

The Digital Future of Payments Forum:

# Bracing for Generation Z

6 June 2023

08:45 - 12:30  
(GMT+3 - Cyprus)

Hilton Hotel Nicosia

€100 for CCCI Members

€120 for Non-CCCI Members

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Gold Sponsor: **ecommbx**



Supporter: **ACEMPI** | Association of Cyprus Electronic Money & Payment Institutions

- 08:45-09:30**      **Registration & Coffee**
- 09:30-09:40**      **Welcoming Addresses**
- 09:30-09:35**      **Mr. Christodoulos Angastiniotis** – President – Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 09:35-09:40**      **Mr. Theo Parperis** – President – Cyprus-China Business Association
- 09:40-09:55**      **Keynote Speech**
- 09:40-09:55**      **Mr. Philippos Hadjizacharias** – Deputy Minister of Research, Innovation & Digital Policy  
Cyprus' Ecosystem of Digital Payments
- 09:55-10:20**      **Section 1: Overview of Digital Payments**
- 09:55-10:10**      **Mr. Markos Markides** – Manager – Technology Consulting – KPMG Ltd  
**Mr. Michael Lambaskis** – Assistant Manager – Technology Consulting – KPMG Ltd  
The Digital Future of Payments: Gen Z Perspective
- 10:10-10:20**      **Prof. Robert Lee** – Principal – Blockchain Metaverse Academy (Australia)  
A New Digital Civilization
- 10:20-11:00**      **Panel Discussion 1: Bracing for a Gen-Z friendly, digital payments future: Challenges and Opportunities**
- Chairman: Mr. Theo Parperis** – President – Cyprus-China Business Association
- **Mr. Sotiris Prokopiou** – Senior Manager in Technology Consulting – KPMG Ltd
  - **Mr. Michael Tyrimos** – Founder and Managing Director – Capacitor Partners
  - **Mrs. Lise Li** – CEO – Keyi Tech
- 11:00-11:25**      **Coffee break & Snacks**
- 11:25-11:35**      **Section 2: Examining the Future of Security & Banking Speech**
- 11:25-11:35**      **Mrs. Elena Kontou** – Board Member – Association of Cyprus Electronic Money & Payment Institutions  
Safeguarding privacy and security in the era of Digital Transactions
- 11:35-12:00**      **Panel Discussion 2: Open Banking: What's next?**
- Chairman: Mr. Theo Parperis** – President – Cyprus-China Business Association
- **Mr. Gregory Dellas** – Chief Compliance & Innovation Officer – EcomBX
  - **Mr. Christos Eodjourian** – Head of Technology & Digital – Hellenic Bank
  - **Mr. Demetris Nicolaou** – Chief Digital Officer – Bank of Cyprus
- Q&A available*
- 12:00 -12:30**      **Section 3: Crossing the Finish Line: Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) & Smart Contracts**
- Keynote Speech**
- 12:00-12:10**      **Mrs. Stavriana A. Kofteros** – Vice Chair – Research & Innovation Foundation  
How far away are we from transitioning to Smart Contracts?
- 12:10-12:20**      **Mr. Li Wei** – Chairman – Doneva Enterprises Limited  
Business Case Study: NFTs in the Cypriot Real Estate Sector
- 12:20-12:30**      **Mr. Antonis Polemitis** – CEO – University of Nicosia  
Bringing it all together: Taking NFTs to the next level



## **Mr. Philippos Hadjizacharias**

Deputy Minister of Research, Innovation & Digital Policy to the President

Mr Philippos Hadjizacharias was born in Larnaka in 1975.

He graduated from the Pancyprian Lyceum of Larnaka. He holds an Accounting degree from the University of Birmingham, AAT, FCCA, degrees, MA Taxation in European Law from the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies of London as well as a certificate on Effective Leadership from the University of Oxford.

He is a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus, which he has served from various positions. He is a founding member of PHS & Partners, a Larnaka based company. He has served as non-Executive Director as well as Financial and Tax advisor in multinational companies.

He is married to Sandra Hadjizacharia, and a father of three children.



**Mr. Robert Lee**

Professor – Ph.D. of Economics  
Senior engineer

Dean – Shanghai International Community College

Dean – Hong Kong Blockchain Application and Investment Research Institute

Chief Economist – National Center for Technology Transfer Eastern  
Central Blockchain Industry Center

Chief Economist – BMI Asset Management (Shanghai) Co. Ltd

Dean – Lingang International Science and Technology Research Institute

Founder – 518 Blockchain Community

Founder – International Digital Economy and Blockchain DBA Project

Vice Chairman – Australia Blockchain Alliance



## **Mrs. Lise Li**

Head of APAC Hub – Bitcoin Association for BSV (Switzerland)  
CEO – Keyi Tech

Graduated from the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE) and with years of work experience in the bitcoin industry, Lise has a deep understanding of blockchain technology and fintech.

She is currently dedicated to advocating BSV technology globally as Head of China Hub with Bitcoin Association (Switzerland), speaking on many industry and academic conferences. She is also founder and CEO of Keyi Technology, a Shanghai-based blockchain company, providing consulting and educational services to local enterprises and universities.



## **Mr. Li Wei**

Chairman – Dovena Enterprises Limited  
General manager – Jiatong Investment Limited

Mr. Li Wei has been engaging in the investments of cryptocurrency, stocks, and immovables. Currently concentrating on linking the real estate sector in Cyprus onto blockchain, as well as NFT integration.



**Mr. Christodoulos E. Angastiniotis**  
President – Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Christodoulos E. Angastiniotis studied Business Management & Management Sciences in the UK and holds a postgraduate degree MSc in Management from Cranfield University.

Christodoulos E. Angastiniotis is the CEO and Managing Director of the VitaTrace Nutrition Ltd Group, which is a Veterinary Nutritional and Pharmaceutical company with operations in Cyprus and internationally.

The company has received over the years export awards, quality awards and corporate social responsibility awards. Christodoulos E. Angastiniotis is an exceptionally active businessman with very significant social contribution.

Christodoulos E. Angastiniotis serves or has served as below:

- President of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce & Industry (2017-2023)
- President of the Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency (CIPA) (2011-2018)
- Vice President of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce & Industry (2011-2017)
  - President of the Nicosia Tourist Development (2005-2014)
- President of the Pancyprian Association of Veterinary Medicines ( 2007-2013)
  - President of the Nicosia Chamber of Commerce & Industry (2005-2011)
- Founder, President and Honorary President of the Cyprus Egypt Business Association
  - Member of the Board of Institute of Technology Cyprus
  - Member of the Board of the Wealth fare of Prisoners
  - Member of the Board Human Resources Development Authority

In 2010 he was awarded by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Cyprus and the Cyprus Standard Authority the highest quality award for his exceptional contribution in upgrading quality in Cyprus.

He participated in many economic, financial and business promotion seminars abroad, where he presented a number of papers on the role of Cyprus as a Regional Financial and Commercial Center.



## **Mr. Theo Parperis**

President

Cyprus-China Business Association – CEO of Kiteserve Ltd

Theo was a Partner at PwC Cyprus, heading Tax and Legal services, and a member of the Management Board for the last 10 years. Theo took early retirement from PwC on 30 June 2022 and, together with another two ex PwC partners, has founded Kiteserve Limited, a boutique professional services firm. He is currently the Managing Partner of Kiteserve.

Theo started his career in London and then moved to PwC Cyprus, where he actively served a very extensive portfolio of international clients, operating in a broad range of sectors. He has vast experience in business consulting, tax planning and corporate compliance, transaction support and group restructurings, as well as wealth management and family office services to private clients.

Theo is a keen sportsman, having completed Marathons, Triathlons and Ironman races.





## **Mr. Gregory Dellas**

Chief Compliance and Innovation Officer – ECOMMBX Ltd

Gregory Dellas is the Chief Compliance and Innovation Officer at ECOMMBX. Previously, at the Bank of Cyprus, Gregory served as Director Wealth & Markets and spearheaded the AML Risk Management team within International Banking Services, responsible for high-risk clients and transactions and for providing guidance and specialized training to management and staff. Before that, he was Group MLRO for a large Cyprus bank, and held a number of other senior management positions.

Gregory is the founder and Chair of the ACAMS Cyprus Chapter, since 2015. He holds several international professional certifications including CGSS, CAMS (Advanced) - Risk and CAMS (Advanced) – Audit. He is a certified CAMS instructor and GCI accredited trainer, a Fellow of ICA (FICA) and a long-standing member of the AMLP Forum and IGCA. He also holds an MBA from Lancaster University in the UK and a BSC (Hons) Industrial economics from the University of Warwick.



**Mr. Markos Markides**  
Manager – Technology Consulting – KPMG Ltd

Markos is a Manager in the Management Consulting department of KPMG in Cyprus, with a focus on Technology Consulting.

He has more than ten years of professional experience and specializes in the provision of tailor-made Digital Transformation services, Agile Delivery services and Cloud Adoption & Transformation services, as well as Product, Program and Project Management advisory services to Payment Services Providers, Financial Institutions and Public Sector clients.

Markos holds a BA and an MEng in Manufacturing Engineering from the University of Cambridge.



## **Mr. Michael Lambaskis**

**Assistant Manager – Technology Consulting – KPMG Ltd**

Michael is an Assistant Manager in the Management Consulting Department of KPMG in Cyprus, with a focus on Technology Consulting.

Michael has more than 6 years of academic and professional experience in the UK and Cyprus and offers advice to clients relating to Blockchain and Digital Transformation, Business Analysis, and IT Strategy.

Michael has been engaged in various technology projects in both public and private sectors.



**Mr. Sotiris Prokopiou**  
Senior Manager – Technology Consulting – KPMG Ltd

Sotiris is a Senior Manager at KPMG Cyprus leading the Digital Transformation Services and a Digital Twins Expert.

Sotiris has a both Academic and Professional background, with a PhD in Digital Twins (UK) and two consecutive Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (USA and France) with the main focus on Emerging Technologies, specifically Digital Twins.

He has worked as a Systems Modeling Engineer in R&D and as a Solutions Consultant within a Digital Twin tech company in France, and on various Technology and Digital Transformation engagements within the public and private sector in various industries in Cyprus focusing on the provision of Digital Transformation and CIO Advisory services.



## **Mrs. Stavriana Kofteros**

Vice-President – Research & Innovation Foundation

Stavriana A. Kofteros is Vice Chair of the Research & Innovation Foundation, Cofounder and Chair of Startup Cyprus, a member of the European Innovation Council Investment Jury (EIC) and EIC Ambassador.

Stavriana is an angel investor with positions in European startups. She is active in the international startup ecosystem; she is a member of EU's Innovation Ecosystem Leaders Group under Commissioner Gabriel, the European Digital Leaders Network of the World Economic Forum, the EPP Expert Group on Innovation and Digital Transition, the Innovation Advisory Board of the Biosense Institute in Serbia, and Cofounder of the European Startup Network, on the Board of which she has served as Vice Chair.

She has also served on the Transatlantic Council of Allied for Startups. She holds degrees in Business Administration and Political Science from the University of La Verne (USA) and has specialized in Entrepreneurship Development at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (Fulbright Scholar).



## **Mr. Antonis Polemitis**

CEO – University of Nicosia – Chairman of TechIsland

Mr. Polemitis currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the University of Nicosia and EDEX, as a Board member of EDEX and UNICAF, and as a member of the Council of the University of Nicosia.

The University of Nicosia (UNIC) serves over 14,000 students, along with over 18,000 additional students in its affiliated academic institutions. UNIC is the largest university in Cyprus and is the largest English-language university in southern Europe.

Mr. Polemitis helped found the world-leading Digital Currency/Blockchain Initiative at the University of Nicosia, co-taught the first university cryptocurrency course in the world, and is regularly quoted as an expert on cryptocurrency issues. He was a member of the national committee that designed the blockchain strategy for Cyprus.

Mr. Polemitis is the managing partner of Ledra Capital, where he led early-stage investments in, or software development of, Software-as-a-Service platforms in the areas of higher education, cryptocurrency, online video publishing and legal research. Mr. Polemitis was previously a principal at ACG Capital, a privately held multi-billion dollar investment firm and a partner based in New York and London in the private equity practice of Mercer Management Consulting (now Oliver Wyman), one of the world's leading strategy consultancies.



## **Mr. Christos Eodjourian**

### Head of Technology & Digital – Hellenic Bank

Christos Eodjourian is the Head of Technology & Digital. He joined Hellenic Bank in 2018 as Manager, Channels & Digital Products responsible for the Digital Strategy of the Bank. Christos has 15 years of experience in the financial services sector.

He started his career in 2007 at UBS in London, working within Prime Brokerage Technology, before taking a senior role within the Hedge Fund Client Integration team at Bank of America Merrill Lynch (BAML).

Prior to joining Hellenic Bank, Christos was a Director at BlackRock, leading a global team for the Aladdin platform, which provides portfolio management, trading, operations, compliance, and accounting tools. Christos graduated from University College London (UCL) with a BEng degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering.



## **Mr. Michael Tyrimos**

Founder and Managing Director – Capacitor Partners

Michael is the Founder and Managing Director of Capacitor Partners, a technology consulting firm, with a background in product management from Silicon Valley and Europe. He holds investments in various ventures, including Ergodotisi.com and Kodika.io.

Michael is a first-class graduate of King's College London, Oxford, and Cambridge, and holds several awards and recognitions, including the O1 Visa for Extraordinary Abilities, CCCI/JCI 40 under 40 Disruptor Award, Associateship of King's College London, and Fellowship of the Royal Society of Arts, Trades, and Commerce.





**Mr. Demetris Nicolaou**  
Chief Digital Officer – Bank of Cyprus

Demetris is the Chief Digital Officer at Bank of Cyprus since January 2022.

He is responsible for the Bank's Digital Channels, the Digital Economy Platform and the delivery of the Digital Transformation initiatives.

He joined Bank of Cyprus in 2017 as Manager Digital Transformation to oversee the delivery of the Bank's Digital Transformation programme.

Prior to joining Bank of Cyprus, Demetris held various technology roles in the UK, working for UBS Investment Bank from 2007 to 2012, and at Citibank from 2012 until 2016, where he most recently held the position of Global Head of Futures eTrading technology.

On his return to Cyprus, he took over the role of Chief Product Development Officer at FxPro Financial Services.

Demetris holds a BEng in Computing from Imperial College, London, UK, and is also a CFA Charterholder.