

# SHANDA CONSULT

## CYPRUS ONE-STOP:

Company Formation, Corporate & Fiduciary Services

Bank Accounts

Company Administration

Localisation & Business Support

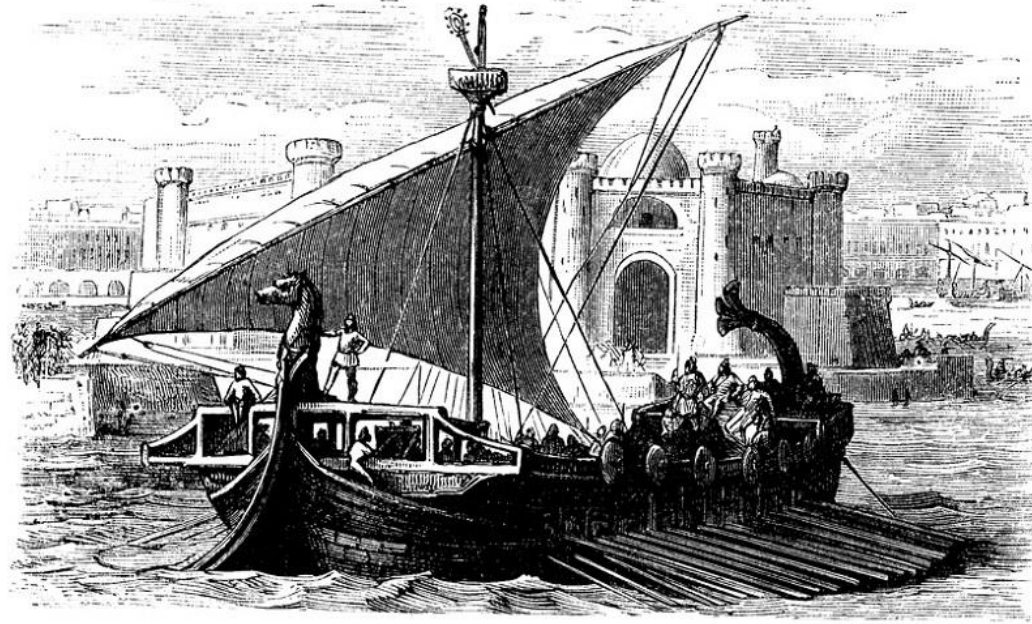
Accountancy & Tax Services

Structuring International Business & Investment

Cyprus International Trusts and Trust Management



# The Republic of Cyprus...



... a business-friendly EU country  
between Europe and the Middle East!



# The History of Cyprus as a Commercial Regional Hub

## Millenniums of Tradition

Since more than 3000 years, Cyprus has been an economic hub between the Middle East and North Africa on the one side, and Europe on the other side.

The Phoenicians established trade hubs in Cyprus, at the time of the ten “city-kingdoms”. The ancient Egyptians used Cyprus as a trade hub for their commercial interchanges with the Hittites, Phoenicians and other nations of the Eastern Mediterranean. Cyprus was known for its important olive oil production at that time, being a precious commodity for lamps, food and beauty. The Roman Empire further developed the olive oil production, and Cyprus became one of the main suppliers of olive oil for Rome.

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# The History of Cyprus as a Commercial Regional Hub

## Millenniums of Tradition

During the Byzantine period, Emperor Justinian II agreed with Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan, the famous Umayyad Caliph, to rule Cyprus together, in order to mutually benefit from its central geographical position.

At the end of the last Crusade, Guy Lusignan founded the Frankish Kingdom of Cyprus (1192 – 1489), with Latin, and later French as official language, and Gothic cathedrals. Cyprus became an extremely rich commercial hub, controlling almost the entire trade in both directions between the East and the West.

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# The History of Cyprus as a Commercial Regional Hub

## Millenniums of Tradition

The Frankish period came to an end with the influence of Venice, which ruled Cyprus from 1489 to 1571, utilising Cyprus as a commercial base for their trade between East and West, and vice versa.

After the rule of Venice, the Ottoman Empire ruled Cyprus 1570 to 1878, when Cyprus became a British colony. Both the Ottomans and the British benefited from Cyprus as a commercial hub.



# Cyprus as a Business Hub Today

## A business-friendly country serving the World

Cyprus is independent since the foundation of the Republic of Cyprus in 1960. Yet today, Cyprus benefits from its central location in the Eastern Mediterranean, being the most Eastern EU Member, closed to the Middle East and North Africa. Cyprus attracts companies from both, the Middle East and from Europe, as well as from the USA, choosing Cyprus as their regional headquarters.

Companies from the USA and Europe prefer Cyprus as a business location, or a business hub, to oversee and to manage their Middle East and North Africa (MENA) activities.



# Cyprus as a Business Hub Today

## Cyprus as a Gate to the EU

Companies from the Middle East, from India and from China are mainly benefiting from Cyprus as an “Entrance Gate to the EU” or as a beneficial jurisdiction for Holding Companies. Such companies are generally managing or operating their business activities in the European Union from Cyprus, benefiting from the advantages of Cyprus.

Another group of Middle East, Indian and Chinese companies prefer Cyprus to manage their investments in Europe, such as shareholding in medium-sized or large European industrial companies, or in substantial real estate objects.



# What Cyprus Offers for Businesses

- Cyprus maintains very good and intensive **diplomatic ties** with the countries of the **MENA** region.
- **Cultural similarities** between **Cyprus** and the **MENA** countries make Cyprus an attractive place for business and leisure for people from MENA countries.
- Cyprus enjoys **strong economic ties** with the countries of the **MENA** region.
- **Daily maritime feeders** connect Cyprus with the ports of the Mediterranean Sea.
- Cyprus offers **frequent direct flights** to many airports of the **MENA** region.
- **14 Arabian banks** from various MENA countries do have subsidiaries in Cyprus.
- **The business language** in Cyprus is **English**.





# What Cyprus Offers for Businesses

- Cyprus has a **co-operative administration**.
- Cyprus provides a **simple tax system** with business-friendly tax rates.
- Cyprus has **no tax** on the profit from the **disposal of securities** in its widest sense, including company shares.
- Cyprus enjoys **political stability and security**.
- Cyprus offers a **professional** and well developed **service sector**.
- Cyprus is the **largest** global jurisdiction for **ship management** companies.
- Cyprus provides **very good infrastructure**, including communication infrastructure.
- The **direct implementation** of EU Directives in Cyprus provides many advantages.



# Some Tax Advantages of Cyprus

- Corporate tax is only 12,5 %, very low tonnage tax for ship-owning and shipping companies, 2,5 % on income from Intellectual Property (conditions apply, please read our specific page).
- No tax on disposal or trading of securities, including company shares.
- No tax on income from dividends on company level (for a period of four years).
- No withholding tax.
- No tax for International Trusts.
- No tax on dividend income of **non-domiciled individuals**.
- Full adoption of the EU-Parent-Subsidiary-Directive (dividend payments of the subsidiary to its parent are tax-exempted).
- **Full tax group relief** (profits of one group company are offset against losses of another group company).
- Offshore entities from other countries are allowed as shareholders.
- Rigid appliance of all relevant EU directives.



# Our One-Stop Services

## Our Scope of Services

- Company Formation, Corporate & Fiduciary Services ▶
- Bank Accounts ▶
- Company Administration ▶
- Localisation & Business Support ▶
- Accountancy & Tax Services & Audit ▶
- Structuring International Business & Investment ▶
- Trusts and Trust Management ▶



# Company Formation, Corporate & Fiduciary Services

Shanda Consult is licenced and regulated by CySEC as an administrative service provider and thus provides company formation, corporate, fiduciary and trust services, based on relevant regulations and laws of Cyprus and the EU.

Our international, experienced corporate team, also including in-house jurists, delivers professional services on the highest level of service quality. Continuous in-house and external seminars ensure that our services always comply with the latest regulations.

With its German management, our services reflect German professionalism, accuracy, and timely delivery.

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# Company Formation, Corporate & Fiduciary Services

We cover the entire process of company formation, including:

- Advising our clients;
- Preparing of Memorandums and Articles of Association;
- Provision of Registered Address (with own physical office, if desired);
- Provision of statutory Company Secretary;
- Provision of resident Directors;
- Provision of Trustee Shareholders;
- Provision of Trustees (for Trusts);
- Incorporation or formation of Cyprus Private and Public Companies, Limited Partnerships, EEIGs, and Trusts;
- Keeping of statutory documents;
- Preparation of Minutes, Resolutions and Annual General Meetings;
- Keeping companies etc. up-to-date with its statutory and legal obligations;
- Liquidations.



# Bank Accounts

The opening of bank accounts for new companies or for individuals has become a difficult and lengthy process with all banks around the world. Thorough due-diligence, compliance and transparency rules require excellent preparation of documents for the application of bank account opening.

We are proud that no bank account application prepared by us for company with legal business activities or for individuals with clean background has been rejected until today.

This does not constitute a guarantee though, as it is in the sole discretion of the respective bank to open a bank account, or not.

We are opening bank accounts in Cyprus (advisable for Cyprus companies) and other countries.



# Company Administration

Company administration comprises all necessary administrative tasks and undertakings other than business. Our very experienced team cares for your company's needs and requirements as it would be our own company. Our administrative services include, but are not limited to:

- Following up customer correspondence (in cooperation with our clients);
- Communication with local authorities and handling of obligations;
- Ensuring that your company keeps up with its statutory and legal obligations;
- Filing of all necessary documents and notifications with the Registrar of Companies, the Tax Authorities and other authorities;
- Reminding our clients of deadlines;
- Assisting and advising our clients in all relevant aspects;
- Secretarial services;
- ... and what ever you need in addition to the above!



# Localisation & Business Support

We often assist our clients with localisation services and business support, which includes but is not limited to:

- Allocating and renting office space (in business centre or elsewhere);
- Arranging for phone and data lines;
- HR, providing or searching for and hiring personnel;
- Maintaining/supervising local premises and its administration;
- Preselecting and introducing possible business partners/customers in Cyprus and abroad;
- Preselecting and introducing distribution partners in Cyprus and abroad;
- Advising on investment in Cyprus, preselecting and introducing investment opportunities;
- Problem solving with Ministries and public authorities;
- ... and much more as per your needs!





# Accountancy & Tax Services & Audit

As part of our one-stop solution service approach, we are taking care of your Cyprus Company's Accountancy and Audit, comprising, among others, of the following services:

- Bookkeeping on a weekly, monthly or quarterly basis;
- Payroll services, incl. tax and social contribution;
- Tax advice;
- Preparing and submitting VAT declarations (quarterly);
- Preparing and submitting tax assessments (twice per year);
- Preparing and submitting corporate tax declarations (annually);
- Preparing management accounts;
- Preparing bookkeeping for annual financial statements;
- Arranging for the preparation of annual financial accounts and their audit, through our associated auditors;
- Liaison with tax authorities if needed;
- Tax residency and tax clearance certificates.



# Structuring International Business & Investment

Our clients are often involved in international trade, manufacturing or various kinds of investments.

As a result, our clients' companies in Cyprus are often a part of an international group of companies, with subsidiaries or a holding in other countries.

In case of financial investment, or of investment in commercial real estate property, or in production facilities in other countries, clients often benefit from Cyprus companies as special purpose vehicles or as holding companies.

We are happy to advise our clients on beneficial international business structures, as well as on structuring of investments in Cyprus and in other countries.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for a first evaluation of your situation; we will be happy to assist!



# Cyprus International Trusts and Trust Management

A Trust is a wealth management vehicle preferred

- for the protection of assets;
- for protection against personal bankruptcy;
- for the management of investments;
- for the maintenance of anonymity;
- for tax planning;
- for planning of succession;
- for pension schemes and other profit sharing;
- for charities,

to name a few.

Cyprus provides the most advantageous trust law available, and fully in line with EU legislation.



# Cyprus International Trusts and Trust Management

Cyprus International Trusts can be formed by any settlor who is not resident of Cyprus at the time of trust formation and the year after formation. The beneficiary of a Cyprus International Trusts shall also not be resident of Cyprus at the time of trust formation and the year after formation.

The income of Cyprus International Trusts is not subject to tax in Cyprus.

With its recent amendment in 2013, important rights are reserved to the settlor, who thus maintains specific control over a trust.

While settlor and beneficiaries remain anonym in the Cyprus Trust Registry, they must be disclosed to banks when opening bank accounts in the name of the Trust.



**We are here to serve you! Contact us!**

**We are welcoming you to contact us!**

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**CONTACT US**



**SHANDA CONSULT**