



**Cyprus
Chamber of
Commerce &
Industry**

Nicosia, 8 October 2025

TO: All Members

SUBJECT: "She Sets the Standard – Female Leaders in Governance and Compliance"

October 15, 2025

University of Cyprus – Amphitheatre (Kallipoleos)

Dear Members,

The Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry is pleased to inform you of an inspiring upcoming event titled: ***"She Sets the Standard – Female Leaders in Governance and Compliance"***.

The event is hosted by the **American Chamber of Commerce in Cyprus**, in partnership with ACAMS Cyprus Chapter and the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and aims to celebrate the powerful impact of women in governance and compliance.

What to Expect:

1. Trailblazing female professionals—both local and international—will share their experiences and expertise in promoting integrity, transparency, and accountability across the sector.
2. Participants will gain valuable insights, strategies, and inspiration from those who are redefining industry standards.

Key Themes:

1. Evolution of AML, sanctions & compliance frameworks
2. Personal journeys & achievements
3. Challenges in the compliance profession
4. Latest developments in the field

Featured Speakers:

- Samantha J. Sheen – Financial Crime Expert, Council of Europe
- Joanna Jenkins – Head of International Compliance, Kraken
- Professor Stephanie Laulhe Shaelou – Head of School of Law and Professor of European Law and Reform and CroLEV Director, UCLan Cyprus
- Athena Yiallourou – Director – Risk & Compliance, Trident Trust
- Philokypros Roussounides – Secretary General, CCCI
- Nassos Paltayian – Vice-Chair, ACAMS Cyprus Chapter; Director – Head of Compliance, Abacus Limited

The event will conclude with a dynamic panel discussion and a networking reception, offering participants the opportunity to connect and exchange views.



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Participants will receive 1 ACAMS Credit.

For further information and registration details, please refer to the attached material.

Sincerely,

Lily Michaelides

Department of International Relations & Economic Diplomacy



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**The Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS)
Cyprus Chapter and the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham)
Event, in Partnership with the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Present:**

«She sets the standard - Female leaders in Governance and Compliance»

Date: 15 October 2025

Time: 17:00 – 21:00

Venue: University of Cyprus – Amphitheatre (Kallipoleos)

Event overview

This event aims to celebrate and amplify the impact of women shaping the future of ethical leadership. It will showcase trailblazing female professionals, including two local and two international speakers, who are driving integrity, transparency, and accountability across the governance and compliance sector. Attendees will gain powerful insights, practical strategies and inspiration from those redefining standards in governance and compliance.

It will provide a platform for sharing stories, discussing the evolution of compliance frameworks and addressing the challenges faced by compliance professionals in the finance world. The event will also focus on recent developments in the profession and offer an outlook on the main challenges and opportunities in governance and compliance.

Key themes

- Evolution of the AML, Sanctions and general compliance framework.
- Personal experiences and impressive achievements.
- Challenges faced as a compliance professional and leader in the finance world.
- Overcoming challenges and recent developments in the profession.

Why attend?

- Gain insights: Learn from the experiences and insights of leading female professionals in governance and compliance and exchange views on best practices and innovative approaches.
- Stay updated: Get the latest updates on the evolution of the AML, sanctions and compliance frameworks.
- Be inspired: Hear inspiring stories and strategies that can help you in your own career.

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- Network: Connect with industry peers and build valuable professional relationships.
- Participants will receive 1 ACAMS Credit.

Audience

The event is designed for professionals in the governance and compliance sector, including:

- Compliance officers
- Risk managers
- Legal advisors
- Financial advisors
- Auditors & Accountants
- Corporate executives
- Anyone interested in governance and compliance

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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AGENDA

- 17:00 - 17:30:** Registration and Coffee.
- 17:30 - 17:35:** Welcome remarks.
Chairperson of AmCham's committee on Women in Business.
- 17:35 - 17:40** Welcome remarks
Mr. Philokypros Roussounides
Secretary General, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 17:40 - 17:45** Welcome remarks
Mr. Nassos Paltayian
Vice - Chair, ACAMS Cyprus Chapter, Director - Head of Compliance, Abacus Limited
- 17:45 - 18:00** «Shaping compliance across borders - The EU's vision and global standards»
Speaker: Samantha J Sheen, Subject Matter Expert on Financial crime, Council of EuropeEx Ante Advisory Limited
- 18:00 - 18:15** «Tech meets Integrity - Building compliance cultures in innovation-driven companies».
Speaker: Joanna Jenkins - Head of International Compliance, Kraken
- 18:15 - 18:30** «How education is shaping tomorrow's compliance experts».
Speaker: Stephanie Laulhe Shaelou - Head of School of Law in UCLan Cyprus
- 18:30 - 18:45** «Leading from within - A perspective on Cyprus's compliance evolution».
Speaker: Athena Yiallourou, Director – Risk & Compliance, Trident Trust
- 18:45 - 19:30** Panel discussion and Q&A
Moderator: Mr. Nassos Paltayian
Panellists: Samantha J Sheen, Joanna Jenkins, Stephanie Laulhe Shaelou, Athena Yiallourou and AmCham chairperson.

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19:30 - 21:00 Networking reception

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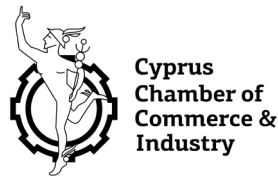
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WHO IS WHO

Samantha J. Sheen **Council of Europe, Subject Matter Expert Financial crime**



Sam Sheen has been a professional involved in risk management, compliance, and financial crime prevention for over 15 years, working for a wide variety of financial institutions in various jurisdictions. Holding roles ranging from Head of Group Compliance, MLRO, DPO, Head of Transformation Implementation and having served as the first ACAMS European director, Sam takes a pragmatic and forward-looking approach towards the interpretation and application of AML/CFT regulatory requirements.

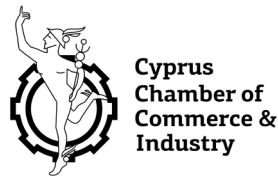
Sam's scope of work extends to advising both FinTechs, VASPs and RegTech providers to support them in tackling fit-for-purpose design requirements, operational challenges, and unanticipated bumps along the AML/CFT compliance highway as their businesses scale. Having also worked as a AML/CFT supervisor, heading Enforcement, AML/CFT and most recently cross sectoral Supervision Divisions, Sam works closely with regulators and other agencies across Europe and beyond, on everything from conducting sectoral assessments of the virtual asset sector to improving the use of data in the risk assessment and monitoring of obliged entities.

Originally from Montreal, Canada Sam regularly chairs AML/CFT-themed events, provides engaging training to both the public and private sector, produces and contributes to innovative AML/CFT thought leadership publications, and is an all-round champion of stakeholders who put in the hard yards to detect, prevent and disrupt financial crime. Formal education, qualifications etc can be found on LinkedIn.

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Joanna Jenkins
Head of International Compliance, Kraken



Joanna Jenkins is a seasoned compliance leader with extensive experience across crypto, fintech, payments, and regtech. With a strong background in regulatory strategy and global compliance frameworks, she has led high-impact initiatives at leading firms, navigating complex regulatory landscapes across multiple jurisdictions. Joanna has held senior roles where she built and scaled compliance programs, managed licensing efforts, and drove innovation in risk and regulatory technology. Passionate about bridging regulatory integrity with business growth, she brings a pragmatic and solutions-oriented approach to compliance. Joanna is also an advocate for inclusive leadership and operational excellence in fast-paced, evolving financial environments.

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Prof. Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou
Head of School of Law and Professor of European Law and Reform and
CRoLEV Director, UCLan Cyprus



Slaulhe-shaelou@uclan.ac.uk

Prof. Laulhé Shaelou has been researching, transmitting knowledge and running externally funded projects in the broad field of European Law, Governance and Rights at several universities throughout Europe, including Cyprus, Germany and the UK for over 20 years. She is currently Professor of European Law and Reform, Head of the School of Law at the University of Central Lancashire in Cyprus (UCLan Cyprus). Director of the EU funded Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for the Rule of Law and European Values (CRoLEV) at UCLan Cyprus, measuring/monitoring/reporting on rule of law, values and democratic indicators in Cyprus and Europe <https://crolev.eu/> (2022-25).

In 2024, she was D.A.A.D. International Visiting Professor and Chair holder at the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) at the University of Ruhr in Bochum, Germany. As of 2023, she is Visiting Professor on the Rule of Law at the United Nations Institute on Training and Research (UNITAR). In 2021, she received from the European Parliament the European Citizen 2020 Prize on behalf of the non-profit research organisation she co-founded in 2017, Interdisciplinary Centre for Law, Alternative and Innovative Methods - ICLAIM, for its Social Mediation work, which she scaled up at the EU, UN and Council of Europe levels.

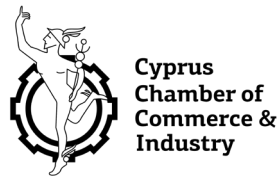
She is a regular expert of the Council of Europe in anti-corruption, good governance, direct participation and democracy. She is a registered Mediator in commercial disputes with the Ministry of Justice and Public Order of the Republic of Cyprus since 2018. In 2022, she was selected by the European Commission as an Arbitrator and Trade & Sustainable Development Expert for bilateral disputes between the EU and third countries in the fields of trade, investment and sustainable development (pool of candidates). She also promotes actively social justice and advocates active citizenship and strategic litigation via ICLAIM, from where she leads impactful research on wider societal issues and human rights violations (see www.iclaimcentre.org).

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Athena Yiallourou
Director – Risk & Compliance, Trident Trust

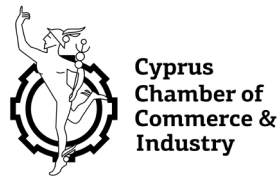


Athena Yiallourou holds the position of Risk & Compliance Director, currently sits on the Board of Directors of Trident Trust Cyprus and is involved in the Trident's Group Risk & Compliance committee on behalf of the EMEA Region. Athena joined Trident Trust in 2013 after working with Bank of Cyprus Plc for more than 30 years. Athena's extensive experience within the bank industry covered both the International Banking and also Risk & Compliance issues. She served as Assistant Manager of the International Business Unit for several years and as a Branch Manager of two Retail branches. Athena holds an MBA degree, is a certified Anti Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS), acted as President of the AML committee of the Cyprus Fiduciary Association for 2 terms and a member of the ACAMs Cyprus Chapter.

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Nassos Paltayan
ACAMS Cyprus Chapter, Director - Head of Compliance, Abacus Limited



Nassos is a Fellow Chartered Accountant with deep expertise in AML, Risk management, Sanctions and Information Security. With a solid experience in corporate finance, assurance and M&As he brings a unique skillset and comprehension in the field of compliance. A former chair of ICPAC's AML Committee and vice-chair of ACAMS Cyprus chapter, he's led national initiatives and regularly speaks on governance and regulatory affairs.

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Philokypros Roussounides

Secretary General of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KEBE)



Philokypros Roussounides is a senior executive and strategic leader with over two decades of experience across aviation, healthcare, and tourism, with a proven track record in steering complex organizations and advancing economic development. He currently serves as Secretary General of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), where he oversees the Chamber's strategic agenda and represents the Cypriot business community in national and international economic forums.

Mr. Roussounides holds an MBA in International Business from London South Bank University (UK) and has held several high-impact leadership roles, including Chief Operating Officer at DHI Global Medical Group, Senior Vice President at COBALT AIR, and General Manager positions at Dubai ETA Group and Cyprus Airways.

From 2020 to 2025, he served as Director General of the Cyprus Hotel Association, where he was instrumental in shaping tourism strategy, engaging with government bodies, and driving sector-wide policy reforms. His efforts significantly contributed to the resilience and modernization of Cyprus's hospitality and tourism ecosystem during a period of global transition.

Mr. Roussounides brings deep expertise in tourism policy, regional development, European affairs, and public-private collaboration. He has been an active contributor to economic dialogue as a speaker, moderator, and published commentator. He is also a Member of the Advisory Board of the Italian Cypriot Chamber of Commerce, supporting cross-border investment initiatives in hospitality and tourism, and a Member of the Parallel Parliament for Entrepreneurship, an advisory initiative by the Cypriot House of Representatives focused on fostering innovation and enterprise.

Through his leadership roles, Mr. Roussounides has consistently championed sustainable growth, strategic partnerships, and a forward-looking vision for Cyprus's position in the global economy.

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