

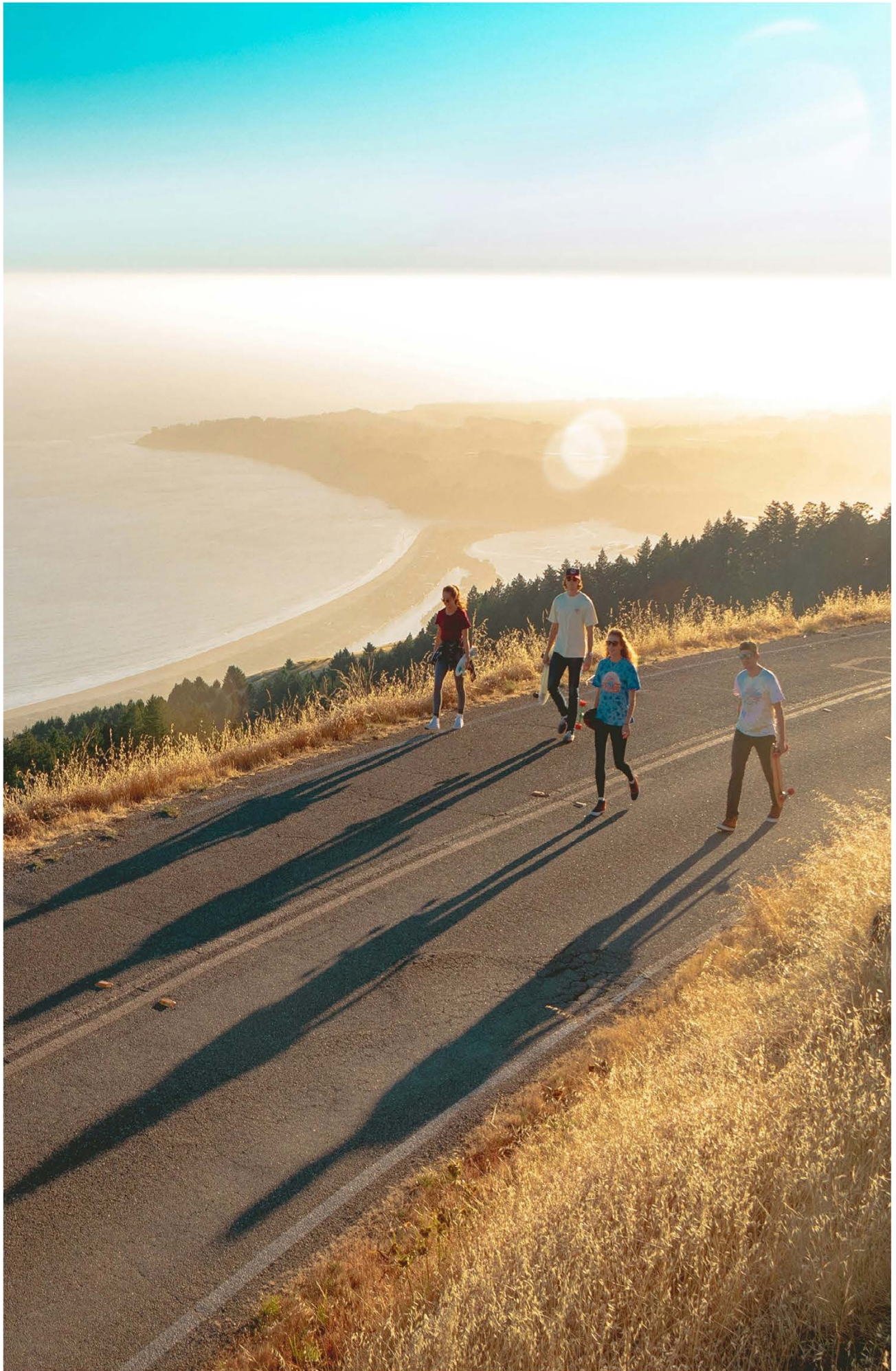


# Guide For Cyprus Diaspora & Repatriates

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2026







GUIDE  
FOR CYPRUS DIASPORA  
AND REPATRIATES  
- 2026 -





Nicosia, January 2026

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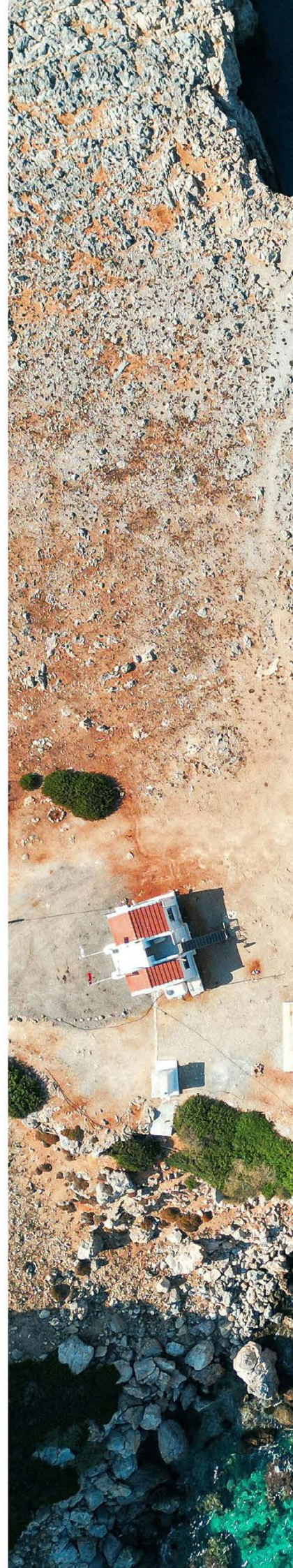
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# introduction

The present Guide for Cyprus Diaspora and Repatriates aims to provide basic information to expatriate Cypriots who may decide to repatriate.

The ultimate purpose of the Guide is to offer guidance to repatriates during the initial stages of their return, as well as to inform them about the basic state services that can support them during their settlement and adaptation in Cyprus.

In addition, expatriates have the opportunity to obtain general information about Cyprus, thus maintaining a connection with their homeland.

It is noted that the information contained in this Guide was updated in September 2025, and may therefore be subject to change.









# In Lieu of a forward

It is with great satisfaction that we welcome the publication of the New Guide for the Diaspora and Repatriates, a useful and timely tool that enhances access to information, facilitates the repatriation process, and supports the smooth reintegration of Cypriots of the Diaspora into their homeland.

The Guide forms part of a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the bonds between the Republic of Cyprus and the Cypriot community abroad, promoting continuous communication and cooperation with the aim of preserving national identity. Through consolidated and up-to-date information, it highlights the vital role of the Diaspora as an integral part of the national fabric and reinforces the connection of expatriates with the history, language, culture, and values of Cyprus.

Particular emphasis is placed on the younger generation, with targeted actions that include educational programmes, scholarships, internship opportunities, and initiatives that encourage intercultural contact and interaction between youth and the National Centre. Our efforts aim to cultivate an active and conscientious new generation that will serve as a bearer of continuity, knowledge, and creativity.

This publication seals the ongoing effort to provide more comprehensive information to Cypriots abroad regarding repatriation opportunities and the institutional support available, within the framework of the Presidency's Initiative "Minds in Cyprus."

As a State, we remain committed to strengthening ties with the Diaspora, creating modern channels of communication, and fostering fruitful synergies, with particular emphasis on the younger generation.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the University of Nicosia, the competent state services, and the collaborating Academic Institutions for their excellent cooperation and their substantial contribution to the implementation and completion of this important initiative.

Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs









# General information about Cyprus



## Geography



Cyprus is an island state, independent since 1960. It is the third-largest island in the Mediterranean, with an area of 9,251 square kilometres. It has a maximum length of 240 kilometres from its easternmost to its westernmost point, and a maximum width of 100 kilometres from its northernmost to its southernmost point.

## Climate



Cyprus has a Mediterranean climate, characterised mainly by hot and dry summers from mid-May to mid-September, mild but rainy winters from mid-November to mid-March, and two intermediate transitional seasons, autumn and spring.



#### **DID YOU KNOW...**

*The population of the Republic of Cyprus is 952,100. Of these, 684,800 (71.8%) belong to the Greek Cypriot community, 90,100 (9.5%) belong to the Turkish Cypriot community, and 178,000 (18.7%) are foreign nationals residing in Cyprus.*



## Population

### **G/C community and T/C community**

The language of the Greek Cypriot (G/C) community is Greek. The vast majority of its members belong to the Autocephalous Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus. The language of the Turkish Cypriot (T/C) community is Turkish, and the members of this community are, for the most part, Sunni Muslims.

### **Religious Groups**

The Armenians, Maronites, and Latins are recognised by the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus (Article 2§3) as “religious groups.” Following a referendum held on 13 November 1960, all three chose to belong to the Greek Cypriot community, and thus vote as part of that community. The Religious Groups Law provides that each religious group is represented in the House of Representatives by one elected Representative.





# cities



The capital of Cyprus is Lefkosa, with a population of around 266,300 in the government-controlled part of the city. It is located roughly in the centre of the island, serving as the seat of the government and a major business hub. Since the Turkish invasion of 1974 it has the unwelcomed distinction of being the only divided capital city in the world. Its northern part is under occupation and separated from the south by a UN-patrolled buffer zone.



The second largest city is Lemesos, located on the south coast of the island, and is the main commercial port of Cyprus. With a population of around 208,200, it is also a popular tourist resort and a major industrial hub.





The coastal city of Larnaka, in the southeast, has a population of 94,400 and is the island's second commercial port and also a popular tourist destination. The Larnaka International Airport, in the south of the city, is the largest airport of the island



Pafos in the southwest coast with a population of 75,700 is a popular tourist destination and home to the island's second international airport. The whole city of Pafos is included on the official UNESCO world heritage list of cultural and national treasures.



The cities Ammochostos, Keryneia and Morfou, as well as a part of Nicosia, are under military occupation following the Turkish invasion in 1974. The Greek Cypriot residents of these cities were forcibly compelled to flee to the south side of the island, which is under the control of the government.



# Political System

## Executive Power

According to the 1960 Constitution, executive power is exercised by the President of the Republic and the Vice President. The main body responsible for exercising executive authority is the Council of Ministers, which is appointed by the President and the Vice President.

## Legislative Power

Legislative authority is exercised by the House of Representatives, whose members are elected by the people for a five-year term. In 1985, the total number of seats increased to 80, of which 56 belong to Greek Cypriot members of parliament and 24 to Turkish Cypriots. The latter have remained vacant since 1964 due to the political situation.

Since 1964, when the position of Vice President became vacant, the President of the House has assumed the duties of Acting President of the Republic in cases of temporary absence or temporary incapacity of the President of the Republic.

## Judicial Power

The judiciary is a separate branch of government, independent from the other two state powers and autonomous in its functions. The Supreme Court and the Supreme Constitutional Court constitute the highest Judicial Authority in the Republic and hear cases at the third and final instance. In addition, the Supreme Constitutional Court has jurisdiction to resolve issues of conflict of powers or competencies between the various organs of the State, while the Supreme Court has exclusive authority to issue prerogative writs.

The Court of Appeal and the Administrative Court of Appeal are the second-instance courts, while the main courts of first instance are the District Courts, which operate in each district of the Republic.

# Flag

The flag of the Republic of Cyprus was established in 1960 when Cyprus became an independent sovereign state.

The background of the flag is white. At the centre is the map of Cyprus in the colour of copper, above two crossed olive branches in green fruits.

The copper colour has a dual symbolism: first, the name of the island is said to derive from an ancient word for copper, and second, copper has been closely associated with Cyprus since antiquity, when the island became the main producer and supplier of this mineral. The olive branches symbolise peace.

### DID YOU KNOW...

- Cyprus is an independent republic with a presidential system of government, in which the President of Cyprus is both the head of state and the head of government.
- Executive power is exercised by the government (the president and the council of ministers).
- Legislative power is exercised by the House of Representatives.
- Judicial power is independent from the executive and legislative branches and is exercised by the courts.

### DID YOU KNOW...

The design of the Cypriot flag was selected following a competition, which stipulated that the design must not include the blue or red colour, nor depictions of the crescent or the cross. The design that won the competition belongs to the Turkish Cypriot İsmet Güney and was officially adopted on August 16, 1960.







## Coat of arms



The coat of arms of the Republic of Cyprus depicts a white dove carrying an olive branch in its beak. The dove is set within a shield in the colour of copper, the mineral closely associated with Cyprus's long history.

At the bottom of the shield appears the year of the establishment of the Republic of Cyprus, 1960. The shield is framed by two crossed olive branches in green with fruit, which—together with the white dove—serve as symbols of peace.

## Time



Cyprus time is Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) +2 hours. Each year, on the last Sunday of March at 01:00 GMT (3:00 local time), Daylight Saving Time comes into effect and the clocks are moved forward by one hour. On the last Sunday of October at 01:00 GMT (4:00 local time), Cyprus returns to Winter Time.

### ***DID YOU KNOW THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN CYPRUS ARE...***

- January 1st – New Year's Day
- January 6th – Epiphany Day
- March 25th – Greek National Day
- April 1st – National Anniversary Day
- May 1st – Labour Day
- August 15th – Assumption of the Virgin Mary
- October 1st – Cyprus Independence Day
- October 28th – Greek National Anniversary Day
- December 24th – Christmas Eve
- December 25th – Christmas Day
- December 26th – Boxing Day
- Variable – Green Monday (50 Days before Greek Orthodox Easter)
- Variable – Good Friday (Greek Orthodox Church)
- Variable – Easter Monday (Greek Orthodox Church)
- Variable – Pentecost – Kataklysmos (Festival of the Flood)

## Currency



The Republic of Cyprus joined the EU in May 2004 and adopted the Euro as its currency on 1 January 2008.

## Working Hours



Government offices, private businesses and shops do not keep the same hours. Below is a general guide to office, shopping and banking hours.

### **Public Service Hours**

Public service operating hours are flexible all year round. Operating days are from Monday to Friday, starting between 07:00 - 09:00 and closing between 14:30 - 16:00.

### **Private Sector Hours**

Each company keeps its own hours, but generally, office hours are 08:00 – 13:00 / 15:00 – 18:00 Monday to Friday for the period September 15th – May 31st, and 08:00 – 13:00 / 16:00 – 19:00 Monday to Friday, for the period June 1st – September 14th.

### **Shop Opening Hours**

Shop opening hours vary depending on their type and location and whether they are located in urban, tourist or rural areas.

Generally, shops will open between 07:00 – 21:00 on Monday – Saturday, but this can vary an hour or two either way, depending on the type of shop and the area it is located in. On Sunday, opening times are later, typically around 11:00, and closing times vary from 14:00 – 22:00, again depending on the type of outlet and its area.

Some shops still observe a half-day closing on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, and close on Sunday, although in most of the tourist areas of Cyprus, both shops and supermarkets stay open till late at night, and are also open on Sundays.

During the period June 15th – August 31st there is an optional three-hour afternoon break/rest from 14:00 – 17:00 (siesta).

Special shopping hours apply for Christmas and Easter with shops permitted to stay open later during the run-up to the events, but must be closed by 18:00 on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and by 18:00 on Good Friday.



#### NOTE THAT...

The exchange rate of the Cyprus Pound (£) to the Euro (€) is £C1 = €0.585274.

Euro banknotes are exactly the same in all Eurozone countries. The coins have one common side for all Eurozone countries, while the other side displays specific national designs of each country.

Like the banknotes, euro coins are accepted in all Eurozone countries regardless of the country of issue.

## Transportation – Road Network\*



Cyprus has a highly developed and modern road network, which ensures safe, fast, and comfortable travel for citizens by vehicle, while also serving the needs of industry, agriculture, commerce, and tourism. Residents and visitors may also use buses or taxis. Cyprus does not have an above-ground or underground railway system.

There are four types of bus services in Cyprus:

1. Airport Transfer Buses: Connect all cities with the island's two airports, Larnaka and Pafos.
2. Intercity Buses: Connect all major cities on a daily basis with frequent routes.
3. Urban Buses: Connect various areas within cities and operate regularly throughout the day. In some tourist areas during the summer period, routes run until late at night.
4. Rural Buses: Connect almost all villages with the nearest town, but with reduced frequency.

## Pedestrians



Pedestrians must remember that traffic moves on the left side of the road, and should:

- Walk on the pavement. If there is no pavement, walk on the right side of the road (that is, facing oncoming traffic).
- Look both to your right and to your left before crossing any road.
- Pedestrians are prohibited from walking on motorways.

## Driving safely on the island



Please note the following regarding road safety on the island:

- Traffic moves on the left side of the road, not the right.
- International road traffic signs are used and are placed along roads and motorways on the left side.
- Distances and speed limits are indicated in kilometres and kilometres per hour (km/h), respectively.
- The use of seat belts by all passengers in vehicles is mandatory (both front and rear seats).
- Children must be placed in an appropriate child restraint seat suitable for their weight.
- Driving a vehicle, motor vehicle, or bicycle with an alcohol concentration in the breath or blood above the prescribed limit constitutes an offence.
- The use of a mobile phone while driving is strictly prohibited. Therefore, the use of hands-free devices is mandatory when driving.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Public Transportation by Bus in Cyprus  
(Ministry of Transport, Communications  
and Works):  
<http://motionbuscard.org.cy>

\* The information regarding Working Hours / Public Service Hours / Private Sector Hours / Shop Opening Hours / Public Holidays / Transport – Road Network / Driving Safely on the Island / Pedestrians has been collected from the official website of the Deputy Ministry of Tourism:  
[visitcyprus.com/index.php/el/](http://visitcyprus.com/index.php/el/)



# Historical Overview – About Cyprus

*The history of Cyprus is eventful and varied. The island's historical significance has always far exceeded its small size. Its geostrategic location—at the crossroads of three continents - as well as its rich deposits of copper and timber, attracted many conquerors to the island.*

## Neolithic Era (8200–3900 BC)

The findings from the oldest and best-preserved settlement in Cyprus, the settlement of Choirokoitia, date to this period.

## Chalcolithic Era (3900–2500 BC)

This was the transitional period between the Stone Age and the Bronze Age.

## Bronze Age (2500–1050 BC)

During this period, the full exploitation of copper began. Trade expanded with the Near East, Egypt, and the Aegean. Cyprus was known by the name Alasia.

## Geometric Period (1050–750 BC)

During this period, Cyprus was a Greek island with ten city-kingdoms and with the worship of the goddess Aphrodite widely practiced.

## Archaic and Classical Period (750–310 BC)

The period of prosperity continued, but the island experienced many conquerors. The Cypriot kingdoms were successively occupied by the Assyrians, the Egyptians, and the Persians. King Evagoras of Salamis (who ruled the city from 411 to 374 BC) unified the kingdoms of Cyprus and transformed the island into one of the most prominent political and cultural centres of the Greek world. Alexander the Great liberated Cyprus from the Persians in 332 BC, and the island became part of his empire.

## Hellenistic Period (310–30 BC)

After the death of Alexander the Great, his generals contested control of the island, and Cyprus eventually became one of the most important possessions of the Ptolemies of Egypt.

## Roman Period (30 BC – AD 330)

Cyprus came under Roman rule. Christianity was introduced to the island by the Apostles Paul and Barnabas.

## Byzantine Period (AD 330–1191)

Cyprus came under the rule of the Eastern Roman Empire, known as Byzantium. Christianity became the official religion.







*Ancient Greek coin depicting Alexander the Great,  
3rd century BC*

#### **Frankish Period (1192–1489 AD)**

A feudal system of governance prevailed in Cyprus. The Catholic Church officially replaced the Greek Orthodox Church.

#### **Venetian Period (1489–1571 AD)**

The Venetians constructed fortifications with the aim of defending the island against the growing Ottoman threat. The impressive walls of Famagusta and Nicosia date from this period.

#### **Ottoman Rule (1571–1878 AD)**

In 1570 the Ottomans invaded the island. Nicosia fell after a six-week siege, on 9 September 1570, while Famagusta resisted heroically for eleven months. Thus, Cyprus was annexed to the Ottoman Empire.

#### **British Rule (1878–1960)**

In 1878, British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli reached an agreement with the Ottoman Sultan for Cyprus to be ceded to Britain in exchange for Britain's protection of the Ottoman Empire against attacks from Tsarist Russia. Despite Cyprus being ceded to Britain, the island remained nominally an Ottoman possession until 1914. With the outbreak of the First World War, Cyprus ceased to be even nominally Ottoman territory, and in 1925 it was declared a Crown colony.

#### **National Liberation Struggle (1955–1959)**

In 1955, the Greek Cypriots took up arms against the colonial power, after a long but unsuccessful peaceful political and diplomatic effort to achieve their liberation from colonial rule.

#### **Proclamation of Independence of the Republic of Cyprus (1960)**

The anti-colonial struggle ended in 1959 with the Zurich–London Agreements between Britain, Greece, and Turkey. Cyprus was proclaimed an independent Republic on 16 August 1960.

The Turkish Cypriots, who made up 18% of the population, under the provisions of the Constitution, held 30% of the positions in the public service and constituted 40% of the police force and the army. Turkish Cypriots were represented in the Government by members of their community who occupied constitutionally designated positions. These included the office of the Vice President and three of the ten ministerial posts in the Government. In addition, 15 of the 50 seats in the House of Representatives belonged to Turkish Cypriots.

Some provisions of the Constitution, such as the right of veto, created difficulties in the functioning of democratic processes. For this reason, in November 1963, the President of the Republic, Archbishop Makarios, proposed amendments to the Constitution to the leaders of the Turkish Cypriot community. Turkey first, and subsequently the Turkish Cypriot leadership, rejected the proposal.

The Turkish Cypriots withdrew from the Cypriot Government and the House of Representatives, and established Turkish Cypriot military enclaves in Nicosia and other areas of the island, with the assistance of military personnel from Turkey. This marked the beginning of intercommunal disturbances and Turkish threats of invasion.



The Turkish invasion of Cyprus, code-named "Attila," began at dawn on 20 July 1974 with amphibious and airborne operations. Approximately 40,000 troops took part. Turkey claimed that this was not an invasion but a "peaceful intervention," aimed at restoring constitutional order in Cyprus, which had been disrupted by the coup against President Archbishop Makarios on 15 July 1974.

Turkish landing craft began disembarking forces unopposed in the Pentemili area shortly after 5 a.m. on 20 July. The inhabitants were left at the mercy of the invaders. Unarmed civilians were killed, women were raped, and captured soldiers were executed.

### Refugees / Displaced Persons

With the occupation of the northern part of Cyprus, Turkey gradually and forcibly expelled almost 170,000 Greek Cypriots from their properties, representing about one third of the island's total population and 70% of the indigenous population of the occupied areas.

These people were forced to flee to the free areas, becoming refugees in their own country.

The Cypriot Government provided temporary housing in settlements that were urgently created for this purpose.

### Enclaved Persons

After the Turkish invasion, 20,000 people - mainly Greek Cypriots and Maronites - remained trapped in their villages in the areas of northeastern Karpasia and Kyrenia, hoping that after a ceasefire they would be able to resume their normal lives. The illegal occupying regime began systematically implementing a policy of oppression, human rights violations, and harassment of the enclaved, in an effort to force them to abandon their homes.

Today, the number of Greek Cypriots living in this area has decreased to 285 and 44 Maronites. Consequently, the total number of Cypriots who have been displaced from their homes amounts to more than 160,000, that is, one third of Cyprus's total population in 1974.

### Destruction of Cultural Heritage

Hundreds of historical monuments and places of worship in various parts of the occupied areas have been destroyed, looted, and vandalised.

Illegal "excavations" have also been carried out, and cultural treasures have been stolen from museums and private collections in the occupied areas and sold abroad. The Republic of Cyprus systematically raises before the international community- and especially within the framework of UNESCO - the fact that the plundering of cultural heritage that has occurred and continues to occur in the occupied areas constitutes a war crime and must be treated as such.

### Missing Persons

In human terms, the most painful consequence of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in the summer of 1974 is the tragic humanitarian issue of the missing persons and their families. During and after the invasion, thousands of Greek Cypriots were arrested and detained in concentration camps in Cyprus by the Turkish army and Turkish Cypriot paramilitaries acting under the instructions of the Turkish military.

In addition, more than 2,000 prisoners of war were illegally transferred to Turkey and held in Turkish prisons. Some of them were never released and remain missing. Hundreds of other Greek Cypriots—both soldiers and civilians (including the elderly, women, and children)—disappeared in areas under Turkish occupation and are still listed as missing today.

As a result of the persistent efforts of the Cypriot Government and the relatives of the missing, and following relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus (CMP) was established in 1981 under the auspices and with the participation of the United Nations.

### Colonization

Since invading Cyprus in 1974, Turkey has implemented a systematic policy of settling the occupied part of Cyprus. Through this settlement policy - which, according to international law (Article 49 of the Geneva Convention, 1949), constitutes a war crime - Turkey aims to alter the demographic character and population balance of the island in order to create new facts accomplis that would hinder a just solution. With the large-scale migration of Turkish Cypriots from the occupied areas, the total number of Turkish soldiers and settlers is now greater than the number of remaining Turkish Cypriots.

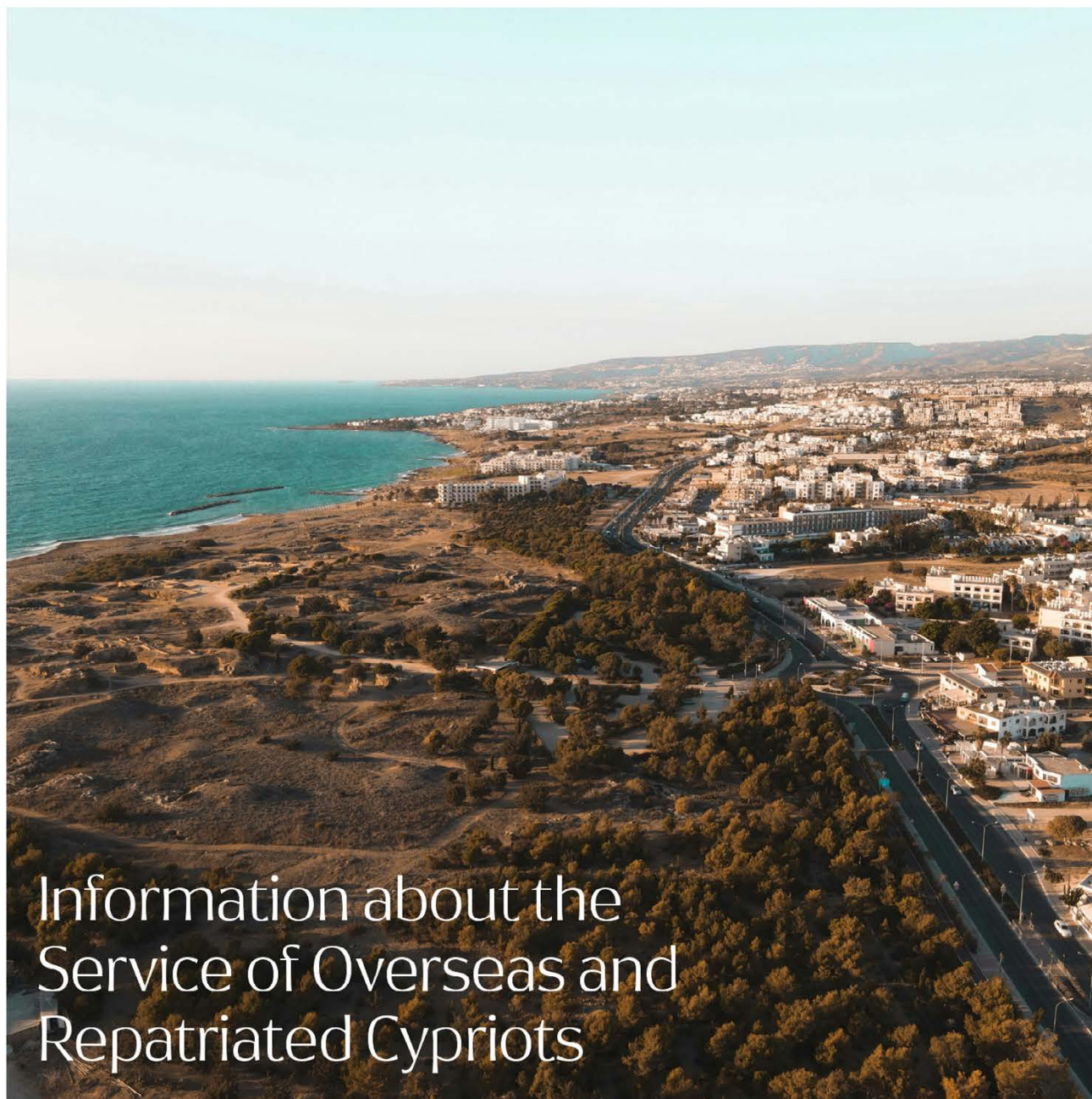
In addition, since 1974 a Turkish military force has been stationed in the northern part of Cyprus. Today, Turkish settlers (estimated at over 160,000) greatly outnumber Turkish Cypriots (estimated at 88,000), who also have lower reproduction rates compared to settlers from Turkey. Furthermore, the troops stationed in the occupied area are estimated to number more than 43,000.

\* The information regarding the consequences of the Turkish invasion (Refugees / Displaced Persons / Missing Persons / Destruction of Cultural Heritage / Enclaved Persons / Settlement Policy) can be found on the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: [www.mfa.gov.cy/mfa/mfa2016.nsf/index\\_gr/index\\_gr?OpenDocument](http://www.mfa.gov.cy/mfa/mfa2016.nsf/index_gr/index_gr?OpenDocument)









## Information about the Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots

The Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots was reintegrated into the structure of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by decision of the Council of Ministers (Decision No. 96.137 dated 13/03/2024), moving from the Presidency to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the supervision of the Commissioner for the Presidency.

The Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots was established in 1976 with the aim of mobilising Cypriots of the Diaspora in Cyprus's struggle for survival and justice. The Service aims to develop new networks and structures with the Overseas Cypriot community and to strengthen cooperation with it. Emphasis is placed on enhancing dialogue between the National Centre, the institutional bodies of the Diaspora, and the youth of the Overseas Cypriot community.

The main objective remains the strengthening of the elements that shape national identity, such as the use of the Greek language, knowledge of tradition, history, and, in general, Cypriot culture—particularly for the youth of the Diaspora.

In addition, the development of bilateral and multilateral synergies and collaborations on issues concerning the Diaspora is promoted, as well as the highlighting of its role and contribution, with the aim of enhancing Cyprus's international image and advancing national issues. The Service also assists Overseas Cypriots in maintaining their connection with Cyprus and provides support in problems and/or needs that arise from time to time. Finally, the new national policy for repatriates creates specific pathways for the repatriation and reintegration of Cypriots of the Diaspora.



Specifically, the Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots deals with the following:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Maintaining contact and meaningful communication with Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots worldwide, while simultaneously providing support on educational and other related matters.                           | Participation in the “Minds in Cyprus” initiative, with the aim of creating and updating specific pathways for the repatriation and reintegration of Cypriots of the Diaspora.                                                                   | Organising local, regional, and global conferences to discuss issues concerning Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots, with the aim of strengthening their connection with Cyprus. |
| Ongoing communication aimed at strengthening ties with the national centre, exchanging ideas, and showcasing the work of the Federations, with particular emphasis on engagement with the younger generation. | Supporting Cypriot communities abroad in their efforts to preserve the Greek language, Cypriot culture, and national identity in their countries of residence.                                                                                   | Organising regular visits and trips of young Cypriots of the Diaspora to Cyprus through hosting programmes, as well as supporting youth programmes.                            |
| Supporting events and activities that promote and preserve Cypriot tradition and cultural heritage.                                                                                                           | Establishment of a Registry of Distinguished Cypriots of the Diaspora, with the aim of highlighting the role and contribution of the Diaspora. Leveraging collaboration with the Diaspora to enhance Cyprus’s image and promote national issues. | Establishment of ‘Business Ambassadors’ who will promote economic diplomacy in specific sectors of activity represented by entrepreneurs within the Diaspora community.        |
| Establishment of the “Cyprus in My Classroom” programme, featuring presentations by various Cypriots involved in cultural affairs, delivered in schools abroad that offer Greek language learning programmes. | Carrying out various activities for the Greek Language Day, with the aim of promoting the language.                                                                                                                                              | Cooperation with the competent Ministries and state services to provide support in resolving issues concerning Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots.                              |
| Promoting scientific research on the history and development of the Cypriot Diaspora.                                                                                                                         | Sending informational and educational material on Cypriot history and culture to organisations, associations, libraries, and schools of Cypriots of the Diaspora.                                                                                | Supporting the activities of the Federations of Cypriots of the Diaspora at a global level.                                                                                    |





## Vision – Strategy

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The role and long-standing activism of Overseas Cypriots have been decisive for the prosperity of the communities abroad, the promotion of our national rights, and the international projection of Cyprus. This contribution is a consistent and essential pillar of our collective efforts.

After the Turkish invasion, the Overseas Cypriot Hellenism intensified its activities and enhanced its organisational presence. The work of the organised bodies and leaders of the Diaspora is fully recognised by the State, as their initiatives for ending the occupation and achieving a just and sustainable solution to the Cyprus problem are implemented in coordination with the country's foreign policy.

The new, multidimensional foreign policy of the Republic of Cyprus and the strengthened geopolitical role of the country in the Eastern Mediterranean create significant opportunities for further connecting the leaderships of the Cypriot communities abroad with international centres of influence.

In this context, cooperation with the Greek Government acquires particular importance. Through the coordination of the Cypriot and Greek communities of the Diaspora, joint actions are pursued with the aim of utilising the international

reach and relationships of global Hellenism.

Key pillars of these actions include the preservation of our shared national identity, language, traditions, and religious heritage, as well as the promotion of Greek language learning and culture in the countries where Cypriots of the Diaspora live and operate.

At the same time, Cyprus has advanced bilateral and trilateral partnerships with countries such as Greece, Egypt, Lebanon, Armenia, Romania, and Serbia, aiming to utilise Diaspora communities as a diplomatic tool for promoting common interests in international decision-making centres. A central priority of this strategy is the mobilisation of organised Diaspora bodies to support issues of mutual interest, such as youth, education, and entrepreneurship.

Particular emphasis is placed on encouraging and actively engaging the younger generation of Overseas Cypriots. The continuity and vitality of the Cypriot Diaspora depend on the systematic inclusion of young people, who constitute its future leadership and ensure the preservation of the multifaceted work being carried out.





*For more information regarding Scholarships, interested parties can find details through:*

The website of the Service for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots

The NEPOMAK website:  
[nepomak.org/scholarships/](http://nepomak.org/scholarships/)

NEPOMAK email:  
[info@nepomak.org](mailto:info@nepomak.org)

## OVERSEAS YOUTH

Overseas youth is a strategic priority of the Republic of Cyprus' policy for the Diaspora. Within this framework, existing organisational structures are supported, while new initiatives are developed that strengthen young people's participation in community organisations abroad, encourage their connection with Cyprus, and promote knowledge of the Greek language, Cypriot history, and culture.

The policy also focuses on providing opportunities for personal and educational development through hosting programmes, exchanges, internships, and scholarships at academic institutions. An important development is the signing of updated Memoranda of Understanding with universities in Cyprus, aimed at facilitating access for Overseas Cypriots to higher education as well as providing internship placements.

The strategy is implemented in coordination with relevant state bodies and in cooperation with organised Diaspora communities worldwide, with the goal of addressing challenges such as assimilation and strengthening the intergenerational continuity of Cypriot identity abroad.

## MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE SERVICE FOR OVERSEAS AND REPATRIATED CYPRIOTS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The Service for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots, in cooperation with educational institutions in Cyprus, promotes various initiatives, including a number of scholarships for young and adult members of the Cypriot Diaspora.

The scholarships cover undergraduate and postgraduate programs, as well as Greek language learning programs, either through in-person attendance at university institutions or through distance learning, where such options are available.

The initiative aims to enhance access for Cypriots living abroad to higher education in the Republic of Cyprus, provide meaningful opportunities for reconnecting with their national homeland, preserve their ties with their roots, language, and culture, and support their personal and professional development regardless of their place of residence.





## Introduction

The University of Cyprus (UCY), an academic institution located in the heart of Nicosia, was founded in 1989 with the collective ambition to meet the evolving intellectual needs of the Cypriot people. Since then, it has developed into a modern, multicultural, research-oriented university distinguished for its scholarly excellence, diversity, equality, and creativity.

With approximately 7,000 students and 860 members of academic and administrative staff, UCY continues to grow. Its 12 Research Units (including 3 Centres of Excellence) and its roughly 140 research laboratories demonstrate its international reputation as a primarily research-driven institution. At the same time, its 8 Faculties and 22 Departments offer a rich range of undergraduate and postgraduate study programmes.

Since its establishment, UCY has achieved significant milestones that reflect its commitment to excellence. Today, it stands as the leading university in Cyprus, a fact evidenced by its strong position in International University Rankings.

## FACULTIES AND DEPARTMENTS

### FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

- Department of English Studies
- Department of French and European Studies
- Department of Turkish and Middle Eastern Studies

### MEDICAL SCHOOL

### FACULTY OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

- Department of Biological Sciences
- Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- Department of Computer Science
- Department of Physics
- Department of Chemistry

### FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

- Department of Business and Public Administration
- Department of Accounting and Finance
- Department of Economics





**Contact Details**  
 International Relations Service:  
<https://www.ucy.ac.cy/irs/>  
 Email: [irs@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:irs@ucy.ac.cy)  
 Website: [www.ucy.ac.cy](http://www.ucy.ac.cy)



#### FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

- Department of Education
- Department of Social and Political Sciences
- Department of Law
- Department of Psychology

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#### GRADUATE SCHOOL

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#### FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

- Department of Architecture
- Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

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#### FACULTY OF LETTERS

- Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies
- Department of History and Archaeology
- Department of Classics and Philosophy

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS CYPRIOTS

#### Master in Business Administration (MBA):

Four (4) scholarships covering up to 50% of tuition fees for each scholarship  
 (total tuition fees €10,250 per scholarship)

#### Master in Natural Gas and the Energy Transition:

Two (2) full scholarships covering 100% of the tuition fees for the postgraduate programme  
 "Natural Gas and Energy Transition" (in English)

#### School of Greek Language

The School of Greek Language offers Greek language classes to non-native speakers, members of the diaspora, and foreigners who wish to learn or improve their Greek. Examinations for Greek Language Certification at levels A1–C2 are offered. Students interested in undergraduate studies in Greek-taught programmes may attend the Preparatory Year.

#### NEPOMAK Discover Cyprus Programme

Every July, UCY hosts the NEPOMAK programme, a three-week experience that brings young Cypriots of the Diaspora closer to the language, culture, and history of Cyprus. It includes intensive Greek language courses, cultural workshops, and educational visits.

#### Research Opportunities

UCY is the largest employer of young researchers in Cyprus, with 740 young scientists. There are many employment opportunities combined with doctoral studies.

#### Erasmus+ Programme

The University of Cyprus has participated in the Erasmus+ Programme since 1997/98. Through the Programme, students have the opportunity either to complete Study Mobility at partner institutions (in EU or non-EU countries), or to undertake Traineeship Mobility in European institutions/organisations (for students and recent graduates).



## INTRODUCTION

The Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) is a public university based in Limassol. It was established by State Law in 2004 and welcomed its first undergraduate students in September 2007. Since September 2023, it also operates facilities in the city of Pafos, where undergraduate programmes of one of its seven faculties are offered.

In addition to its undergraduate programmes, the University currently offers a significant number of master's and doctoral programmes across all its Departments.

With the integration of the Higher Hotel Institute Cyprus (HHIC) into CUT under the Tourism and Hospitality Management Department's Academy of Tourism and Hospitality Professions, professional training programmes leading to the award of a Higher Diploma are also offered.

Beyond academic excellence, CUT places strong emphasis on the student experience (sports, student clubs, student life, etc.) and on the comprehensive support of its students (housing, financial assistance, scholarships, etc.).

## CUT SCHOLARSHIPS

**The University offers the following types of scholarships:**

- Social Support Scholarships for Master's students
- Social Support Scholarships for doctoral students
- Academic Excellence Scholarships for newly admitted doctoral candidates

**For more information:**

<https://www.cut.ac.cy/studies/admissions/financial-matters/welfare/scholarships/>

**SCHOLARSHIPS FOR  
OVERSEAS CYPRIOTS**  
3 full scholarships  
(for postgraduate programmes)



## FACULTIES AND DEPARTMENTS

**The Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) consists of seven Faculties:**

- Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences and Environmental Management
- Faculty of Management and Economics
- Faculty of Communication and Media Studies
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts
- Faculty of Engineering and Technology
- Faculty of Tourism Management, Hospitality and Entrepreneurship
- Language Centre

**The following programmes are offered across these faculties:**

- 25 Undergraduate Programmes
- 9 Postgraduate Programmes taught in Greek
- 5 Postgraduate Programmes taught in English
- Doctoral Programmes

### CONTACT:

#### Website:

[cut.ac.cy/studies/masters/master-programmes/](https://cut.ac.cy/studies/masters/master-programmes/)

**Email:** [administration@cut.ac.cy](mailto:administration@cut.ac.cy)

**Telephone:** 2500 2500

#### CUT Information Centre:

[kep@cut.ac.cy](mailto:kep@cut.ac.cy) | Tel. 0035725002710/11

#### Dimitra Katsari

**Office for Programme Promotion:**

[demetra.katsari@cut.ac.cy](mailto:demetra.katsari@cut.ac.cy) | Tel. +357 2500 2517

#### Konstantinos Demetrioullas

**Office for Programme Promotion:**

[c.demetrioullas@cut.ac.cy](mailto:c.demetrioullas@cut.ac.cy) | Tel. +357 2500 2139



## INTRODUCTION

The Open University of Cyprus (OUC) is a modern public Higher Education Institution of the Republic of Cyprus and is the second university founded in the country. With 19 years of active academic presence in open and distance education, it has established itself as the most experienced university institution in Cyprus in this specific field of education. It offers high-level studies with a flexible mode of learning, allowing students to organise their time and pace according to their needs.

The educational process is based on a modern e-learning platform, where students have access to digital learning materials, online courses, synchronous and asynchronous sessions, virtual classrooms, and continuous guidance from experienced instructors. In this way, learning becomes accessible to everyone, regardless of place of residence or age.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

In addition, OUC offers scholarships, discounts, and financial support for various categories of students, such as families with three children, large families, or students enrolled in a second study programme. It is also important to note that admission applications are submitted without entrance examinations, maintaining the character of an "open" university.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS CYPRIOTS

- 2 full scholarships  
(undergraduate or postgraduate programme)
- 1 partial scholarship  
(undergraduate or postgraduate programme)



## FACULTIES AND DEPARTMENTS

**The Open University of Cyprus consists of three Faculties:**

- Faculty of Economics and Management
- Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences

**These faculties offer:**

- 3 Undergraduate Programmes of study
- 24 Postgraduate Programmes and positions for Doctoral Studies

**Lifelong Learning Programmes**

- Greek Language learning courses (Levels A1–B2)
- Special thematic courses, such as "Introduction to the History of Cyprus"
- Introduction to Cypriot history and civilization.

With more than 3,000 students - over half of whom come from Greece - the Open University of Cyprus demonstrates in practice that knowledge is accessible to all. At OUC, the distance to learning is truly eliminated, giving everyone the opportunity to grow and shape their own academic and professional path.

### CONTACT:

Website: [www.ouc.ac.cy](http://www.ouc.ac.cy)

Admissions Office: [admissions@ouc.ac.cy](mailto:admissions@ouc.ac.cy)

Contact Telephone: +357 22 411600

Technical Support Office (Helpdesk): [helpdesk@ouc.ac.cy](mailto:helpdesk@ouc.ac.cy)

Contact Telephone: +357 22 411777





## INTRODUCTION

The University of Nicosia (UNIC) is the largest university in Cyprus, with more than 11,500 students from over 100 countries, offering more than 100 study programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels. It is composed of eight Schools - Medicine; Life and Health Sciences; Law; Business; Humanities and Social Sciences; Education; Veterinary Medicine; and Sciences and Engineering - and is internationally recognised for its research output and the quality of its teaching.

In the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026, it is ranked among the top 501–600 universities worldwide.

UNIC maintains an extensive network of collaborations with leading universities and research centres globally. As part of its internationalisation strategy, it expanded its presence to Greece with the establishment of UNIC Athens, which began operations in 2025 and is based in Elliniko.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS CYPRIOTS

3 full scholarships for postgraduate programmes (except Medical School and Psychology)

## FACULTIES AND DEPARTMENTS

The programme is offered in Greek, English or in both languages

- School of Business
- School of Education
- School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- School of Law
- School of Life and Health Sciences
- Medical School
- School of Sciences and Engineering
- School of Veterinary Medicine

### CONTACT:

#### Website:

<https://www.unic.ac.cy/>

#### Cyprus

Email: [admissions@unic.ac.cy](mailto:admissions@unic.ac.cy)

Contact telephone: +357 22 841 500

#### Greece Admissions Office

Email: [greece.admissions@unic.ac.cy](mailto:greece.admissions@unic.ac.cy)

Contact telephone: 8011002345, 210 6748293





#### **NOTE THAT...**

- Interested Overseas Cypriots must obtain a confirmation either from the relevant diaspora organisation in their country of residence, or from the Embassy of the country in which they live, or from NEPOMAK (Young people up to 30 years old who are not members of NEPOMAK may register - see the relevant link above).
- Each applicant must authorise, through a relevant form held by NEPOMAK, the University to inform the Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots regarding their application, acceptance, and progress for as long as the scholarship is valid. NEPOMAK will in turn inform the Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots.

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION...**

**Address:**

5A Anastasiou Leventi Avenue, 1097 Nicosia, Cyprus

**Contact telephone:**

+357 22 572804

**Email:**

[diaspora@mfa.gov.cy](mailto:diaspora@mfa.gov.cy)

**Website:**

<https://www.gov.cy/mfa/>

It is made clear that the submission of applications and the granting of scholarships to interested individuals are internal procedures of each University and are governed by the criteria it has established. The Service of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots has no role or involvement in the process.



## INTRODUCTION

The Cyprus Institute (Cyl) is a leading, non-profit research and educational organisation with a strong scientific and technological orientation. It was founded with the aim of operating as a Centre of Excellence in the region of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East (EMME), addressing issues of regional interest as well as matters of global significance. Cyl is developing into an international scientific institution, strengthening the research community of Cyprus and contributing to the country's transition to a knowledge-based economy.

Its mission is grounded in values that include the production of pioneering scientific research, the development of strategic research infrastructures, the cultivation of academic culture, the establishment of strategic collaborations, and active engagement with society and stakeholders. The Cyprus Institute operates under the aegis of the Cyprus Research and Educational Foundation (CREF), with a Board of Directors composed of internationally recognised figures.

Since beginning its operations in 2007, the Cyprus Institute has demonstrated continuous and remarkable growth, as well as significant achievements in securing competitive research funding and attracting internationally renowned scientists.

### RESEARCH CENTRES

The Cyprus Institute hosts five specialised, interdisciplinary research centres, developed in collaboration with leading international organisations in their respective thematic fields:

- Energy, Environment and Water Research Centre (EEWRC) in collaboration with MIT
- Science and Technology in Archaeology and Culture Research Center (STARC) in collaboration with C2RMF (Centre de Recherche et de Restauration des Musées de France)
- Computation-based Science and Technology Research Centre (CaSToRC) in collaboration with the University of Illinois
- Climate and Atmosphere Research Centre (CARE-C) in collaboration with the Max Planck Institute and the CEA (Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission)
- Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Research Centre (STeDI-RC)

The Cyprus Institute Graduate School was established in 2010 and constitutes the educational arm of Cyl. It is an accredited higher education institution that awards recognised postgraduate degrees. The School aims to maintain a small number of high-calibre students who are fully integrated into the Institute's research activities. This gives students the opportunity to be part of the Institute's research teams, to receive practical training using the most advanced methods and techniques, to access state-of-the-art facilities, and to conduct research alongside internationally recognised research groups.

#### Cyl offers three Master's programmes:

- Digital Cultural Heritage (MSc)
- Environmental and Energy Sciences (MSc/MPhil)
- High Performance Computing and Machine Learning (MSc/MPhil)

#### Cyl also offers three Doctoral programmes:

- Computational Sciences (PhD)
- Energy, Environment and Atmospheric Sciences (PhD)
- Science and Technology in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (PhD)

### INTERNSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS CYPRIOTS

- 3 positions for a three month Internship, awarded after evaluation, to be completed prior to studies, with a monthly remuneration of €650 each. Applicants must indicate in their application that they belong to the category of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots and that they are applying for the specific scholarship/position.

Through these initiatives, the Cyprus Institute strengthens the ties of the Diaspora with their homeland, showcasing Cyprus as an international centre of knowledge, innovation, and scientific excellence.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS CYPRIOTS

15 scholarships for Cypriots of the Diaspora for postgraduate programmes at the Cyprus Institute (Master / PhD)

#### CONTACT:

<https://www.cyi.ac.cy/index.php/education/masters-programs.html>

<https://www.cyi.ac.cy/index.php/education/prospective-students/apply.html>

<https://gs.cyi.ac.cy/> (online application)

Email: [head.school@cyi.ac.cy](mailto:head.school@cyi.ac.cy)

Contact telephone: +357 22208700



## INTRODUCTION

The European University Cyprus (EUC) has become synonymous with quality education, high-technology innovation, strong links with industry and society, and the high employability of its students and graduates. Over the past decade, the university has embraced a culture of modernisation that has led to growth levels surpassing all expectations, enhancing both the range and the quality of university education in Cyprus, and setting a clear international orientation for the institution and the country as a whole.

### International Distinctions & Rankings

The European University Cyprus has been internationally recognised for its academic quality and its continuous rise in global university rankings. According to the QS Stars University Ratings (2024), EUC was awarded the prestigious Five Stars distinction after a rigorous independent evaluation in key performance areas: Teaching, Employability, Global Engagement, Online Learning, Diversity, Equality & Inclusion, as well as the Medicine (MD) programme.

### A Model of Studies in Medical and Health Sciences:

The European University Cyprus has pioneered cutting-edge technologies and strengthened the country's health sector through the establishment of the most advanced Medical School in the region. With the launch of the country's first Dentistry Degree and the establishment of the School of Veterinary Medicine, the university now offers the most comprehensive suite of programmes in the Medical and Health Sciences, with 29 programmes in total, 13 of which are offered exclusively in Cyprus.

In particular, the University offers study programmes leading to degrees such as Pharmacy (MPharm), Biological Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Speech and Language Therapy, Physiotherapy, Sport Science and Physical Education, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Nutrition and Dietetics, and more.

Committed to its strategy for international expansion, in 2022 EUC's Medical School established a branch campus in Germany, becoming the first branch of a Cypriot university operating outside the Republic of Cyprus.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS CYPRIOTS

3 full scholarships for postgraduate programmes (except Medical and Veterinary School Programmes)



## SCHOOLS AND DEPARTMENTS

With a history of more than 60 years and over 12,600 students from around the world, EUC has evolved into a modern and internationally recognised university. European University Cyprus operates 7 Schools, offering more than 80 undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes in both English and Greek:

- Medical School
- School of Dentistry
- School of Veterinary Medicine
- School of Sciences
- School of Law
- School of Business Administration
- School of Humanities, Social and Education Sciences

### A University with an International Orientation

With a vibrant student community from more than 70 countries- where one in three students comes from abroad -

European University Cyprus (EUC) fully reflects its international and multicultural character.

The University equips its students and graduates with modern knowledge, professional skills, and adaptability, enabling them to excel and succeed in any international professional environment.

### CONTACT:

Website: [www.euc.ac.cy](http://www.euc.ac.cy)

Telephone: +357 22713000

Email: [info@euc.ac.cy](mailto:info@euc.ac.cy)



In addition to the Memoranda of Understanding, the Service has secured, through the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, scholarships at the following Educational Institutions:

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION:**

American University of Cyprus (AUCY)

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

50% reduction in tuition fees at both undergraduate and postgraduate level for all Cypriots living abroad.

**OFFICER:**

Assistant Director of Admission and Orientations  
Ms. Alexia Athanassiou  
alexia.athanassiou@aucy.ac.cy

**CONTACT:**

Tel: +357 24 20900 | +357 99 748 849  
Email: info@aucy.ac.cy  
Website: <https://aucy.ac.cy/>

**ADDRESS:**

American University of Cyprus  
52 Ammochostou Avenue, 6019 Larnaca, Cyprus

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: KES College**

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

20% reduction on standard tuition fees for all Accredited–Certified Undergraduate Programmes for Cypriots living abroad, applicable for all years of study.  
Excluded from the reduction are: registration fees, laboratory uniforms, books, personal equipment, fees for any external examinations, and graduation/certification issuance costs.

**OFFICER:**

Head of Student Services and Welfare  
Ms. Andri Sideri  
andri.sideri@kes.ac.cy

**CONTACT:**

Tel: +357 22 875737  
Fax: +357 22 756562  
Email: scholarships@kes.ac.cy  
Website: <https://www.kescollege.ac.cy/>

**ADDRESS:**

KES College  
5 Kallipoleos Avenue, 1055 Nicosia, Cyprus

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: Cyprus Business School**

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

1 full scholarship for the Distance-learning MBA programme.  
Duration of Studies: 18 months.

**CONTACT:**

Submission of Curriculum Vitae (C.V.): scholarships@cim.ac.cy  
Tel: +357 22 778475 | +357 22 779331  
Email: info@cim.ac.cy  
Website: <https://cim.ac.cy>

**ADDRESS:**

Nicosia Campus: 25 Zannettos Str., Ayios Andreas, 1100 Nicosia  
P.O. Box 25288, 1308 Nicosia  
Limassol Campus: 7 Stelios Kyriakides Str., 3080 Limassol

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: C.D.A College**

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

3 scholarships offering a 45% reduction in tuition fees for all years of study for Cypriots living abroad and repatriated Cypriots. Excluded from the scholarship are: registration fees, College fees amounting to €300 per year, purchase of consumable materials, uniforms, and books (where required).

**OFFICER:**

Director of Public Relations and Student Welfare – Nicosia  
Ms. Tonia Georgiou  
tonia.georgiou@cdacollege.ac.cy

**CONTACT:**

Expression of Interest: Admissions & Public Relations Office  
Tel: 77770232  
Email: admissions@cdacollege.ac.cy  
Website: <https://cdacollege.ac.cy>

**ADDRESS:**

Nicosia: P.O. Box 21972, CY-1515  
nicosia@cdacollege.ac.cy  
Larnaca: P.O. Box 40426, CY-6304  
larnaca@cdacollege.ac.cy  
Paphos: P.O. Box 62050, CY-8060  
cdapaphos@cdacollege.ac.cy  
Limassol: P.O. Box 70114, CY-4161  
limassol@cdacollege.ac.cy

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Proof that the applicant is a Cypriot living abroad or a repatriated Cypriot.
2. Secondary School or Technical School Leaving Certificate for Undergraduate Programmes.
3. University Degree for Postgraduate Programmes.
4. Excellent knowledge of English for English-taught programmes (IELTS, IGCSE, TOEFL) or successful completion of the English language placement examination conducted by the College.

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION:**

University of Central Lancashire (UCLan Cyprus)

**ΥΠΟΤΡΟΦΙΕΣ:**

Scholarships for Cypriot Expatriates for September 2026 / January 2027, awarded either on the basis of financial status or exemplary academic performance, provided that applicants meet the minimum entry criteria of the programme of their choice.  
2 Scholarships covering 40% of tuition fees  
2 Scholarships covering 50% of tuition fees  
applicable to any Undergraduate programme of study.

**OFFICER:**

Admissions & Recruitment Coordinator  
Ms. Katerina Petrou

**CONTACT:**

Tel: +357 24 694059  
Email: admissions@uclancypus.ac.cy  
Website: <https://www.uclancypus.ac.cy/>

**ADDRESS:**

Mailing Address:  
12–14 University Avenue Pyla,  
7080 Larnaca, Cyprus

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Scholarships for Undergraduate programmes are applicable for all years of study, subject to maintaining a 70% yearly average grade and 60% in each module every year.  
(the above offer cannot be combined with and/or added to any other offer, bursary or scholarship)



**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: American College****SCHOLARSHIPS:**

1. Undergraduate Programmes – 30% tuition fee reduction for all years of study.  
2. Master of Business Administration (MBA) Programme – 35% tuition fee reduction.  
3. Distance Learning Master of Business Administration (MBA) Programme:  
30% reduction – final examinations conducted abroad.  
50% reduction – final examinations conducted at American College.  
Application Deadline: 7 August 2026  
Classes Begin: 5 October 2026

**OFFICER:**

Marketing Manager: Marinos Maratheftis  
Email: marinos.maratheftis@ac.ac.cy

**CONTACT:**

Tel: +357 22 368000  
Fax: +357 22 368001  
Email: info@ac.ac.cy  
Website: www.ac.ac.cy

**ADDRESS:**

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2245, 1521 Nicosia, Cyprus  
Physical Address: 3 Omirou Avenue, 1097 Nicosia, Cyprus

**REQUIREMENTS:**

The programmes are offered in afternoon and evening schedules, with the option of full-time or part-time study.

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: City Unity College Nicosia****SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Scholarships for Cypriots living abroad:  
10 Full Scholarships for the following programmes:  
– Master of Business Administration (MBA) – 90 ECTS  
Duration of Studies: 18 months  
Language of Instruction: English or Greek  
– BA in International Hospitality & Tourism Management – 255 ECTS  
Duration of Studies: 4 years  
Language of Instruction: English or Greek  
– BA in Business Administration – 240 ECTS  
Duration of Studies: 4 years  
Language of Instruction: English or Greek

**OFFICER:**

Ms. Eleni Kalli  
General Director

**CONTACT:**

Tel: +357 22 332333  
Email: e.kalli@cityu.ac.cy  
Website: https://www.cityu.ac.cy

**ADDRESS:**

Mailing Address: City Unity College Nicosia  
19 Stasinou Str., Engomi  
2404 Nicosia, Cyprus

**REQUIREMENTS:**

The granting of scholarships is subject to applicants fulfilling the applicable academic and other admission criteria.

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: University of Nicosia****SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Five scholarships for undergraduate studies offering a 25% partial tuition fee waiver, valid for the entire minimum duration of the respective programme of study.  
(Programmes of the Medical and Veterinary Schools are excluded.)

**OFFICERS:**

Ms. Andria Englezou  
Tel: +357 22 841719  
Email: englezou.a@unic.ac.cy  
Ms. Rafaella Mesimeri  
Tel: +357 22 841723  
Email: mesimeri.r@unic.ac.cy

**CONTACT:**

Tel: +357 22 841500  
Email: admissions@unic.ac.cy

**ADDRESS:**

Mailing Address: UNIC NICOSIA  
46 Makedonitissas Avenue, CY-2417  
P.O. Box 24005, CY-1700

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Programmes of the Medical and Veterinary Schools are excluded.  
The granting of scholarships is subject to applicants fulfilling the applicable academic and other admission criteria.

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: Alexander College****SCHOLARSHIPS:**

10 Scholarships covering up to 50% of tuition fees for Undergraduate or Postgraduate studies.

**CONTACT:**

Email: info@alexander.ac.cy  
Telephone: 70002592 or +357 24 532373  
Fax: +357 24 532365  
Website: http://www.alexander.ac.cy

**ADDRESS:**

Mailing Address:  
Larnaca Campus: 2 Artas Str., Aradippou, 7102 Larnaca, Cyprus  
Paphos Campus: 88 Tassos Papadopoulos Avenue,  
Paphos, 8026, Cyprus

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Selection will be based on admission criteria and the recommendations of academic advisory committees for each field of study.

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: University of Limassol (UoL)****SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Two (2) full scholarships covering 100% of tuition fees for enrolment in a postgraduate programme of the applicant's choice, either on-campus or through distance learning.  
Ten (10) partial scholarships covering 50% of the tuition fees for the first year of study in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of the applicant's choice.

**CONTACT:**

Tel: +357 25 878782 | 77772446  
Email: admissions@uol.ac.cy  
Website: https://uol.ac.cy

**ADDRESS:**

Mailing Address:  
Limassol Campus 1: 92 Agias Fylaxeos, 3025 Limassol  
Limassol Campus 2: 3–5 Chaidariou Str., 3020 Limassol  
Nicosia Campus: Glafkos Clerides Avenue, Aglantzia 2107 Nicosia



# Minds in Cyprus

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## Minds in Cyprus

The Minds in Cyprus Initiative is a flagship initiative of the President of the Republic and a structured, cross-sectoral, national effort to strengthen ties with the Diaspora and to harness Cypriot talent both within and beyond Cyprus. It is coordinated by the Presidency and implemented with the participation of multiple Ministries and state bodies. It forms part of the strategic effort to transform the Cypriot economy into a knowledge-based economy, where human talent is a factor of utmost importance.

The main goal of the Initiative is to create more favourable conditions for the return of talent to Cyprus, through a comprehensive platform for information and networking that provides Cypriots abroad with access to opportunities in employment, research, entrepreneurship, and collaboration. At the same time, it enables expatriates to contribute knowledge, experience, and ideas, thereby strengthening their role in the country's development.

Minds in Cyprus focuses on key sectors such as:

- technology and innovation,
- research and science,
- financial and professional services.

However, it remains open to all Cypriots abroad

who wish to contribute, regardless of their field of activity. The Action Plan for the Repatriation of Talent concentrates on policy areas aimed at facilitating and encouraging the return of Cypriots abroad to our country.

**Tax Incentives:** Government proposal for expanding criteria and increasing the percentage of tax exemption for Cypriots who have remained abroad for an extended period after their studies, in addition to the existing 50% tax exemption for those who have lived outside Cyprus for 15 years or more.

**Employment opportunities:** Through a specialised platform for talent matching, companies in Cyprus are connected with Cypriot professionals and scientists abroad through the posting of highly specialised job vacancies.

**Family reintegration:** Measures such as accelerated naturalisation of spouses, facilitating children's access to education, and Greek language lessons for families who choose to return to Cyprus.

**Creation of a digital portal:** A single point of access to information on employment, housing, education, health, entrepreneurship, available funding tools, and everything relevant to those considering returning. The portal also allows for the submission of related questions and suggestions.





# MINDS CYPRUS

The Brain Gain  
Initiative



Through the dedicated  
online portal



[www.mindsincyprus.com](http://www.mindsincyprus.com)

interested individuals can find  
consolidated information and make  
use of available services and tools.



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Cyprus



# repatriation & adaptation\*

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## Preparing for Repatriation

The transition from one country—often the country of birth for second- and third-generation Cypriots—to another is a major challenge. New experiences may feel disorienting, and you will face many emotional challenges that take time to navigate.

The adjustment period is experienced differently by each person. Typically, there are four phases that repatriates go through. These are part of what is known as cultural shock, and they can trigger strong emotions.

### **NOTE THAT...**

It is natural to feel emotionally and physically exhausted during the repatriation process.

- Give yourself and your family time to adjust.  
Don't be hard on yourself.
- Get involved in local activities.
- Enjoy your dual cultural identity.
- Be open to new experiences and challenges.

1

The first phase, the phase of disconnection, begins when you start packing your belongings, saying goodbye to friends and your familiar environment, and preparing for your new home.

2

The second phase is usually exciting and filled with euphoria. This occurs when you experience your place of origin as a resident and not as a visitor on holiday.

3

The third, and often most difficult phase, is the phase of isolation, when feelings of anxiety, confusion, and hostility begin to appear. This is the phase in which repatriates feel the absence of their old habits and the lifestyle they had in their host country. They begin to feel alienated and nervous. Many people choose to abandon the repatriation effort during this phase.

4

The final phase is generally called the phase of readjustment. Feelings of excitement and satisfaction often return. In this phase, repatriates rediscover their dual cultural identity. They retain the positive aspects they bring with them and embrace the new culture of the country in which they now live and work.







# General consular services to Cypriots overseas

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Diplomatic Missions, and the Consulates of the Republic, through the provision of consular services, play a vital role in enhancing the safety of Cypriots travelling or living abroad and ensuring suitable conditions for the conduct of their activities. At the same time, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs cooperates closely and coordinates the Republic's competent authorities, to further improve the efficiency of the consular services provided to Cypriots abroad and to foreigners residing or visiting Cyprus.

Cypriots abroad may refer to the Diplomatic Missions for a number of consular services, such as:

- Submit applications for the issuance/renewal of ID cards and passports (in Embassies equipped with biometric stations),
- Issue various certificates to use abroad,
- Issue permanent residence certificates,
- Register births abroad,
- Notarise documents,
- Transfer human remains and cremains in Cyprus,
- Issue an Emergency Travel Document for travelers that had their documents stolen/lost, in order to return to Cyprus.

Following the upgrade of the digital services provided by the Republic of Cyprus to its citizens, Cypriots are also able to:

- Submit applications for various government services online, through the gov.cy portal,
- Use the digital assistant "E-Proxenos" in order to receive direct answers on consular issues they are facing

Περισσότερες πληροφορίες...  
<https://www.gov.cy/mfa/services/>





*Did you know...*

Organized associations and federations of Cypriots living abroad and repatriates operate both in Cyprus and overseas. They can provide assistance and support on a wide range of matters.

## Associations / federations of overseas and repatriated Cypriots in Cyprus and abroad

Below you will find the contact details of the Associations and Federations of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots, which may be useful to you.

**President of the Association of Cypriots from Egypt**

Zena Vogiatzis

Telephone Number: +357 99204507

E-mail: zvogiatzi@yahoo.com

**President of the Association of South Africa Cypriots**

Nicholas Mastoroudes

Telephone Number: +357 99579602

E-mail: nicmastoroudes@hotmail.com

**President of the Association of Repatriated Cypriots  
Australia**

Andreas Frangkos

Telephone Number: +357 99660491

E-mail: andreas\_frangou@yahoo.com

**President of the Federation of Repatriated Cypriots and  
Honorary President of Repatriated Cypriots of Australia**

Kyriakos Tsolakis

Telephone Number: +357 99 693677

E-mail: tsolakis.k@gmail.com

**President of the Association of Repatriated Cypriot  
Canadians**

Demetrios Glykis

Telephone Number: +357 96 490683

E-mail: dglykis@gmail.com

**Representative of the Association of Repatriated Cypriot  
Americans**

Hermis Ermogenous

Telephone Number: +357 99449139

E-mail: he.ermogenous@gmail.com



The World Federation of Overseas Cypriots (POMAK) was founded in 1976 in the framework of the First International Congress on the Hellenic Diaspora by the late President of the Republic of Cyprus Archbishop Makarios III.

The main purpose of establishing POMAK was to coordinate the activities of its member federations in order to promote the Cyprus problem among the Diaspora. Another important objective of the federation is to develop ties, cooperation, and mutual assistance among expatriate Cypriots in their countries of residence and to maintain ties with language, history, culture, customs, and traditions of their homeland, especially for the younger generations of expatriates.



#### **Contact Details:**

#### **World Federation of Overseas Cypriots (POMAK),**

Address: 1, Britannia Road, London, N12 9RU

Telephone Number: +44 208 445 9999

Website: <https://pomakcyprus.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CYDiasporaFed>

X: <https://x.com/cydiasporafed>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cydiasporafed/>

### **Members of POMAK are local federations in different countries around the world where Cypriots live:**

#### **United Kingdom (UK)**

##### **The National Federation of Cypriots in the United Kingdom**

###### **Contact Details:**

Address: National Federation of Cypriots in the UK, 1, Britannia Road, London, N12 9RU

Telephone Number: +44 208 445 9999

E-mail: [enquiries@cyriotfederation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cyriotfederation.org.uk)

Website: [www.cyriotfederation.org.uk](http://www.cyriotfederation.org.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UKCyriotFed>

X: <https://x.com/ukcyriotfed>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ukcyriotfed/>

#### **Greece**

##### **Federation of Cypriot Organizations of Greece**

###### **Contact Details:**

Address: 9-11, Mesogeion Avenue, Athens

Telephone Number: +30 2107470382, +30 69 44588932

E-mail: [okoe.cy@gmail.com](mailto:okoe.cy@gmail.com)

Website: [www.okoe.gr](http://www.okoe.gr)

#### **United States of America (USA)**

##### **Federation of Cypriot American Organizations**

###### **Contact Details:**

Address: 333, Glen Head Rd, Suite 250, Glen Head, NY 11545

Telephone Number: (516) 399-2295

E-mail: [info@fcaousa.org](mailto:info@fcaousa.org)

Website: [www.fcaousa.org](http://www.fcaousa.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fcaousa.org>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/federation\\_cypriotamericanorg?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_button\\_share\\_sheet&igsh=ZDNlZDc0MzIxNw==](https://www.instagram.com/federation_cypriotamericanorg?utm_source=ig_web_button_share_sheet&igsh=ZDNlZDc0MzIxNw==)

#### **Canada**

##### **Cypriot Federation of Canada**

###### **Contact Details:**

Address: c/o 85 Earlton Road, Scarborough, ON M1T 2R7 Canada

Telephone Number: 416-857-3564

E-mail: [cyriotfederation@rogers.com](mailto:cyriotfederation@rogers.com) & [christinecns@hotmail.com](mailto:christinecns@hotmail.com)

Website: Cypriot Federation of Canada (temporarily inactive) pending some updates to the site

Facebook: Kypriaki Omospondia Kanada

Instagram: [cyriotfederationofcanada](https://www.instagram.com/cyriotfederationofcanada)

#### **Australia and New Zealand**

##### **Federation of Cyprus Communities of Australia and New Zealand**

###### **Contact Details:**

Address: 58-76 Stanmore Road, Stanmore, Sydney, NSW 2048

Telephone: +61 2 9557 1256

Fax: +61 2 9516 1679

E-mail: [mchristodoulou.am@gmail.com](mailto:mchristodoulou.am@gmail.com)

Website: [www.cyprusfederation.org.au](http://www.cyprusfederation.org.au)

#### **South Africa**

##### **Cypriot Association of South Africa (CASA)**

###### **Contact Details:**

Address: 10, Concorde Road, Bedfordview, Gauteng, South Africa

Telephone Number: +27 829337119

E-mail:

[administrator@casa.org.za](mailto:administrator@casa.org.za) & [cyprussa@speedweb.co.za](mailto:cyprussa@speedweb.co.za)

Website: under construction



## Rest of Africa

### Cyprus Federation of Rest of Africa & Middle East

#### Contact Details:

Address: 244, Leopold Takawira Street, Harare, Zimbabwe, PO Box 3842

E-mail: nestorosn@gmail.com / habibistalo@gmail.com (Lebanon)

## Rest of Europe

### Federation of Overseas Cypriots Rest of Europe

#### Contact Details:

Address: Communauté Chypriote de France, 9, rue Mesnil, 75116 Paris, France

Telephone Number: +33 6 15 41 24 65

E-mail: evagoras@mavrommatis.fr

Website: <https://communaute-chypriote-france.org/>



## PSEKA

The International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus (PSEKA) was founded in 1976 by the late President of Cyprus Archbishop Makarios III. The organisation is based in Nicosia and has branches all over the world. Its headquarters are in New York. Today, PSEKA is staffed by both professionals and volunteers.

Its mission remains the pursuit of a just and sustainable solution to the Cyprus problem, which will liberate Cyprus from Turkish occupation troops.

### PSEKA Board of Directors

#### Contact details:

Address: 23-15, 31st Street, Astoria, NY 11105

Telephone Number: 718 545 3533

E-mail: [info@pseka.org](mailto:info@pseka.org)

Website: <https://pseka.org/>



## NEPOMAK

The World Youth Federation of Overseas Cypriots (NEPOMAK) is the youth organisation of POMAK, which was founded in 2002 and operates autonomously, according to its own statutes.

NEPOMAK is open to young expatriates aged 18-30.

NEPOMAK's main mission is to preserve national identity and culture among young expatriates. In addition, the organisation raises awareness among Cypriot youth Diaspora and the countries in which they live about the Cyprus problem.

Another key objective of NEPOMAK is to foster close and friendly relations between Cyprus and the countries in which Cypriot expatriates live.

To achieve its mission, NEPOMAK organises visits to Cyprus, the annual Conference of the organisation that takes place in Cyprus, as well as various other events in places of residence of the Cypriot Diaspora.

#### Contact details:

Address: 1, Britannia Road, North Finchley, London, N12 9RU

Telephone Number: N/A

E-mail: [nepomak@gmail.com](mailto:nepomak@gmail.com)

Website: [www.nepomak.org](http://www.nepomak.org)

Facebook: NEPOMAK.Global

X: @NEPOMAK

Instagram: NEPOMAK

**Members of NEPOMAK are the local Federations of Young Overseas Cypriots in different countries in which young expatriates live:**

NEPOMAK UK

NEPOMAK USA

NEPOMAK Greece

NEPOMAK Canada

NEPOMAK South Africa

NEPOMAK Australia & New Zealand

NEPOMAK Rest of Europe

NEPOMAK Africa





# Entry and Stay in the Republic of Cyprus

## ACQUISITION OF CITIZENSHIP DUE TO CYPRIOT ORIGINS

### Application for Consular Birth Certificate (type M121)

It can be submitted by either minors or adults (above the age of 18), who were born abroad after the 16th of August 1960 and whose at least one parent at the time of birth was a Cypriot citizen.

Accompanying documents:

- Birth certificate of the applicant
- Marriage certificate of the applicant's parents
- Photocopy of the applicant's and the applicant's parents' passports
- Certificate of registration of the Cypriot parent (where applicable)
- Copy of proof of fees paid 20 euros

### NOTE THAT...

Citizenship applications are submitted to the Consular Authorities abroad or to the Competent District Administration Office (if the applicants are in Cyprus).

### Application for the Registration of Minors (type M126)

It can be submitted for minors, born in Cyprus or abroad, whose father or mother has acquired the Cypriot citizenship due to registration or naturalisation, after their birth.

Accompanying documents:

- Birth certificate of applicant
- Marriage certificate of applicant's parents
- Photocopy of the applicant's and the applicant's parents' passports
- Certificate of acquisition of the Cypriot citizenship of the Cypriot parent (where applicable)
- Declaration of the foreign parent signed before an officer of the District Administration Office or the diplomatic authority consenting to the granting of the Cypriot citizenship to minor child. The statement is not required if the Cypriot parent had obtained a court decision for sole parental care of the minor. A copy of the relevant court decision should be attached.
- Two photographs (passport size)
- Photocopy of receipt for the amount of 80 euros paid as fees



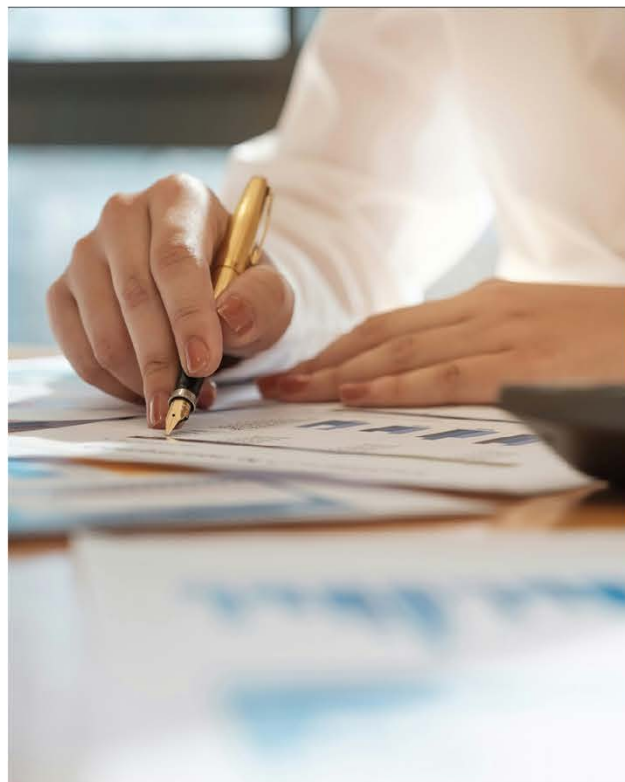
### Application Type M123

This application can be submitted by adult persons of full legal capacity, who were born on or after 16 August 1960, and who are descendants of a person who:

1. Became a British citizen under the Annexation of Cyprus Orders of 1914 to 1943, or
2. Was born in Cyprus between 5 November 1914 and 16 August 1960, during which period their parents were habitually residing in Cyprus.

Accompanying documents:

- Birth certificate of the applicant
- Marriage certificate of the applicant's parents
- Photocopy of the passports of the applicant and of the applicant's parents
- Certificate of registration of the Cypriot parent (where applicable)
- Copy of proof of fees paid 50 euros
- The application should be submitted in duplicate



### Application Type M124

It can be submitted by adults of Cypriot origins, who were born before the 16th of August 1960 and are British citizens or citizens of any State of the Commonwealth and have completed one year of legal residence in the Republic.

Accompanying documents:

- Birth certificate of applicant
- Certificate of clean criminal record of the applicant
- Photocopy of receipt for the amount of 80 euros paid as fees
- The application should be submitted in duplicate

### Application Type M71, M72

1. M71 can be submitted by persons born prior to the 16th of August 1960, who are citizens of the United Kingdom and its former colonies, who originate from Cyprus from the male side.
2. M72 can be submitted by persons born prior to the 16th of August 1960, who are not citizens of the United Kingdom and its former colonies and who originate from Cyprus from the male side.

Accompanying documents:

- Birth certificate of applicant
- Birth certificate of applicant's father
- Photocopy of applicant's passport
- Photocopy of receipt for the amount of 20 euros paid as fees

#### **NOTE THAT...**

All public documents issued abroad must:

- a) Bear an official translation into Greek or English from the Press and Information Office.
- b) Be certified with APOSTILLE if the country has signed the Hague Convention of 1961 or
  - Certified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country of origin of the applicant and then by the Embassy/Consulate of Cyprus in his country, or
  - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country of origin of the applicant and then the Embassy / Consulate of his country in Cyprus and then certified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus
  - In the instance that the country of origin of the applicant has not signed the Hague Convention of 1961 and there is no Embassy / Consulate in that country, the documents must be certified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country of origin of the applicant and then the nearest Embassy / Consulate which is accredited to Cyprus







## Issuance of Birth Certificate

Birth certificates are issued at all the District Administration

Offices or online via the gov.cy platform. In order to register the new-born child in the Birth Register, the application form should be completed and signed by the Doctor who delivered the child and a copy is kept at the hospital's/clinic's records, another copy is sent to the Competent District Administration Office by the hospital/clinic and a third copy is given to the child's parents, in order for them to submit it to the Competent District Administration Office. The registration of the child can take place in any District Administration Office, independently from the child's birth place.

Birth certificates can be issued if the citizen's relevant details are registered in the Civil Registration System.

The payable fee for each certificate is 5 EUR, provided that the birth has been registered within the time period determined by the Law (within 15 days). If the declaration is made after the lapse of fifteen (15) days but before the completion of three (3) months from the date of birth, a surcharge of €30 is payable.

If the declaration is made after the lapse of three (3) months from the date of birth, a surcharge of €60 is payable and the following must also be submitted:

- Affidavit in the prescribed form
- Birth registration form filled

Applications for reissue of the birth certificate can be submitted electronically via the e-Services system.

## Applications / Issuance / Replacement of Refugee Identity Card

The refugee identity card is issued to displaced persons.

Applications for first-time issuance may be submitted at the District Administration Offices, Citizen Service Centres and electronically via the gov.cy platform.

### **The following persons are regarded as displaced:**

- Those who before and until the invasion had their usual residence in any Turkish - occupied area
- Those who before and until the invasion had their permanent residence in the free areas because of their profession but their house and/or their property in general was in the occupied areas
- Those who before and until the invasion had their temporary residence abroad due to an obligation which emanated from a permanent appointment or an appointment on contract offered them while they resided in Cyprus and provided they were not emigrants.

### **Documents required:**

For first-time applications submitted in person, the applicant must provide the following documents, as applicable depending on their case:

- A completed relevant application form
- Marriage/Engagement to Marry Certificate/a newspaper notice about a promise to marry.
- Birth Certificate
- Parents' Refugee Identity Cards
- Parents' Number of Identity Cards

For the issuance/replacement of a Refugee Identity Card which has a check seal with the date 1/1/1983 and afterwards, the following are required:

- A completed relevant application form
- The numbers of the Identity Cards of all the members of the family.
- Birth Certificates of children

## Issuance of Certificate of Displaced Family

The Certificate of Displaced Family is granted to the holder of a valid Refugee Identity Card for confirmation of the composition and the particulars of the members of his family.





## Issuance of Passport

Cypriot passports are issued only for Cypriot citizens. All migrant Cypriots who are not Cypriot nationals (eg those who were born again after 16 August 1960 or those who emigrated before August 16, 1955) must acquire the citizenship of Cyprus before applying for a Cypriot card. Overseas Cypriots should address the Cypriot Consultative Authorities abroad.

For the issuance or renewal of passport, the citizen has to submit the relevant application. Applications are submitted at the District Administrations, the Citizens Service Centres, Service Centres (Post Offices) and online via the gov.cy platform.

In all cases, the applicant's physical presence is required for the collection of biometric data (photo, fingerprints, signature). For personal data protection purposes, fingerprints are deleted within 48 hours after the passport is issued.

Children under the age of 12 are exempt from the requirement to provide fingerprints and a signature. Biometric data are collected by specially trained and authorised officers. Applicants may provide their own photo, provided it meets the required specifications (see the relevant document here).

In case the application has been submitted from a person who acquired the Cypriot Citizenship by registration and has not yet acquired an ID card, she/ he has to submit the following documents, together with the passport application:

- The original foreign birth certificate (if the applicant was born abroad)
- The original naturalisation certificate or the registration certificate

### Application for issuance or renewal of passport for adults

For submitting the application, the citizen must pay a fee of €70, as foreseen by the relevant law.

### Application for issuance or renewal of limited validity passport to a minor

The passport fee for a minor is €45.

If the application is submitted online via gov.cy, electronic consent by both parents/guardians is required through CyLogin. No physical presence or signed document is needed.

If the application is submitted in person, it must be completed and signed by both parents/guardians in the presence of the receiving officer.

If one parent/guardian resides abroad, the application must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian in Cyprus and accompanied by written consent from the parent/guardian abroad, explicitly stating consent for the issuance of a passport to the minor. This consent must be certified before a Consular Officer at a Diplomatic Mission of the Republic of Cyprus.

If one parent/guardian has sole legal custody, only that parent's consent is required. In this case, the Family Court Decree must be submitted with the application.



## Application for replacement of a passport due to loss or theft or damage

In case of loss or theft, a police report must be filed and an affidavit must be submitted before a court. Once reported, the passport is immediately cancelled, and cannot be reinstated. A new passport application may be submitted online via gov.cy, but the supporting documents (police report & affidavit) must be presented in person at the service point. The same requirements apply for minors.

In addition, for the submission of the application the citizen should pay the fees foreseen under the relevant law, which are double the fees in place for the issuance or renewal of a passport. Hence the fees for the first-time replacement are €140 for adults and €90 for minors.

## Issuance and receipt of passports

All passports are issued at the central offices of the Civil Registry in Nicosia. However, you can only receive your passport at the place where you submitted your application

- It is advised that you receive your passports not earlier than ten (10) working days from the day of your application
- Passports with the accelerated procedure are issued within twenty-four (24) hours from the submission of the application and can be received only at the Nicosia district office
- Cypriot citizens living abroad will receive their passport from the Consular Authority at which the application was submitted, within 2-3 months from the day of the application
- In any case, at the time of the application submission, you will be informed from the authorized officer for the time you will receive your passport

### NOTE THAT...

In the event of the loss of a passport for the second time or more, the fees payable for obtaining a passport are double the previous amount for each occurrence.

### NOTE THAT...

The Passports issued are valid for ten (10) and five (5) years to adults and minors, respectively.

## Application for issuance/ renewal/ replacement of passport for citizens residing overseas

For Cypriot citizens living abroad, the procedure to obtain, renew or replace a passport is the same as described above, except the place of submission of the application.

The following Consular Authorities of the Republic receive the relevant applications:

1. Greece: Embassy of the Republic in Athens and General Consulate of the Republic in Thessaloniki
2. United Kingdom: Embassy of the Republic in London
3. France: Embassy of the Republic in Paris
4. Germany: Embassy of the Republic in Berlin
5. The Netherlands: Embassy of the Republic in The Hague
6. Sweden: Embassy of the Republic in Stockholm
7. United States of America: Embassy of the Republic in Washington D.C and General Consulate of the Republic in New York
8. Australia: High Commission of the Republic in Canberra
9. South Africa: High Commission of the Republic in Pretoria
10. Israel: Embassy of the Republic in Telavi
11. Egypt: Embassy of the Republic in Cairo
12. Lebanon: Embassy of the Republic in Beirut
13. Russian Federation: Embassy of the Republic in Moscow
14. Canada: High Commission of the Republic in Ottawa
15. Austria: Embassy of the Republic in Vienna
16. Serbia: Embassy of the Republic in Belgrade
17. Spain: Embassy of the Republic in Madrid
18. India: High Commission of the Republic in New Dehli
19. Qatar: Embassy of the Republic in Doha

### FURTHER INFORMATION:

You can contact the Administration Authorities, the Citizens Service Centers and the Service Centres (Post Offices).

### NOTE THAT...

For expedited (fast-track) issuance, the exact same procedure is followed and the same conditions apply, with the only difference being the issuance fee, which amounts to €120.





## Issuance of Identity Card

The Directorate of Civil Registry is the authority responsible for the issuance of Identity Cards to Cypriot citizens, according to the Law.

For the issuance or renewal of Identity Card, the citizen has to submit the relevant application. Applications are submitted at the District Administrations, the Citizens Service Centres, Service Centres (Post Offices) and online via the gov.cy platform.

In all cases, the applicant's physical presence is required for the collection of biometric data (photo, fingerprints, signature). For personal data protection purposes, fingerprints are deleted within 48 hours after the passport is issued.

The acquisition and possession of Identity Card is compulsory for any person who has completed twelve (12)

years of age and provisional for minors below that age.

Children under the age of 12 are exempt from the requirement to provide fingerprints and a signature. Biometric data are collected by specially trained and authorised officers. Applicants may provide their own photo, provided it meets the required specifications (see the relevant document [here](#)).

In case the application has been submitted from a person who acquired the Cypriot Citizenship by registration and has not yet acquired an ID card, she/ he has to submit the following documents, together with the passport application:

- The original foreign birth certificate (if the applicant was born abroad)
- The original naturalisation certificate or the registration certificate



## Application for issuance or renewal of identity card for adults

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For submitting the application, the citizen must pay a fee of €30, as foreseen by the relevant law.

### Application for issuance or renewal of Identity Card to a minor

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The Identity Card fee for a minor is €20.

#### Minors under the age of 12:

- If the application is submitted online via gov.cy, electronic consent by both parents/guardians is required through CyLogin. No physical presence or signed document is needed.
- If the application is submitted in person, it must be completed and signed by both parents/guardians in the presence of the receiving officer.
- If one parent/guardian resides abroad, the application must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian in Cyprus and accompanied by written consent from the parent/guardian abroad, explicitly stating consent for the issuance of a passport to the minor. This consent must be certified before a Consular Officer at a Diplomatic Mission of the Republic of Cyprus.
- If one parent/guardian has sole legal custody, only that parent's consent is required. In this case, the Family Court Decree must be submitted with the application.

#### Minors over the age of 12:

The application may be completed and signed by one or both parents/guardians. It may be submitted either in person or electronically through gov.cy, with identification and submission of parental consent via CyLogin.

### Issuance and collection of an Identity Card

---

All Identity Cards are issued at the Department's Central Offices in Nicosia. You may collect your Identity Card only from the location where you submitted your application.

- You are advised to apply for collection of the Identity Card no earlier than ten (10) working days from the date of submission of the application. In all cases, at the time of submitting your application, you will be informed of the time required for issuance.
- If the application was submitted by a resident abroad, collection of the Identity Card may take place 2–3 months after submission, from the consular authority where the application was filed.
- In all cases, at the time of submitting your application, you will be informed of the time required for issuance.

### Application for issuance/renewal/replacement of ID for citizens residing overseas

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For Cypriot residents abroad, the provisions described in the above paragraphs apply, with the difference that they may submit an application for the issuance, renewal, or replacement of an Identity Card at the following consular authorities of the Republic:

1. Greece: Embassy of the Republic in Athens and General Consulate of the Republic in Thessaloniki
2. United Kingdom: Embassy of the Republic in London
3. France: Embassy of the Republic in Paris
4. Germany: Embassy of the Republic in Berlin
5. The Netherlands: Embassy of the Republic in The Hague
6. Sweden: Embassy of the Republic in Stockholm
7. United States of America: Embassy of the Republic in Washington D.C and General Consulate of the Republic in New York
8. Australia: High Commission of the Republic in Canberra
9. South Africa: High Commission of the Republic in Pretoria
10. Israel: Embassy of the Republic in Tel Aviv
11. Egypt: Embassy of the Republic in Cairo
12. Lebanon: Embassy of the Republic in Beirut
13. Russian Federation: Embassy of the Republic in Moscow
14. Canada: High Commission of the Republic in Ottawa
15. Austria: Embassy of the Republic in Vienna
16. Serbia: Embassy of the Republic in Belgrade
17. Spain: Embassy of the Republic in Madrid
18. India: High Commission of the Republic in New Dehli
19. Qatar: Embassy of the Republic in Doha

### Validity period of the Identity Card

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The validity period of issued Identity Cards is ten (10) years for adults and five (5) years for minors





## Electoral Registers

For registration in the permanent Electoral Register, which grants the right to participate in all national elections, and for the issuance of an Electoral Booklet, the applicant must necessarily be a Cypriot citizen, must have reached the age of 18, and must have been a permanent resident of Cyprus for the last six (6) months prior to submitting the application.

The right to be registered in the Electoral Register is also granted to young people who reach the age of 18 by the date of the elections, provided that the application for registration is submitted within the last three-month period before the elections. This right also applies to Turkish Cypriots who hold an Identity Card of the Republic of Cyprus and have an address in the government-controlled areas.

The Electoral Registers are compiled every three (3) months: on 2 January, 2 April, 2 July, and 2 October of each year.

For individuals up to the age of 25, applications may also be submitted electronically online, via the website [voter-registration.service.gov.cy](http://voter-registration.service.gov.cy).

Paper applications shall be submitted to the local offices

of the District Administrations, the Citizen's Service Centres (KEP) and the Citizens Centres (KE.PO) located inside the Cyprus Post.

It is noted that, as of July 1, 2027:

- The age limit for registration in the Electoral Register will be reduced to 17 years.
- People will be registered automatically on the electoral register, without the submission of a relevant application, based on specific criteria. Specifically, this will apply to all Cypriot citizens who have reached or will reach the age of 17 by the date of the respective elections, who hold a valid Identity Card of the Republic issued through the population registry system, and who reside in areas under the effective control of the Government of the Republic.
- New electoral booklets will no longer be issued for first-time registrations or in cases of damage or loss.
- Driving license will be accepted as a means of voter identification at polling stations.



## Required Documents

### For registration in the Electoral Register and issuance of Voting Card:

- The completed and signed application form to register on the electoral roll.
- A photograph, if there is no recent photograph [of the last five (5) years] recorded in the civil registry system (if the applicant presents himself/herself, he/she can be photographed free of charge on the spot).
- In order for someone to be considered as a member of a religious group (Latins, Maronites, Armenians) and to update the electoral roll accordingly, a certificate from his or her church is required.
- If the applicant is above the age of 25, the application may be submitted only to the local offices of the District Administrations and a personal interview shall be conducted with evidence that the applicant has been permanently resident in Cyprus in the last six (6) months prior to the submission of the application.

### For a change of a voter's residence address:

- A completed and signed application form for change of address.
- Voting Card
- A photograph. If there is no recent photograph [of the last five (5) years] recorded in the civil registry system (if the applicant presents himself/herself, he/she can be photographed free of charge on the spot).
- Certification by the Community Leader of the region to which the voter has moved.

### For any change of details, the relevant supporting certificates must be submitted, as applicable, such as:

- For change of religious group, a certificate from the Church.
- For change of place of displacement or addition of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card with check date 1.1.1983 and afterwards.
- For change of birth date, a Birth Certificate

### For a change of a voter's name and other data:

- A completed and signed relevant application form
- Voting Card
- A marriage or divorce certificate in the cases of women.
- A photograph, if there is no recent photograph [of the last five (5) years] recorded in the civil registry system (if the applicant presents himself/herself, he/she can be photographed free of charge on the spot).

### For issuance of a Voting Card due to loss:

- A completed and signed application form for the issuance of a voting card due to loss.
- A photograph, if there is no recent photograph [of the last five (5) years] recorded in the civil registry system (if the applicant presents himself/herself, he/she can be photographed free of charge on the spot).
- Issue fee: €8.54

### For replacement of Voting Card due to damage:

- A completed and signed application form for the issuance of voting card due to wear or damage
- A photograph, if there is no recent photograph [of the last five (5) years] recorded in the civil registry system (if the applicant presents himself/herself, he/she can be photographed free of charge on the spot).
- Issue fee: €8.54

## Issuance of Voting Cards

- The voter ID cards of new voters, whose names are included in the supplementary electoral roll drawn up every three months, shall be issued by the Ministry of the Interior, following the posting and inspection of the supplementary electoral roll, for any objections raised by any person concerned.
- In the event of loss or damage, voter ID cards shall also be issued directly by the local offices of the District Administrations.

### NOTE THAT...

- Electors can also vote with their identity card.
- The issuance of the electoral booklet and any amendments are carried out free of charge

### FURTHER INFORMATION:

You may visit the official elections website at [elections.gov.cy](http://elections.gov.cy) to learn more about the various elections and the procedures for registration in the electoral registers.





## Civil Weddings

- Applications for a Non-Impediment Certificate are submitted to the District Administrations with the submission of the documents listed below and the payment of the relevant fee.
- For the submission of the application and the issuance of the above certificate, both applicants must appear in person.
- For Cypriots residing abroad, applications must be submitted to the Embassies and Consulates of the Republic of Cyprus in their country of residence.

### NOTE

Citizens of a Member State of the European Union other than the Republic who intend to marry each other, as well as third-country nationals who enter the Republic for tourism purposes in order to marry each other (Marriage Tour Package) and then depart from the Republic of Cyprus, are exempt from the obligation to present an official certificate or confirmation of non-marriage or non-existence of a civil partnership issued by the competent authorities of the Republic



## Documents required for application for non-marriage certificate:

### Cypriot citizens

- Completed application form signed by the applicant.
- Passport or civil identity card.
- Affidavit that clearly describes his marital status (single/divorced/widow). In case of divorce or widowhood must be stated that the applicant has not been married since the divorce/death of his spouse. The Affidavit should also state the name of the person with whom he intends to get married.

In case he/she was previously married:

- A final divorce issued by the Family Court, after 42 days have passed since its issuance, or a religious divorce issued by the Holy Archdiocese.

### British Nationals

Following BREXIT, British nationals should submit a non-impediment certificate (CNI) issued by the General Register Office and not from the British High Commission in the Republic of Cyprus, which shall be duly certified/authenticated (Apostille).

According to Article 8(4) of the Marriage Law of 2003 (Law 140(I)/2003), concerning "Declarations of Freedom and Absence of Impediment", the following applies:

- A Single Statutory Declaration issued and signed before an active UK solicitor or notary, with an Apostille, is sufficient.
- The declaration must be issued within 3 months from the scheduled date of marriage.

Additionally, the following must be submitted where applicable:

- In case of divorce: Final Decree Absolute or Final Order, apostilled
- In case of widowhood: Marriage certificate and death certificate, apostilled
- In case of civil partnership dissolution: Certificate of dissolution, apostilled
- In case of name or gender change: Deed poll or official certificate, apostilled
- A valid passport must always be presented

All of the above must be submitted before the competent Marriage Officer of the Municipality.

### Third Country nationals

- Completed application form signed by the applicant.
- Temporary residence permit the validity of which should not be less than one month the day of the application for a non-Impediment Certificate. If the validity of Temporary residence permit is less than a month (even one day) the applicant must submit receipt of payment of a new application for a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Cyprus.
- Affidavit that clearly describes his marital status (single/divorced/widow). In case of divorce or widowhood must be stated that the applicant has not been married since the divorce/death of his spouse. The Affidavit should also state the name of the person with whom he intends to get married.
- Non-Impediment Certificate from the competent authority of the country of origin of the applicant with an official translation into Greek/English and duly certified.
- In case of divorce, a divorce certificate (final) with an official translation into Greek or English and duly certified.
- In the event of widowhood, death certificate of his spouse with an official translation into Greek or English and duly certified.
- Valid passport.
- € 34,17 fee for examination of the above mentioned application and issue the relevant certificate.

### EU citizens

- Completed application form signed by the applicant.
- Valid Certificate of Registration (Yellow Slip).
- Affidavit that clearly describes his marital status (single / divorced / widow). In the case of divorce or widowhood, it must be declared that no other marriage has been contracted after the divorce or the death of the spouse. The sworn declaration must state the name of the person with whom the applicant intends to enter into marriage.
- Valid passport.
- Non-Impediment Certificate from the competent authority in the country with an official translation into Greek / English and duly certified.
- In case of divorce, a divorce certificate (final) with an official translation into Greek / English and duly certified.
- In the event of widowhood, death certificate of the spouse translated into Greek / English and duly certified.
- €34,17 fee for examination of the said application and issue the relevant certificate.



## Name change for a Cypriot citizen born either in Cyprus or abroad

An application for a change of name and/or surname may be submitted by individuals who are Cypriot citizens. To proceed with the change, the following must be submitted:

- A letter requesting the change, explaining the reasons for which the change is sought.
- A Sworn Declaration made before a Consular Officer (for applicants abroad) or before a Registrar of a Cypriot Court, using the designated form.
- A fee of €80 for the change of name/surname.

In cases where the change of name and/or surname concerns a minor, the Sworn Declaration must be signed by both parents, unless sole parental responsibility has been granted to one parent by court order. In such cases, a photocopy of the relevant court decision must be attached.

Notes:

- Individuals who were born abroad must submit, together with the application, the original certificate of acquisition of Cypriot citizenship or the original Consular Birth Certificate.
- Individuals who acquired Cypriot citizenship through naturalisation (M127) or registration (M125) must necessarily provide a birth certificate or travel document showing their new details, issued by their country of origin.
- Those who have been registered as Cypriot citizens by descent (M71, M72, M121, M123, M124, M126) and who hold official documents from the country in which they were born must necessarily provide a birth certificate or travel document with their updated details.

## Issuance of Death Certificate

Certificates of registered deaths are issued by all District Administrations, as well as through the gov.cy platform. The registration of a death is carried out at any District Administration office, regardless of the district in which the death occurred, once the required death registration form has been completed and a medical death certificate is submitted.

A fee of €5 is payable for each certificate.

For cases of death registrations made after the expiration of the one-year period defined by law, the following are required:

- Affidavit
- Completed death registration form
- Death certificate issued by a doctor or priest
- Fee for late registration of death beyond 12 months: €30

## Civil Registry System

Through the gov.cy platform, you have the ability—whether you are in Cyprus or abroad—to submit specific applications related to the Civil Registry electronically.

Applications that can be submitted via gov.cy

You can submit the following applications online:

- Reissue of a Birth Certificate or Consular Birth Certificate
- Application for a passport
- Application for an identity card

- Issuance of a certificate of origin
- Issuance of a permanent residence certificate
- Issuance of a death certificate
- Issuance of a displaced family identity card (refugee identity card)
- Update of my personal information
- Search in the Civil Registry
- Registration in the electoral roll

## Conclusion of Civil Union

A Civil Union is concluded before the Registrar of the district in which one of the interested parties resides, in the presence of two witnesses.

To enter a Civil Union, a specific completed form must be submitted, accompanied by:

- a personal identification document,

- a sworn declaration, and
- a Non-Impediment Certificate.

The fee for concluding a Civil Union is 90 euros.

All required documents for entering into a Civil Union can be found online at the following link:

<https://www.gov.cy/moi/documents/politiki-symviosi/>





***MORE INFORMATION...***

Postal Address:

Directorate of Civil Registry and Elections  
Archigramteaia str., 1453 Nicosia, Cyprus

Telephone: 22867600, 22867800

Email: [info@moi.gov.cy](mailto:info@moi.gov.cy)

Website:

[https://www.gov.cy/moi/ypoyrgeio/domh/  
dieythynsi-archeio-plithysmoy/](https://www.gov.cy/moi/ypoyrgeio/domh/dieythynsi-archeio-plithysmoy/)



# Useful Government Websites

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## Central Government Portal gov.cy

Gov.cy is the new online portal of the Republic of Cyprus. It hosts the websites and services - both digital and non-digital - of the Ministries, Deputy Ministries, Departments, and other public organisations.

Through the portal, you can directly search for the website, service, or topic that interests you. You can also view services by thematic category, as well as websites by Ministry, Deputy Ministry, Department, Office, Authority, or other public body.

The goal is for the gov.cy portal to evolve into a central reference point for citizens in their transactions with the public sector, through which citizens can access government digital services and obtain information from government websites.

Among the services provided are:

- Application for ID card / passport
- Issuance of birth / death certificates
- Issuance of ID card for displaced families
- Issuance of certificates of origin / permanent residence
- Online appointment booking at Citizens Service Centres (KEP)
- Registration on the electoral roll
- Applications for welfare benefits / allowances
- Military service (conscription) services

## CyLogin – Single Access to the State’s Digital Services Identification of Cypriots Living Abroad

CY Login is the service of the Republic of Cyprus for user management and identification. It provides users with access to a wide range of online services of the Republic of Cyprus through a Single Access system. It is a strong and secure method of identification and is essential for delivering reliable online services without requiring in-person visits to government offices.

CY Login allows you to use electronic services made available by the Republic of Cyprus via the internet. Individuals and Organisations can register in order to log in to CY Login..

### Identification of Cypriots living abroad

Cypriot citizens residing abroad can be identified by following the steps below:

**Step 1:** Create / Activate Profile

**Step 2:** Verify Profile by choosing one of the following options:

- By video call, if they have a Cypriot ID card
- By visiting the embassy of the country in which they reside, or any other Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus, where they must present the following documents:
  1. The 16-digit CY Login Profile Code (print and present the registration confirmation email showing the Profile code).
  2. Cypriot Civil Identity Card (original only).



The background of the entire page is a network diagram. It consists of several teal-colored circular nodes of varying sizes. These nodes are interconnected by thin lines in three colors: dark brown, light blue, and light orange. The lines form a complex web of triangles and polygons across the white background. In the bottom-left corner, there is a dark teal rectangular box with a folded top-right corner, containing white text.

***MORE INFORMATION...***

Visit [www.gov.cy](http://www.gov.cy) and from the homepage select the link "Learn More."



# Services for the Citizen



## Citizen Service Centres (CSCs)

2025 marks 20 years since the establishment of the Citizen Service Centres (CSC), an institution that, from its foundation to the present day, continues to evolve and adapt to the needs of citizens, contributing to the improvement of everyday service and strengthening interaction with the public administration.

The CSCs represent, for Cyprus, the first implementation of the “One-Stop-Shop” concept for citizens — that is, the provision of multiple public services through a single point of contact.

With their establishment, CSCs were an innovative step toward creating a modern Public Administration centred on the citizen and capable of responding to their needs by providing high-quality services. The goal was for documents to move, not citizens — eliminating the need for people to go from one Ministry to another, or from one Service to another.

Since the operation of the first CSC in Nicosia in 2005, the institution has evolved significantly across various areas. The CSC network has expanded so that today a total of eight CSCs operate in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Paphos, the free district of Famagusta, Kolossi, as well as two regional offices in Polis Chrysochous and Pelendri. There is also a CSC Unit operating in Kato Pyrgos Tillyria, housed in the Community Council building of Kato Pyrgos, which operates once every three weeks.

The CSCs offer:

**(a)** in-person services that are completed on the spot, such as the issuance of a medical card and birth/death certificates,

**(b)** in-person services for which applications are received and forwarded to the competent Ministries/Departments/Services for processing, such as the issuance of an ID card, passport, driving license, and the submission of applications for grants and benefits, and

**(c)** services via videoconference, such as the verification and approval of a CY-Login profile for natural persons, Cypriot citizens.

Today, the CSCs provide approximately 100 public services under the responsibility of the following Ministries/Departments/Services:

- the Ministry of Interior – Civil Registry and Migration Department;
- the Welfare Benefits Management Service of the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare;
- the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry;
- the Department of Road Transport of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works;
- the Social Insurance Services of the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance;
- the Ministry of Defence;
- the Ministry of Health;
- the Department of Information Technology Services of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy;
- the Ministry of Justice and Public Order;
- and the Supreme Court (Chief Registrar).

In addition, telephone service is provided by each CSC, through which citizens can resolve questions regarding services offered at CSCs (general information, criteria, etc.), receive information about the required documents for each service, and schedule appointments for in-person service.

Appointments for in-person service and for services provided via teleconference can also be scheduled on the website <https://kep-kepo.gov.cy/appointments>.



**NOTE THAT...**

The CSCs' working hours are continuous, from 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday. Service provision via appointment is arranged through the CSCs' Call Centre (tel. 22309100). The CSCs' Call Centre also provides information on the procedures relating to the services offered (e.g. required documents, any preconditions that must be met, fees).

| CSCs              | ADDRESS                                              | TELEPHONE | E-MAIL                         |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| NICOSIA           | Georgiou Seferi Str.<br>2415 Egkomi                  | 22309100  | kep@papd.mof.gov.cy            |
| LIMASSOL          | 21 Spyrou Araouzou Str.<br>3036 Limassol             |           | keplimassol@papd.mof.gov.cy    |
| LARNAKA           | 42 Spyrou Kyprianou Ave.<br>6051 Larnaca             |           | keplarnaca@papd.mof.gov.cy     |
| AMMOCHOSTOS       | 83 Eleftherias Str. 5<br>380 Deryneia                |           | kepammochostos@papd.mof.gov.cy |
| PAFOS             | 62 Eleftheriou Venizelou Ave.<br>8021 Pafos          |           | keppafos@papd.mof.gov.cy       |
| KOLOSSI           | 67 Ammochostos Str.<br>4636 Kolossi                  |           | kepkolossi@papd.mof.gov.cy     |
| POLIS CHRYSOCHOUS | 1 Evagora Pallikaridi Str.<br>8820 Polis Chrysochous |           | keppolis@papd.mof.gov.cy       |
| PELENDRI          | 70 Archbishop Makarios III Str.<br>4878 Pelendri     |           | keppelendri@papd.mof.gov.cy    |





# Central Agency for Equal Distribution of Burdens

## CENTRAL AGENCY FOR EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF BURDENS

Scheme for the restoration of pre-war solvency of owners of immovable property in the occupied area or of inaccessible immovable property

### The Scheme

The Central Agency for Equal Distribution of Burdens operates the Scheme for the restoration of the pre-war solvency of the owners whose immovable property is in the areas occupied in Cyprus by the Turkish occupation forces and in the areas that are inaccessible due to the Turkish occupation forces. Through this Scheme, loans are granted to entitled persons for specific purposes.

Overseas Cypriots are not covered by this Scheme unless they have been repatriated to Cyprus and have become permanent residents and reside permanently in Cyprus. Repatriated applicants to the Scheme must provide proof/evidence that they reside permanently in Cyprus.

### Purpose of the Scheme

- Student loans for full time studies at recognised or registered higher or highest educational institutions in Cyprus or abroad and post-secondary educational institutions providing technical and vocational education and training in Cyprus or abroad
- Business loans for young university graduates up to the age of 40 years old in order to purchase the necessary equipment for the purpose of establishing their business activity
- Business loans to individual persons to establish or expand their business activity and to acquire or expand their business premises in Cyprus or/and purchase of office equipment or machinery or/and share capital in a limited liability company (suspended)
- Medical treatment loans for serious or permanent illnesses the treatment of which is expensive
- Loans to Newlywed Couples: Available to couples who submit their loan application to the Central Agency within 30 months from the date of their wedding (the scheme is currently suspended).
- Loans for the Purchase of Household Appliances and/or Kitchen Renovation: For kitchen renovation, the dwelling must be at least 10 years old. There is no age restriction for loans granted for the purchase of household appliances.
- Loans for Energy Upgrading of Existing Dwellings: Cover roof thermal insulation, external wall insulation (thermal façade), and photovoltaic systems.
- Subsidisation of the Interest Rate of Housing Loans: For housing loans obtained by applicants from any financial institution for the acquisition and/or repair of a dwelling in Cyprus for owner-occupation.
- Subsidisation of the Interest Rate of Business Loans: For business loans obtained by applicants from any financial institution for the establishment or expansion of their business, including the purchase of equipment, working capital, and the acquisition or repair of business premises.

### Entitled Persons

Entitled persons are (a) citizens of the Republic of Cyprus who are permanent residents in Cyprus and reside permanently in Cyprus or (b) cypriot legal entities, as follows:

- A citizen who immediately before the Turkish invasion was and still continues to be the owner of the same occupied or inaccessible immovable property
- A citizen who after the Turkish invasion has become and continues to be the present owner of occupied or inaccessible immovable property by inheritance or endowment (gift) provided that the current owner and all previous owners after the invasion and also the owner immediately before the invasion are related between themselves by blood or by adoption in direct line or indirectly up to the third degree. Entitled persons are also the wives/husbands of the above owners as well as their direct blood line or by adoption relatives and their indirect up to third degree relatives including their wives/husbands. In such case, these persons can apply to the Scheme provided they have the consent of the present owner of the occupied/inaccessible immovable property
- A citizen who after the Turkish invasion became and continues to be the owner of occupied or inaccessible immovable property after the dissolution of a legal entity which was the owner of this property immediately before the invasion. A citizen is an entitled person if (a) he was a shareholder of that legal entity immediately before the invasion and until its dissolution after the invasion or (b) he became a shareholder after the invasion in the same way referred to in paragraph (2) above
- A citizen who is a shareholder of a Cypriot legal entity which immediately before the invasion was and still continues to be the owner of the same occupied or inaccessible immovable property. A citizen is an entitled person if (a) he was a shareholder immediately before the invasion and continues to be one or (b) he became a shareholder after the invasion in the same way referred to in paragraph (2) above, and (c) the legal entity is entitled to and decides to mortgage the occupied or inaccessible immovable property for the benefit of its citizen shareholder. The value of the property offered for mortgage will not exceed proportionately the percentage shareholding of the shareholder in the share capital of the legal entity

#### NOTE THAT...

Direct line of kinship means parents – children – grandchildren – great-grandchildren. Second-degree collateral kinship means siblings to siblings, and third-degree collateral kinship means uncles/aunts to nieces/nephews.



### Basic conditions for the acceptance and examination of applications

- Applications are accepted only on application forms of the Central Agency, which are available at the offices of the Central Agency, the District Administration Offices, the Citizens Service Centres and the web side of the Organisation. There is a separate application form for each purpose of loan
- The applicant must be the entitled person who will make use of the loan (e.g. the student, the person to be housed etc.). When the application form is completed it must bear the applicant's signature on the relevant page of the form as well as of the owner's of the occupied or inaccessible immovable property
- All the relevant information and particulars must be filled in and the required certificates or substantiating data asked for in the application form must be attached

### Basic conditions for the approval of applications

- The applicant must show, and there must be, a reasonable need for the purpose for which he is seeking provision of the loan so that the Central Agency may be sufficiently satisfied as to the existence of the reason or the object of the purpose for which the provision of a loan is sought
- The potential of the applicant to pay off the loan will be examined and to what extent the security which he is providing against the loan complies with the Regulations and is considered satisfactory

### Loan Terms

- The interest rate on loans is 1%.
- The loan repayment period may be up to 20 years. However, for loans granted to Young Entrepreneurs for business purposes, the repayment period may be up to 10 years. Repayment shall be made in equal monthly instalments.
- A grace period of up to two (2) years may be granted, during which only the interest on the loan shall be payable. For student loans, the grace period may be extended to cover the normal duration of the course of study plus one additional year, provided that the combined grace and repayment period does not exceed 20 years. In the case of long-term and costly courses of study (e.g. Medicine), the repayment period may be extended beyond 20 years. During the grace period, interest payments shall be made in equal monthly instalments.

The granting of a loan shall be subject to one or more of the following forms of security:

- (a) A mortgage over the applicant's occupied or inaccessible immovable property in favour of the Central Agency.
- (b) The provision of personal guarantees.
- (c) A mortgage over immovable property in the government-controlled areas of the Republic, if the applicant so wishes.

### Amount of loan

- The amount of a loan advanced can amount in total either up to the sum which represents 80% of the value of the occupied or inaccessible immovable property of the owner at current prices
- Within the above general framework of the provision of loans, the top limit of a loan or loan guarantee which can be advanced for a particular purpose is as follows:
  1. Student loan: up to €105,000.
  2. Medical loan: up to €85,000.
  3. Loan for Newly Married Couples: up to €17,000.
  4. Loan for Professional Activity of Young Entrepreneurs: up to €25,000.
  5. Loan for the purchase of household appliances and/or kitchen renovation: from €3,000 to €10,000.
  6. Loan for energy upgrading of existing residences: up to €15,000.

For non-refugee applicants, a percentage of 20% to 40% is deducted from the above maximum loan amounts. In determining the amount of the loan granted, the following will also be taken into consideration:

- (a) The applicant's current general financial situation.
- (b) The applicant's ability to repay the loan.
- (c) The need, justification, and documentation of the purpose and amount of the expenses.

### Amount of Interest Rate Subsidy for Loans

- (a) Housing loans: up to €200,000.
- (b) Housing loans for repairs: up to €100,000.
- (c) Business loans: up to €105,000.

For non-refugee applicants, a percentage of 20% to 40% is deducted from the above maximum loan amounts

### Terms for the granting of Interest Rate Subsidy for Housing and Business Loans :

The interest rate of loans contracted with any financial institution will be subsidised by the Central Agency by 3.5%. However, in all cases, the applicant is charged a minimum interest rate of 1%. The maximum subsidy period is up to 30 years for housing loans, and up to 20 years for housing loans for repairs and for business loans.

### Available resources for the Scheme

The granting of loans will always depend on the available resources of the Central Agency.

### Review Authority of the Central Body

Applicants who disagree with the decision of the Board of Directors regarding their applications may submit an appeal to the Review Authority within 30 days from the date on which the Board's decision is communicated to the applicant.

**FURTHER INFORMATION...**  
[www.kentrikosforeas.org.cy](http://www.kentrikosforeas.org.cy)





# Consumer Protection Service

## CONSUMER PROTECTION SERVICE

The Consumer Protection Service constitutes one of the divisions of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry. Its mission is to pursue a high level of protection for consumers in today's highly competitive and fast paced market.

The Consumer Protection Service aims at the most effective protection of consumers' safety and economic interests, as well as the development of a legal framework that will ensure conditions of fair competition in the market.

The main objectives of the Consumer Protection Service are the adequate protection of consumers' safety and economic interests, and the promotion of the development of a legislative framework that ensures conditions of healthy competition in the market.

In addition, the Consumer Protection Service pursues to improve consumers' welfare in terms of price, choice, quality, diversity, affordability and safety, to empower consumers through better access to accurate information and to enhance consumers' confidence, arising from better market transparency and effective protection of their rights.

The achievement of the above objectives is typically facilitated through the following the existence of a sound legal framework for the protection of the consumers, the effective carrying out of inspections and market surveillance and law enforcement, the provision of education and information to consumers and the business community, the integration of consumer protection issues into other policy areas, such as education, the increased collaboration and contact with the civil society and especially the Cyprus consumers' organisations, the establishment of close collaboration with respective EU units and institutions and the participation in EU programs that promote innovative measures regarding consumers' protection and information.

### **NOTE THAT...**

Since 2005, the Consumer Protection Service has hosted the European Consumer Centre Cyprus, a member of the ECC Network, which provides information and advice to consumers and helps find amicable, out-of-court solutions in cases where problems arise in cross-border purchases or transactions between consumers and traders.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

#### **Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry,**

Consumer Protection Service:

2 Agapinoros Street, Iris Building, Nicosia

Contact telephone: +357 22 200 900

Toll-free number in Cyprus: 1429

Email: [ccps@meci.gov.cy](mailto:ccps@meci.gov.cy)

Website: [www.consumer.gov.cy](http://www.consumer.gov.cy)

#### **European Consumer Centre Cyprus (ECC Cyprus)**

Address: 2 Agapinoros Street, Iris Building, Nicosia

Contact telephone: +357 22 867177

Email: [ecccyprus@meci.gov.cy](mailto:ecccyprus@meci.gov.cy)

Website: [www.ecccyprus.gov.cy](http://www.ecccyprus.gov.cy)



## SERVICE FOR THE CARE AND REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS

Within the framework of the Strategic Planning of the Service for the Care and Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons (YMAPE), a strategic objective has been set for the implementation of the state's refugee policy with regard to the housing of displaced/affected persons, thereby ensuring housing for each eligible displaced/affected beneficiary.

### A. Housing schemes include:

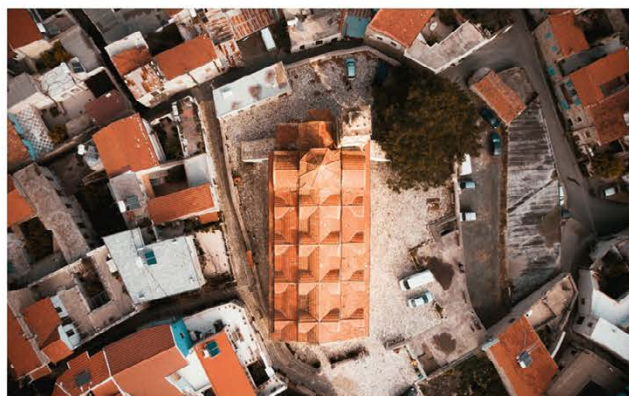
- Provision of financial assistance for the purchase of a house/apartment
- Provision of financial assistance for the construction of a house on privately owned land
- Provision of financial assistance for the repair of a house/apartment

### B. Rent subsidy:

- Επιδότηση Ενοικίου σε εκτοπισθείσες οργανικές οικογένειες/μονήρη άτομα
- Επιδότηση Ενοικίου σε εκτοπισθέντες φοιτητές

### NOTE THAT...

Under the legislative regulations in force since 27/12/2013, displaced persons through maternal descent have been fully equalised with displaced persons through paternal descent with regard to all housing schemes offered by YMAPE.



### Περισσότερες πληροφορίες...

Officers are available to the public daily, 8:00–15:00.

### Central Offices of YMAPE –

Nicosia 34 Ilias Papakyriakou Street,  
2415 Engomi, Nicosia  
or P.O. Box YMAPE, 27579, 2431  
Engomi, Nicosia

### Main contact telephone numbers:

Housing Schemes: +357 22 456272

Rent Subsidy: +357 22 871836

Fax (Rent Subsidy): +357 22 871830

Administration Fax: +357 22 661011

Email: [director@ymape.moi.gov.cy](mailto:director@ymape.moi.gov.cy)

### District Office of Limassol (for Limassol and Paphos)

31 Ankara Street,  
Limassol Medieval Castle Square,  
3042 Limassol

or P.O. Box 51014, 3500 Limassol

### Main contact telephone numbers:

Housing Schemes:

+357 25 871150 | +357 25 820629

Rent Subsidy:

+357 25 871150 | +357 25 827978/979

Fax: +357 25 305595

### District Office of Larnaca (for Larnaca and Famagusta)

41–43 Spyrou Kyprianou Avenue,  
6051 Larnaca

or P.O. Box 41030, 6308 Larnaca

### Main contact telephone numbers:

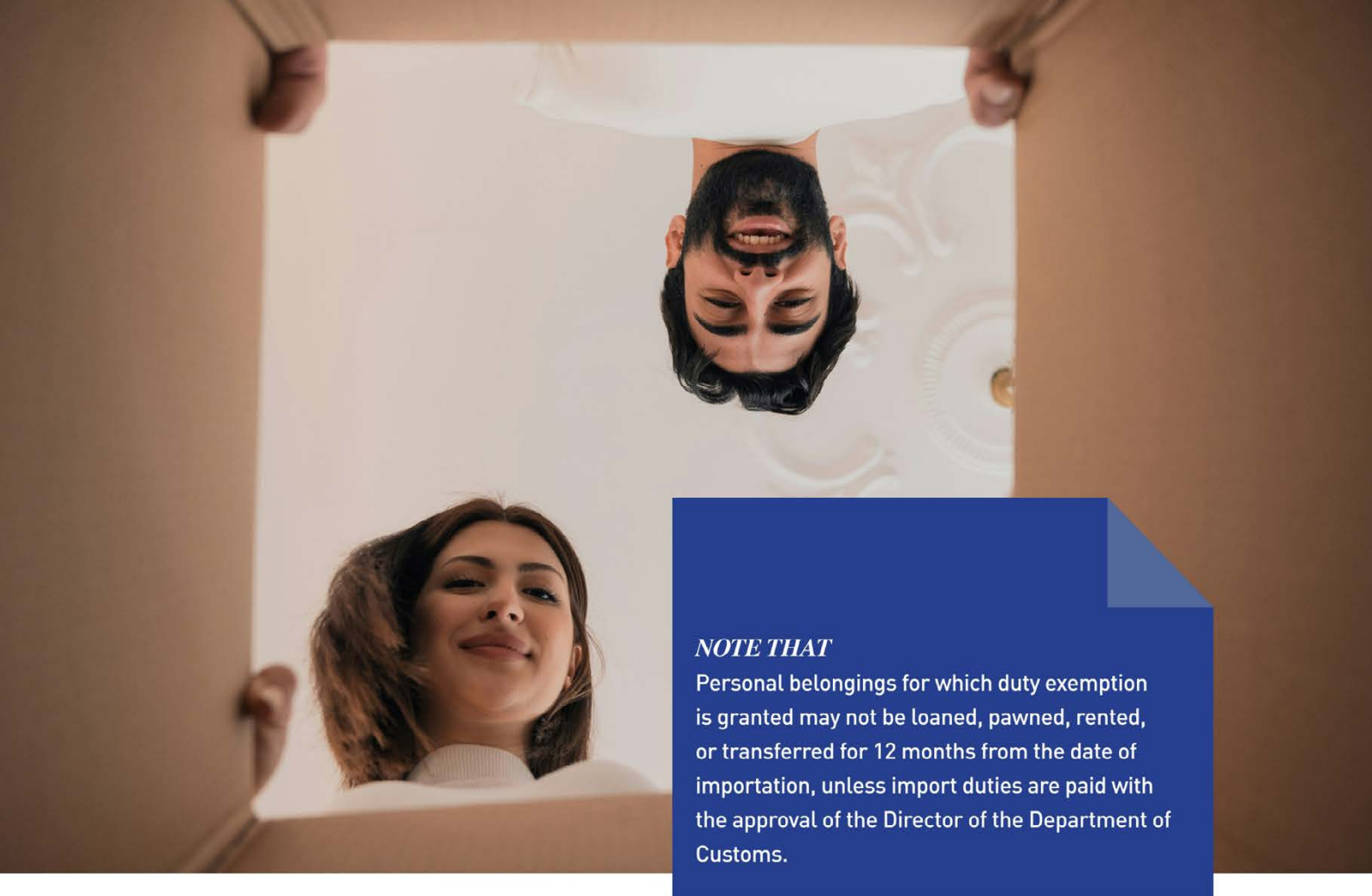
Housing Schemes: +357 24 821940

Rent Subsidy: +357 24 812237

Fax: +357 24 633058

All information regarding the Housing Schemes / Rent Subsidy, as well as the application forms, is available on the website of the Ministry of Interior.





## Transfer of personal effects and motor vehicle due to transfer of normal residence

If you have decided to move to Cyprus, there are some practical issues you need to know, such as the transfer of your personal belongings and your motor vehicle.

### Normal residence

Normal (or habitual) residence is considered to be the place where a person usually resides, that is for at least 185 days in each calendar year, due to personal and professional ties. In cases where a person has no professional ties, their normal residence is considered to be the place of their personal ties, from which close links between the person and the place of residence arise.

The normal residence of a person whose professional ties are located in a place different from that of their personal ties, and who, for that reason, is required to reside successively in various places located in two or more Member States, is considered to be the place of their personal ties, provided that the person returns regularly to that place. This last condition does not apply where the person resides in a Member State for the purpose of carrying out an assignment of fixed duration.

### Personal Property

Personal property is/are item(s) intended for the personal use of the persons concerned or for the needs of their household, and which, by their nature or quantity, do not present any commercial interest. These items include:

- household effects, namely personal items, household clothing, furniture, or equipment intended for the personal use of the persons concerned or for the needs of their household;
- bicycles and motorcycles, private motor vehicles and their trailers, camping caravans, pleasure boats, and private aircrafts;
- household supplies intended to cover ordinary family needs, household pets and saddle animals;
- portable instruments of the applied or liberal arts, required by the person concerned for the practice of their trade or profession.



### Transfer of Normal Residence from a Member State of the European Union

Goods in free circulation in the European Union (EU) are transported from one member state to another without the payment of any import duties. In such cases, it is necessary to submit proof of the Union status of the goods to Customs. Persons transferring their normal residence from another EU Member State must complete the customs clearance of their personal belongings and motor vehicle as follows:

#### Union status of household belongings

Proof of union status may be provided in one of the following ways:

- T2L or T2LF document; or
- Commercial Documents (invoice, bill of lading, cargo manifest).

#### Union status of motor vehicles

The same applies to motor vehicles. Persons who transfer a car or motorcycle for private use to the Republic of Cyprus from another EU Member State may prove the Union status of their vehicle in one of the following two ways:

- by presenting a T2L or T2LF document, or
- by presenting the vehicle registration plates and the standard vehicle registration document of another Member State (i.e. the original vehicle registration certificate).

The T2L or T2LF document can be obtained from the previous EU member-state Customs Service or through your vehicle supplier or shipper.

### Vehicle's Customs clearing Procedure

For the clearance of the vehicle, it is necessary to prove its union status by one of the above ways. It is noted that in order to receive the vehicle from the port, form under title 'APPLICATION FOR THE VERIFICATION OF THE CUSTOMS STATUS OF UNION GOODS' must be submitted to Customs accompanied by the invoice (if recently purchased), the original vehicle registration certificate, the delivery order, passport or identity card.

Additionally, for used passenger cars (not including double cabin cars) the Document TOM119A issued by the Department of Road Transport must also be presented to Customs. (Please note that this document is issued upon presenting to the Department of Road Transport the original registration certificate from the previous member-state).

After receipt of the vehicle from the port of entry, the customs clearing procedure must be completed at any District Customs Office within 10 working days after the verification of the vehicle's union status.

### Value Added Tax (VAT)

According to the V.A.T. legislation, new intra-community motor vehicles entering Cyprus are subject to Cypriot V.A.T., whereas V.A.T. is not imposed on used intra-community motor vehicles.

A motor vehicle is considered as "used" when transported to the Republic of Cyprus from another EU member-state if both of the following two conditions are met:

1. The period from the date of its first entry into service (date of first registration) up to the date of delivery for the purposes of its acquisition in the Republic of Cyprus (date of purchase for the purpose of its transport to the Republic of Cyprus) exceeds six months; and
2. Up to the date of its acquisition, the vehicle has travelled more than 6,000 kilometers.

If either (or both) of the above conditions are not met, then, the vehicle will be considered as new upon entry into the Republic of Cyprus and will be liable for payment of VAT, regardless if VAT has previously been paid in the previous member-state.

Currently VAT for 'new' motor vehicles is calculated at the rate of 19%. However, in the case of transfer of normal residence of a person from another member-state, the transfer of a motor vehicle which does not satisfy the condition of the six months possession and use does not create any VAT liability provided that such VAT has already been paid in the member-state of the vehicle's origin. The reason is to avoid double taxation.

A requirement for non-paying VAT in the Republic in such instance, is that it has to be proven that such VAT has been paid in the member-state of origin. The submission of the purchase invoice indicating the amount of VAT or an indication that VAT has been paid, is required, together with the "Declaration" form duly completed and the accompanying documents proving the transfer of the person's normal residence in the Republic.

You may find the "Declaration" form in the Department of Customs and Excise website: <https://www.mof.gov.cy/ce> → "Service Desk" → "Forms" → "Reliefs" → "Declaration"

#### NOTE THAT...

Attendance at a university or school shall not imply that this person has normal residence in this country.



### Transfer of Normal Residence from a country outside the European Union (Third Country)

Persons who transfer their normal residence from a third country to the European Union are allowed to import without payment of import duties and Value Added Tax (VAT) their personal property.

In the case of motor vehicles, relief may be granted only to one private use motor vehicle per person concerned who must be in possession of a regular driving license.

#### Terms and Conditions

- has been in the possession and use of the persons concerned, at their former normal place of residence, for a minimum of six months before the date on which they cease to have their normal place of residence in the third country of departure,
- is intended to be used for the same purpose at the new normal place of residence,
- is brought and declared into the Republic within 12 months from the date of transfer of residence.

Please note that relief may be granted only to persons whose normal place of residence has been outside the customs territory of the Community for a continuous period of at least 12 months.

Relief may be granted in respect of personal property entered for free circulation up to six months before or up to twelve months after the date on which the person concerned transfers his normal place of residence to Cyprus. Relief may be granted in respect of personal property entered for free circulation before the person concerned establishes his normal place of residence in the customs territory of the Community, provided that he undertakes actually to establish his normal place of residence there within a period of six months. Such undertaking shall be accompanied by a security, the form and amount of which shall be determined by the Director of Customs Department.

#### Exceptions

No relief from import duties and VAT shall be granted for:

- alcoholic products;
- tobacco or tobacco products;
- commercial means of transport;
- articles for use in the exercise of a trade or profession, other than portable instruments of the applied or liberal arts.

#### Proof for the motor vehicle

- motor vehicle registration document;
- certificate of insurance for a period of at least six months;
- sales invoice/receipt of purchase;
- particulars of the vehicle's arrival (Bill of lading/Delivery order/Freight receipt/Sailing ticket);
- other evidence, deemed necessary.

#### Documents to be completed and procedure

Form "An. 2" for the transfer of normal residence from a third country.

You may find the form in the Department of Customs and Excise website: <https://www.mof.gov.cy/ce> → "Service Desk" → "Forms" → "Reliefs" → "An.2 - Transfer of normal residence from a country outside the EU"

### Proof of normal residence

The person concerned must prove that he had his normal place of residence outside the European Union for a continuous period of 12 months from the date of transfer of his normal residence. He must also give proof of his intention to settle permanently in Cyprus.

Such proof may be:

- contracts of sale or rent of their residence abroad;
- particulars of employment abroad (tax returns, social insurance records, payroll slips etc.);
- certificates of children's attendance at schools abroad;
- utility bills, e.g. electricity/water supply bills/bank accounts etc.;
- particulars of acquisition of residence in the Republic (contract of sale or rent);
- particulars of employment in Cyprus;
- attendance of his children at a school in the Republic;
- other documents, deemed necessary.

### Registration of Motor Vehicles in the Republic of Cyprus

After a vehicle is cleared from Customs it must be registered before it can be licensed for road tax purposes. The competent authority for matters of motor vehicle registration and circulation fees is the Department of Road Transport of the Republic of Cyprus.

Contact links for the Department are provided below:  
[roadtransport@rtd.mcw.gov.cy](mailto:roadtransport@rtd.mcw.gov.cy) | [www.mcw.gov.cy/rtd](http://www.mcw.gov.cy/rtd)

#### IT IS CLARIFIED THAT...

According to the provisions of the legislation on the "Transfer of Normal Residence", in order for a person to qualify for relief, actual use of the personal belongings in the previous country of normal residence must be fulfilled for a period of at least six (6) months prior to the date on which he/she ceased to have his/her normal residence there. This requirement is satisfied if it is proven that, during the period under consideration, both the person concerned and his/her personal belongings/vehicle were present in that country simultaneously. Any periods during which the person was absent from their previous country of normal residence cannot be counted toward the required six-month period of use.





#### **MORE INFORMATION...**

**Customs Headquarters (Ministry of Finance)**

Customs Department, Corner of Michalaki  
Karaoli and Grigori Afxentiou, 1096 Nicosia  
Customs Headquarters – Exemptions Sector,  
1440 Nicosia

Contact telephone numbers:

+357 22 601872, +357 22 601676, +357 22 601714

Email: [headquarters@customs.mof.gov.cy](mailto:headquarters@customs.mof.gov.cy)

#### **Nicosia Customs Office**

1 Andrea Kariou Street,  
Engomi Industrial Area, 2409 Nicosia

Contact telephone numbers:

+357 22 407641, +357 22 407532, +357 22 407504

Email: [nicosia@customs.mof.gov.cy](mailto:nicosia@customs.mof.gov.cy)

#### **Website:**

[https://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/customs/  
customs.nsf/index\\_gr/index\\_gr?opendocument](https://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/customs/customs.nsf/index_gr/index_gr?opendocument)





## Traveling with a pet

### Movement of a pet animal

Any movement of a pet animal from one Member State of the EU to another Member State of the EU, or the entry and re-entry of such an animal from a third country into the territory of the EU.

#### **NOTE THAT...**

Pet animals may enter Cyprus only from designated official points of entry. The entry of a pet animal from any other point is prohibited.

### Non-commercial movement of a pet animal

Any movement of a pet animal which, during its movement, is accompanied by its owner or a natural person authorised in written form by its owner and which is not intended for sale or transfer to another owner.

In duly justified and documented cases, the pet animal is considered to accompany its owner or the authorised person, even if the non-commercial movement of the pet animal takes place up to five days earlier or later than the movement of its owner or the authorised natural person, or if it takes place in a different physical location from that of its owner or that of the authorised person.

The owner or the person responsible for a pet animal originating from a third country is obliged, at least 48 hours prior to the animal's arrival, to communicate to the District Veterinary Office of the relevant point of entry the information related to the date and time of its arrival and the flight number or the ship name on which it to be transferred.



### Dogs-Cats-Ferrets

Each animal must be individually identified.

#### Age

Any pet animal entering the territory of the Republic of Cyprus from a Member State or a Third Country listed in annex II of Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 must be at least 105 days old due to the fact that, vaccination against rabies is conducted at the age of 12 weeks (84 days) and, 21 days must have elapsed from the vaccination date.

If the Third Country is not listed in annex II of Regulation (EU) No 577/2013, then the animal must be 7 months old because, in addition to the vaccination against rabies, the rabies antibody titration test is required to be done on a blood sample taken at least 30 days after vaccination and the blood sampling must; from the calendarial point of view, have been done, three months prior to the animal's movement. The laboratory test's titer must be equal to or greater than 0,5 IU/ml.

#### Maximum number of animals allowed

The maximum number of pet animals that may accompany the owner or the authorised person during a non-commercial movement may not exceed five.

#### ***FURTHER INFORMATION...***

**Ammochostos District Veterinary Office:**

+357 24 824555

**Larnaka District Veterinary Office:**

+357 24 821275

**Lefkosia (Nicosia) District Veterinary Office:**

+357 22 805241

**Lemesos (Limassol) District Veterinary Office:**

+357 25 819512

**Pafos District Veterinary Office:**

+357 26 821261

**Animal Health and Welfare Division:**

+357 22 805183/50/53

**E-mail:** [director@vs.moa.gov.cy](mailto:director@vs.moa.gov.cy)

### Breed

Regardless of the country of origin, the entry of dogs of the following breeds is prohibited in the Cyprus Republic:

Pit Bull Terrier ñ American Pit Bull

Japanese Tosa ñ Tosa Inu

Dogo Argentino ñ Argentinian Mastiff

Fila Brasileiro ñ Brazilian Mastiff

Within the definition of the abovementioned breeds, in addition to purebred animals, the following are also included:

(a) dogs that are the result of crossbreeding between the specified breeds (e.g. Dogo Argentino with Fila Brasileiro), and/or

(b) dogs that are the result of crossbreeding between any other breed, other than the aforementioned four breeds, with a dog of one of the aforementioned breeds, where a registered veterinarian certifies that the characteristics of the dangerous breed prevail (are dominant).

Regardless of their country of origin, the entry of dogs under 105 days of age is prohibited.

In addition to the above, cats that do not belong to the species "Felis silvestris catus" are not permitted to enter Cyprus (e.g. Savannah, Bengal, Caracat, and their hybrids, regardless of generation, etc.).

### Transport

In the case of air transport, animals must be carried in containers that comply with the specifications of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

For more information you may visit the website of the International Air Transport Association:

[www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live-animals/Pages/index.aspx](http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live-animals/Pages/index.aspx)

Sea transport of pet animals must also be carried out under conditions which, in accordance with the applicable legislation in force, ensure the health and welfare of the animals.

#### ***IT IS NOTED THAT...***

An animal is considered identified if it bears either a clearly legible skin marking/tattoo (this method of identification is accepted only if it was carried out before 03/07/2011), or an implanted electronic identification device (microchip transponder).



# Driving Licence in the Republic Of Cyprus and the EU

## Driving Licence

Drivers of all types of motor vehicles must hold a valid driving licence. Driving licences are valid until the age of 70. After the age of 70, licences must be renewed every 3 years, upon submission of a medical fitness certificate.

## Overseas Cypriots – Repatriated Persons

If an individual holds a driving licence issued by an EU Member State, they may continue to drive in the Republic for as long as that licence remains valid, for the categories it covers.

Before the expiry date of the existing licence, and after completing 185 days of residence in the Republic, the individual may apply to the Department of Road Transport for the renewal/exchange of their licence, provided that the licence was issued:

- in an EU Member State, or
- in one of the countries listed in the paragraph below.

If the country of issue is not included in the list below, the holder must follow the standard procedure for obtaining a Cypriot driving licence.

## Vehicles

Visitors who bring their vehicle for personal use during their stay in Cyprus may drive it provided that the vehicle is accompanied by:

- a valid registration certificate and
- a valid road tax/licence from the country of origin.

If the foreign road tax expires while the visitor is in Cyprus, the corresponding fee must be paid in order for a Cyprus road tax to be issued.

Additionally, the vehicle must be insured with coverage valid in Cyprus.

The driver must also hold a valid driving licence for the category of the vehicle being driven.

When transferring permanent residence to the Republic of Cyprus

A person relocating permanently to Cyprus may import one vehicle of any age, which can be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (Registrar of Motor Vehicles).

If the vehicle is already in Cyprus:

- a valid road licence must be maintained for the period it is in use, and
- a valid certificate of roadworthiness (MOT/Department of Transport inspection certificate) is required.

## MORE INFORMATION...

Department of Road Transport, 27 Vasileos  
Pavlou Street, 2412 Engomi, Nicosia  
Contact telephone: +357 22 807000  
Fax: +357 22 354030  
Email: [roadtransport@rtd.mcw.gov.cy](mailto:roadtransport@rtd.mcw.gov.cy)  
Website: [www.mcw.gov.cy](http://www.mcw.gov.cy)

## NOTE THAT...

Holders of driving licences issued by third countries may drive only for one month.

An exception applies to holders of driving licences from the following countries: Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Australia, Switzerland, Zimbabwe, United States of America, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, South Korea, Serbia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, People's Republic of China, Kingdom of Morocco, Montenegro, and the United Kingdom, who may drive for six months.









# Social Insurance Services

## Repatriates from Member States of the EU

If you are repatriating to Cyprus and are coming from Member States of the EU, the European Economic Area (EEA), or Switzerland, the provisions of European Union Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009 may apply to your case.

The basic principles of these Regulations are as follows:

- Equal treatment
- Employees are subject to the social security legislation of only one Member State at a time
- Insurance periods completed in all Member States are taken into account for the acquisition of entitlement to benefits
- You may receive the benefits to which you are entitled wherever you reside, within the EU, the EEA, or Switzerland

## Benefits of the Social Insurance Fund for which you may apply in Cyprus – Application of the European Regulations

### Maternity benefit / Maternity grant

#### *Can I apply to receive a maternity benefit from Cyprus?*

In order to apply for maternity benefit from Cyprus, either you or your husband should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, Switzerland or Serbia in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus via Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) the necessary documents including your insurance record, if it is necessary. The maternity benefit is given to the mother as a lump sum, regardless of whether she or her husband is the insured person and regardless of their category of insurance.

#### *How will my application be settled?*

We will examine yours or your husband's insurance account whether you are entitled to a maternity grant according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have paid in other EU, EEA countries Switzerland or Serbia may be taken into account in order to establish a right to maternity grant.

#### *May I get paid the maternity grant while being in another EU, EEA country, in Switzerland or in Serbia?*

You may get paid the maternity grant while in another EU, EEA country, in Switzerland or in Serbia.



## Maternity allowance

### *How can I apply for a maternity allowance from Cyprus?*

- In order to apply for maternity allowance from Cyprus, you should lastly be insured in Cyprus, EU, EEA countries, Switzerland or Serbia will send via Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) the necessary documents as well as your Social Insurance account, where necessary. Pursuant to the relevant legislation, maternity benefit is payable to insured employed earners and insured self-employed women who are expecting a child or who have adopted a child, either themselves or through their spouse, within the first twelve years from the child's birth. Maternity benefit is also payable to insured women who have a child through a surrogate mother, as well as to the surrogate mother.
- The insured person for having the first child is entitled to receive allowance for 22 continuous weeks. In case of having a second child the period remains for 22 continuous weeks. In case of having a third or more children the period increases for four (4) more weeks. Total 26 weeks.
- If the newborn is hospitalised immediately after birth, an additional one-week maternity benefit is granted for every 21 days of hospitalisation, upon presentation of a relevant certificate from the hospital. For the first 63 days of hospitalisation, the calculation for the first 21 days applies. From 01/03/2024 for the first 63 days of hospitalisation the calculation remains as it is. Specifically, for the first 21 days one week is granted. It is noted that if the hospitalisation after the lapse of (21) days, lasts for a period of less than twenty-one (21) days, then where the days of hospitalisation exceed fifty.

Thereafter, up to 63 days of hospitalisation, for every 21 days or for a period of hospitalisation from 11-21 days, an additional week extension is granted. After the lapse of 63 days of hospitalisation of the newborn and the granting of an additional 3-week benefit, for every additional 14 days of hospitalisation of the newborn, an additional week of maternity benefit will be granted. The extension of maternity benefit cannot exceed a maximum period of 8 weeks. In the case of multiple pregnancies where more than one child is hospitalised at different times, we select the newborn with the longest hospitalisation period

- The extension of maternity benefit shall be granted for a period consecutive to the eighteen (18)-week maternity benefit period and, in cases of hospitalisation, shall not exceed the maximum period of six (6) weeks. In cases of multiple pregnancy, the extension shall be granted in the same manner, with the duration of the extension increasing accordingly in proportion to the number of children.

### *How will my application be settled?*

We will examine your insurance account and check whether you are entitled to a maternity grant according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have paid in another EU, EEA country, Switzerland or Serbia may be taken into account in order to establish a right to maternity allowance.

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## Paternity allowance

### *Could I apply to receive paternity allowance from Cyprus?*

- In order to apply for paternity allowance from Cyprus, you should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, Switzerland or Serbia in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, an insured father is entitled to receive paternity allowance in case his wife gave birth or had a child through a surrogate mother, or in case he and his wife have adopted a child not older than twelve years of age.
- The paternity allowance is paid for a period of two (2) continuous weeks within the period starting from the week that the child is born / adopted and ends at the expiration of twenty (2) weeks allowance as determined from time to time under the provisions of the Maternity Protection Law.

### *How will my application be settled?*

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to a paternity allowance according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have paid in another EU, EEA country, Switzerland or Serbia may be taken into account in order to establish a right to paternity allowance.

### *May I get paid the maternity grant while being in another EU, EEA country, in Switzerland or Serbia?*

You may get paid the paternity allowance while being in another EU, EEA country, in Switzerland or in Serbia.





## Unemployment Benefit

### ***Could I apply to receive unemployment benefit when I come to Cyprus?***

In order to apply for unemployment benefit when you come to Cyprus, you should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, insured employees are entitled to unemployment benefit. The unemployment benefit is paid for 156 working days during each employment inactivity period.

### ***How will my application be settled?***

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to unemployment benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have been paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken

into account in order to establish a right to unemployment benefit.

### ***May I seek employment in Cyprus and continue being paid unemployment benefit from another EU, EEA country or from Switzerland?***

If you are receiving unemployment benefit from another EU, EEA country or from Switzerland, you may continue receiving that unemployment benefit for the period approved by the other Member State while seeking employment in Cyprus. Therefore, before you leave the country that pays for your unemployment benefit, you should notify the competent authority of that country. Within seven days since your departure, you should be registered as an unemployed person both in the Cyprus Public Employment Service, and in the Unemployed Register at the Social Insurance District Offices.

## Sickness Benefit

### ***Could I apply to receive sickness benefit when I come to Cyprus?***

In order to apply for sickness benefit when you come to Cyprus, you should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, insured employees and self-employed persons are entitled to sickness benefit. The sickness benefit is paid for 156 working days.

### ***How will my application be settled?***

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to sickness benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken into account in order to establish a right to sickness allowance.

### ***May I get paid the sickness benefit while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland?***

You may get paid the sickness benefit while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland.



## Invalidity Pension

### ***Could I apply to receive invalidity pension from Cyprus?***

In order to apply for invalidity pension from Cyprus, you must have paid contributions to the Social Insurance Fund. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, insured employees and self-employed persons that are under the age of 63 years old, are entitled to invalidity pension.

The pension starts after a period of 156 days of invalidity for employment and when the insured person is considered permanent invalid for employment for his / her occupation. At the age of 63 years the invalidity pension automatically becomes a statutory pension.

### ***How will my application be settled?***

We will examine your contributions in Cyprus whether you are entitled to an invalidity pension according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland will be taken into account and it is possible that you will be

entitled to a partial statutory pension.

Every country will do the same in accordance with its national legislation. For example, if you have worked and paid contributions to three different EU countries, you may be entitled to receive three separate statutory pensions. For example, if you have worked and paid social insurance contributions in three EU Member States, you may be entitled to receive three separate pensions.

### ***May I get paid the invalidity pension while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland?***

You may get paid the invalidity pension while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland.

### ***Will I need to submit an application form to all the EU, EEA countries or Switzerland?***

You will only submit an application to the Social Insurance Services and your application form to all the other EU, EEA countries or Switzerland where you are insured.

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## Statutory Pension

### ***Could I apply to receive a statutory pension from Cyprus?***

In order to apply for a statutory pension from Cyprus, you must have paid contributions to the Social Insurance Fund. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured, will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, all insured persons are entitled to a statutory pension, regardless of the insurance category. The statutory pension is paid at the age of 65 years, but under certain insurance conditions, it could be paid from the age of 63, with actuarial reduction.

### ***How will my application be settled?***

Based on your contributions to Cyprus, we will check whether you are entitled to a statutory pension in accordance with the legislation of Cyprus. If you are not entitled to a separate statutory pension from Cyprus, then

the social insurance contributions that you have paid in every EU, EEA country or Switzerland will be aggregated in order to examine whether you are entitled to a right to statutory pension. Every country you were insured will do the same in accordance with its national legislation.

### ***Will I need to submit an application form to each of the EU, EEA countries or Switzerland where I have worked?***

You only need to submit an application form to the Social Insurance Services of the last country of residence and they may relay your application to all the other EU, EEA countries or Switzerland where you are insured.



## Widow's Pension

### ***Can I apply for a widow's pension from Cyprus?***

To apply for a statutory pension from Cyprus, you must have paid contributions to the Social Insurance Fund.

If you have been insured in an EU Member State, an EEA country, or Switzerland, the competent authorities of that country will forward your insurance record to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus, where necessary.

Under the legislation, all insured persons are entitled to a statutory pension, regardless of their insurance category, who were cohabiting with their husband at the time of his death or, if they were not cohabiting, were maintained by him exclusively or predominantly.

A widow's or widower's pension shall commence on the date of the spouse's death, provided that an application is submitted within three months of the date of death, and shall be payable for life or until the widow or widower remarries.

### ***How will my application be settled?***

Based on the insurance contributions of the deceased person in Cyprus, we will examine whether you are

entitled to a widow's pension in accordance with the legislation of Cyprus. If you are not entitled to a separate statutory pension from Cyprus, then the social insurance contributions that you have paid in every EU, EEA country or Switzerland will be aggregated and it is possible that you will be entitled to a statutory pension. Every country you were insured will do the same in accordance with its national legislation.

### ***May I get paid the widow's pension while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland?***

You may get paid the widow's pension while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland.

### ***Will I need to submit an application form to all the EU, EEA countries or Switzerland, where the deceased person was insured?***

You will only submit an application form to the Social Insurance Services and they will relay your application to all the other EU, EEA countries or Switzerland where the deceased person was insured.

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## Orphans' Benefit

***Could I apply to receive an orphans' benefit from Cyprus?*** An orphan's benefit is entitled to be submitted by a guardian for a minor child, when both parents have died or when the insured parent has died and was separated from the other parent until the orphan's 18th year of age. From the age of 18 onwards, the orphan's benefit application is submitted by the orphan himself, provided that he is studying and has not married until the age of 23 for girls, and provided that he is studying or serving in the National Guard and has not married until the age of 25 for boys. In the event that the orphan is permanently incapable of work and self-support, it is paid for life.

### ***How will my application form be settled?***

We will examine the insurance account of the parents and examine whether you are entitled to an orphans' benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other

contributions that may have been paid by the parents in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be aggregated in order to establish a right to an orphans' benefit.

### ***May I get paid the orphans' benefit while being in another country?***

You may get paid the orphan's benefit while being in another country EU, EEA country or in Switzerland.

### ***Will I need to submit an application form to all the EU, EEA countries or Switzerland where the deceased person was insured?***

You only need to submit an application form to the Social Insurance Services and they will relay your application form to all the other EU, EEA countries or Switzerland where the deceased person was insured.

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## Injury Benefit

### ***Could I apply to receive an injury benefit from Cyprus?***

In order to apply for an injury benefit from Cyprus, you should at the time of the accident at work or the occupation disease happened belong to a category that falls under the relevant legislation of Social Insurance in Cyprus. The injury benefit is paid for a duration of twelve

months and there are no contribution conditions that need to be fulfilled regarding for its payment.

### ***May I get paid the injury benefit while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland?***

You may get paid the injury benefit while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland.





#### **MORE INFORMATION...**

Residents of Cyprus: 1434

Residents abroad: +357 25 961475

#### **Repatriated Cypriots from Canada, Quebec, Australia, Serbia and Syria**

Cyprus has signed bilateral agreements with Canada, Quebec, Australia, Serbia and Syria. The Agreements concern mainly the statutory and the widow's pension, the orphans' benefit, the invalidity pension and the funeral grant. The provisions of these Agreements are similar to the provisions of EU Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009.

#### **Repatriated Cypriots from Egypt**

Cyprus has signed a bilateral agreement with Egypt. If you are repatriating from Egypt you should submit an application form to the Social Insurance Services in order to arrange the transfer of your contributions from Egypt to Cyprus.



## Other Benefits

### Social Pension

#### *To whom is social pension granted?*

Social pension is granted to all inhabitants of the Republic of Cyprus who are over 65 years of age, satisfy residency conditions and are not entitled to a pension or any other similar payment from any other source. Social pension is paid out of the Republic's Consolidated Fund.

#### *What are the conditions of residency for granting a social pension?*

The conditions of residency for granting social pension are the following:

To have legally resided in Cyprus or in countries which are members of the European Union or the European Economic Area or in Switzerland for a total period of at least 20 years since the day that the applicant reached the age of 40. (b) to have legally resided in Cyprus or in countries which are members of the European Union or the European Economic Area or in Switzerland for a total period of at least 35 years since the day that the applicant reached the age of 18.

#### *Am I entitled to social pension if I am receiving a pension from other source?*

In case you are receiving from Cyprus or overseas a pension or any other similar payment, the monthly amount of which is lower than the monthly amount of the social pension, then you are entitled to a social pension equal to the difference between the two pensions.

#### *How could I apply for a social pension and what certificates do I need to submit?*

In order to claim for a social pension, you must submit an application form, obtained from any social insurance district office or citizens' service centre or citizens' centre or via the internet and the Social Insurance Services website ([www.mlsi.gov.cy/sid](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/sid)).

The application form must be certified by the community leader of the applicant's community or parish and it should be delivered along with all the required original documentation within 3 months of the date of becoming eligible for receiving a pension to any social insurance office or citizens' service centre or citizens' centre.

The application form must be submitted along with the following certificates:

- The applicant's birth certificate, if the birth was abroad,
- A certificate by the community leader of the applicant's community or parish that the applicant resides permanently in Cyprus.
- In case the applicant receives a pension from the country he or she has been repatriated from, a certificate regarding the monthly sum of the pension granted.
- In case the applicant does not receive a pension from the country he or she has been repatriated from, a certificate regarding the fact that such a pension is not granted.

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### Social Card

#### *Who can be a social card holder?*

Social card holders can be:

(a) Persons from the age of 63 years old who reside permanently in Cyprus, regardless of their citizenship or whether they receive a pension from the Social Insurance Fund or the insurance authority of any other country.

(b) Persons regardless of their age who reside permanently in Cyprus and are beneficiaries of incapacity or invalidity pension or orphans' benefit due to permanent incapacity to maintain themselves from the Social Insurance Fund or the insurance authority of any other country.

#### *What are the benefits of the social card?*

The social card provides its holders with the opportunity to participate in cultural and other events as well as providing for other benefits, including a 50% discount to the bus tickets in urban and rural areas. The social card benefits' catalogue is sent to all the beneficiaries and is updated on the Social Insurance Services' website.







# Guaranteed Minimum Income (G.M.I.)

Under Law 109(I)/2014, a broad reform of the Republic's social welfare system was introduced, replacing public assistance with the Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI). The Guaranteed Minimum Income and Generally on Social Benefits Law of 2014 came into force on 1 July 2014. This reform expanded eligibility to include beneficiaries and population groups that were previously excluded from public assistance, such as low-income pensioners.

An application may be submitted by individuals who fall into one (1) of the following categories:

1. Either spouse, regardless of age.
2. Any person aged 28 or older.
3. Single parent.
4. A person under the age of 28 who, upon turning 18, was under the care of the Director of Social Welfare Services, as recognised in the relevant decision of the Director.
5. Orphan, with one sibling eligible.
6. Any category of persons not covered under (1)–(5) but defined by Order of the Council of Ministers.
7. A person facing special personal circumstances, provided these are verified by a competent officer and the person does not fall under categories (1)–(5).

Residence requirement (Article 5 of the Law):

The applicant must have had legal and continuous residence in areas of the Republic of Cyprus under the effective control of the Government for the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application.

Beyond this requirement, additional conditions apply - such as criteria related to income, immovable property, financial assets, or disposal of immovable property or other financial resources.

## Low-Income Pensioners Support Scheme:

This benefit is aimed at pensioner households whose total annual income falls below the poverty threshold. A prerequisite is residence in the Republic for one (1) year prior to submitting the application.

## Child Benefit and Single-Parent Benefit:

The Child Benefit is granted according to the provisions of the Child Benefit Law and Regulation (EC) No. 883/2004 of the European Parliament and Council of 29 April 2004.

The basic requirements of the Child Benefit Law are:

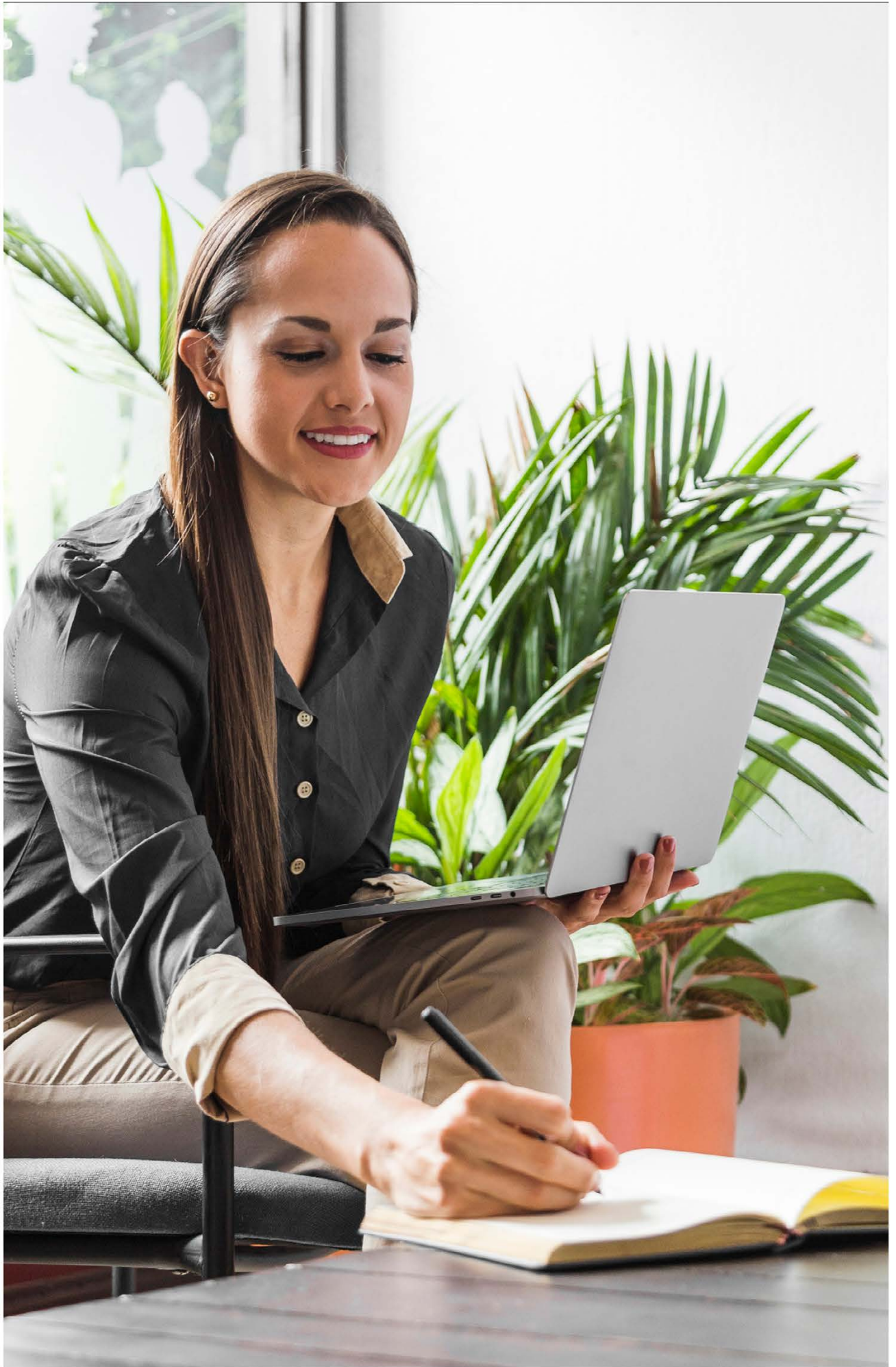
1. The family must have legal and continuous residence in areas under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus for at least five (5) years preceding the date of application.
2. The family is eligible provided that the total value of its assets does not exceed €1,200,000, taking into account any assets that were disposed of within the last 24 months before the date of application.
3. (This does not apply to families with five (5) or more dependent children.)
4. The benefit is granted to families whose gross annual family income does not exceed:
  - €49,000 for families with one (1) dependent child
  - €59,000 for families with two (2) dependent children
  - €64,000 for families with three (3) dependent children
  - €69,000 for families with four (4) dependent children
  - No income ceiling applies for families with five (5) or more dependent children.

## MORE INFORMATION...

Telephone: 1450

Email: [eee@dmsw.wbas.gov.cy](mailto:eee@dmsw.wbas.gov.cy)









# Housing Schemes

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## **Housing Scheme for the Revitalisation of Mountainous, Near the Buffer Zone and Disadvantaged Areas**

The Scheme provides financial aid for home ownership in the areas that aims to revive.

The Scheme covers a total of 279 communities/areas designated as mountainous, near the buffer zone and disadvantaged, based on specific criteria. The financial aid amount is particularly attractive and the eligibility criteria are quite broad. The goal is twofold, firstly the revitalisation of areas that are suffering from decline and secondly support for the acquisition of housing. The Scheme is funded by the Ministry of Interior and implemented by the respective District Administration Offices.

The Scheme remains open to applications until the last day that has been set as the 31st of December 2025. Scheme is usually announced on an annual basis and detailed information can be found in the website of the Ministry of Interior.

## **Housing Scheme for the Revitalisation of Specific Rural Areas**

The Scheme provides financial aid for home ownership in the areas that aims to revive.

The Scheme covers communities which are not covered by the Housing Scheme for the Revitalisation of Mountainous, Near the Buffer Zone and Disadvantaged Areas, ensuring that the State's housing policy covers all rural communities and areas. The Scheme is funded by the Ministry of Interior and implemented by the respective District Administration Offices.

The Scheme remains open to applications until the last day that has been set as the 31st of December 2025. Scheme is usually announced on an annual basis and detailed information can be found in the website of the Ministry of Interior.





### **Housing Scheme “Renovate-Rent”**

The Scheme aims to integrate into the rental market residential units that are vacant, inactive, or in disuse, so that they can be made available for rent at an affordable price to individuals with moderate or low incomes, based on the income criteria set out in the Scheme. To achieve this goal, financial assistance will be provided in the form of grants to owners of existing vacant, inactive, or unused residential units for their renovation/upgrading. The Scheme is part of the new affordable housing policy of the State.

The Scheme is funded by the Ministry of Interior and implemented by the Cyprus Land Development Corporation (CLDC).

The Scheme remains open to applications from interested owners and tenants, until the last day that has been set as the 31st December 2025. Detailed information and announcements can be found in the website of the Ministry of Interior.

### ***FURTHER INFORMATION...***

Ministry of the Interior - 1453, Nicosia.

Citizens Service Centre phone number:  
+357 22 867800

Website: <https://www.gov.cy/moi/documents/nea-eniaia-stegastiki-politiki/>

### **Housing Scheme for the revitalisation of the Walled City of Nicosia**

The Scheme provides financial aid for home ownership in the walled city of Nicosia, with the ultimate goal of its revival and social and economic upgrading. The financial aid amount is particularly attractive and the eligibility criteria are quite broad.

The Scheme is funded by the Ministry of Interior and implemented by the Nicosia District Administration Office.

The Scheme remains open to applications until the last day that has been set as the 31st of December 2025. Detailed information and announcements can be found in the website of the Ministry of Interior.





# Tax Matters

## Tax System in Cyprus

**For Income tax purposes a “Cyprus resident” is defined as:**  
**In the instance of an individual (natural person):**

- a) an individual who remains in Cyprus for one or more periods that exceed in total 183 days in a particular tax year, or
- b) An individual (natural person) who meets all of the following conditions in each tax year
  - Remains in Cyprus for one or more periods totaling at least 60 days.
  - Does not stay in any other country for one or more periods that, in total, exceed 183 days.
  - Carries on a business in Cyprus and/or is employed in Cyprus and/or holds an office in a company that is a tax resident of Cyprus as at 31 December of each tax year; that is, the business, employment, or holding of office is not terminated before the end of the tax year.
  - Maintains a permanent residence in Cyprus, either owned or rented.

**In the instance of a company (legal person):**

- a) A company whose management and control are exercised in Cyprus, or
- b) A company (legal entity) that has been incorporated in Cyprus, unless a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement provides otherwise.

### Taxation on the basis of tax residency

- Every person (individual or legal entity) who is a resident of Cyprus is subject, for each tax year, to tax on income earned or arising from sources both within and outside Cyprus.
- Every person (individual or legal entity) who is NOT a resident of Cyprus is subject, for each tax year, to tax only on income earned or arising from sources within Cyprus.

### Corporate tax

Cyprus offers a variety of tax incentives to companies that conduct their business in Cyprus. These incentives derive from the beneficial tax framework of Cyprus which is in accordance with the requirements of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the European Union, as well as from the extensive network of Double Tax Agreements with over 60 countries.

In brief, the main provisions of corporate taxation are:

- A uniform Corporate Tax rate of 15%, one of the lowest in the EU.
- No taxation of dividend income.
- No withholding tax on intellectual property rights (royalties) for the use of those rights outside Cyprus.
- No taxation of profits from a permanent establishment maintained abroad, subject to terms and conditions.
- No taxation of profits from the disposal of shares, securities, and bonds.
- Taxation of profits from the disposal of crypto-assets at a special rate of 8%, subject to conditions.
- Tax exemption, in cases of company reorganisations, on profits arising from the transfer of property or shares.
- Granting of a notional interest deduction on new equity, up to 80% of taxable income.
- Tax exemption of up to 80% of profits from qualifying intangible assets.
- Tax-free repatriation of profits and capital.





#### **NOTE THAT...**

Income derived from the following sources is not taxed, subject to terms and conditions:

- Income from dividends and interest
- Profit from a permanent establishment abroad
- Income from salaried employment abroad
- Profit from the sale of securities
- Losses arising from a business, in the current year and/or previous years, may be deducted from taxable income, subject to terms and conditions

#### **Personal Income Tax**

- Individuals' annual income is taxed on a progressive scale at rates of 20%, 25%, 30%, and 35%, with the first €22,000 of income being tax-free, which is the highest tax-free threshold in Europe.
- Exemption for a period of 7 years of 20% of an individual's remuneration from first employment in Cyprus, with a maximum annual exemption of €8,550, subject to conditions.
- Exemption for a period of 17 years of 50% of an individual's remuneration from first employment in Cyprus, provided that their remuneration exceeds €55,000 in the first or second year of employment, subject to conditions.
- No taxation of gratuity upon retirement or termination of employment, or compensation for termination of employment, up to the amount of €200,000. Any excess amount is subject to tax at a special rate of 20%.
- No taxation of dividend and/or interest income of an individual who is a resident of the Republic but is not considered "Domiciled" in the Republic.
- Taxation of net profit from the disposal of crypto-assets at a special rate of 8%, subject to conditions.

- Taxation of the benefit arising from the granting by an employer of share purchase options at a special rate of 8%, subject to conditions.
- Provision of tax deductions based on income criteria for:
  - (a) dependent children (€1,000 for the first child, €1,250 for the second, and €1,500 for the third and each additional child),
  - (b) rent or interest on a serviced housing loan for a primary residence up to €2,000, and
  - (c) expenses for energy upgrading of a primary residence and purchase of an electric vehicle up to €1,000 per year.
- Provision of a deduction of up to €500 for home insurance against natural disasters.
- Provision of a deduction for life insurance premiums and permanent and/or temporary, total and/or partial disability insurance.

#### **Special Defence Contribution Tax**

An individual who is a resident of the Republic, as defined by the provisions of the Income Tax Law, and who additionally has domicile in the Republic, is required to pay Special Defence Contribution on:

- Dividends at a rate of 5%
- Interest at a rate of 17%





## Value Added Tax (VAT)

### Registration in the VAT Register in the Republic

Any person carrying out business activities in the Republic (legal or natural person), whether resident in the Republic or abroad, may, depending on the nature of the transactions carried out, have an obligation or the right to register in the VAT Register in the Republic.

#### 1. Mandatory Registration

According to the VAT legislation, any person making taxable transactions in the Republic is required to register in the VAT Register if:

- (i) the value of their taxable transactions during a one-year period has exceeded €15,600, or
- (ii) there are reasonable grounds to expect that the value of their taxable transactions within thirty days will exceed €15,600.

#### 2. Voluntary Registration

If a person makes taxable transactions or intends to make taxable transactions, the value of which does not exceed the registration threshold, they are entitled to apply for voluntary registration.

## VAT Rates

Five VAT rates apply in the Republic.

- The standard rate of 19% applies to the general supply of goods and services.
- The reduced rate of 9% covers, among other things, restaurant services, hotel accommodation, and passenger transport services.
- The reduced rate of 5% applies to essential goods and services, such as food, pharmaceuticals, and books.
- The 3% rate applies to limited categories, such as newspapers, magazines, and equipment for persons with disabilities.

- Finally, the zero rate (0%) applies to certain categories of transactions, such as exports and intra-Community supplies of goods and/or the provision of intra-Community services.

In the Republic, the applicable legislation also provides for specific exemptions from the imposition of VAT. These include medical and hospital services, educational activities, financial and insurance services, as well as certain services provided by non-profit organisations.

## International Trusts

Cyprus International Trusts enjoy significant tax advantages, offering substantial opportunities for tax planning:

- The income and profits of a Cyprus International Trust attributable to a beneficiary who is not a tax resident of Cyprus (natural or legal person), arising from sources outside Cyprus, are exempt from any taxation imposed in Cyprus.
- Dividends and interest from sources within Cyprus received by a trust whose beneficiary is not a tax resident of Cyprus (natural or legal person) are not subject to taxation or withholding tax.

### **MORE INFORMATION...**

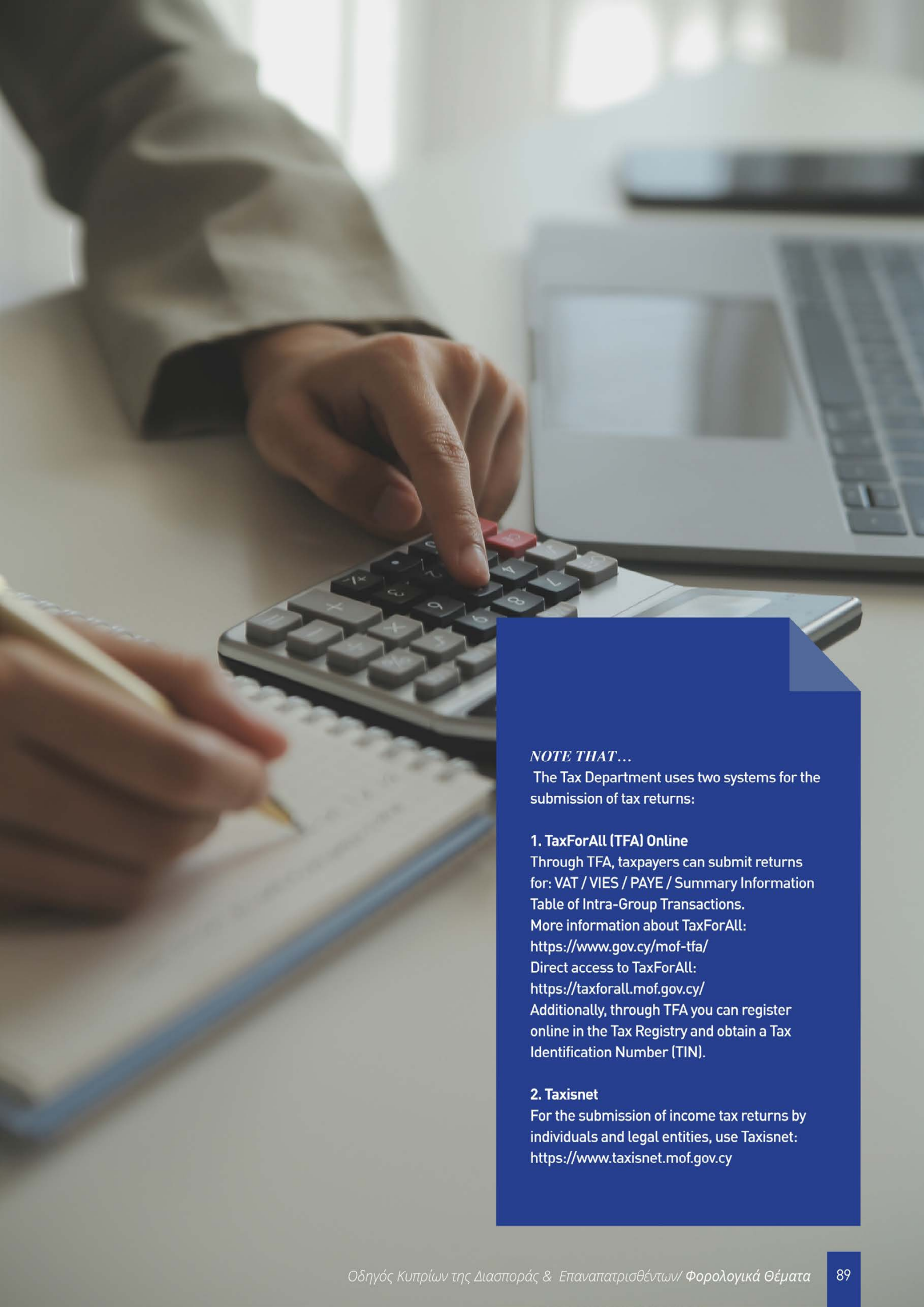
Ministry of Finance

Michalaki Karaoli and Grigori Afxentiou,  
1096 Nicosia

Tel.: +357 22 308 000

Website: [www.mof.gov.cy/tax](http://www.mof.gov.cy/tax)





**NOTE THAT...**

The Tax Department uses two systems for the submission of tax returns:

**1. TaxForAll (TFA) Online**

Through TFA, taxpayers can submit returns for: VAT / VIES / PAYE / Summary Information Table of Intra-Group Transactions.

More information about TaxForAll:

<https://www.gov.cy/mof-tfa/>

Direct access to TaxForAll:

<https://taxforall.mof.gov.cy/>

Additionally, through TFA you can register online in the Tax Registry and obtain a Tax Identification Number (TIN).

**2. Taxisnet**

For the submission of income tax returns by individuals and legal entities, use Taxisnet:

<https://www.taxisnet.mof.gov.cy>



# Medical and Pharmaceutical Care



## General Healthcare System (GHS)

The General Healthcare System (GHS) is the national health system of the Republic of Cyprus, aiming to provide universal and equal access to quality healthcare services for all beneficiaries, without exceptions. The competent authority responsible for the implementation and operation of the GHS is the Health Insurance Organisation (HIO).

The mission of the Health Insurance Organisation is to manage and ensure the smooth functioning of the GHS, making the best possible use of available financial resources to guarantee its sustainability and efficiency.

The operation of the GHS began gradually in 2019 with the “First Phase” (March 1, 2019, to February 29, 2020), during which outpatient healthcare services were included—namely, the provision of healthcare services by General and Specialist Doctors, Pharmacists, and Laboratories. The implementation of the GHS was completed with the “Full Implementation/Second Phase” (from March 1, 2020), during which all remaining healthcare services were gradually integrated. These include inpatient healthcare, healthcare provided by Other

Health Professionals, Nurses and Midwives, Accident & Emergency Departments, Ambulance services, Dentists, Palliative Care, and Medical Rehabilitation.

Other services have gradually been incorporated, such as Podiatrists (from November 1, 2023), and expansions have been made to existing services, for example, Speech Therapy, Clinical Dietetics, and General Nursing. New Hemodialysis and Palliative Care Centres were added, additional Accident & Emergency Departments were reinforced (2023–2024), while the list of innovative medicines and new treatments was also expanded.

## Main features and fundamental principles of the GHS (General Healthcare System) are:

- Universal coverage of the population.
- Equal access for all beneficiaries to high-quality healthcare services.
- Provision of a comprehensive package of healthcare services.
- Free choice of healthcare service provider by the beneficiary.
- Social solidarity.







**There are four (4) main categories of GHS beneficiaries, along with certain subcategories:**

#### **Citizens of the Republic of Cyprus (RC)**

This category includes individuals who:

- Are citizens of the Republic of Cyprus.
- Are ordinary residents of:
  1. The areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus, or
  2. The sovereign territory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland bases in Cyprus.
- Dependents of Cypriot beneficiaries.

#### **Refugees and Persons with Subsidiary Protection Status**

This category includes individuals who:

- Are ordinary residents of the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus.
- Are recognised refugees or persons with subsidiary protection status, in accordance with the Refugees Law.
- Dependents of Refugees and Persons with Subsidiary Protection Status beneficiaries.

#### **Non-EU Citizens**

This category includes individuals who:

- Are citizens of a Non-EU country
- Are ordinary residents of the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus and
  1. Have the right of equal treatment in the social insurance sectors
  2. Hold a permanent residence permit in the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus.
- Dependents of Non-EU Citizens beneficiaries

#### **Citizens of the European Union (EU)**

• This category includes individuals who:

- Are EU citizens.
- Are ordinary residents of the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus and
  1. Work in areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus.
  2. Hold a permanent residence permit in the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus.
- Dependents of EU citizens beneficiaries.

In accordance with the provisions of The 'Right of EU Citizens and their Family Members to Move and Reside Freely within the Territory of the Republic of Cyprus' Law.

#### **Other Categories of Beneficiaries:**

- The Organisation, at its discretion, may include exempted persons in the GHS on a voluntary basis under terms and conditions set by internal regulations.
- Persons deemed by the Organisation's Council to be special cases, as defined by regulations/decisions.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION...**

According to European Regulations 883/2004, 987/2009, and 1231/2010, individuals who are insured in another European Union member state (e.g., retirees from another member state), as well as their dependent family members, must obtain the portable S1 document from the member state in which they are insured. They are then required to submit a registration request to the GHS under the beneficiary category "S1 Holders", regardless of whether they meet other criteria under Article 16 of the GHS Law, which could allow them to fall under other beneficiary categories.

#### **NOTE THAT...**

The category of Dependents of beneficiaries includes persons who:

- Are citizens of the Republic of Cyprus (RoC), or citizens of the European Union (EU), or nationals of third countries.
- Have their habitual residence in the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus.
- Are family members of a beneficiary.
- In the case of family members of a third-country beneficiary who holds a permanent residence permit, those family members must also hold a permanent residence permit in the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus, in accordance with the Aliens and Immigration Law.

Cypriot citizens who have their habitual residence in the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus are beneficiaries, regardless of whether they are also family members of another beneficiary.



#### • GHS Healthcare Services

- Personal Doctors for Adults and Children
- Specialist Doctors
- Inpatient Care
- Accident and Emergency Department (A&E)
- Ambulance Service
- Nurses, Midwives, and Other Health Professionals
- Medicines and Consumables
- Laboratory Tests
- Diagnostic Tests
- Palliative Care Services
- Institutional Rehabilitation Services
- Preventive Dental Care

You can find information on all GHS healthcare services, how to access them, the procedures for issuing referrals, prescriptions and obtaining medicines, as well as specialised information, through the GHS website at [www.gesy.org.cy](http://www.gesy.org.cy) or through the “Patient Journey” website at [www.patientjourneycy.org](http://www.patientjourneycy.org).

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

Beneficiaries, healthcare providers, and the public can submit questions and/or requests regarding the GHS through the GHS Contact Centre by phone, electronically, or in writing, using the following methods:

- By free phone call at 17000 (from Cyprus) or at +357 22 017000 (from abroad)
- By email at [info@gesy.org.cy](mailto:info@gesy.org.cy)
- Through the GHS website: [www.gesy.org.cy](http://www.gesy.org.cy)

#### Submitting Complaints

To submit complaints related to the GHS, you may contact:

- The GHS Service Centre using the following methods:  
A) By phone at 17000 (from Cyprus) free of charge or at +357 22 017000 (from abroad) and B) By email at [info@gesy.org.cy](mailto:info@gesy.org.cy)
- Through the official GHS website: [www.gesy.org.cy](http://www.gesy.org.cy)
- By post: 17-19 Klementos Street, 1061 Nicosia, P.O. Box 26765, 1641 Nicosia

The management of submitted complaints is handled by the Queries and Complaints Coordination Department of the Organisation, which is responsible for receiving, investigating, evaluating, and managing complaints from GHS providers and beneficiaries, ensuring they are fully resolved within a reasonable timeframe.



#### How to Get Information About the GHS Healthcare Services:

The GHS Service Centre using the following methods:

- A) By phone at 17000 (from Cyprus) free of charge or at +357 22 017000 (from abroad) and
- B) By email at [info@gesy.org.cy](mailto:info@gesy.org.cy)
- Through the official GHS website at [www.gesy.org.cy](http://www.gesy.org.cy) and via the microsite “Patient Journey” at [www.patientjourneycy.org](http://www.patientjourneycy.org)
- Through the Organisation’s official social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, X (Twitter) and YouTube.





## GHS Registration Process

To access healthcare services provided under the GHS, every interested individual must register in the Beneficiaries' Registry and in a Personal Doctor's list.

### Registration in the Beneficiaries' Registry

To register in the GHS Beneficiaries' Registry, the interested individual must be recorded in either the Population Department, the Migration Department, or the Social Insurance Services databases.

#### A. Online Registration

- The application to register in the GHS Beneficiaries' Registry is done electronically through the Beneficiaries' Online Portal. The first step to access this portal is to create an account via the Health Insurance Organisation (HIO) website and activate it.
- Next, the interested individual logs into the Beneficiaries' Online Portal and follows the on-screen instructions to complete the registration. During registration, the interested individual will fill in specific fields for identification purposes with the aforementioned databases and will then provide some additional information (e.g. address, phone number).

- If the individual cannot be identified through the aforementioned databases, they will be asked to submit an electronic registration application, which must then be printed and mailed to the Health Insurance Organisation, along with specific certificates or supporting documents.
- Individuals without internet access can register through a third party who has an account on the Beneficiaries' Online Portal, provided that the process is carried out with the consent of the interested individual.

#### B. Registration by visiting a Personal Doctor

Individuals without internet access can also register as beneficiaries by visiting a Personal Doctor of their choice. During the visit, the Personal Doctor will complete the registration application in the Beneficiaries' Registry on behalf of the individual. It is noted that during this visit, the individual can also complete registration in a Personal Doctor's list.



### Registration in a Personal Doctor's List

The following apply for registration in a Personal Doctor's list:

- Beneficiaries under 15 years old are registered in a Children Personal Doctor's list.
- Beneficiaries between 15 and 18 years old can register either in a Children Personal Doctor's list or in an Adults Personal Doctor's list.
- Beneficiaries over 18 years old are registered in an Adults Personal Doctor's list.
- Beneficiaries over 65 years old can register either in an Adults Personal Doctor's list or in a Geriatric Personal Doctor's list.

Beneficiaries can search for Personal Doctors contracted with the Health Insurance Organisation (HIO) to provide GHS Personal Doctor healthcare services either through the HIO website or via the Beneficiaries' Online Portal.

The application to register in a Personal Doctor's list can be done in two ways:

#### A. Electronically, via the Beneficiaries' Online Portal:

Beneficiaries who are already registered in the Beneficiaries' Registry and have access to the Online Portal <https://portal.gesy.org.cy/> can submit an electronic request to register with a Personal Doctor of their choice, found via electronic search. Once the Personal Doctor accepts the request electronically, the beneficiary is notified via email or through the Beneficiaries' Online Portal.

To complete the registration process, the beneficiary must visit their Personal Doctor in person. During this first visit:

- The Personal Doctor fills in/confirm the beneficiary's information.
- Both parties sign the "Joint Acceptance Form", which the Personal Doctor sends to the Health Insurance Organisation within a reasonable timeframe.
- The Personal Doctor also provides the beneficiary with a unique number, which, together with a related email notification, allows the beneficiary to access their Electronic Medical Records.



#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

##### Changing Personal Doctor

All GHS beneficiaries have the right to change their Personal Doctor, according to their age group:

- Beneficiaries up to 2 years old can change their Children's Personal Doctor without restriction.
- The rest of the beneficiaries are allowed to change their Personal Doctor after completing 12 months from the registration in their current doctor's list.

#### B. By Visiting a Personal Doctor:

- Alternatively, beneficiaries who are already registered in the Beneficiaries' Registry can visit the Personal Doctor whose list they wish to join. During the visit, the Personal Doctor searches for the beneficiary electronically in the Beneficiaries' Registry and, once located, registers them in their list.
- Additionally, the Personal Doctor fills in/confirm the beneficiary's information and both parties sign the "Mutual Acceptance Form for Registration in a Personal Doctor's Beneficiaries' List", which is kept by the Personal Doctor and is available to the Organisation for inspection or submitted when requested.
- The Personal Doctor also provides the beneficiary, if desired and if the beneficiary has a registered email address in the Beneficiaries' Registry, with a unique number. Combined with a related email notification, this unique number allows the beneficiary to access their Electronic Medical Records.





#### **NOTE THAT...**

The Service Centre constitutes a single point of contact between the Health Insurance Organisation and beneficiaries, healthcare providers, as well as any person, for all matters relating to the General Healthcare System.

#### **How to contact GHS and the Health Insurance Organisation**

Beneficiaries and the general public can communicate with the Health Insurance Organisation regarding GHS matters, such as submitting questions, queries or complaints, or obtaining general information about the healthcare services provided, through the following:

- GHS Contact Centre: by phone at 17000 (from Cyprus) free of charge, or at +357 22 017000 (from abroad) and by email at [info@gesy.org.cy](mailto:info@gesy.org.cy)
- Through the official GHS website at [www.gesy.org.cy](http://www.gesy.org.cy)
- Through the HIO central phone line: 22557200
- By post: 17-19 Klementos Street, 1061 Nicosia, P.O. Box 26765, 1641 Nicosia

#### **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)**

The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) is issued to all beneficiaries of the General Healthcare System (GeSY). The EHIC provides access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in one of the 27 EU countries, as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, under the same conditions and at the same cost (in some countries, free of charge) as insured persons of that country.

It is clarified that for Cypriots whose healthcare coverage falls under the legislation of a Member State of the European Union, the European Economic Area, Switzerland, or the United Kingdom, the EHIC is issued by that respective Member State.

For example, a Cypriot who receives a pension only from Germany and repatriates continues to fall under German social security legislation. They continue to pay contributions in Germany, receive healthcare services in Cyprus by presenting form S1, and the EHIC is issued by the German authorities.



## “PATIENT JOURNEY”

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### Important Information

The “Patient Journey” is a microsite that informs and guides GHS beneficiaries in general, and chronic patients in particular, on matters related to GHS services and how to access them, as well as on specific chronic diseases categories. Its creation is the result of collaboration between the Health Insurance Organisation (HIO) and the Cyprus Federation of Patients’ Associations (CyFPA).

Currently, the “Patient Journey” covers the following 12 categories of chronic conditions:

1. Congenital Heart Diseases,
2. Rheumatism,
3. Diabetes,
4. Organ Transplantation,

5. Kidney Disease,
6. Thalassaemia,
7. Celiac Disease,
8. Multiple Sclerosis,
9. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD),
10. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD),
11. Stroke,
12. Idiopathic Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)

The primary goal is to continuously update the microsite, so that informative material on as many chronic diseases as possible will gradually be added, aiming to inform a larger number of chronic patients. You may visit the “Patient Journey” by following this link: [www.patientjourneycy.org](http://www.patientjourneycy.org)



# Education

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## General information

Public education in Cyprus is compulsory and free from the age of 4 years and 8 months until the age of 15. Education is provided on both a public and private basis at all levels, from pre-primary education to higher education and vocational studies.

The language of instruction in public schools is Greek, and they follow the Curriculum determined by the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth.

The academic year for primary education schools is divided into three terms, while for secondary education schools it is divided into two four-month periods. All schools are closed during the Christmas, Easter, and summer holidays.

Children attend the public school located closest to their place of residence, provided they register on time during

### *NOTE THAT...*

In its effort to provide educational support to Cypriots living abroad, the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth supplies books and other educational material to schools for children of expatriate Cypriots and other Cypriot organisations abroad.

The Ministry also offers children of Cypriot communities the opportunity to visit Cyprus and develops programs related to the Greek language and Greek culture.

the registration period. Alternatively, they may enroll in the nearest school with available places.

Students in primary schools and in lower and upper secondary schools whose mother tongue is not Greek are provided with free Greek language lessons at the State Institutes of Further Education. These lessons are free of charge.

As for English, it is taught from the first grade of primary school. Children may also attend private schools—the decision to attend a public or private school rests solely with the parents. There are no free English-language private schools in Cyprus. Tuition fees are charged at all private schools. In addition to English-language schools, there are private schools in Cyprus that teach in other languages as well (such as French, Russian, etc.).







**MORE INFORMATION:**

[www.moec.gov.cy/dde/ekpaideftikes-perifereies.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/dde/ekpaideftikes-perifereies.html)

### Primary Education

Classes in public primary schools (Elementary Schools) begin at 7:45 a.m. and end at 1:05 p.m. An exception applies to primary schools participating in the “Unified All-Day School” program, which operate until 4:00 p.m., as well as to “Optional All-Day Schools” in primary education (Elementary Schools and Kindergartens), which operate until 3:05 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. Private schools publish their timetable upon request.

### Secondary Education

Public secondary education consists of two three-year cycles of study: Gymnasium (lower secondary school) and Lyceum (upper secondary school).

Both cycles include curricula offered in distinct subjects (Modern Greek, Mathematics, History, etc.), interdisciplinary programs (Health Education, Environmental Education, etc.), as well as various extracurricular activities (excursions, visits, etc.), aiming at the holistic and balanced development of students’ personalities.

Attendance is free of charge for all grades and compulsory until the student completes the Gymnasium cycle or reaches the age of 15, whichever occurs first.

The language of instruction in public schools is Greek, and the educational policies and curricula developed by the competent authority—the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth—are implemented. English is taught as a compulsory subject from the 1st grade of Gymnasium through to the 3rd grade of Lyceum.

### NOTE THAT...

With regard to registrations in Public and Community Kindergartens, these usually take place during the first two weeks of January for each school year. Each child is enrolled in the Kindergarten of their designated Educational District, based on their residential address.

Classes begin each year on the fifth working day of September and end in May, depending on the grade. Public secondary schools operate from 7:30 a.m. to 1:35 p.m. (Monday–Friday). Students enroll in schools within their designated educational district within the deadlines set by the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth.

It is further emphasised that Secondary Education has strengthened the institution of special-interest schools through the operation of Sports and Music Gymnasiums and Lyceums, as well as Interdisciplinary/STEM Schools, one in each city of free Cyprus.

For children arriving in Cyprus from schools abroad, a relevant application must be completed and all necessary documents/supporting evidence must be submitted. The application is completed at the competent District Education Offices in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, and Paphos. These offices provide information regarding the required documents, as well as details about the registration and transfer procedures for children enrolling in public general secondary schools.



It is further emphasised that children who wish to enroll in public schools in Cyprus from schools abroad are required to sit placement examinations, following relevant guidance from the District Education Offices (with the exception of children who have attended schools in Greece where the language of instruction is Greek). Children who have attended Greek lyceums (in Greece) are required to sit placement examinations in the selected subjects.

Students who do not have a satisfactory command of the Greek language have the opportunity to join special Greek language learning programs, including transitional classes, where deemed necessary, in order to facilitate their smooth integration into the education system.

The assessment of a child's level of Greek language proficiency is carried out at the beginning of the school year through a diagnostic test. Children who are placed in transitional classes follow a modified timetable that includes intensive teaching of Greek as a second language, along with elements of History and Culture. Specifically, Greek as a second language is taught: 20 periods per week in transitional classes of 1st Grade Gymnasium, 14 periods per week in transitional classes of 2nd Grade Gymnasium, 15 periods per week in transitional classes of 1st Grade Lyceum. Mathematics is taught for 7, 6, and 4 periods per week respectively.

In Cyprus, there is also the option of attending private secondary schools. The decision to attend a public or private school rests solely with the parents. Tuition fees are charged at all private schools, and the language of instruction varies depending on the school (it may be Greek, English, French, or Russian).

Private Secondary Education Schools are classified into three categories, depending on the curriculum and timetable they implement:

1. Private Schools of the same type: These schools follow, without deviation, the official curricula and timetables of the existing types of public schools.
2. Private Schools of a similar type: These schools, in addition to other subjects, are required to teach the main subjects of an existing type of public school, covering at least two-thirds of the time and content prescribed for public schools.
3. Private Schools of a different type: These schools do not fall into either of the two above categories.

Lists of the Private Secondary Education Schools and corresponding Private Tutorial Centres approved by the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth and operating in Cyprus are available online.



#### **NOTE THAT...**

A list of all public and private primary and secondary schools is posted on the website of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth: [www.moec.gov.cy/schools\\_info.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/schools_info.html)

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION...**

Directorate of Secondary Education  
Tel.: +357 22 800630 / 631  
[www.moec.gov.cy/dme](http://www.moec.gov.cy/dme)

Timetable (School Schedule):  
[nop.moec.gov.cy](http://nop.moec.gov.cy)

District Education Offices – General  
Secondary Education  
[www.moec.gov.cy/dme/epikoinonia.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/dme/epikoinonia.html)

Transitional Classes Program for Students  
with a Migrant Background: <https://enimerosi.moec.gov.cy/archeia/ypp18890>

Music Schools:  
[mousm.schools.ac.cy/index.php/el/](http://mousm.schools.ac.cy/index.php/el/)

Sports Schools:  
[www.schools.ac.cy/athlitika\\_scholeia.html](http://www.schools.ac.cy/athlitika_scholeia.html)

Private Education:  
[www.moec.gov.cy/idiotiki\\_ekpaidefsi/index.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/idiotiki_ekpaidefsi/index.html)





## Higher Education

### Public Universities

Admission of prospective undergraduate students to two of the three Public Universities (the University of Cyprus and the Cyprus University of Technology) is achieved mainly through the Pancyprian Examinations. The right to participate in these examinations is granted to:

- (a) graduates of Secondary Education in Cyprus, regardless of nationality, and
- (b) Cypriots of the diaspora from all over the world.

Admission to postgraduate programs is carried out through a selection process, which is primarily based on academic performance.

The Open University of Cyprus accepts applications for admission online through its website. Applicants are considered eligible if they meet the minimum formal requirements for each study program, which are posted on the relevant webpage of the University.

| PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES             |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| University of Cyprus            | Tel.: +357 22 894000<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@ucy.ac.cy">info@ucy.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.ucy.ac.cy">www.ucy.ac.cy</a>                     |
| Cyprus University of Technology | Tel.: +357 25 002500<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:administration@cut.ac.cy">administration@cut.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.cut.ac.cy">www.cut.ac.cy</a> |
| Open University of Cyprus       | Tel.: +357 22 411600<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@ouc.ac.cy">info@ouc.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.ouc.ac.cy">www.ouc.ac.cy</a>                     |

### Private Universities

Private universities in Cyprus follow similar admission policies regarding the entry of prospective students. For more information, interested individuals should contact the university of their choice directly.

| ΙΔΙΩΤΙΚΑ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΑ                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| University of Nicosia                                         | Tel.: +357 22 841500<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:admissions@unic.ac.cy">admissions@unic.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.unic.ac.cy">www.unic.ac.cy</a>                                                                             |
| Frederick University                                          | Tel.: +357 22 431355<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@frederick.ac.cy">info@frederick.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.frederick.ac.cy">www.frederick.ac.cy</a>                                                                     |
| European University Cyprus                                    | Tel.: +357 22 713000<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:admit@euc.ac.cy">admit@euc.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.euc.ac.cy">www.euc.ac.cy</a>                                                                                           |
| Neapolis University Pafos                                     | Tel.: +357 26 843300<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@nup.ac.cy">info@nup.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.nup.ac.cy">www.nup.ac.cy</a>                                                                                             |
| University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus (UCLan Cyprus)       | Tel.: +357 24 694000<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@uclancyprus.ac.cy">info@uclancyprus.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="http://www.uclancyprus.ac.cy">www.uclancyprus.ac.cy</a>                                                             |
| Philips University                                            | Tel.: +357 22 441860<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@philipsuni.ac.cy">info@philipsuni.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="https://www.philipsuni.ac.cy/">https://www.philipsuni.ac.cy/</a>                                                      |
| American University of Cyprus (AUCY)                          | Tel.: +357 24 209000<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@aucy.ac.cy">info@aucy.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="https://www.aucy.ac.cy/">https://www.aucy.ac.cy/</a>                                                                              |
| University of Limassol                                        | Tel.: +357 22 452246, +357 25 878782<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@uol.ac.cy">info@uol.ac.cy</a> , <a href="mailto:admissions@uol.ac.cy">admissions@uol.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="https://www.uol.ac.cy/">https://www.uol.ac.cy/</a> |
| American University of Beirut Mediterraneo (AUB Mediterraneo) | Tel.: +357 26 823333, +357 26 812222<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@aubmed.ac.cy">info@aubmed.ac.cy</a><br>Website: <a href="https://www.aubmed.ac.cy">https://www.aubmed.ac.cy</a>                                                        |

| Branches of Foreign Universities in Cyprus                                      |                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) – Cyprus Branch (Nicosia) | Website: <a href="https://cy.uoa.gr">https://cy.uoa.gr</a> |



### Public Higher Education Schools

In Cyprus, there are Public Higher Education Schools which mainly offer vocational programs, as well as undergraduate and postgraduate programs.

| PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOOLS                                        |                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cyprus Police Academy                                                  | Tel.: +357 22 808236<br>E-mail: academy.recruitment@police.gov.cy<br>Website: www.police.gov.cy                           |
| Forestry College                                                       | Tel.: +357 25 813606, +357 25 462048<br>E-mail: forcollege@fd.moa.gov.cy<br>Website: www.moa.gov.cy/fc                    |
| Mediterranean Institute of Management                                  | Tel.: +357 22 806117 / 106<br>E-mail: knicolaides@kepa.mlsi.gov.cy, mim@kepa.mlsi.gov.cy<br>Website: http://www.min.ac.cy |
| Post-Secondary Institutes of Vocational Education and Training (MIEEK) | Tel.: +357 22 800653 / 22 800652 / 22 800651 (daily)<br>E-mail: info@mieek.ac.cy<br>Website: http://www.mieek.ac.cy       |

### Private Tertiary Education Schools

In Cyprus, many registered private tertiary education schools operate, offering undergraduate and postgraduate study programs, as well as shorter professional programs.

These schools are:

1. Aigaia School of Fine and Applied Arts (Nicosia)
2. Vladimiros Kafkaridis Drama School (Nicosia)
3. Theological School of the Church of Cyprus (Nicosia)
4. Institute of Professional Studies at UCLan Cyprus (Pyla)
5. Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (Nicosia)
6. A.C. American College (Nicosia)
7. ACC Akademia College (Deryneia)
8. Alexander College (Larnaca, Paphos)
9. Arte Music Academy (Nicosia)
10. Atlantis College (Liopetri)
11. Casa College (Nicosia)
12. CBS – College of Business Studies (Nicosia)
13. CIM – Cyprus Business School (Nicosia, Limassol)
14. C.D.A. College (Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Paphos)
15. City Unity College Nicosia (Nicosia)
16. CTL EuroCollege (Limassol)
17. Cyprus College (Nicosia, Limassol)
18. College of Tourism & Hotel Management (Nicosia)
19. European Institute of Management and Finance (Nicosia)
20. Frederick Institute of Technology (Nicosia, Limassol)
21. Freshart College (Paphos)
22. Global College (Nicosia)
23. Intercollege (Nicosia)
24. InterNapa College (Sotira)
25. KES College (Nicosia)
26. P.A. College (Larnaca)
27. The Limassol College (Limassol)
28. Ledra College (Nicosia)
29. The Cyprus Institute (Nicosia)
30. Susini College (Nicosia)
31. Mesoyios College (Limassol)
32. The Cyprus Academy of Art (Limassol)
33. Larnaca College (Larnaca)



#### **Program for Children with a Migrant Background**

The Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, through its policy regarding the education of children with a migrant background and in its effort to effectively address their specific educational and social needs, has developed an official policy on Intercultural Education. The aim is the smooth integration of these children into the Cypriot Educational System through the provision of enhanced and differentiated Greek language learning programs.

For this purpose, a "Policy Document for the Integration of Students with a Migrant Background into the Cypriot Educational System" has been developed.

The document records the current situation and presents the proposal for the reception of children with a migrant background and for the teaching of Greek as a second language, which is developed around five priority axes:

1. Learning the Greek language
2. Reception of newly arrived children with a migrant background
3. Education and training of teachers
4. Collection and analysis of data regarding the needs of children with a migrant background
5. Intercultural approach in the new Curricula

#### **Greek Language Learning Program for Children with a Migrant Background**

Upon enrollment in primary school, children have the opportunity to participate in various programs for learning Greek as a second language.

Students who do not have a satisfactory command of the Greek language may join special Greek language learning programs, including transitional classes, when deemed necessary, with the aim of ensuring their smooth integration into the educational system.

The assessment of a child's level of Greek language proficiency is determined at the beginning of the school year through the administration of a diagnostic test.





## Pedagogical Institute

The Pedagogical Institute coordinates the Interdepartmental Committee of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth for the integration of children with a migrant background into the Cypriot educational system.

Within this framework, the Pedagogical Institute offers a variety of training programs for teachers and has developed extensive training, educational, and informational material, which is available on its website (<https://www.pi.ac.cy>).

The material includes presentations, teaching resources, and a curriculum for teaching Greek as a second language from Kindergarten onward, as well as reception guides and information for newly arrived families.

Specifically:

- Translations of school-related forms. These forms are available in various languages (English, Arabic, Bulgarian, French, Georgian, Chinese, Ukrainian, Persian, Romanian, Russian, Turkish).
- Educational Integration of Children with a Migrant Background – Translated forms.
- Curriculum for teaching Greek as a second language from Kindergarten through lower secondary school (Gymnasium).

## CURRICULUM FOR GREEK AS A SECOND LANGUAGE – 2020 EDITION

Educational Integration of Children with a Migrant Background – Curriculum – Diagnostic Tests

- Diagnostic tests for Greek language proficiency and for students' skills in other subject areas (Mathematics and Natural Sciences), translated into other languages.
- PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION – Assessment of Needs in the Greek Language.
- PRIMARY EDUCATION – Initial Diagnostic Assessment Tests for Greek as a Second Language (2024–2025).
- PRIMARY EDUCATION – Initial Diagnostic Knowledge Assessment Tests.
- SECONDARY EDUCATION – Formative Assessment Tests – Greek as a Second Language.
- SECONDARY EDUCATION – Initial Diagnostic Knowledge Assessment Tests in Mathematics, Physics, and Biology in students' first (mother) languages (for students with a migrant background).



## Educational Integration of Children with a Migrant Background – Curriculum – Diagnostic Tests

- Educational material for teaching Greek as a second language (Levels A1, A2 and B1).
- Educational Integration of Children with a Migrant Background – Pedagogical Institute Guides.
- Guides for welcoming children to school.

## Reception Guide for Children with a Migrant Background: The First Days at School (2020)

For Primary and Pre-Primary Education: outlines the steps a school takes to welcome newly arrived children with a migrant background – including sample tests, ideas, and materials.

## Guide for the Reception and Integration of Students with a Migrant Background in Secondary Schools of Cyprus (2020)

### Parent Mediators' Guide

Part A: Ideas and suggestions for cooperation between parents of children with a migrant background and the school.

Part B: Translation of school attendance rules in Cyprus, and translation of key terminology from Language, Mathematics, and Natural Sciences into Arabic, Russian, Georgian, and Ukrainian.

### Guide for Managing Sociocultural Diversity

Includes articles with ideas and suggestions for the linguistic and sociocultural integration of children with a migrant background into school.





### Distance Learning Platform for Teaching Greek as a Second Language

Four modules have been developed, consisting of five lesson packages presented in the form of interactive presentations (scorm packages). In these material packages, free access is available to anyone who obtains login credentials from the Pedagogical Institute. Information on how to create an account and gain access to this material can be found on the website:

[https://www.pi.ac.cy/pi/files/anakoinoseis/2018\\_2019/domes\\_ypostirixis\\_parartima.pdf](https://www.pi.ac.cy/pi/files/anakoinoseis/2018_2019/domes_ypostirixis_parartima.pdf)

It is also noted that the Pedagogical Institute organises various training activities offered in person, and material from these activities is posted on the Pedagogical Institute's website ([www.pi.ac.cy](http://www.pi.ac.cy)) via the relevant icon.

Special mention should be made of the Program for Expatriate (Homogeneous) Teachers who teach the Greek language in other countries. In recent years, every July, the Pedagogical Institute has organised a Training Program for Expatriate Teachers from the Community Schools of the Archdiocese of the United States of America.

This specific program is an offering of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth to Hellenism in the Diaspora, in cooperation with the Holy Archdiocese of America. Its main aim is to empower teachers to systematically deepen their understanding of the rules governing the Greek language and to broaden their knowledge and teaching skills in Greek as a second/foreign language or as a heritage language.

The seminar program is complemented by visits to historical sites, in an effort to provide participating teachers with experiential knowledge and understanding of the history of Cyprus.

### Hosting of Cypriot Children from Abroad at the Camps of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth:

The Camps Service of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth continuously expands its hosting programs in Cyprus and increases the number of children it welcomes from abroad.

These programs involve 150–200 primary school children aged 10 to 12 and are implemented within the framework of the hospitality program for children of the Greek diaspora from other countries.

All groups are accompanied by a limited number of escorts/teachers (approximately one escort per ten children), who are responsible for the students throughout their journey and stay in Cyprus.

The purpose of the Hosting Program is to give children from Greece, Cypriot communities abroad, and countries where members of the Greek diaspora live, the opportunity to visit and get to know Cyprus - its landmarks, culture, traditions, and Cypriot hospitality.

The hosting may take place:

It lasts 5 days (Monday–Friday) and includes accommodation, meals, and transfers to and from the airport.

#### 1. During an Educational Program (Spring/Autumn)

Two excursions are organised to nearby destinations so that participants can visit important landmarks and monuments of Cyprus, such as:

- The Holy Monastery of Panagia tou Kykkou
- Marathasa Valley – Kalopanagiotis
- Saint John Lampadistis Monastery
- The icon museum (icon treasury)
- An experimental fish farm
- Agricultural cultivations of Marathasa, etc.

#### 2. During the Summer Program (Summer Period)

It usually lasts 9 days and includes accommodation, meals, and transfers to and from the airport.

Two full-day excursions are organised to different cities in Cyprus (Nicosia and Limassol or Paphos), as well as one excursion to a nearby destination, allowing participants to explore important sights and monuments of Cyprus.

**MORE INFORMATION...**

[www.moec.gov.cy/dde/programs/kataskinoseis](http://www.moec.gov.cy/dde/programs/kataskinoseis)



### Subsidy of Tuition Fees for Children of Repatriated Cypriot Expatriates Attending Private Secondary Schools

The term “Repatriate and/or Returning Migrant”, for the purposes of the tuition subsidy scheme for children of repatriated Cypriots of the diaspora, refers to a person of Cypriot origin (from at least one of the two parents) who holds Cypriot citizenship or is eligible to obtain it upon settling in the Republic of Cyprus, after seven (7) consecutive years of permanent residence abroad prior to their return.

The provisions of the Council of Ministers’ Decision dated 13/03/2023 concerning this scheme apply from the 2002–2003 school year onwards, including cases where the child’s mother is of Cypriot origin.

Specifically, according to the Council of Ministers’ Decision dated 27/08/2025, the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth (MESY) provides an annual tuition subsidy of €1,000 (one thousand euros) for each child of a repatriated Cypriot parent who, upon arrival in Cyprus, immediately enrolls in a Private Secondary School (Gymnasium–Lyceum) approved by the Ministry, following seven (7) consecutive years of permanent residence abroad in a country where the language of instruction was not Greek.

The maximum number of beneficiaries is 150 students per year.

Interested parents must select the Private Secondary School they wish their child to attend from the list of approved Private Secondary Schools by district:

[https://sch.cy/mc/360/eI\\_idiotika\\_mesi\\_geniki.pdf](https://sch.cy/mc/360/eI_idiotika_mesi_geniki.pdf)

They must then contact the Private School to obtain information about the school’s policy regarding the subsidy and to receive the relevant application form.

When completing the application, parents must submit a certificate confirming seven (7) consecutive years of residence abroad prior to repatriation. This certificate must be issued by the Embassy or Competent Authority of the Republic of Cyprus in the country of migration/ origin, where the language of instruction was not Greek. The application is completed and submitted by the parents directly to the Private School of attendance.

The Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth examines the applications submitted by Private Schools once per year and transfers the subsidy amount directly to the Private Schools for each student who meets the criteria.

Depending on the policy of each Private School, the subsidy is either deducted from the tuition fees at the time of registration at the beginning of the school year or refunded to the parents at the end of the school year.

### Special Education

Children with special needs enjoy all rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other children. Based on their assessed needs, the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth (MESY) provides specialised education to all children through Individualised Education Programs (IEPs), tailored to each child’s specific needs and delivered in appropriately equipped facilities.

Children and their families are also given the option of using subsidised transportation to attend schools outside their designated school district.

In addition, MESY takes all necessary measures to ensure accessibility of school infrastructure (elevators, ramps, signage, etc.).

With the introduction of new technologies in education, the Curriculum is made accessible to children with special needs through specialised technological equipment.

At the same time, MESY responds to children’s need for creative engagement during afternoon hours and throughout the summer months by extending the operating hours of special schools. In this way, the needs of children and their families are met to the greatest possible extent.

In public schools, measures are also taken to support children’s development in all areas, particularly psychological, social, and educational domains. Children with special needs who have been identified as requiring special education are entitled to free attendance at a public school for the provision of special education within a mainstream school classroom. In Secondary Education, the following Special Education Programs operate:

- Learning Difficulties
- Special Units
- Hearing Impairment
- Visual Impairment
- Home Education

Furthermore, to address the issue of functional illiteracy and prevent the resulting school and social exclusion, a Literacy Program is in operation. The content of the Program focuses on the three basic skills—reading, writing, and numeracy—at the level of the first three grades of Primary Education, adapted to the needs and experiences of lower secondary (Gymnasium) students.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION...**

**For tuition fee subsidies:**

+357 22806383

**For approved Private Secondary Schools:**

+357 22809512/ 22809500

### **FURTHER INFORMATION...**

#### **Provision of Special Education:**

[www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki\\_ekpaidefsi/eidiki\\_agogi\\_ekpaidefsi.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/eidiki_agogi_ekpaidefsi.html)

#### **Special Education:**

[www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki\\_ekpaidefsi/eidiki\\_agogi\\_ekpaidefsi.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/eidiki_agogi_ekpaidefsi.html)

#### **Assessment of Children by the District Committee for Special Education (E.E.E.A.E.) for the Provision of Special Education:**

[www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki\\_ekpaidefsi/axiologisi\\_paidion.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/axiologisi_paidion.html)

#### **Parents' Rights:**

[www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki\\_ekpaidefsi/dikaionmata\\_gonion.html](http://www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/dikaionmata_gonion.html)

#### **Submission of a Request by Parents/Guardians to Obtain Copies from Their Children's Personal Files:**

[https://www.moec.gov.cy/exypiretisi\\_politi/](https://www.moec.gov.cy/exypiretisi_politi/)

#### **Other Information:**

[https://www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki\\_ekpaidefsi/](https://www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/)



### **Missions Abroad**

#### **Cyprus Educational Mission:**

The Cyprus Educational Mission of Great Britain is the main body through which, since 1969, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth (MOEC) has supported the efforts of the Cypriot community in Great Britain to preserve and cultivate the national, religious, cultural, and linguistic identity of its children and of the community as a whole. For this reason, the Ministry has incorporated the operation of the Cyprus Educational Mission, as a distinct activity, into its Strategic Planning.

To achieve the above objective, the Unified Body of Greek Community Education has been established. It represents almost all educational institutions of Greek Community Education in Great Britain and its primary concern is the coordination of the actions of all the aforementioned educational bodies. The President of the Unified Body of Greek Community Education is the Archbishop of Thyateiron and Great Britain, and the Vice-Presidents are the respective Heads of the Educational Missions of Cyprus and Greece. The Unified Body of Greek Community Education addresses matters relating to the operation of the Greek Community Schools and the problems they face.

On its part, the Ministry makes coordinated efforts (dispatch of teachers, staff training, publication and distribution of books, etc.) for the more effective fulfillment of the Cyprus Educational Mission's role in supporting the Greek Community Schools.

### **DIPAE Agency**

The Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency in Higher Education (DIPAE Agency) is the competent independent Authority responsible for ensuring quality standards and supporting the procedures provided for by the relevant legislation.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION...**

<https://www.dipae.ac.cy>



# Military Service

## Military Service in Cyprus

### (According to the National Guard Law of 2011)

All male Cypriot repatriates (18 to 45 years old) who have at least one parent of Cypriot origin are required to complete military service in the National Guard.

Repatriated Cypriots and their male children who have lived abroad for a period exceeding ten years (in one or more countries) are entitled to serve a reduced term of service, depending on their age at the date of their return and resettlement in Cyprus:

- Males over 26 years of age will serve 3 months.
- Males between 18 and 26 years of age will serve 6 months.
- [Relevant: Article 21(1)(c)(d) of the National Guard Law]

From 2018 onwards, the enlistment period is the month of July each year. Since 2016, the duration of full military service has been set at 14 months.

A male permanent resident abroad (as explicitly defined in Article 2(a) of the National Guard Law of 2011 – Law 19(I)/2011) who is interested in repatriation must, upon settling on the island, contact the Recruitment Office of the city in which he will reside in order to complete the necessary registration forms for inclusion in the military registry lists.

A Cypriot, permanent resident abroad (as defined in Article 2(a) of the National Guard Law), between the ages of 16 and 26, who visits the Republic of Cyprus, must obtain an exit permit from the Recruitment Office or the Citizen Service Centre (CSC) of the city in which he is staying, prior to his departure from the Republic.

In the event that a Cypriot permanent resident abroad (as defined in Article 2(a) of the National Guard Law) is granted exemption from the obligation to perform military service, he is not required to follow the above procedure to obtain an exit permit. Instead, upon departure from the Republic, he may present the official document issued by the Ministry of Defence granting the exemption, which serves as a permanent exit permit.

The application for exemption, together with a certificate from the Embassy in the country of residence, may be submitted from the age of 18 of the permanent resident abroad.

The exit permit may also be issued through the government portal Gov.cy (Cy Login) by eligible individuals who possess a verified profile. Verification can be completed either through banks (e-banking), via video call with CSC/KEPO officers, or through an in-person visit to a verification centre.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Ministry of Defence

Tel.: +357 22 807500

Fax: +357 22 676182 / +357 22 302021

Website: <https://www.gov.cy/mod/>

National Guard General Staff – Recruitment Directorate

Tel.: +357 22 417121, Fax: +357 22 375989

Website: <https://www.gov.cy/army/>

Nicosia–Kyrenia–Morphou Recruitment Office

Tel.: +357 22 515260, Fax: +357 22 515262

Limassol Recruitment Office

Tel.: +357 25 342382, Fax: +357 25 351043

Larnaca–Famagusta Recruitment Office

Tel.: +357 24 625376, Fax: +357 24 653991

Paphos Recruitment Office

Tel.: +357 26 933270, Fax: +357 26 222035

### NOTE THAT...

- Cypriots living abroad (men and women) may apply for recruitment into the National Guard, provided they meet the requirements set out in the relevant vacancy announcement issued by the Ministry of Defence.
- Repatriated Cypriots serving their military service in the National Guard receive an allowance, like any other conscript, depending on their family status. Specifically:
  - Married conscripts (the spouse is considered a dependent) receive €157 (basic allowance) plus an additional €68.70.
  - Conscripts with two dependents receive €157 (basic allowance) plus an additional €102.60.
  - Conscripts with three dependents receive €157 (basic allowance) plus an additional €136.80.







# Work – Employment

The Department of Labour actively promotes repatriation of Cypriot expatriates by providing individualised information regarding the current labour market in Cyprus, employment conditions for specific occupations and available vocational rehabilitation opportunities.

Through the “Brain Gain” initiative also known as the “Minds in Cyprus” campaign and as a part of a broader repatriation strategy, a dedicated, simple and user friendly on line talent portal is in place for repatriates to express their interest in working in Cyprus. The simple and targeted information needed in this on line portal, facilitates the Public Employment Service (PES) (which operates under the Department of Labour) of Cyprus to connect expatriates with suitable Employment Opportunities even before their repatriation.

Upon repatriation, repatriates are encouraged to contact the Public Employment Service of Cyprus. Repatriates are entitled to the whole array of services offered by the Public Employment Services (PES) which includes initial registration as a job seeker, a tailored made individualised Counselling by the personal Employment Counselor, intensive job placement support, information on available Employment Incentive schemes and information on vocational training opportunities. These services are offered in all District and Local Offices of the Public Employment Service in all districts.

## *Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες:*

**Department of Labour**

9 Clementos Street, 1480 Nicosia

Website: [www.mlsi.gov.cy](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy)

Websites with useful information on employment matters in Cyprus:

**Online Registration and Job Vacancy Search System – Public Employment Service –**

**Department of Labour**

[www.pescps.dl.mlsi.gov.cy](http://www.pescps.dl.mlsi.gov.cy)

**The Cyprus Talent Portal**

**Employers and Jobseekers Platform -**

**Online Registration and Job Vacancy Search System**

[www.pescps.dl.mlsi.gov.cy](http://www.pescps.dl.mlsi.gov.cy)

**European Job Mobility Portal (EURES)**

<https://europa.eu/eures/portal/jv-se/home?lang=en>

**National Resource Centre for Vocational Guidance and Training**

[www.nrcg.dl.mlsi.gov.cy](http://www.nrcg.dl.mlsi.gov.cy)

**Department of Labour Relations**

[www.mlsi.gov.cy/dlr](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/dlr)

**Social Insurance Services**

[www.mlsi.gov.cy](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy)

**EURES Cyprus National Coordination Office**

Tel.: +357 22 400820

Email: [eurescyprus@dl.mlsi.gov.cy](mailto:eurescyprus@dl.mlsi.gov.cy)





*NOTE THAT...*

Persons with special professional qualifications are subject to the Law for the Recognition of Vocational Qualifications for Occupational Professions.

Further information:

Telephone: +357 22 400845

E-mail: [qualifications@dl.mlsi.gov.cy](mailto:qualifications@dl.mlsi.gov.cy)



# Industry & Technology

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## Industry and Technology Service

The Industry and Technology Service aims to enhance the competitiveness of businesses and strengthen entrepreneurial activity in Cyprus.

Main activities:

- Formulation, coordination, and implementation of industrial and business policy frameworks
- Improvement of the business environment
- Preparation and implementation of targeted Grant Schemes

Major Grant Schemes announced by the Service include:

- Competitiveness Scheme for SMEs in the Manufacturing Sector and other targeted activities
- Scheme for Enhancing New Business Activity
- Digital Upgrade Scheme for Businesses
- Scheme for the Creation, Modernisation and Digital Upgrade of Processing and/or Marketing Units of Agricultural Products
- Winery Sector Support Scheme
- "Save & Upgrade" Scheme for Households
- "Save & Upgrade" Scheme for SME Businesses and Non-Profit Organisations
- Circular Economy Scheme for SME Businesses
- Grant Scheme for the Energy Upgrade and

Competitiveness Enhancement of Large Enterprises

- Strategy for enhancing the competitiveness and internationalisation of Cypriot industry
- Creation and management of infrastructure/Industrial Areas to support the rational spatial planning of enterprises.
- Monitoring and coordination of the functioning of the EU Internal Market, and promotion of opportunities to the business community through the EU's Internal Market Information System (IMI) for the purpose of administrative cooperation between Member States.
- National Coordination of Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 on the establishment of the Single Digital Gateway, known to the public as "Your Europe", which consists of two sections: Citizens and Businesses.

The implementation of the Single Digital Gateway aims at the digitalisation of public services and the cross-border accessibility of information, fully online procedures/services, and support services.

***FURTHER INFORMATION...***

Address (main building):

Department of Industry and Technology,  
6 Andrea Araouzou, 1421 Nicosia, Cyprus.

Contact telephone: +357 22 867238

Fax: +357 22 376493

Email: [sit@mcit.gov.cy](mailto:sit@mcit.gov.cy)

<https://www.industry.gov.cy/gr/>





## Funding Schemes for Women and Young Entrepreneurs

### Women's Entrepreneurship

The Republic of Cyprus and the European Regional Development Fund co-finance a grant scheme aimed at promoting and supporting women's entrepreneurship.

The purpose of the Scheme is to develop, support, and promote entrepreneurship among women aged 18 to 55 who wish to engage in business activities in sectors such as manufacturing, e-commerce, services, and tourism, making use of their knowledge, training, and talents. The Scheme aims to broaden the entrepreneurial base by encouraging business initiatives led by women.

### Youth Entrepreneurship

The Republic of Cyprus and the European Regional Development Fund co-finance a grant scheme for the promotion and support of youth entrepreneurship.

The purpose of the Scheme is to develop, support, and promote entrepreneurship among young people aged 20 to 40 who wish to start a business in sectors such as manufacturing, e-commerce, services, and tourism, making use of their knowledge, training, and talents. It aims to broaden the entrepreneurial base by strengthening business initiatives undertaken by young people.

### Grant Scheme for Enhancing the Competitiveness of SMEs in the Manufacturing Sector and Other Targeted Economic Activities

The Scheme is part of the 2014–2020 Operational Programme "Competitiveness & Sustainable Development" and is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund and the Republic of Cyprus. Its objective is to support, develop, and promote small and medium-sized enterprises in the manufacturing sector and other targeted economic activities that are established or will be established in areas of Cyprus under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Scheme is implemented in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid. The grant intensity (percentage of the grant) amounts to 50% of the eligible investment costs.

### Creation and Modernisation of Units for the Processing, Marketing and/or Development of Agricultural Products

The Scheme is part of the Rural Development Programme for the period 2014–2020 and is co-funded (47%–53%) by the Republic of Cyprus and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). Its purpose is to support existing and new enterprises engaged in the processing and/or marketing of agricultural products listed in Annex I of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, excluding fishery products, wine, and vinegar.

Beneficiaries of the financial support provided under the Scheme include both natural and legal persons and fall into two categories:

**Beneficiaries A:** small, medium, and large enterprises

**Beneficiaries B:** very small enterprises

Eligible expenses include:

- Buildings and extensions of buildings and facilities
- New machinery and equipment
- Means of transport
- General expenses (consultancy fees for preparing techno-economic studies, initial certification costs for quality and food safety management systems)

Grant rate:

- 40% of eligible investment expenses for all categories
- Maximum grant amounts:
  - €400,000 for Beneficiaries A
  - €200,000 for Beneficiaries B

These amounts applied during the first Call of the Scheme.

The Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment is the Managing Authority of the RDP 2014–2018.

The Department of Industry and Technology of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry is the Implementing Authority for this Measure.

The Cyprus Agricultural Payments Organisation (CAPO) is the competent authority responsible for disbursing the financial support.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

##### Address:

Department of Industry and Technology,  
Business Plans Unit, 6 Andrea Araouzou  
Street, Nicosia.

##### Contact numbers:

+357 22867194, +357 22867100

Email: [vtsangaridou@mcit.gov.cy](mailto:vtsangaridou@mcit.gov.cy)

Website: [www.mcit.gov.cy](http://www.mcit.gov.cy)





### Scheme for Encouraging Investment Activity and Enhancing Competitiveness in the Winemaking Sector – Measure EPSA 3a

The Measure aims to encourage investment activity by providing support for tangible or intangible investments in wine processing facilities, winemaking infrastructure and/or wine marketing infrastructure, which improve the overall performance of businesses and strengthen competitiveness in the winemaking sector. The investments relate to the production and/or marketing of products covered by Annex VII, Part II of Regulation (EU) No. 1308/2013.

Eligible beneficiaries of the financial support offered through the Measure include businesses that produce and/or market exclusively products produced by their partners. Beneficiaries may be natural or legal persons and fall into the following categories:

**Beneficiary Category A:** Small, medium, and large enterprises

**Beneficiary Category B:** Large enterprises

**Beneficiary Category C:** Very large enterprises

Eligible expenses include:

- Buildings / extensions of buildings and facilities
- New machinery / equipment
- General expenses (fees for architects, engineers, and experts; cost of studies; acquisition of patents and exploitation/use licenses)

Maximum aid intensity:

- 40% of eligible expenses for Beneficiary Category A
- 20% of eligible expenses for Beneficiary Category B
- 15% of eligible expenses for Beneficiary Category C

The Measure is funded 100% by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF).

The Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment is the Managing Authority of the EPSA 2014–2018.

The Department of Industry and Technology of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry is the Implementing Agency.

The Cyprus Agricultural Payments Organisation (KOAP) is the Paying Authority for the financial support.

### FURTHER INFORMATION...

Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry –  
Department of Industry and Technology

Address: Andrea Araouzou 6, Nicosia

Contact telephone numbers:

+357 22 867154, +357 22 867275

Email:

mchristodoulidou@mcit.gov.cy

lheracleous@mcit.gov.cy

Website: <https://www.gov.cy/mecil/>

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development  
and Environment

Address: Amphipoleos 6, 2025 Strovolos,  
Nicosia

Contact telephone numbers:

+357 22 408300, +357 22 408343

Email: [registry@moa.gov.cy](mailto:registry@moa.gov.cy)

Website: [www.moa.gov.cy](http://www.moa.gov.cy)

Department of Agriculture

Address: Louki Akrita, 1412 Nicosia

Fax: +357 22 781425

Email: [director@da.moa.gov.cy](mailto:director@da.moa.gov.cy)

Cyprus Agricultural Payments Organisation  
(CAPO)

Address: 20 Michail Koutsovta (corner of

Esperidon & Michail Koutsovta), 2000 Nicosia

Contact telephone number: +357 22 557777

Fax: +357 22 557755

Website: [www.capo.gov.cy](http://www.capo.gov.cy)





### Grant Scheme “Save and Upgrade in Homes”

The scheme is co-funded by the Republic of Cyprus and the EU Cohesion Fund within the Operational Programme “Competitiveness and Sustainable Development” for the programming period 2014–2020.

Its purpose is the large-scale energy upgrade of existing residential units, which belong to natural persons who permanently reside in the areas under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus.

Grants provided to eligible beneficiaries amount to 50% of the eligible investment costs (Purchase of Services – Construction Works – Purchase of Equipment), except for applications submitted by vulnerable consumers, who may receive up to 75%.

The maximum grant amount that may be awarded is:

- Up to €25,000 per house, or
- Up to €20,000 per apartment in a multi-unit building.

### Grant Scheme “Save and Upgrade for Businesses”

The scheme is co-funded by the Republic of Cyprus and the EU European Regional Development Fund under the Operational Programme “Competitiveness and Sustainable Development” (PP 2014–2020).

Its purpose is the large-scale energy upgrade of building facilities owned or rented by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), including the use of Renewable Energy Sources (RES).

This goal is supported through non-repayable financial grants.

Grant levels are as follows:

- 50% of the total approved project budget for buildings that will be upgraded to at least Energy Class B on the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) or that will achieve energy savings exceeding 40% of the building’s total energy consumption.
- 75% of the total approved project budget for buildings that will be upgraded to Nearly Zero-Energy Buildings (NZEB).

The maximum grant amount per enterprise is €200,000.

### Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and Entrepreneurship

Policy for SMEs and entrepreneurship is one of the priorities of government strategy, recognizing the crucial role SMEs play in the country’s economic activity and development. The creation and growth of new enterprises is now considered one of the main drivers of job creation and economic acceleration, while new entrepreneurial activity based on knowledge, technological upgrading, and innovation strengthens the competitiveness of the entire business ecosystem.

New enterprises must be innovative and efficient in order to secure a successful market entry, while also needing to modernise and increase productivity in the face of strong competition. Ultimately, this leads to increased overall economic productivity, stronger national competitiveness, and greater resilience to international developments.

To this end, the Ministry promotes a series of actions and initiatives focused on the following key objectives:

1. Simplifying procedures, reducing administrative burden on businesses.
2. Facilitating access to financing for SMEs.
3. Providing incentives and support for access to the EU’s Single Internal Market.

### Business Support Centre

The Business Support Centre (BSC) commenced its operation on 26/05/2025.

The operation of the BSC was approved by the Council of Ministers on 12/3/2025 and comes to meet an essential need of the business community, enhancing the competitiveness and growth of the economy.

It is an evolution, with expanded responsibilities, of the Business Facilitation Unit whose operation had been approved by the Council of Ministers on 21/12/2021 and which came into force on 01/01/2022.

The BSC, is a partnership of key services, with the aim of providing a more direct, efficient and coordinated service to Cypriot and foreign investors, as the new Centre will operate as a common service provider and will consist of:

- the Strategic Development Sector (SDS) of the Department of Town Planning and Housing (DTP&H);
- the Business Facilitation Unit (BFU) of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry;
- Invest Cyprus;
- contact points with the departments involved in the licensing sector.

The BSC is the first point of contact for investors, Cypriot and non-Cypriot, wishing to do business or expand their business activities in Cyprus.

#### CONTACT DETAILS...

Business Support Centre (BSC)

5-6 Kinira str.,

1102 Nicosia

Tel.: +357 22867120

Email: [bfu@meci.gov.cy](mailto:bfu@meci.gov.cy)

<https://www.businessincyprus.gov.cy/business-support-center>



### Cyprus Point of Single Contact (PSC)

As part of the harmonisation with the EU Services Directive (2006/123/EC), the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry established the Cyprus Point of Single Contact (PSC) with the purpose of facilitating both the establishment of businesses in the services sector and the cross-border provision of services from other EU Member States and European Economic Area (EEA) countries into the Republic of Cyprus.

The PSC online portal ([www.businessincyprus.gov.cy](http://www.businessincyprus.gov.cy)) serves as a central reference point, offering comprehensive information regarding the procedures and formalities required to access and/or exercise service-provision activities.

In addition, through the PSC portal, users can submit applications electronically, and track the progress of their applications for certain licensing procedures/approvals related to service provision with establishment (e.g., establishing and operating a catering or recreation centre) and temporary cross-border service provision (e.g., a tour guide from an EU Member State offering services temporarily in Cyprus).



**BUSINESSinCYPRUS**

#### *FOR MORE INFORMATION...*

Service of Industry and Technology,  
Department of Entrepreneurship, Innovation  
and Internal Market  
Contact phone: +357 22 867203  
Fax: +357 22 376493  
Email: [ckarageorgis@mcit.gov.cy](mailto:ckarageorgis@mcit.gov.cy)  
Website: [www.mcit.gov.cy](http://www.mcit.gov.cy)

### SOLVIT Network – Cross-Border Problem Solving

SOLVIT is an easy-to-use and free service that aims to help citizens and businesses in the EU find quick and practical solutions to problems they encounter within the internal market.

It was established in July 2002 following an initiative by the European Commission, with the purpose of addressing inconsistencies and promoting harmonisation among the Member States.

The network currently consists of the 28 EU Member States, as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway. Therefore, when citizens and businesses face issues in their cross-border activities due to incorrect application of EU law, they can turn to the SOLVIT network and submit their complaint.



#### *FOR MORE INFORMATION...*

SOLVIT Centre of Cyprus,  
A. Araouzou 6, 1421 Nicosia.  
Contact phone: +357 22 867333  
Fax: +357 22 375120  
Email: [solvit@mcit.gov.cy](mailto:solvit@mcit.gov.cy)  
Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/solvit>





### The Department of the Registrar of Companies and Intellectual Property (Companies Section)

Ο Κλάδος Εταιρειών, αποτελεί ένα από τους δύο κλάδους του The Companies Section is one of two sections of the Department of the Registrar of Companies and Intellectual Property that operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry.

The Companies Section promotes the development and function of business activities through the registration, follow up, control and striking off, of local and overseas companies, partnerships and business names. It is the competent authority in Cyprus for keeping a reliable and up to date register of all registered business entities.

In the framework of modernisation and restructuring of the Department's reforms are on the way that will further aid business activity to grow, will attract investments, will optimise service to the business world and will provide reliable information through the implementation of enhanced procedures that will be supported by modern technology. One of the most important reform is the creation of a new Information System through the development, installation, operation and maintenance of a New Integrated Registry Platform Solution with a project implementation horizon early of 2026.

Further information regarding the matters and services that the Companies Section manages can be found at the Companies Section website: [www.companies.gov.cy/en/](http://www.companies.gov.cy/en/).

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Address: Department of the Registrar of Companies and Intellectual Property (D.R.C.I.P.) Makarios III Ave. and Karpenisiou, Xenios Court, 1427 Nicosia.  
Telephone: +357 22 404301/2  
Fax: +357 22 304887  
E-mail: [deptcomp@drCOR.meci.gov.cy](mailto:deptcomp@drCOR.meci.gov.cy)  
Website: [www.companies.gov.cy/en/](http://www.companies.gov.cy/en/)



**Κλάδος Εταιρειών**  
ΤΜΗΜΑ ΕΦΟΡΟΥ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΕΠΙΣΗΜΟΥ ΠΑΡΑΛΗΠΤΗ



# Commerce

## Export promotion of goods and services

The Trade Service of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry implements actions to support and further develop exports of products and services as well as to improve the extroversion of Cypriot businesses, with the aim of strengthening the country's economy and the well-being of all citizens.

The main actions of the Service include:

- The promotion of exports of agricultural and industrial products.
- The strengthening of the extroversion of Cypriot service businesses.
- The promotion of Cyprus as a centre for international business activities and the provision of high-level services.

These actions are implemented by the Service in cooperation with the 14 Trade Centres which are based in Athens, Warsaw, Berlin, Vienna, Cairo, London, Moscow, New York, New Delhi, Dubai, Paris, Beijing, Tel Aviv and Tokyo and cover 48 countries.

The Trade Service implements Grant Schemes for the financial support of businesses for their participation in trade fairs either on their own capacity or under national pavilions. In this context, national pavilions are organised at international fairs with the participation of Cypriot businesses, giving them the opportunity to showcase and promote their products and services as well as to take advantage of the networking and business cooperation opportunities offered.

Additionally, the Trade Service, in the context of the promotion of Cyprus as a business centre as well as the further

development of Cyprus' bilateral economic and business relations, carries out business missions and forums abroad in cooperation with the Trade Centres and business associations, highlighting the competitive advantages of Cyprus.

The Export Helpdesk service is also offered, which provides information to Cypriot businesses in relation to trading conditions in foreign markets, and contributes to finding partners and importers through the Trade Centres.

Additionally, the Service carries out actions such as the organisation of webinars, the conduct of market research, the organisation of information stands and other events in countries covered by the Trade Centres, the organisation of taste tests of Cypriot products in target markets, the placement of articles and advertisements in specialised printed and electronic media, and the visits of foreign traders and journalists to Cyprus.

Furthermore, the Service implements the investment policy of the Republic of Cyprus, through the negotiation and conclusion of new Bilateral Investment Agreements of Cyprus with Third Countries.

Finally, the Service monitors and participates in the Committees and Working Groups, responsible for the implementation of the Common Commercial Policy of the European Union, as well as in the work of the World Trade Organisation and other international organisations on issues related to international trade.





*FOR MORE INFORMATION...*

Address: Trade Service, 6 Andreas Araouzos  
Street, 1421, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Telephone: +357 22 867123

Fax: +357 22 768967

E-mail: [ts@meci.gov.cy](mailto:ts@meci.gov.cy)

Website: <https://www.trade.gov.cy>



# Sport



## Cyprus Sports Organisation (CSO)

In 1969, legislation was passed establishing the Cyprus Sports Organisation (CSO/KOA) as a semi-governmental organisation. Its main purposes are the development of extracurricular sports, the coordination of the island's athletic activities, the cultivation of the Olympic ideal, and the promotion of Cyprus in the international sports arena.

The rapid development of Cypriot sports that followed was unprecedented for Cyprus, laying the foundations for the country's athletic progress. The "Sports for All" (AGO) program began its operation and largely covered childhood ages.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION...**  
[cso.org.cy](http://cso.org.cy)

### Programs for Children

These programs are aimed at children aged 4–14 years and operate outside school hours.

- They contribute to the physical development of children through motor activities.
- They help in the formation of children's personalities.
- They assist in the creation of athletic character and sports awareness.
- They support children in developing a healthy, friendly, and athletic lifestyle.
- At an educational level, they aim to promote children's participation in sports as a complement to their upbringing, alongside school.

### Sports and Women – Men Program

This program covers major urban areas and is also extended to rural centres.



## Program "Sports for All" (AGO)

The vision of the Program is to engage a large portion of the population of Cyprus in sports, to enable them to reap the benefits of exercise, and to provide equal opportunities for physical activity to all citizens, regardless of nationality, gender, age, social status, mental or physical condition, education, physical integrity, financial situation, or social class.

Professional Trainers are employed in the AGO Program, serving as the driving force behind the program and representing the most decisive factor in the success or failure of our activities.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION...**  
[ago.org.cy](http://ago.org.cy) | +357 22 897000

### Programs for Adults

Exercise programs are offered for men and women of all ages, tailored to their own needs and particularities, giving them the opportunity - through athletic engagement - to escape from the stress and problems of daily life.

### Exercise in Older Age

The aim of the Program is the continuation of physical activity at all ages. It operates in cooperation with Municipalities and the respective Elderly Clubs.

It provides the following benefits:

- It is a beneficial way to make use of free time.
- It is a means of improving health, offering physical and mental balance.



#### **NOTE THAT...**

Within the "Sport For All" Program, the following Programs operate:

- Sports and Child
- Sports in Pre-Primary Education
- Specialised Programs
- Sports and Woman – Man
- Exercise in Older Age
- Sports for Persons with Special Abilities
- Exercise in Mental Health Centres
- Child and Swimming Program
- Summer Sports Activities Program

#### **Fan Register**

The Cyprus Sports Organisation, by Law, with the start of the 2018–2019 Cyprus First Division Championship, implements the Fan Register. As a result, the sports-supporting public of Cyprus is required to register in order to have access to stadiums where team sports are held.

Anyone who wishes to have access to purchase a ticket must register in the Fan Card Holders Register, which applies to all First Division team-sport championship matches (Football, Futsal, Basketball, Volleyball, Handball), as well as to matches related to international competitions.

Registration in the Register is done either through the website [fancard.cy](https://www.fancard.cy) or through the Digital Citizen application.

Information on Digital Citizen:  
<https://www.digital-citizen.gov.cy/>



# Agricultural Matters

Agriculture remains a vital sector of the Cypriot economy, despite the gradual decline observed in the field due to the development of other sectors, such as tourism and services, as well as the difficulties that have arisen in recent years as a result of an intensely competitive environment.

## Register of Farmers and Agricultural Holdings

It is the Register in which the details of farmers and agricultural holdings are recorded in accordance with the provisions of Article 12 of Law No. 26(I)/2016. The ultimate objective is the registration in the Register of all professional or non-professional farmers and their agricultural holdings that meet the requirements for registration, since the Register constitutes a fundamental tool for the formulation and implementation of agricultural policy.

The Register of Farmers and Agricultural Holdings is divided into:

- Register A – Farmers and Agricultural Holdings
- Register B – Part-time Agricultural Occupation and Traditional Professions

### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Website: [www.moa.gov.cy/da](http://www.moa.gov.cy/da)  
(See the section “Schemes & Applications”)  
You may also contact the District Agricultural Offices and the Farmer Service Centres.

### NOTE THAT...

Those who have participated or are participating in the Farmers’ Early Retirement Measure or in the Fishermen’s Early Retirement Scheme are excluded.

## Register A

Here, the following details are recorded:

- Farmers whose exclusive professional activity is the production of agricultural and/or livestock products, or fisheries or aquaculture products.
- Those who demonstrably have their permanent residence in rural areas, in regions with an altitude of 390 meters or higher, and who are partially engaged in the production of agricultural and/or livestock products, or fisheries or aquaculture products.

## Register B

Here, the following details are recorded:

- Farmers who are not exclusively active in the sectors of crop and/or livestock production aimed at producing agricultural and/or livestock products, but who demonstrably have their permanent residence in rural areas.
- Persons who are engaged in agrotourism services, fisheries, aquaculture, and traditional products.

There are 25 categories (tables) for submitting an application to the Register. Applications for registration in the Register are submitted exclusively online to the Department of Agriculture, through the Online Portal of the Republic of Cyprus. Interested parties, in order to be able to submit an application, must first create a profile through the Online Portal of the Republic of Cyprus and complete the identity verification process.

## Farmer Service Centres

The establishment of the Farmer Service Centres (KEA) aims at ensuring the prompt response of the services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment to the needs of rural residents, and at putting into practice the commitment to reduce bureaucracy and increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the Public Service.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

<https://www.gov.cy/capo/>







#### *FOR MORE INFORMATION...*

You can find details about all programmes and services of the Youth Board of Cyprus (ONEK) on the website: <https://onek.org.cy/> or by calling: +357 22 402600

## Youth Board of Cyprus

The Youth Board of Cyprus (ONEK) was established as a Public Law Legal Entity in 1994 and since then has offered a wide range of opportunities for young men and women to actively participate in social life both in Cyprus and abroad. The Organisation primarily has an advisory role regarding youth policy matters, while at the same time implementing programs related to youth issues.

### Youth Policy

The primary purpose of ONEK, as derived from the Youth Board Law, is to contribute creatively to the shaping of youth policies focused on modern challenges and aimed at achieving the greatest possible positive impact on young people.

### Funding Programme “Youth & World”

Do you want to travel, network, and gain unique experiences? The “Youth & World” programme gives you the opportunity to participate in European and international events such as competitions, conferences, and other activities in the fields of sports, environment, health, and well-being. Develop your skills, build partnerships, and exchange knowledge with young people from around the world.

### Funding Programme “Youth Initiatives”

Do you have an idea you want to bring to life? The “Youth Initiatives” programme is here to support your dreams! ONEK offers grants to help you turn your proposals into reality, whether they relate to culture, sports, civic engagement, or other activities that inspire you. Now is your opportunity to create.

### Career Guidance Counselors

The Career Guidance Counselors of the Youth Board of Cyprus provide free, specialised information and counseling on career guidance and career management for young people aged 14–35. Services are offered at the Youth Multicentres in all cities, as well as online. In addition, the Counselors conduct specialised career

guidance tests and organise skills development workshops, helping young people identify their interests and plan their career paths with confidence.

### Youth Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy Advisors

If you want to start your own business, the Youth Entrepreneurship Advisors of the Youth Board of Cyprus are here to guide you.

Through free one-to-one meetings, they provide counseling and guidance on entrepreneurship, funding opportunities, and business management. Whether you are taking your first steps or are already engaged in business activity, you can receive reliable information on legislation, grants, taxation, investments, marketing, and much more.

### Ekfracy

Ekfracy is a digital participation tool that gives young people a voice and the power to shape their future. It allows them to express their views on current social and political issues, respond to questions, and communicate directly with the relevant authorities.

### European Youth Card

The European Youth Card is your key to a world full of opportunities.

It is a free digital card available to young people aged 13–30, offering mobility opportunities as well as access to over 100,000 businesses across Europe, with discounts on travel, restaurants, culture, entertainment, and educational services.

### Youth Makerspace

The Youth Makerspace, located in Larnaca, is an innovative space for creation, construction, and education. It is equipped with high-tech equipment available for children and young people of all ages, who can learn about technology, create through hands-on construction methods, develop technological and entrepreneurial projects, and share their knowledge and skills.



## Programs of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CyBC) for Cypriots of the Diaspora

The actions of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CyBC) that concern Cypriots of the Diaspora are as follows:

- Weekly one-hour television program
- "Cyprus, My Homeland." This is a variety-themed program for overseas Cypriots, available exclusively through the CyBC website ([www.rik.cy](http://www.rik.cy)) via audio on demand. On the Third Radio Programme, overseas Cypriots have the opportunity every night to call in / participate live during the late-night music broadcasts.
- There is also the option for free listener communication via Viber messages to the following CyBC Radio Programs:
- First Program: 99998972

- Third Program: 99991948
- Fourth Program: 99991882

On the CyBC website [www.rik.cy](http://www.rik.cy), the programs of the four CyBC Radio stations are broadcast live (live streaming), while many radio programs are also available on audio on demand.

There is also a weekly one-hour television program titled "Cypriots of the World", which is broadcast on RIK1 every Saturday at 15:30.







## Digital Citizen

In the context of e-government, as part of the umbrella initiative "Digital Citizen", the entire spectrum of digital services is being progressively developed. The aim is to create the conditions so that every transaction between citizens and the public sector can be carried out electronically, efficiently, and securely.

### Central Government Portal gov.cy

The gov.cy portal is the new unified online portal of the Republic of Cyprus. It hosts the websites and services, both digital and non-digital, of Ministries, Deputy Ministries, Departments, and other public organisations.

Through the portal, you can directly search for the website, service, or topic that interests you. You can also view services by thematic category, as well as websites by Ministry, Deputy Ministry, Department, Office, Authority, or other public body.

The aim is for the gov.cy portal to evolve into the central reference point for citizens regarding their transactions with the public sector, through which they can access digital public services and obtain information from government websites

Amongst the services provided, are:

- Application for identity card / passport
- Issuance of birth certificates / death certificates
- Issuance of ID for displaced families (refugee ID)
- Issuance of certificates of origin / permanent residence
- Online appointment scheduling of at Citizen Service Centres (KEP)
- Registration in the electoral roll
- Applications for welfare allowances / benefits
- Military services

### Application for mobile devices «Digital Citizen»

"Digital Citizen" mobile application allows citizens to issue and store official documents in digital form, fully equivalent to their paper counterparts, whose certificated authenticity can be verified.

At this stage, the application includes the following digital documents and additional features:

- Identity Card
- Driver's License
- Vehicle roadworthiness certificate (MOT)
- Fan Card
- Integration of the "Digital Assistant" tool
- Interoperability of the Digital Citizen applications and the <https://www.digital-citizen.gov.cy> allowing mutual recognition and verification of ID and driver's license documents issued

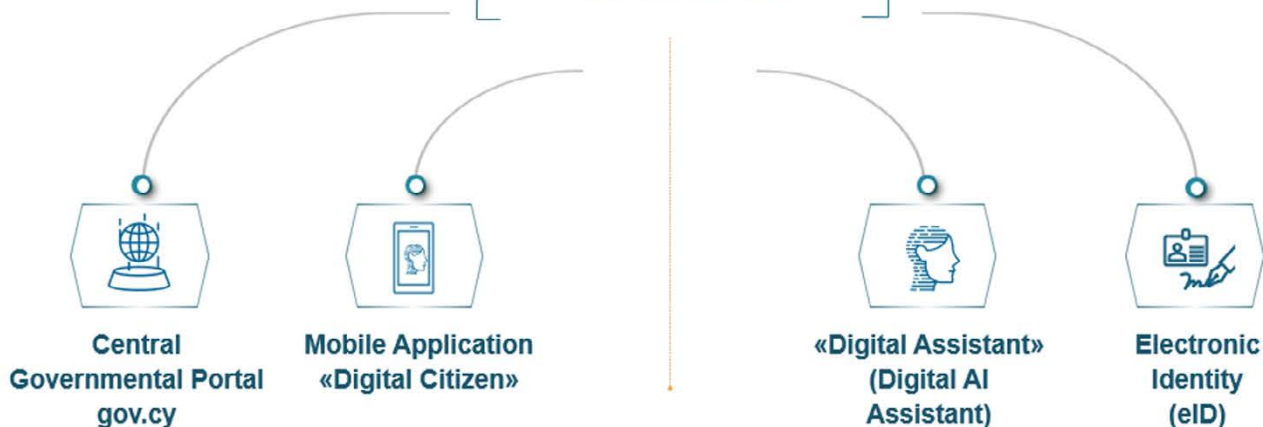
### «Digital Assistant» (Digital AI Assistant)

«Digital Assistant» is a tool featuring generative AI functionalities with the aim of providing support to citizens, by understanding the questions they submit, retrieving the relevant information, and providing answers in a simple and comprehensible manner. The range of questions answered by the "Digital Assistant" is constantly being expanded with new topics that it can respond to. A key thematic area of focus is the improvement of citizen services in consular affairs.

Access to the Digital Assistant is provided through:

- the central government portal gov.cy,
- the mobile application «Digital Citizen», and
- individual public sector websites featuring its integration

# Digital Citizen



Facilitating interaction and transactions between citizens and the public sector

## Electronic Identity (eID)

Electronic Identity (eID) serves as the citizen's proof of identity in the digital world. It enables secure access to digital services, beginning with governmental information systems, and also allows the holder to safely sign documents electronically. The qualified electronic signature is fully equivalent to the handwritten signature.

The national Electronic Identity scheme of the Republic of Cyprus has been approved by the European Commission at the highest security level (High Assurance), with the registered name: IDme.cy, and can be recognised for cross-border electronic transactions within the European Union.

### How to use

- Connecting in Information Systems of the Public Sector, such as «IPPODAMUS» and «CY Login»
- Sign using a Qualified Electronic Signature of a range of applications of Government Organisations, which are currently available in paper format and require a handwritten signature for their completion. Subsequently, the electronically signed applications, accompanied by any required supporting documents, can be submitted via email to the respective department, eliminating the need for physical presence.

## CyLogin - One Login.

### Many Government e-Services

CY Login is the Republic of Cyprus' service for user management and identification. It gives authorised users access to a wide range of Internet services of the Republic of Cyprus through a Single Login, as well as the Digital Citizen application. It constitutes a strong and secure method of identification, essential for the provision of reliable online services without the need for physical presence of citizens at government offices.

The steps that citizens need to follow are as follows:

Step 1: Creation / Activation of Profile through link

Step 2: Profile Identification through three (3) available options

- through Electronic Banking Applications (eBanking)
- via video call with Citizens Service Centres officers (for citizens with a Cyprus Identification Card)
- by personally visiting an Identification Centre, provided an appointment is arranged.

Step 3: Enabling Two-factor Authentication



# Ministries & Services

## CONTACT DETAILS

Below you will find all the contact details of the Ministries, Deputy Ministries and Basic Services of the Republic of Cyprus.



### Ministry of Defence

Address: Ministry of Defence, 4 Emmanuel Roide, 1432 Nicosia, Cyprus.

Telephone: +357 22 807500

Website: <https://www.gov.cy/mod/>

### Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment

Address: Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, 6, Amphipolis Str., 2025, Strovolos, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Central E-mail: [registry@moa.gov.cy](mailto:registry@moa.gov.cy)

Contact telephones:

+357 22 408300 / +357 22 408343

Website: <http://www.moa.gov.cy>

### Ministry of Justice and Public Order

Address: Ministry of Justice and Public Order, 125th Athalassis Avenue, 1461 Strovolos, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Telephone: +357 22 805950

Τηλεομοιότυπο (φαξ): +357 22 518356

E-mail: [registry@mjpo.gov.cy](mailto:registry@mjpo.gov.cy)

Website: <http://www.mjpo.gov.cy>

### Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry

Address (Main Building): Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry, Andreas Araouzou 6, Nicosia, Cyprus. Postal mail: Ministry of Energy, Trade and Industry, CY-1421, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Telephone: +357 22 867100

Τηλεομοιότυπο (φαξ): +357 22 375120

E-mail: [perm.sec@mcit.gov.cy](mailto:perm.sec@mcit.gov.cy)

Website: [www.mcit.gov.cy](http://www.mcit.gov.cy)

### Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Address: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1448 Presidential Palace Avenue, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Telephone: +357 22 651000

Fax: +357 22 661881 / +357 22 665313 / +357 22 665778

E-mail: [info@mfa.gov.cy](mailto:info@mfa.gov.cy)

Website: <https://www.gov.cy/mfa/>

Service Officer: +357 99 660129

(only in non-working hours).

**Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance**

Address: Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance  
26 Spyrou Kyprianou Avenue  
1075 Nicosia, Cyprus  
Telephone: +357 22 401600  
Fax: +357 22 670993  
E-mail: [administration@mlsi.gov.cy](mailto:administration@mlsi.gov.cy)  
Website: <http://www.mlsi.gov.cy>

**Ministry of Interior**

Address: Ministry of Interior: Ministry of Interior -  
1453, Nicosia, Cyprus.  
Telephone: +357 22 867 800  
Fax number: +357 22 671465  
E-mail: [info@moi.gov.cy](mailto:info@moi.gov.cy)  
Website: <http://www.moi.gov.cy>

**Ministry of Health**

Address: 1, 17 Prodromou Street & 17, Chilonos  
Street, 1448 Nicosia, Cyprus.  
Contact telephones: +357 22 605300/301  
E-mail: [perm.sec@moh.gov.cy](mailto:perm.sec@moh.gov.cy)  
Website: <https://www.gov.cy/moh/>

**Ministry of Finance**

Address: Michail Karaoli & Grigoris Afxentiou Corner,  
1439 Nicosia, Cyprus.  
Call Centre - Information: +357 22 602723  
E-mail: [registry@mof.gov.cy](mailto:registry@mof.gov.cy)  
Website: <https://www.gov.cy/mof/>

**Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth**

Address: Corner of Kimonos and Thucydides,  
Acropolis, 1434 Nicosia, Cyprus.  
Contact telephones: +357 22 800600/700  
E-mail: [registry@moec.gov.cy](mailto:registry@moec.gov.cy) / [moec@moec.gov.cy](mailto:moec@moec.gov.cy)  
Website: <https://www.moec.gov.cy>

**Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works**

Address: Ministry of Transport, Communications and  
Works, Achaeon 28, 1424 Nicosia, Cyprus.  
Telephone: +357 22 800100  
Fax: +357 22 776266  
E-mail: [permsec@mcw.gov.cy](mailto:permsec@mcw.gov.cy)  
Website: <https://www.gov.cy/mtcw/>

**Deputy Ministry of Tourism**

Address: 19 Limassol Avenue, 2112 Aglantzia,  
Nicosia, Cyprus.  
Telephone: +357 22 691100  
Fax: +357 22 331644 / +357 22 334696  
E-mail: [cytour@visitcyprus.com](mailto:cytour@visitcyprus.com)  
Website: <http://www.visitcyprus.com>

**Deputy Ministry of Maritime Affairs**

Address: Killini Street 4007, Mesa Gitonia, Limassol,  
Cyprus.  
Telephone: +357 25 848100  
Fax: +357 25 848200  
E-mail: [maritimeadmin@dms.gov.cy](mailto:maritimeadmin@dms.gov.cy)  
Websites: [www.dms.gov.cy](http://www.dms.gov.cy)/[www.shipping.gov.cy](http://www.shipping.gov.cy)





### Cyprus Police

Mail address: Police Headquarters, Evangelos Florakis Street, Nicosia, 1478, Cyprus.

E-mail: [police@police.gov.cy](mailto:police@police.gov.cy)

For any urgent situation requiring direct management, contact the Police Headquarters by telephone at 1460 or at +357 22 808080.

Telephone - Press Office: +357 22 808080

Fax: +357 22 808598

Websites:

- [www.police.gov.cy](http://www.police.gov.cy)
- [www.cypruspolice.com](http://www.cypruspolice.com)
- [www.drivetogether.eu](http://www.drivetogether.eu) (co-operation between the Cyprus Police and the British Police Base on Trafficking).

### Cyprus Fire Service

Mail Address:

12 Akadimias Street, 2330 Lakatamia, Nicosia.

Telephone: +357 22 802424

Fax (fax): +357 22 802464

E-mail: [cyprusfireservice@fs.gov.cy](mailto:cyprusfireservice@fs.gov.cy)

Website: <https://www.fs.gov.cy/fs/fs.nsf/home/home?openform>

### Port Authority

Address: 5 Limassol Avenue, 2112 Nicosia, Mailbox 22007, 1516 Nicosia, Cyprus.

Telephone: +357 22 817200

Fax: +357 22 765420

E-mail: [cpa@cpa.gov.cy](mailto:cpa@cpa.gov.cy)

Website: <https://www.cpa.gov.cy>

### Ports:

New Port of Limassol

Old Port of Limassol

Larnaca

Paphos

Latchi

Terminal of Vasilikos

### Press and Information Office

Address: Press and Information Office (PIO), 5-7 Apelli Street, 1080, Lefkosia, Cyprus.

Telephone: +357 22 801180

E-mail: [newsroom@pio.moi.gov.cy](mailto:newsroom@pio.moi.gov.cy)

Website: <https://www.gov.cy/pio>

## Civil Defence

Address:

John Kennedy 23, 1st Floor, 2314 Lakatamia, Nicosia.

Mail Address: Mailing Box: 23830, 1686Flucose

Telephone: +357 22 403413

Fax: +357 22 315638

E-mail: [g.d@dcd.moi.gov.cy](mailto:g.d@dcd.moi.gov.cy)

Website: <http://www.moi.gov.cy>

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## • Public Hospitals

- Nicosia Hospital

Telephone: +357 22 603000

- Old Nicosia Hospital

Telephone: +357 22 801400

- Archbishop Makarios III Hospital (Nicosia)

Telephone: +357 22 405000

- Old Limassol General Hospital

Telephone: +357 25 305333

- General Hospital of Limassol

Telephone: +357 25 801100

- Old Larnaca General Hospital

Telephone: +357 24 304312

- General Hospital of Larnaca

Telephone: +357 24 800500

- General Hospital of Pafos

Telephone: +357 26 803100

- General Famagusta Hospital (Paralimni)

Telephone: +357 23 200000

- Kyperounta Regional Hospital

Telephone: +357 25532021

- Polis Chrysochous Hospital

Telephone: +357 26 321431

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## Ambulance Service

The ambulance calls are received by telephone through the following procedures:

- Police Call Control Centre: Calls are made to phones
- 199 or 112 and from there they are forwarded to the Ambulance Call Coordinating Centre. Directly to the Ambulance Call Coordination Centre at: +357 22 887171.
- Through the Zoom-Cyprus application.

## Airports

### Larnaca International Airport

Address: Larnaca International Airport, Post Office 43027  
Post Office. 6650 Larnaca, Cyprus.

Phone number: 77778833 (local calls only)

+357 25 123022 (international calls only).

Fax: + 357 24 008117

E-mail: [info@hermesairports.com](mailto:info@hermesairports.com) /

[customerservices@hermesairports.com](mailto:customerservices@hermesairports.com)

Website: <https://el.hermesairports.com/while-at-the-airport/larnaka/airport-services>

### Pafos International Airport

Address: Pafos International Airport Mailbox 62320

Postal Code. 8063 Pafos, Cyprus.

Telephone: 77778833 (local calls only)

+357 26 123022 (international calls only)

Fax: + 357 26 007100

E-mail: [info@hermesairports.com](mailto:info@hermesairports.com) /

[customerservices@hermesairports.com](mailto:customerservices@hermesairports.com)

Website: <https://el.hermesairports.com/while-at-theairport/paphos/airport-services>

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## Central Bank of Cyprus

Address: 80 John T. Kennedy Avenue, 1076 Nicosia or  
T.G. 25529, 1395 Nicosia.

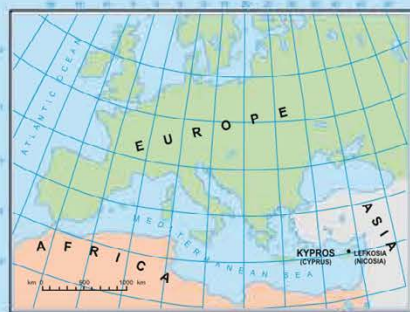
Telephone: +357 22 714100

Fax: +357 22 714959

Website: <https://www.centralbank.cy>





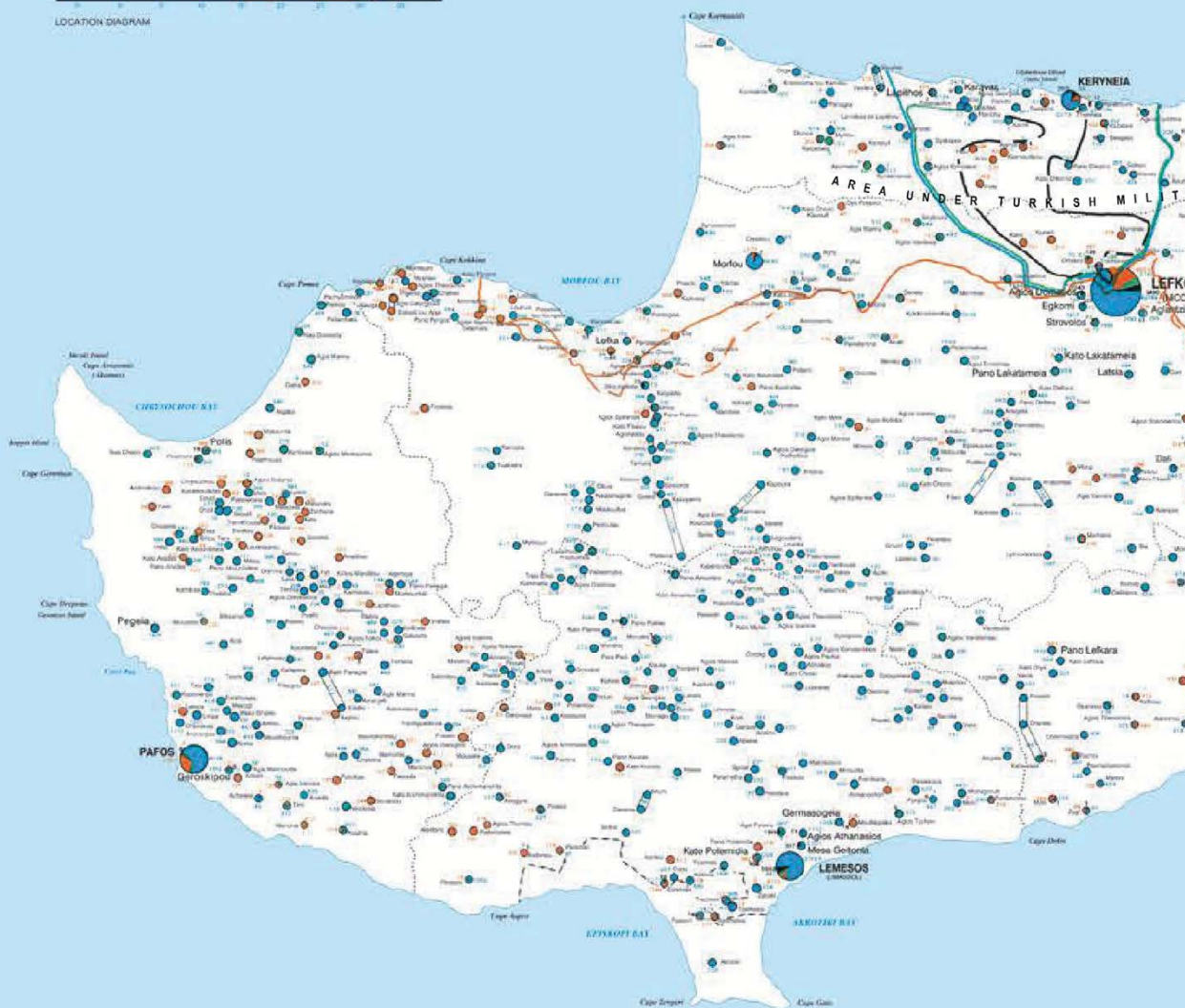


LOCATION DIAGRAM

# KYPROS

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

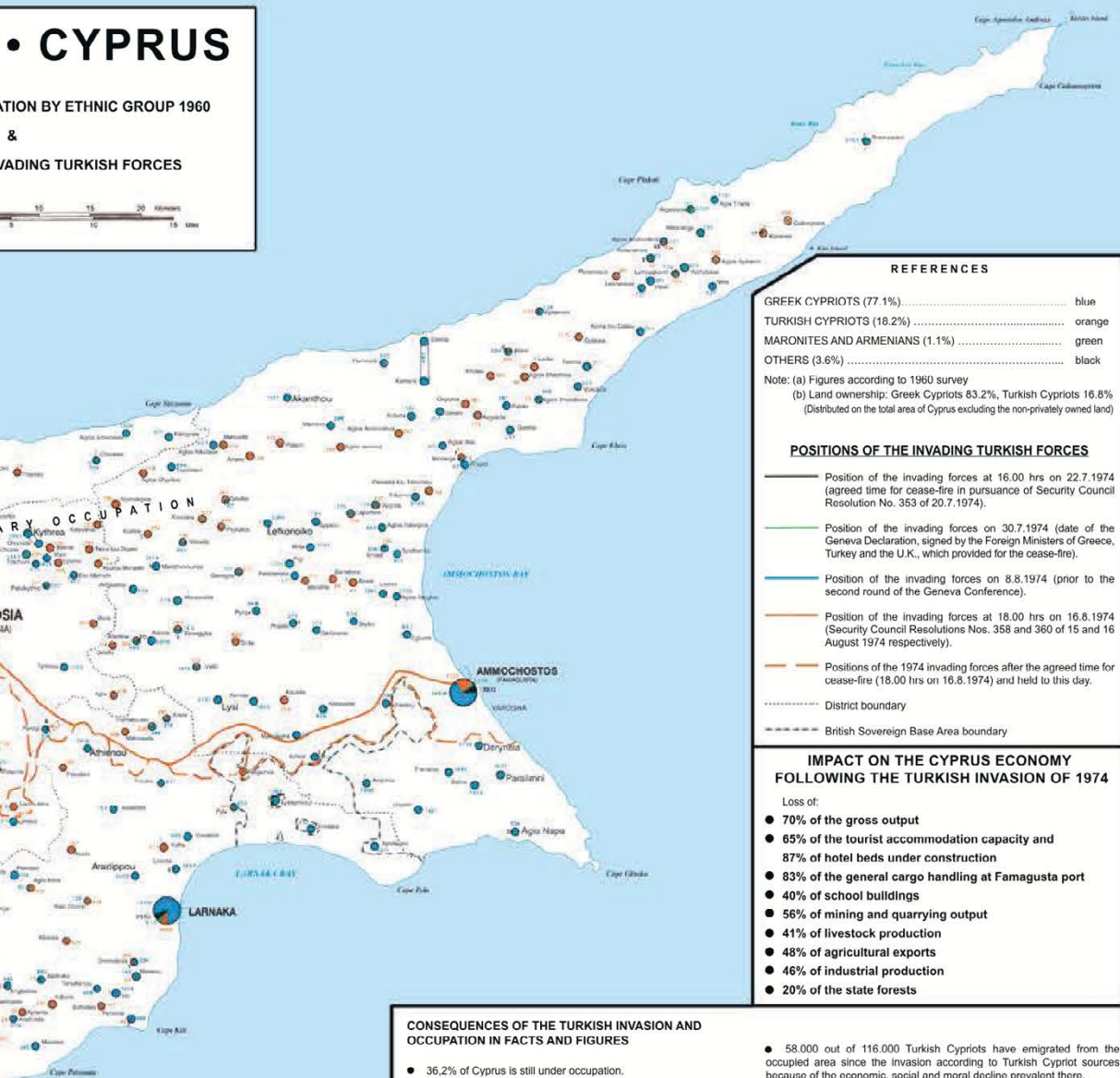
POSITIONS OF THE IN



# • CYPRUS

POPULATION BY ETHNIC GROUP 1960

&  
POSITIONS OF THE INVADING TURKISH FORCES



## REFERENCES

GREEK CYPRIOTS (77.1%) ..... blue  
TURKISH CYPRIOTS (18.2%) ..... orange  
MARONITES AND ARMENIANS (1.1%) ..... green  
OTHERS (3.6%) ..... black

Note: (a) Figures according to 1960 survey  
(b) Land ownership: Greek Cypriots 83.2%, Turkish Cypriots 16.8%  
(Distributed on the total area of Cyprus excluding the non-privately owned land)

## POSITIONS OF THE INVADING TURKISH FORCES

Position of the invading forces at 16.00 hrs on 22.7.1974 (agreed time for cease-fire in pursuance of Security Council Resolution No. 353 of 20.7.1974).  
Position of the invading forces on 30.7.1974 (date of the Geneva Declaration, signed by the Foreign Ministers of Greece, Turkey and the U.K., which provided for the cease-fire).  
Position of the invading forces on 8.8.1974 (prior to the second round of the Geneva Conference).  
Position of the invading forces at 18.00 hrs on 16.8.1974 (Security Council Resolutions Nos. 358 and 360 of 15 and 16 August 1974 respectively).  
Positions of the 1974 invading forces after the agreed time for cease-fire (18.00 hrs on 16.8.1974) and held to this day.  
District boundary  
British Sovereign Base Area boundary

## IMPACT ON THE CYPRUS ECONOMY FOLLOWING THE TURKISH INVASION OF 1974

Loss of:  
● 70% of the gross output  
● 65% of the tourist accommodation capacity and 87% of hotel beds under construction  
● 83% of the general cargo handling at Famagusta port  
● 40% of school buildings  
● 56% of mining and quarrying output  
● 41% of livestock production  
● 48% of agricultural exports  
● 46% of industrial production  
● 20% of the state forests

## CONSEQUENCES OF THE TURKISH INVASION AND OCCUPATION IN FACTS AND FIGURES

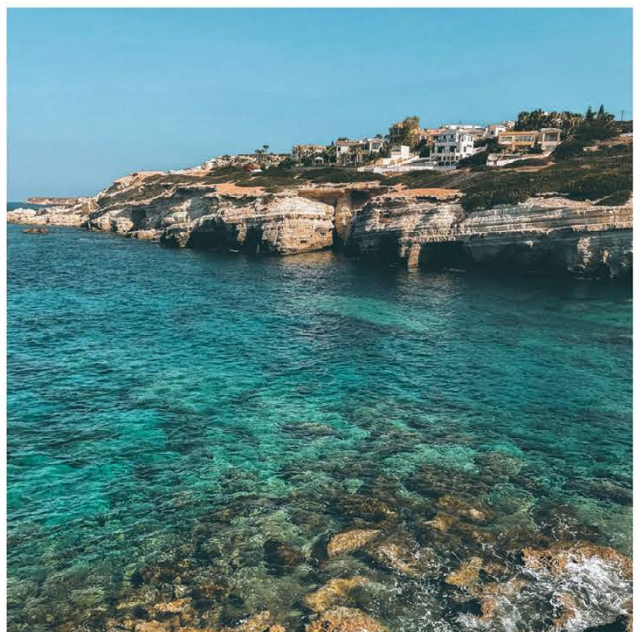
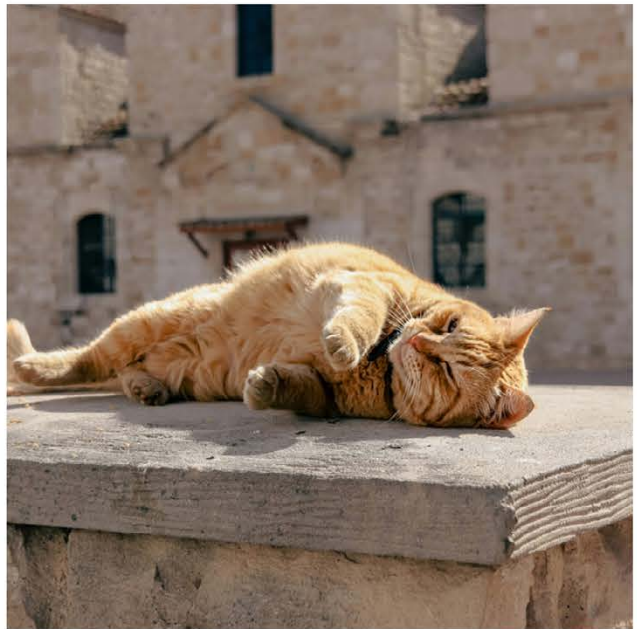
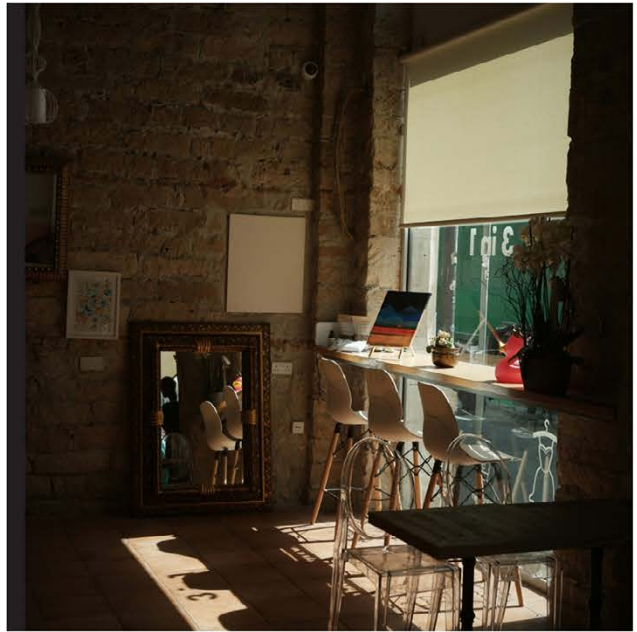
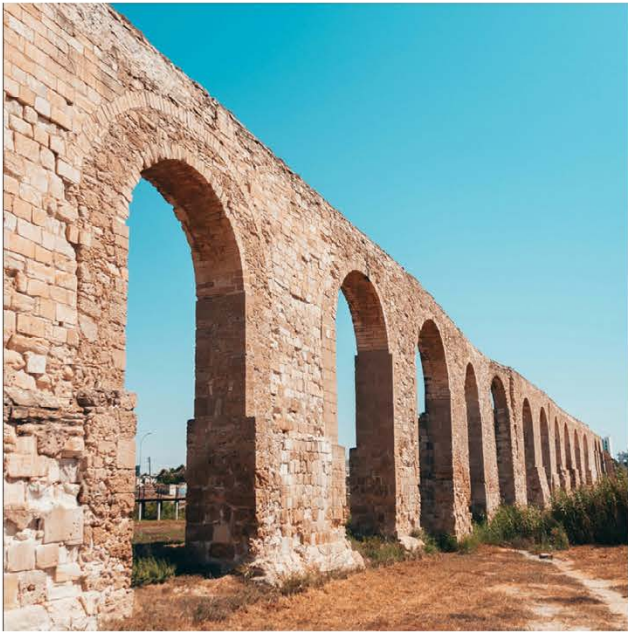
- 36.2% of Cyprus is still under occupation.
- 200,000 Greek Cypriots – about one third of the total population – were forcibly expelled from the occupied northern part of the island where they constituted about 70% of the population and are still deprived of the right to return to their homes and properties. The Turkish Cypriots living in the free areas were moved by their leadership to the occupied area.
- Some 1,400 persons (among them several hundred civilians) are still missing, while the Turkish side refuses to co-operate in ascertaining their fate.
- Some 500 Greek and Maronite Cypriots enclaved in their villages in the occupied area are still living under oppression, deprivation and intimidation. (At the end of 1974 there were 20,000 enclaved most of whom were forced to abandon their homes by the illegal regime and became refugees).
- 43,000 Turkish soldiers, equipped with the latest weapons and supported by the Turkish air force and navy, are still in the occupied area.
- 160,000 settlers from Turkey have been imported illegally and have colonised the occupied area, with the aim of altering the demographic structure of the island.
- 58,000 out of 116,000 Turkish Cypriots have emigrated from the occupied area since the invasion according to Turkish Cypriot sources because of the economic, social and moral decline prevalent there.
- The illegal regime is methodically applying a long-term plan to eradicate the cultural and historical heritage of 11,000 years in the occupied part:
  - 125 churches have been turned into mosques, an old Ottoman tradition, in occupied territories
  - 67 have been turned into stables or hay warehouses;
  - 57 have become museums, cultural centers or hotels;
  - 17 have become hostels, restaurants or military warehouses;
  - 25 have been demolished;
  - 229 have been totally desecrated.
  - The cemeteries of at least 25 villages have been desecrated and destroyed
  - Innumerable icons, religious artefacts and all kinds of archaeological treasures have been stolen and smuggled abroad
  - Illegal excavations and smuggling of antiquities is openly taking place all the time with the involvement of the occupying forces
  - Greek place names have been arbitrarily converted into Turkish ones



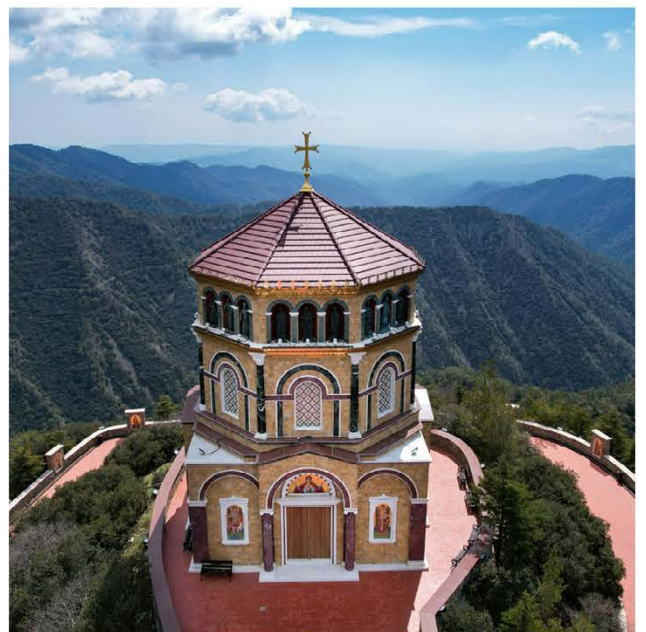
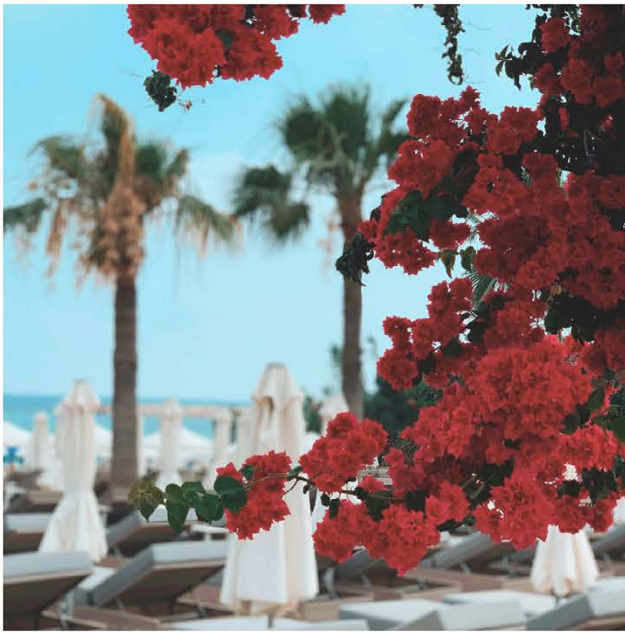
















*Larnaka Salt Lake*









*Kouklia, Pafos*





*Saint Lazarus Cathedral, Larnaca*





Avakas Gorge, Pafos







