

CURRICULUM VITAE

- 1. Family Name** PYRGOU
- 2. First Name** Melina
- 3. Date of Birth** 24 September 1968
- 4. Nationality** Greek – Cypriot

5. Education

Institution: University of Geneva, Switzerland (Scholarship offered by the Swiss Confederation)

Date: 1994-1995

Degree: Diploma in Environmental Law

Institution: Holborn Law Tutors, London United Kingdom

Date: 1990-1991

Degree: Preparation for the final examinations of the Bar Council of England and Wales

Institution: University of Keele, Staffordshire, United Kingdom

Date: 1987 - 1990

Degree: Bachelor of Social Science in Law and Sociology (2.2)

Institution: The English School,

Date: 1981 - 1987

Institution: The Junior School, Nicosia

Date: 1974 - 1981

6. Professional Examinations

Cyprus Legal Board Examinations – to become a registered Cyprus advocate, Called to the Bar 1992

Bar Council of England and Wales – to become a Barrister. Called to the Bar 1995

7. Professional Experience

Date: October 2007 – today

Location: Nicosia Cyprus

Company: PYRGOU LAW FIRM

Position: Director

Type of work: A quickly developing corporate law practice servicing international clientele. Undertakes major transaction work, re-organizations, company registrations, drafting of agreements including shareholders agreements, review of legal documentation and provision of Cyprus law opinion thereon, due diligence reports.

Date: February 2007 – October 2007

Location: Nicosia Cyprus

Company: PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited

Position: Director

Duties: Joined PwC with the aim of creating a legal department for the firm. Currently the firm employs 12 lawyers. The client requests were such that it was deemed appropriate to be able to provide legal opinions to clients and in this respect and due to Bar regulatory reasons I left the employment of PwC and set up my own firm to service these clients working closely with PwC as their external legal advisor.

Date: September 1995 – January 2007

Location: Nicosia Cyprus

Company: Kinanis – Pyrgou + Co.

Position: Partner

Duties: Head of the Litigation department and in this capacity headed a team of two lawyers and three administrative staff, and conducted court hearings as and when necessary. Performed work of the corporate department relating to the provision of legal opinions on Cyprus law in large M&A deals including drafting of pledge agreements and related contracts together with one other junior lawyer. Regularly advised clients on corporate law issues as well as employment law. Performed property work, together with one other junior lawyer. Performed most private client work, including drafting of wills and Administration of Estate work of the office. Acted as director on boards of many companies and participated at General Meetings. Acted as human resource partner of the firm employing 50 persons in total and was in charge of recruitments and other related tasks. Performed a considerable amount of the office's marketing through attending events and seminars both in Cyprus and abroad, and organizing this area internally. Initiated the ISO procedures for the office and reorganized the filing system and client and file register of the office. Developed the European Law Department with special interest in the field of Environmental Law.

Date: September 1993 – September 1994

Location: Nicosia Cyprus
Company: G. Colokassides + Co.
Position: Associate
Duties: Litigation department. Appeared in Court, drafted contracts, registration of trade marks.

Date: September 1991 - 1993
Location: Nicosia Cyprus
Company: Lellos Demetriades + Co.
Position: Associate
Duties: Pupillage and then Litigation department. Assisted with Human rights applications to European Court of Human Rights.

8. Additional training and conferences

International conference on Water Management Policy and New Technologies organized by Intensity (NGO) and others held in January 2009 in Orestiada Greece.

International Environmental Law Conference organized by the Attorney General of Rio De Janeiro – Rio de Janeiro May 2008 – paper presented on “A retrospective view on environmental law in the European Union”

International Court of the Environment Conference – Venice May 2007 – presented paper on Marine environment in Cyprus

Mergers and acquisitions seminar – PwC – Berlin February 2007

Risk Management for the Legal Profession – London December 2006 – 2 day course and ½ day workshop

The EU Environmental Liability directive – Seminar organized by the European Environmental Law Association (July 2006 Oxford, United Kingdom)

Women’s Interest Group Conference organized by the International Bar Association June 2006

Climate change – Seminar organized by the European Environmental Law Association and the Cyprus Environmental Law Association (December 2005, Nicosia)

Strategic Marketing for the Legal Profession, London 2003 2 day course

Law firm Management, London 2004 2 day course.

The European Union Environmental Policy and Implications for Cyprus, seminar organised by the European Institute of Cyprus, February 2000.

Air Pollution and Industrial Development, Seminar organised by International Bar Association, Rome 1998

Represented Kinanis – Pyrgou + Co as participant and as speaker at many seminars organized by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce to promote Cyprus as an international business centre

As member of the International Tax planning Association participated at one or two conferences per year since 2000 on tax related matters.

9. Language Skills

5 = *best*

1 = *basic elements*

Language	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Speaking</i>	<i>Writing</i>
Greek	mother tongue		
English	5	5	5
French	5	4	4
Russian	1	1	1

10. Professional Bodies Cyprus Bar Association
International Tax Planning Association

11. Other Memberships and positions held

2011 – Europefides Board member

2011 – Vice-Chairman Cyprus – Czech Business Association

2011 – Board Member of Cyprus-Canada Business Association

2003 – 2006 Board Member and Secretary of the Council of the Cyprus Bar Association

2003 – 2006 Representative of the Cyprus Bar Association and Information Officer at the Council of the European Bar Associations CCBE and active member of the training committee.

Founding Member and Member of the Board of the Cyprus Environmental Law Association

Vice – Chairman of the Subcommittee of the Environment of the Cyprus Bar Association

Member of the Board of the European Environmental Law Association

Member of the Board of the Cyprus-Russian Business Association

Member of the Cyprus-China Business Association
Member of the Cyprus-UK Business Association
Member of the Hellenic Environmental Law Association
Member of the International Tax Planning Association

12. Other skills Computer literate, use of CELEX, use of special company data programme, use of Leginet
Ability to translate from English to Greek and French, Greek to English and French, French to Greek and English

13. Papers presented and articles written

Environmental Law and Human Rights – Nicosia December 2010 organised by Cyprus Foundation for the Promotion of Research

“A retrospective view on environmental law in the European Union” – International Environmental Law Conference Rio de Janeiro May 2008

“Cyprus report” report presented a Conference organized by the International Court of the Environment Fund on The protection and sustainable development of the Mediterranean and Black Sea Ecosystem, Venice May 2007

“Cyprus Environmental Law” paper presented at seminar organized by the European Environmental Law Association and the Cyprus Environmental Law Association, December 2005

Cyprus chapter on Pre-immigration planning and published by the International Tax Planning Association in 2006

Cyprus Chapter on Environmental Law published by the Global Legal Group 2005, 2006

Cyprus Chapter on Pharmaceutical Law published by the Global Legal Group 2005

The legal aspects of establishing a business in Cyprus, 2000 paper presented at seminar organised by the Chamber of Commerce in Moscow Russia

The use of double taxation treaties, March 2000 paper presented at Seminar organised by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce in the Hague and in Brussels.

The legal aspects of establishing a business in Cyprus, July 1999 paper presented at Seminar organised by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce in the Ukraine

The legal aspects of establishing a business in Cyprus, June 1999 paper presented at Seminar organised by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce in China

The legal aspects of establishing a business in Cyprus, April 1999 paper presented at Seminar organised by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce in Vilnius. Lithuania

Regional and Headquarter companies in Cyprus, January 1999 paper presented at Seminar organised by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce in Delhi and Bombay, India

Environmental Law in Cyprus, October 1998 Paper presented at Seminar on the introduction of the Acquis communautaire in Cyprus with special focus on Environmental Law organised jointly by DGXI of the European Commission, the Environmental Committee of the Cyprus Bar Association and the Cyprus Conservation Foundation

Environmental law in Cyprus, June 1998 Speech given at seminar organised by the Environment committee of the Cyprus Bar Association.

The use of double taxation treaties, March 1998 paper presented at Seminar organised by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce in the Hague and Brussels

Article on "Foreign Investments in Cyprus", Offshore Investment Journal, April 1997