responsible for the international relations and policy of the Bar Council of England and Wales, developing and implementing strategies to promote the international interests of the Bar.

He is also an alumni "young leader" of the German Transatlantic Institute "Atlantik Brücke", a member of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association and a member of the Executive Committee (and former Chair of) the Haiti Support Group.



Eleni Dinensis

Barrister, Serle Court Chambers, London

Eleni joined chambers in 2016 and is developing a broad commercial and chancery practice across most of Serle Court's areas of expertise, with a focus on civil fraud, contentious trusts (including offshore work), insolvency, and partnership. Eleni appears regularly in the High Court as junior counsel and unled on interlocutory matters, and in the County Court. Prior to beginning her practice, Eleni spent a year working as the judicial assistant to Lord Reed and Lord Hughes, assisting them with a number of high profile cases in the Supreme Court and Privy Council.



Dakis Hagen QC

Barrister, Serle Court Chambers, London

Dakis Hagen QC specialises in chancery and commercial litigation. His cases usually involve international structures, most often trusts, allegations of fraud or professional negligence and asset tracing. Before taking silk Dakis won Chancery Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards (2014) and was nominated in 2018 for Chancery Silk of the Year. The international nature of Dakis' practice has meant that he is instructed both by London solicitors and also directly from overseas. He has appeared as leading counsel in courts in the Cayman Islands, BVI, Bermuda and Gibraltar as well as frequently in London.



Richard Nowinski

Barrister, Three Stone Chambers, London

Richard Nowinski is a specialist in commercial law, private international law, banking, financial and investment law including derivatives and regulation, European Union law and transportation law with emphasis on shipping and aircraft.

Richard has appeared before international arbitration tribunals in London, Paris and Geneva, the Commercial Court and the Court of Appeal in London, the European Court of Justice and courts in Singapore and the Cayman Islands.

Richard has represented and advised governments and governmental institutions, multilateral lenders, major international corporations including banks, transportation companies and shipbuilders, and public institutions.



David Portch

Senior Clerk, Five Paper Chambers, London

David has been a barristers' clerk since 1998 and became the Senior Clerk at Five Paper in May 2016.

David's role includes practice management, negotiation (both fees and contracts), business planning and development for members of chambers' individual practices and for Five Paper as a whole, and business development.



Kathryn Purkis
Barrister, Serle Court Chambers, London

Kathryn has extensive wide-ranging chancery expertise, focussing primarily on contentious trusts and probate litigation and asset recovery. She is qualified in Jersey law and practised there for many years, so is particularly well placed to act in cases (wherever located) concerning the Channel Islands and has a direct understanding of the dynamics of offshore practice. She loves big challenges, and teamwork, and has acted in some of the largest pieces of offshore trusts litigation of the last decade. However, she also welcomes variety and for that reason, finds handling smaller cases to be a pleasure.



Julie Whitby
Associate Judge in Cyprus; Barrister, Fifteen New Bridge St. Chambers, London

Julie Whitby practices from 15 New Bridge Street Chambers, London. She specialises in sexual offences including rape, historic sex abuse, child cruelty, and violence against the person, especially in domestic or family circumstances. Many of her cases involve vulnerable witnesses or defendants.

Presently living in Cyprus, she sits part-time in the Sovereign Base Areas of Cyprus as an associate judge and HM Coroner. A Bencher at Lincoln's Inn, she is an Advocacy and Vulnerable Witness Training tutor and a member of the Inn's Pre-Call Education Committee and Social and Wellbeing Group.



Richard Wilson QC LL.D
Joint Head of Chambers, The 36 Group, London

Richard Wilson QC, LL.D is a Commercial Law specialist with a wealth of experience. He has been involved in some landmark decisions in the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom and the Court of Appeal on a range of matters, including: the interpretation of the European Union Reception Directive, the misuse of confidential information and account of profits as a remedy, and the principles governing the entitlement to costs in judicial review. He is also often instructed in cases that require interpretation of written instruments (contracts, statutes, European Union directives). He has experience of both domestic and international matters including distributorship agreements, sale of goods and services, agency agreements, employment issues, property and inheritance, regulatory disputes.

Richard is a Recorder of the Crown and County Courts, a qualified Mediator (CEDR) a visiting Professor of Law (Coventry University) a member of the Bar of England and Wales the Bar of Belize and the Bar of Guyana.



John Yianni
Barrister, The 36 Group, London

A London-born English-Cypriot, John's paternal family fled to England following the 1974 Turkish Invasion of Cyprus. As a young entrepreneur, John read law and studied the Bar exams while managing his business ventures. John was called to Bar of England and Wales in 2014 having attained the highest grade of 'Outstanding'.

John is now a barrister member at The 36 Group where he specialises in commercial law and joins this event having just completed the Maritime Law Course, Southampton.

John's immediate focus is on building his practice in shipping and international trade.



The Royal Courts of Justice

The Royal Courts of Justice