

PANAYOTIS C. YANNAKAS

Litigation Lawyer

"As a result of my many collaborations with Panayotis, I can confidently say that he is not only one of the acknowledged individuals but also one who consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty. He serves as my gateway to Cyprus' corporate matters. He not only treats people well but also in the manner in which they like to deal with him and goes out of his way to accommodate their goals."

- Anatoly Kleimenov, Partner, [Mekler & Partners LLC](#)

Litigation Lawyer with a distinctive fusion of legal expertise and business acumen, bringing five years of comprehensive experience managing complex court cases and crafting sophisticated legal solutions. Specialized in the Cypriot legal system, International Law and Taxation, European Union Law, and Financial and Commercial Law. Having navigated both sides of the business-legal divide—from co-founding a [digital marketing firm](#) to researching for the Central Bank Cyprus—I deliver strategic counsel that transcends traditional legal frameworks. My approach combines analytical capabilities with entrepreneurial insight to identify innovative pathways through contractual complexities and regulatory challenges. Whether addressing cross-border transactions, corporate restructuring, or high-stakes litigation matters, I am equipped with proven negotiation skills and the ability to distill intricate legal analysis into actionable strategies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Law Office of Panayotis Yannakas • Nicosia, CY Freelancer, Litigation Lawyer

Apr 2023 – Present

[Law Office of Panayotis Yannakas](#) is a law office based in Cyprus, focusing on litigation, corporate law, and legal consultancy. With a solid 5-year track record in navigating the Cyprus legal landscape, I bring a wealth of experience in managing intricate court cases, offering expert legal counsel, and crafting meticulous contracts and legal reports tailored to your specific needs. My firm belief is that each client deserves personalized attention and customized strategies to meet their objectives. With my diverse background and unwavering dedication to client success, I am confident in offering a distinctive and valuable legal experience for your matters.

Nicoletta Charalambidou LLC • Nicosia, CY Litigation Lawyer

Jul 2021 – Jan 2023

[Nicoletta Charalambidou LLC](#) is a boutique law firm specializing in European Union law, Human Rights, trafficking in human beings, discrimination, and NGOs.

Responsible for providing legal advice, conducting research, preparing complaint letters, drafting legal documents, and attending court hearings to provide legal support to the tort and criminal sector. Report to the Solo Shareholder and Senior Partner and supervise 2 direct reports.

- Oversaw complex cases about accusations of crimes of terrorism; interviewed the client in prison; discovered a turning point of the defence through the possession of cache files; resulted in 2 interim decisions in favor of the client (flawed bill of indictment and illegally obtained evidence)
- Manage compliance with AML regulations for companies and NGOs
- Provided legal and litigation support on the court case against a foreign embassy in Cyprus; strategized on how to resolve the case in a favorable and cost-effective manner; convinced 2 jurisdictions that the specific conflict is an exemption of the Acta Jure Imperii principal

Michael Paraskevas Law Office • Nicosia, CY Litigation Lawyer Trainee Lawyer

Aug 2020 – Jun 2021

Oct 2019 – Aug 2020

[Michael Paraskevas Law Office](#)'s work primarily concerned the rights and well-being of refugees and indebted householders.

Responsible for overseeing all aspects of legal case management, including researching, drafting contracts, preparing legal documents, and attending hearings to ensure cost-effective and favorable case outcomes for clients. Reported to the owner and managed a direct report.

- Handled two separate cases where two clients had been forced to transfer to shell companies; met with the clients to discuss legal concerns; leveraged a comprehensive understanding of the EU Council Directive 2001/23/EC (ARD Directive) to identify optimum legal solutions
- Administered a challenging case related to the implementation of the "lots theory" in a tender competition up to € 1.1M; devised strategies to effectively facilitate the presentation of the lots theory as a new entrant to EU Law that also has to apply to the Administration Law

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EDUCATION

University of Central Lancashire

Financial & Commercial
Law (LL.M./Master), 2024,
Grade (GPA): 2,2/4

European University Cyprus

Cyprus & Common Law
(LL.B./Bachelor), 2019,
Grade (GPA): 3,67/4

Technological and
Educational Institute
(TEI) of Western Greece
Business Administration &
IT (B.Sc./Bachelor), 2015,
Grade (GPA): 2,9/4

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Cyprus Bar Association
Bar Exams (Lawyer
License), 2019,
Grade (GPA): 3,3/4*

The Hague Academy of
International Law
Public & Private
International Law, 2017

ColumbiaX (initiative of
Columbia University)
Statistical Thinking for
Data Science and Analytics,
2016, Grade (GPA): 3,9/4

Greek Institute of
Certified Public
Accountants
Law and Accountancy I,
2015, Grade (GPA): 3,3/4

* Adjusted grade point average taken by
excluding the criminal courses

A. Christou & Associates LLC • Nicosia, CY
Legal Research Assistant & Trainee Lawyer

Jun 2019 – Oct 2019

[A. Christou & Associates LLC](#) is a Law Firm specializing in Criminal Law but offers legal services in a wide number of fields of law, including tort law, business law, and GDPR compliance.

Responsible for supporting legal case management activities, including performing legal research, writing contracts, and producing legal documents to help clients with their legal needs. Reported to the Sole Shareholder and oversaw a direct report.

- Managed a case for a trademark application that had been left pending for 2 years; assessed legal concerns and created a strategy to revive abandoned application and win court judgments against a Patent Troll Company that submitted a similar trademark to the EUIPO
- Provided legal support to a case of a sole shareholder who had an inappropriate Memorandum of Association (MoA) for a partnership with a competitor; prepared application for the court and attended hearing to obtain judge's permission for amending the MoA

Central Bank of Cyprus – Banking • Nicosia, CY
Legal Research Assistant

Jul 2018 – Sep 2018

[Central Bank of Cyprus](#) is the Cypriot Central Bank and is responsible for regulating monetary policy locally. Responsible for judicial docketing, maintaining GDPR compliance, and reviewing journals to ensure adherence to established legal procedures and systems. Reported to the Senior Officer of Legal Department & Chief Director of Legal Department and supervised 2 direct reports.

- Maintained compliance with the GDPR data protection requirements; conducted data inventory and data flow audit to analyze compliance gaps and identify risks; made adjustments to legal terms and ensured team's understanding of data protection and basic GDPR principles
- Administered the development of legal documents; prepared a polished timeline report summarizing the legal arguments and decisions made in each phase of the revocation of the bank license granted to FBME Ltd following the amendments to the US sanction lists

CostWise Ltd – Cost Accounting • Athens, GR
Account & Analyst Assistant

Feb 2015 – Aug 2015

[CostWise Ltd](#) is a global consulting company that offers cost accounting reports, SVM, and operational and financial due diligence services across Africa and Asia.

Responsible for supporting the development of an MVP prototype of a dashboard for payroll transactions to track the volume and variety of data produced or required to be displayed. Reported to the CEO and led a direct report.

Fresset Ltd • Athens, GR
Co-Founder, Financial Director

Dec 2008 – Nov 2014

[Fresset Ltd](#) is a digital marketing company with expertise in monetizing online communities and user-generated content platforms.

Responsible for spearheading outsourcing partnerships, marketing campaigns, and product development, achieving €180K profit in total EBITDA. Reported to the Vice President of iTENP SA, Co-owner of Fresset Ltd and supervised 2 direct reports.

Athena NPO – Social Care • Athens, GR
Communication Manager

Apr 2014 – Oct 2014

[Athena NPO](#) is a civic and social organization that aims to give value by improving people's life quality and conditions.

Responsible for overseeing all aspects of communication, including community creation and management, copywriting, and social media campaigns to engage the target audience and build brand recognition. Reported to the Board Director and supervised a direct report.

ProjectYou Ltd – Training & Certifications • Athens, GR
Communication Manager

Sept 2013 – Oct 2014

[ProjectYou Ltd](#) is a business consulting and services firm that offers training and consulting services to companies, employees, and freelancers that aim to their own continuous development and empowerment in the modern business environment.

Responsible for leading the company's public communications, including copywriting and seeking sponsorship for events and workshops. Reported to the Board Director and managed a direct report.

Michaelia Hotel – Hotel • Mytilini, GR
Marketing Assistant

May 2012 - Sep 2012

[Michaelia Hotel](#) is a traditional, elegant, and affordable hotel in Petra, Lesvos, Greece.

Responsible for developing and implementing marketing plans and strategies, including ERP database synchronization, copywriting, AdSense campaigns, and SEO, increasing occupancy rate by 12.5%. Reported to the Hotel Owner and managed a direct report.

PUBLICATION

“[Data Breach in Cyprus Regime](#)”, DataGuidance, One Trust, 2023

“[Contemporary Issues of Possible Market Distortion by App Stores](#)”, ENTHA, Law Journal, 2019, ISSN: 2357-1276

“[Legal Material of The International Terrorist Financing Acts](#)”, LLB Thesis, 2019

“[Monograph of Cyprus Insolvency Rules](#)”, In-House Documentation for Central Bank Cyprus, 2018

“[Open Texture of International Tax Law](#)”, ENTHA, Law Journal, 2017, ISSN: 2357-1268

“[Cypriot Approach to Surrogate Motherhood](#)”, Digital Journal, Legal Association of Aristovoulos Manesis, 2016

KEY SKILLS

- Interdisciplinary Mindset
- Legal Research and Analysis
- Case Management
- Court and Civil Procedures
- Drafting Pleadings
- Digital Privacy
- International Law
- Tort Law
- Policy Analysis
- Risk Management

VOLUNTARY EXPERIENCE

Legal Legion (loyalty) NPO • Nicosia, CY Co-Founder & Executive Director	Nov 2018 - Feb 2022
Noyb NPO • Wien, AT (Remote) Legal Researcher	Feb 2020 – Nov 2021
LawFreaks dot – Independent Law Student Union • Nicosia, CY Co-Founder & IT Director	Oct 2017 - May 2019
Technological and Educational Institute (TEI) of Patras • Patra, GR Contributing Writer for Course's Handbook	Mar 2014 - May 2014
Recreate Greece - National Political Party • Patra, GR Communication Officer	Dec 2011 - Jun 2012