Andreas Georghadjis LLC
ADVOCATES - LEGAL CONSULTANTS

A GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL CLIENTS

Establishing a Company in Cyprus

01 WHY CYPRUS

A credible base in the European Union

Cyprus pairs a full EU, common-law framework with one of Europe's most competitive tax regimes — a long-standing choice for holding, financing, trading and shipping structures.

EU & common law

A full EU member state with a legal system rooted in English common law, operating bilingually in English and Greek.

Competitive tax

A 15% corporation tax on profits, broad exemptions on securities and dividends, and an extensive treaty network.

Handled remotely

Shareholders and directors need not be in Cyprus — we manage incorporation and bank onboarding end to end.

CYPRUS TAX AT A GLANCE

15%
Corporation tax on profits

0%
Tax on gains from securities & shares

0%
WHT on dividends & interest to non-residents*

65+
Double tax treaties

80%
IP-box deduction on qualifying IP profits

NID
Notional interest deduction on new equity

*Subject to anti-abuse rules for payments to low-tax or EU-blacklisted jurisdictions. Highlights are general and subject to conditions; see the following page.

One island. Full access to the EU single market.

English common-law roots, a euro economy and an extensive treaty network — a stable base for holding, financing and trading structures.

02 TAXATION

A competitive tax regime

15%
CORPORATION TAX ON PROFITS

Corporation tax in Cyprus is **15% on profits**. Gains from transactions in titles and securities — including shares — are **fully exempt**, and foreign-sourced income is generally exempt, subject to certain exceptions.

Exempt income

Profit on the disposal of **titles and securities** (including shares) is exempt from corporation tax. **Foreign-sourced income** is generally exempt, subject to certain exceptions.

Foreign dividends

Dividends from foreign investments are **exempt from corporation tax** — except dividends that are **deductible** for the paying company, which are taxed at corporation tax (and exempt from Special Defence Contribution).

No tax on dividends — the participation exemption

Non-deductible foreign dividend income is **exempt from Special Defence Contribution** (the Cyprus withholding tax on dividends) under the participation exemption — **unless both** of the following apply:

- more than **50%** of the foreign paying company's activities result, directly or indirectly, in investment income; AND
- the foreign tax is significantly lower than the Cyprus tax burden — an **effective tax rate below 7.5%** (less than half the Cyprus corporation tax).

Other notable reliefs include a Notional Interest Deduction on new equity and an 80% IP-box deduction on qualifying IP profits. Tax treatment depends on the specific facts and is subject to change. General information only; not legal or tax advice.

Built for substance — and for certainty.

A transparent, EU-aligned framework with broad exemptions and treaty access, supported end to end by our corporate and tax team.

03 FORMATION

What you need to incorporate

Company name

Give us **2–3 names** in order of preference for approval by the Registrar. We also hold a number of pre-approved names you may use — a list is available on request.

Registered office

A company must keep a registered office in Cyprus at all times. We provide this, with mail forwarding by email or post.

OPTIONAL SERVICE ·€350 + VAT / year

Shareholders

We need the shareholders' details and their shareholdings. **Nominee shareholder** services are available, held under a trust deed for the beneficial owner.

OPTIONAL SERVICE ·Nominee €500 + VAT / person / yr

Director

At least one director is required. For Cyprus **tax residency**, the board should be controlled from Cyprus. We offer professional director services.

OPTIONAL SERVICE ·Director €650 + VAT / person / yr

Company secretary

Every company needs a secretary, who maintains the statutory books and registers, convenes meetings and prepares agendas. We provide professional secretary services. OPTIONAL SERVICE ·Secretary €450 + VAT / year

INDICATIVE TIMEFRAME

1. **Name approval**
   ~3 working days
2. **Registration**
   expedited from ~3 days
3. **Company ready**
   incorporated & UBO filed

Opening a bank account is a separate process and typically takes several weeks to a few months, depending on the bank's due diligence.

04 COSTS

Fees & expenses

Company incorporation — standard Articles of Association	**€850**
Disbursements / out-of-pocket expenses (approx.)	**~€550**
Registered office & mail forwarding — per year	**€350**
Nominee shareholder — per person, per year	**€500**
Professional director — per person, per year	**€650**
Professional secretary — per year	**€450**
Accounting, VAT & audit support — per year (from)	**€700**
UBO — subsequent filings (initial filing included above)	**€150–300**

All fees are exclusive of VAT (if any). The incorporation fee assumes standard Articles of Association; bespoke drafting is quoted separately.

UBO register

Cyprus companies must register their ultimate beneficial owners on the national register. The **initial filing is included** in our incorporation fee. Where we act as an officer of the company we carry personal liability for filing, so timely instructions are essential.

Banking

A Cyprus company may hold an account in any country. We provide certified or apostilled company documents and assist with opening an account with a Cyprus bank. No physical presence is required.

05 ONBOARDING

Documents we will need

For each director, shareholder and beneficial owner:

- **Passport**
  Copy of the photo / data page
- **Proof of address**
  Utility bill within the last 3 months
- **Bank reference**
  Confirming the individual is known to the bank (no balance required)
- **Curriculum vitae**
  A short professional CV

For opening a bank account, the bank will additionally request **source of funds and wealth** for each individual.

06 ONGOING

Compliance & accounting

Audited accounts

Every Cyprus company — active or dormant — must prepare and file **audited financial statements**.

Book-keeping & VAT

Book-keeping, VAT returns and audit support from **€700 + VAT / year**, depending on volume. We can also introduce trusted audit firms.

Ready to begin?

Send us **2–3 proposed company names** and the documents listed above, and we will handle name approval, incorporation, UBO filing and bank introductions on your behalf.

Speak with us
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