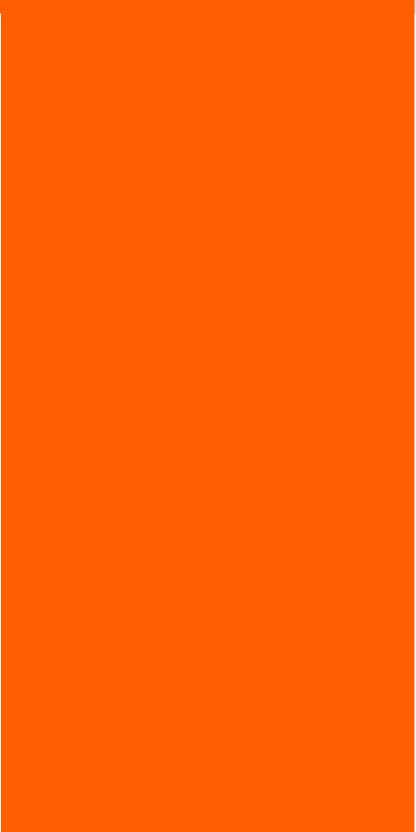




# Tax Facts & Figures CYPRUS 2023



# Contents

1.	Personal Income Tax	5
	1.1. Introduction	5
	1.2. Tax Residence	5
	1.3. Tax Rates	6
	1.4. Tax Exemptions	6
	1.5. Tax Deductions	7
2.	Corporation tax	9
	2.1. Introduction	9
	2.2. Tax Residence	9
	2.3. Tax Exemptions	9
	2.4. Tax deductions	10
	2.5. Losses carried forward	12
	2.6. Reorganisations	13
	2.7. Wear and Tear Allowances	13
	2.8. Special Type of Companies	15
	2.8.1. Shipping Companies	15
	2.8.2. Shipowners	16
	2.8.3. Charterers	16
	2.8.4. Ship managers	16
	2.8.5. Insurance Companies	17
	2.9. Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) and Undertaking for	
	Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS)	17
	2.9.1. AIFLNP	18
	2.9.2. AIF/RAIF	18
	2.9.3. UCITS	18
	2.9.4. Taxation of funds	18
3.	Transfer Pricing	20
	3.1. Introduction	20
	3.2. Documentation	20
	3.2.1. Exemptions	20
	3.2.2. Quality Review	21
	3.2.3. Deadlines	21
	3.2.4. File Updates	21
	3.2.5. Summary Table	21
	3.2.6. APA	21
4.	Special Defence Contribution (SDC)	22
	4.1. Introduction	22
	4.2. Deemed Dividend Distribution	25
	4.3. Disposal of Assets to Shareholders at less than market value.	25
	4.4. Company Dissolution	25
	4.5. Reduction of Capital	25
5.	Capital Gains Tax (CGT)	26
	5.1. Introduction	26
	5.2. Exemptions	26
	5.3. Lifetime Exemptions	
6.	Inheritance Tax	28
7.	Value Added Tax (VAT)	28

	7.1. Introduction	28
	7.2. VAT Rates	29
	7.3. Exemptions	29
	7.4. Immovable Property	29
	7.5. Reduced VAT rate for the acquisition/construction of residence	e 30
	7.6. Reduced VAT rate for the renovation, repair and extension of	
	residence	31
	7.7. Zero rate and exempt supplies	31
	7.8. Irrecoverable input VAT	31
	7.9. VAT treatment of vouchers	31
	7.10. Registration	32
	7.10.1. Persons established in Cyprus	32
	7.10.2. Persons not established in Cyprus	33
	7.11. VAT Declaration and Payment of VAT	33
	7.12. IOSS & OSS	34
8.	Customs and Excise Duties	36
	8.1. Customs Duties	36
	8.1.1. Special Customs Procedures	37
	8.1.2. Customs Representation	38
	8.1.3. Trade Measures	38
	8.1.4. Authorized Economic Operator	38
	8.2. Excise Duties	38
	8.2.1. Suspension Arrangements	41
	8.2.2. Special Licenses	42
	8.2.3. Excise Movement and Control System (EMCS)	42
	8.2.4. Refund	42
	8.2.5. Exemptions	42
9.	Levy on Cyprus Property Disposals	43
	9.1. Introduction	43
	9.2. Exemptions	43
10	. Trusts	43
	10.1. Introduction	43
	10.2. International Trusts	43
11	. Transfer fees by the Department of Land and Surveys	44
12	. Social Insurance & Other contributions	45
13	. General Health System (GHS)	46
14		
15		
16	. Tax Treaties and Withholding Tax (WHT)	49
	16.1. Withholding Tax on Dividends, Interest & Royalties	49
	16.2. Withholding Tax on Other Types of Income	64
17	. 2023 Tax Diary	65
18	. How We Can Assist You	67
19	. Contact us	68

#### 1. Personal Income Tax

#### 1.1. Introduction

Cyprus tax residents are taxed on all chargeable income accrued or derived from all Cyprus or abroad sources.

Non-Cyprus tax residents are taxed on income accrued or derived from various sources in Cyprus.

#### 1.2. Tax Residence

An individual is considered a tax resident in Cyprus if they satisfy one of the 2 tax residency tests described below:

#### The 183-days rule

This one applies to individuals who reside in the Republic of Cyprus for at least 183 days in one calendar year.

#### The 60-days rule

This rule applies to individuals who:

- Reside in Cyprus for at least 60 days in one calendar year;
- Do not reside in any other single state for a period of over 183 days in over one calendar year in aggregate;
- Are not considered tax residents in any other state; and
- Have other defined Cyprus ties\*

#### \* The individual must fulfil any of the following criteria:

- Conduct business in Cyprus;
- Be employed in Cyprus;
- Hold an office/be a director of Cyprus tax resident company at any time during the tax year with the condition that such position was not terminated during the tax year

#### AND

Own or rent a permanent residence in Cyprus.

- To calculate the days in the Republic, the following should be taken into account:
- The departure day from Cyprus is considered as a day out of Cyprus
- The arrival day to Cyprus is considered as a day in Cyprus
- In the case of arriving and departing from Cyprus on the same day, it is considered as a day of residence in Cyprus
- In the case of departing and arriving in Cyprus on the same day, it is considered as a day of residence out of Cyprus.

#### 1.3. Tax Rates

The following tax rates apply to all individuals taxed in Cyprus and apply to their accumulated income:

INCOME TAX		
ANNUAL INCOME	RATE	
0 - €19.500,00	0%	
€19.501,00 - €28.000,00	20%	
€28.001,00 - €36.300,00	25%	
€36.301,00 - €60.000,00	30%	
60.001,00 and over	35%	

Should the individual receive foreign pension income over €3.420, it is taxed at a flat rate of 5% while a Cyprus source widow(er)'s pension over €19.500 is taxed at a flat rate of 20%. However, the tax payer may elect to be taxed based on the aforementioned table and bands.

# 1.4. Tax Exemptions

Type of Income	Exemption
Interest, except for interest arising from the ordinary business activities or closely related to the ordinary business activities of an individual	The whole amount
Dividends	The whole amount (this applies to non-domiciled individuals)
Annual remuneration from employment exercised in Cyprus exceeding €55.000 for individuals who relocated to Cyprus and have not been Cyprus residents prior to the commencement of employment	50% for a period of up to 17 years (certain conditions apply)
Annual remuneration from employment exercised in Cyprus under €55.000 for individuals who relocated to Cyprus and have not been Cyprus residents prior to the commencement of employment	20% or €8.550 (whichever is lower) for a period of up to 5 years (certain conditions apply)

Profits from foreign	The whole amount (certain
permanent establishment	conditions apply)
Capital sums accruing to	The whole amount
individuals from any	
payments to approved funds	
Lump sum received by way of	The whole amount
retiring gratuity,	
commutation of pension or	
compensation for death or	
injuries	
Profit from sale of securities	The whole amount
Remuneration from salaried	The whole amount
services rendered outside	
Cyprus for more than 90 days	
in a tax year to a non-Cyprus	
resident employer or to a	
foreign permanent	
establishment of a Cyprus	
resident employer	
Profits from the production	The lower of 35% of the
of films, series and other	eligible expenditure and 50%
related audio-visual	of the taxable income. Any
programs	restriction may be carried
	forward for 5 years.

# 1.5. Tax Deductions

Type of Income	Deductions
Loss of current year and	The whole amount (for
previous years	individuals required to
	prepare audited financial
	statements, current year
	losses and losses of the
	previous five years only may
	be deducted)
Contributions to trade unions	The whole amount
or professional bodies	
Donations to approved	The whole amount (receipts
charities	must be presented)
Expenditure incurred for the	Up to €1.200, €1.100 or €700
maintenance of a building in	per sq.m.
respect of which there is in	
force a Preservation Order	
Rental Income	20% of gross income
Eligible infrastructure and	20%
technological equipment	
expenditure in the	
audiovisual industry	

Amount invested each tax year in approved innovative small and medium-sized enterprises either directly or indirectly	Up to 50% of the taxable income as calculated prior to this deduction (maximum of €150.000 per year). Unused deduction can be carried forward and claimed in the following 5 years subject to the above maximum.
Social Insurance, National Health System medical fund, private medical fund insurance contributions (maximum 1,5% of remuneration), pension and provident fund contributions (maximum 10% of remuneration) and life insurance premiums (maximum 7% of the insured amount)	Up to 1/5 of the chargeable income
Expenditure of revenue nature for scientific research and for R&D	The whole amount (and for expenditure incurred in years 2022, 2023 and 2024, an additional 20%) allocated over the lifetime of the asset (maximum period 20 years)

Unused deduction can be carried forward and claimed in the following 5 years, subject to the cap of 50% of taxable <u>income</u> (and overall maximum of €150.000 per year).

# 2. Corporation tax

#### 2.1. Introduction

For a company that is considered a Cyprus tax resident, tax is imposed on the income accrued or arising from sources in Cyprus and abroad. When a company is not considered a Cyprus tax resident, tax is imposed only on income accrued or arising through a permanent establishment in Cyprus or from sources in Cyprus. The current corporate tax rate is 12,5% but certain exemptions also apply.

#### 2.2. Tax Residence

A company is considered a Cyprus tax resident if it is managed and controlled in Cyprus.

Following recent legislative changes, a company that has been incorporated in Cyprus is considered, by default, a Cyprus tax resident unless it is a tax resident of another jurisdiction.

As with individuals, a Cyprus tax resident company is taxed on their income accrued or derived in Cyprus or abroad. In the case of a non-Cyprus tax resident company, the company is taxed on income accrued or derived from business activities carried out through any permanent establishment in Cyprus and on certain income arising from sources in Cyprus.

Any foreign taxes paid by the company, can be credited against its Cyprus corporation tax liability.

#### 2.3. Tax Exemptions

Type of Income	Deductions
Profit from the sale of	The whole amount
securities	
Dividends	The whole amount (excluding
	dividends which are tax
	deductible for the paying
	company)
Interest not arising from the	The whole amount
ordinary activities or closely	
related to the ordinary	
activities of the company	
Profits of a foreign	The whole amount (certain
permanent establishment	conditions apply)
Gains relating to foreign	The whole amount
exchange differences (forex)	
with the exception of forex	
arising from trading in	

foreign currencies and	
related derivatives.	
Profits from the production	The lower of 35% of the
of films, series and other	eligible expenditure and 50%
related audiovisual programs	of the taxable income. Any
	restriction may be carried
	forward for 5 years.

#### 2.4. Tax deductions

# Type of Expense

Interest expense incurred for the direct or indirect acquisition of 100% of the share capital of a subsidiary company will be treated as deductible for income tax purposes provided that the 100% subsidiary company does not own (directly or indirectly) any assets that are not used in the business. If the subsidiary owns (directly or indirectly) assets not used in the business the interest expense deduction is restricted to the amount which relates to assets used in the business.

# **Deductions**

The whole amount of interest expense if the subsidiary does not own (directly or indirectly) any assets not used in the business. A restricted amount of interest expense is allowed to the extent the subsidiary owns (directly or indirectly) assets used in the business. Furthermore, interest limitation rule applies in accordance with the EU Antitax Avoidance Directive.

Equity introduced to a company as from 1 January 2015 (new equity) in the form of paid-up share capital or share premium may be eligible for an annual notional interest deduction (NID). The annual NID deduction is calculated as the new equity multiplied by the NID interest rate. The relevant interest rate is the vield on 10-year government bonds (as at December 31 of the prior tax year) of the country where the funds are employed in the business of the company plus a

The NID deduction cannot exceed 80% of the taxable profit derived from the assets financed by the new equity (as calculated prior to the NID deduction).

F0/	
5% premium. A taxpayer may	
elect not to claim all or part	
of the available NID for a	
particular tax year. Certain	
anti-avoidance provisions	
apply.	
Royalty income, embedded	80% of the net profit as
income and other qualifying	calculated using the
income derived from	modified nexus fraction
	modified flexus fraction
qualifying intangible assets in	
the 'new' Cyprus intellectual	
property (IP) box	
Tax amortization on any	The whole amount allocated
expenditure of a capital	over the lifetime of the IP
nature for the acquisition or	(maximum period 20 years)
development of IP (provision	
applies with effect from 1	
July 2016)	
Tax amortization on any	The whole amount (and for
expenditure of capital nature	expenditure incurred in years
for scientific research and for	2022, 2023 and 2024, an
R&D, subject to conditions	additional 20%) allocated
	over the lifetime of the asset
	(maximum period 20 years)
Expenditure of revenue	The whole amount and, for
nature for scientific research	expenditure incurred in years
and for R&D, subject to	2022, 2023 and 2024, an
conditions	additional 20%
Donations to approved	The whole amount
charities (with receipts)	
Employer's contributions to	The whole amount
social insurance, General	The whole unloune
·	
Health System and approved	
funds on employees' salaries	
Employer's contributions to	1% on employee's
medical fund for employees	remuneration
Employer's contributions to	10% on employee's
provident/pension fund for	remuneration
employees	
Any expenditure incurred for	Up to €700, €1.100 or €1.200
the maintenance of a	per square meter (depending
building in respect of which	on the size of the building)
there is in force a	and size of the bulland,
Preservation Order	
110001101101101	Lower of €17.086 or 1% of
Entertainment expenses for	
business purposes	the gross income of the
	business

Amount invested each tax in	Up to 50% of the taxable
approved innovative small	income as calculated prior to
and medium sized	this deduction (subject to a
enterprises either directly or	maximum of €150.000 per
indirectly, subject to	year) or
conditions (applicable up to	30% if the investments are
31 December 2023).	financed from own funds
Eligible infrastructure and	20% for small / 10% for
technological equipment	medium enterprises
expenditure in the	
audiovisual industry	

The following expenses are not included in the tax deductions:

The remarking expenses are not meraded in the tax deductions.		
Type of Expense	Non-allowable deductions	
Expenses of a private motor	The whole amount	
vehicle		
Interest applicable to the	The whole amount for 7	
cost of acquiring a private	years from the date of	
motor vehicle irrespective of	acquisition of the asset	
its use and to the cost of		
acquiring any other asset not		
used in the business		

Unused deduction can be carried forward and claimed in the following 5 years, subject to the cap of 50% of taxable income (and overall maximum of €150.000 per year).

#### 2.5. Losses carried forward

The tax loss sustained during a tax year that cannot be offset against other income is carried forward and offset against the income of the next five years, subject to certain conditions.

The current year loss of one firm might be offset against the earnings of another, provided that both companies are Cyprus tax resident group companies. A Cyprus tax resident company may also claim the tax losses of a group company that is tax resident in another EU country, provided that such EU company has first exhausted all available opportunities to utilize its losses in its country of residence or in the country of any intermediary EU holding company. Group is defined by the following:

 One Cyprus tax resident firm having directly or indirectly at least 75% of the voting shares of another Cyprus tax resident company

OR

 Both Cyprus tax resident companies have at least 75% (voting shares) held by a third company, either directly or indirectly.

Interposition of non-Cyprus tax resident company does not affect eligibility for group relief provided that such company is tax resident of an EU country or a country with which Cyprus has a tax treaty or exchange of information agreement (bilateral or multilateral).

Transferring a business from a partnership or sole proprietorship to a company allows the transfer of tax losses into the company for future utilization.

The losses of a foreign permanent establishment that is exempt can be deducted from the earnings of the Cyprus head office. In this case, future profits of a foreign permanent establishment abroad that is exempt are taxable up to the amount of allowable losses.

### 2.6. Reorganisations

In the context of a qualified reorganisation, subject to certain circumstances, assets and liabilities can be transferred tax-free between companies, and tax losses can be carried forward by the receiving entity (subject to certain conditions).

The following are deemed as reorganisations:

- mergers
- demergers
- partial divisions
- transfer of assets
- · exchange of shares
- transfer of registered office of a European company (SE) or a European cooperative company (SCE).

#### 2.7. Wear and Tear Allowances

Wear and tear of tangible fixed assets are deemed allowable deductions from the chargeable income. Such deductions include:

Type of Asset	Percentage	
Plant and Machinery		
Plant and machinery acquired during the tax years 2012 –		
2018 are eligible to accelerated tax depreciation at the rate of		
20% per annum (excluding such assets which are already		
eligible for a higher annual tax rate of tax depreciation).		
Plant and machinery	10%	

10% 10% 10% 15% are amended in the
10% 15%
15%
are amended in the
are amended in the
are amended in the
3%
4% (Industrial and
notel buildings which
are acquired during
the tax years 2012 –
2018, an accelerated
ax depreciation at
the rate of 7% per
annum applies.
Buildings for
agricultural and
ivestock production
acquired during the
ax years 2017-2018
are eligible for
accelerated tax
depreciation at the

rate of 7% per annum.)

3%

10%

33 1/3%

# **Vehicles and Means of Transportation**

Metallic greenhouse structures

Wooden greenhouse structures

**Flats** 

Vehicles (excluding private motor vehicles) and other assets acquired during the tax years 2012 - 2018 are eligible to accelerated tax depreciation at the rate of 20% per annum (excluding such assets which are already eligible for a higher annual tax rate of tax depreciation).

Commercial motor vehicles	20%
Motorcycles	20%
Excavators, tractors, bulldozers, self- propelled loaders and drums for petrol companies	25%
Armoured motor vehicles	20%
Specialized machinery for the laying of railroads	20%
New airplanes	8%
New helicopters	8%
Sailing vessels	4.5%

6%	
6%	
12.5%	
8%	
6	
Over their useful lives	
Used cargo/passenger vessels Over their useful lives Other	
Other assets acquired during the tax years 2012 – 2018 are	
eligible to accelerated tax depreciation at the rate of 20% per	
annum (excluding such assets which are already eligible for a	
higher annual tax rate of tax depreciation).	
10%	
20%	
33 1/3%	

10%

10% 33 ⅓%

50%

# 2.8. Special Type of Companies

Videotapes property of video clubs

#### 2.8.1. Shipping Companies

Wind power generators
Photovoltaic systems

Tools in general

The EU-approved Merchant Shipping Legislation (approval extended to 31 December 2029) exempts qualifying shipowners, charterers, and ship managers from all direct taxes and taxation under the tonnage tax regime for the operation of qualifying community ships and foreign (non-community) ships (under certain conditions) in qualifying activities.

The law permits non-community vessels to enter the tonnage tax system if the fleet is formed of at least sixty percent community vessels.

If this condition is not met, non-community vessels may still be eligible if they meet certain criteria.

If one shipowner/charterer/ship manager of a group chooses to be taxed under the Tonnage Tax system, all shipowners / charterers / ship managers in the group must choose the same option.

Furthermore, exempt are the salaries of officers and personnel aboard a ship meeting the community qualification requirements.

#### 2.8.2. Shipowners

The exemption applies to:

- profits derived from the use/chartering out of ships;
- interest income relating to the company's working capital;
- profits from the sale of qualifying ships;
- dividends received from the aforementioned profits at all distribution levels:
- profit from the sale of ship owning companies and its distribution; and
- profits derived from the sale of ship owning companies and their distribution.

The exemption also applies to bareboat charterers whose vessels fly the Cyprus flag under parallel registration.

Tonnage tax remains applicable to bareboat charter agreements; however, restrictions have been imposed on bareboat charter agreements with third parties.

The law provides both a definition and a list of services considered to be ancillary. In addition, it explains that revenue from ancillary services may be subject to the tonnage tax regime, provided that such revenue does not exceed 50% of the total revenue derived from Maritime Transport Activities ('Core Activities').

#### 2.8.3. Charterers

Exemptions include:

- earnings produced from the operation of chartered-in ships;
- interest income related to the company's working capital;
   and
- dividends received from the aforementioned profits at all levels of distribution.

The exemption is granted under the condition that the option to register for Tonnage Tax is exercised for all vessels and a composition requirement is met: at least 25% (down to 10% under certain conditions) of the net tonnage of the vessels owned or chartered in bare boat.

# 2.8.4. Ship managers

The exemption applies to:

- Earnings from technical and/or crew management
- Dividends paid out of these profits at all levels of distribution
- Interest income associated with the company's working capital

In order to qualify, ship managers must meet the extra conditions listed below:

- Maintain a fully-fledged office in Cyprus with sufficient number and qualification of personnel;
- At least 51% of all onshore personnel must be community citizens:
- At least 2/3 of total tonnage under management must be managed within the community (any excess over one-third is subject to corporation tax);

The adoption of the tonnage tax system is mandatory for shipowners flying the Cyprus flag but optional for shipowners flying other flags, charterers, and ship managers. Individuals who opt to enter the Tonnage Tax regime are required to remain in the system for at least ten years, unless they have a solid reason to exit, such as the sale of their vessels or discontinuation of their activities.

#### 2.8.5. Insurance Companies

Similar to other companies, insurance companies are subject to corporation tax on their profits, unless the corporation tax payable on the taxable profit of a life insurance business is less than 1.5% of the gross premiums. In this instance, the difference is subject to additional corporation tax.

# 2.9. Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) and Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS)

The Alternative Investment Funds Law 124(I)/2018, as amended (the "AIF Law") defines alternative investment funds as any collective investment undertakings, including investment compartments thereof, which, collectively:

- raise capital from a number of investors with the view of investing it in accordance with a defined investment policy for the benefit of those investors; and
- do not require authorisation pursuant to section 9 of Law 78(I)/2012, as amended (the "UCI Law"), or in accordance with the law of another member state that harmonizes the provisions of Article 5 of Directive 2009/65/EC, as amended.

The AIF Legislation allows the following three types of AIFs to be established in Cyprus:

 Alternative Investment Funds with a Maximum of Fifty Persons (AIFLNPs)

- Alternative Investment Funds with Unlimited Number of Persons (AIFs)
- Registered AIFs (RAIFs)

The many legal forms of AIFs are described below.

#### 2.9.1. AIFLNP

- Variable Capital Investment Company (VCIC)
- Fixed Capital Investment Company (FCIC)
- Limited Partnership (LP)

#### 2.9.2. AIF/RAIF

- VCIC
- FCIC
- Common Fund (CF)
- IP

#### 2.9.3. UCITS

The UCI Law defines UCITS as undertakings whose sole objective is the collective investment in transferable securities and/or other liquid financial instruments referred to in section 40 (1) of the UCI Law, of capital raised from the public, which operate on the principle of risk-spreading, and whose units are, at the request of investors, redeemed or repurchased, directly or indirectly, out of the assets of these undertakings.

UCITS may assume the following legal forms:

- CF
- VCIC

#### 2.9.4. Taxation of funds

Funds managed and controlled in Cyprus that are opaque for tax purposes are tax residents of Cyprus and are subject to the general provisions of the Cyprus tax regime.

In the event of funds with compartments, each compartment is evaluated separately for tax purposes, according to the provisions of the legislation.

Depending on the conditions and the fund's legal structure, some funds may be tax-transparent.

Other significant provisions pertinent to funds are listed below.

# 2.9.4.1. Sale of Fund Units

Profits from the sale or redemption of fund units are not subject to Capital Gains Tax unless the fund directly or indirectly holds immovable property in Cyprus (subject to conditions).

However, if the Fund is registered on a recognized stock market, no Capital Gains Tax applies, even if it owns immovable property in Cyprus.

## 2.9.4.2. Stamp Duty

The subscription, redemption, conversion, and transfer of fund units are exempt of stamp duty in Cyprus.

#### 2.9.4.3. Non-Permanent Establishment

According to the Cyprus tax law, no Cyprus permanent establishment is deemed to exist:

- For non-Cyprus resident investors investing in Cyprus taxtransparent investment funds; or
- For the management of non-Cyprus investment funds from Cyprus.

### 2.9.4.4. Management Services

If certain conditions are met, the management fee payable for the supply of collective management services to investment funds is exempt from VAT.

#### 2.9.4.5. Carried interest and performance fee

Some employees and executives of the following investment fund management businesses and internally managed investment funds may elect to be taxed differently:

- Alternative Investment Fund Managers licensed by the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Law 56(I)/2013, as amended ("AIFM Law").
- Internally managed AIFs authorized under the AIFM Law
- UCITS Management Companies authorized under the UCI Law
- Internally managed UCITS authorized under the UCI Law
- A company to which the AIFM/UCITS Management company has delegated the portfolio management or risk management activities of the AIF/UCITS it manages.

Subject to certain conditions, their variable employment compensation that is essentially connected to the carried interest of the fund managing company may, through an annual election, be separately subject to Cyprus tax at a flat rate of 8%, with a minimum annual tax liability of €10,000.

This special method of taxing is available for ten years.

# 3. Transfer Pricing

#### 3.1. Introduction

As of January 1, 2022, transfer pricing paperwork requirements are in force. The transfer pricing documentation requirements include the compilation of a Master File, a Cyprus Local File, and a Summary Table for Cyprus tax resident people and PEs of non-Cyprus tax resident persons located in Cyprus that engage in related-party transactions.

In addition, a formal Advance Pricing Agreement (APA) system has been implemented. There are now established penalties for noncompliance with the new obligations.

#### 3.2. Documentation

Cyprus tax resident persons and PEs of non-Cyprus tax resident persons located in Cyprus that engage in domestic and/or cross-border controlled transactions are required to prepare an annual Transfer Pricing Documentation File consisting of the "Master File" and the "Cyprus Local File."

The required contents of the Master File and Cyprus Local File closely resemble the OECD Transfer Pricing Guidelines' definitions and suggestions for the Master File and Local File (and BEPS Action 13 Report).

#### 3.2.1. Exemptions

- Master File: Only Cyprus tax resident entities that are the
  ultimate parent or surrogate parent company of a
  multinational enterprise (MNE) group covered by country-bycountry (CbC) reporting are required to compile and maintain
  a Master File. Everyone else is exempt from this requirement.
- Local File: Persons who engage in controlled transactions
  with an arm's length value of less than EUR 750,000 per year,
  per transaction category (e.g. sale/purchase of goods,
  provision/receipt of services, financing transactions,
  receipt/payment of IP licensing/royalties, etc.) are exempt
  from the requirement to prepare a Cyprus Local File.

#### 3.2.2. Quality Review

A Review of the Cyprus Local File must be conducted by a holder of a Practicing Certificate from the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus (ICPAC) or another body of certified auditors in Cyprus approved by the Council of Ministers.

#### 3.2.3. Deadlines

The Transfer Pricing Documentation File (consisting of the Master File and Local File, as applicable) must be completed and subjected to Quality Review (if required) annually, by the due date for filing the Income Tax Return for the applicable tax year. The Transfer Pricing Documentation File must be maintained in accordance with the standard document retention requirements for tax purposes; however, it must be provided to the Tax Authorities upon request (e.g., for the purpose of a tax audit) and particularly within 60 days of such request.

For late or non-filing, penalties will be applied.

#### 3.2.4. File Updates

The Transfer Pricing Documentation File must be updated annually and contain information regarding the impact of market fluctuations or other events on the included information and analysis.

#### 3.2.5. Summary Table

All taxpayers who engage in controlled transactions must prepare an annual Summary Table disclosing the names and tax identification codes of the related counterparties, as well as the respective values per transaction category (sale/purchase of goods, provision/receipt of services, financing transactions, receipt/payment of IP licences/royalties, and others). The Summary Table is required to be submitted electronically alongside the Income Tax Return for the applicable tax year.

#### 3.2.6. APA

The new regulations establish an official APA procedure. Particularly, Cyprus tax resident individuals and non-Cyprus tax resident individuals with a PE located in Cyprus may submit an APA request to the Tax Authorities for present or future domestic or cross-border controlled transactions.

The APA may include the relevant conditions and assumptions for determining the arm's length pricing of controlled transactions for a certain period. The Tax Authorities evaluate the APA application and either approve or reject it.

# 4. Special Defence Contribution (SDC)

# 4.1. Introduction

All legal entities which are Cyprus tax residents and Cyprus tax resident and Cyprus domiciled individuals receiving dividend income, passive interest income or rental income, are subject to SDC. The rates are shown in the below table:

Type of Income	Tax Rate for	Tax Rate for Legal
,	Individuals	Entities
Dividend income from Cyprus tax resident companies	17%	N/A - In the case of a Cyprus tax resident legal entity receiving dividends from another Cyprus tax resident legal entity, this income is exempt from SDC (subject to anti-avoidance provisions)
Dividend income from non-Cyprus tax resident companies	17%	N/A – This exemption does not apply if 50% of the payer's activities arise directly or indirectly from investment income and the foreign tax is significantly lower that the Cyprus tax ("significantly lower" is deemed any tax with a rate less than 6,25% of the profit distributed). In case of non- applicability of the exemption, the dividend income is subject to 17% SDC

		· ·
Interest income arising	N/A	N/A
from the ordinary		
activities or closely		
related activities of the		
business		
Other passive interest	30% - This is	30% - This is
income	applicable to	applicable to
	interest	interest received
	received or	or credited on or
	credited on	after the 29 <sup>th</sup> April
	or after the	2013. Individuals'
	29 <sup>th</sup> April	interest income
	2013.	from corporate
	Individuals'	bonds,
	interest	government
	income from	savings and
	corporate	development
	bonds,	bonds, and any
	government	interest received
	savings and	by a provident
	development	fund and the
	bonds, and	Cyprus Social
	any interest	Insurance Fund is
	received by a	subject to Special
	provident	Contribution for
	fund and the	Defence at a rate
	Cyprus Social	of 3% instead of
	Insurance	30%.
	Fund is	The reduced rate
	subject to	of 3% applies to
	Special	both legal entities
	Contribution	and individuals
	for Defence	who are tax
	at a rate of	residents of
	3% instead	Cyprus and earn
	of 30%.	interest income
	The reduced	from Cyprus
	rate of 3%	government
	applies to	bonds, Cyprus and
	both legal	foreign corporate
	entities and	bonds listed on a
	individuals	recognised stock
	who are tax	exchange, and
	residents of	bonds issued by
	Cyprus and	Cyprus state
	earn interest	organisations or
	income from	by Cyprus or
	Cyprus	foreign local

	1	
	government bonds, Cyprus and foreign corporate bonds listed on a recognised stock exchange, and bonds issued by Cyprus state organisations or by Cyprus or foreign local authorities that are listed on a recognised stock exchange, as well as pension funds.  If an individual's total income (including interest) for the tax year does not exceed €12,000, the tax rate on interest income is reduced to 3% (instead of 30%).	authorities that are listed on a recognised stock exchange, as well as pension funds.
Gross rental income (reduced by 25%)	3%	3%

#### 4.2. Deemed Dividend Distribution

A Cyprus tax resident company is deemed to distribute as dividends 70% of its accounting profits two years after the end of the tax year in which the accounting profits were generated. Such a deemed dividend distribution is lowered by dividends paid during the year in which the earnings were generated and the two subsequent years.

On the remaining net amount of deemed dividend, 17% Special Contribution for Defence is levied if the company's ultimate direct/indirect shareholders are Cyprus tax residents and Cyprus domiciled individuals.

If Special Contribution for Defence is due on an actual dividend paid after the deemed dividend distribution date, 17% is imposed only on the amount of the actual dividend paid that exceeds the dividend that was previously deemed to have been distributed and was subject to Special Contribution for Defence.

# 4.3. Disposal of Assets to Shareholders at less than market value

When a company disposes of an asset to a shareholder, their (up to second degree) relative, or spouse for less than the asset's market value, the difference between the consideration and the market value will be treated as a dividend to the shareholder. This rule does not apply to assets originally gifted to the company by an individual shareholder, their spouse, or a (up to second degree) relative.

#### 4.4. Company Dissolution

The accumulated profits of the last five years prior to the company's dissolution that have not been distributed or deemed to have been distributed will be deemed distributed and subject to Special Contribution for Defence at the rate of 17%. This does not apply to dissolutions resulting from a reorganisation.

#### 4.5. Reduction of Capital

In the event of a reduction of a company's capital, all sums paid or due to physical person shareholders in excess of the previously paid-in equity will be recognized as dividends subject to special Defence Contribution at the rate of 17%, less any amounts deemed as distributable profits.

Not subject to the aforementioned provisions is the redemption of units or shares in a Collective Investment Scheme.

# 5. Capital Gains Tax (CGT)

#### 5.1. Introduction

Capital Gains Tax (CGT) is applied at a rate of 20% on gains from the disposal of immovable property located in Cyprus, including gains from the disposal of shares in companies that directly possess such immovable property, if the disposal is not subject to income tax. In addition, companies that indirectly possess immovable property in Cyprus and whose at least 50% of the market value of its shares derive from immovable property are liable to Capital Gains Tax. In the case of the disposal of shares, only the part of the gain attributable to immovable property located in Cyprus is subject to CGT.

CGT includes exchange, leasing, gifting, abandoning use of right, granting right to purchase, and any sums received upon cancellation of property disposals.

These provisions do not apply to shares listed on a recognized stock exchange.

Liability arises only on gains accruing as of 1 January 1980, i.e. deducted from gross proceeds on the disposal of immovable property are its market value at 1 January 1980 or the costs of acquisition and improvements of the property, if made after 1 January 1980, adjusted for inflation up to the date of disposal using the consumer price index in Cyprus.

Costs associated with the acquisition and sale of immovable property may also be deducted, subject to certain conditions, such as interest costs on related loans, transfer fees, legal expenses etc.

# 5.2. Exemptions

The following disposals are not subject to CGT:

- Land or land with buildings, purchased at market value (excluding exchanges, donations and foreclosures) from unrelated parties for the period of 16 July 2015 – 31 December 2016 are exempt from CGT in case of future disposal
- Transfers due to death
- Gifts from parents to child, between spouses or third-degree relatives
- Gifts to company in which the company's shareholders are members of the donor's family and the shareholders remain members of the family for at least five years after the transfer date
- Gifts by family company to the shareholders, as long as the property was acquired by the company by way of gift and the

property is kept by the recipient for a period of at least three years.

- Gifts to charity and/or Government
- Transfers due to reorganisations
- Disposal or exchange of immovable property under the Agricultural Land (Consolidation) Laws
- Expropriations
- Exchange of properties, wherein the profit from the exchange was utilized to purchase the new property. The non-taxable gain is deducted from the cost of the new property (the payment of tax is deferred until the disposal of the new property)
- Donations to political parties

# 5.3. Lifetime Exemptions

It is permissible to deduct the following from the taxable capital gain. These exemptions are considered lifetime exemptions with a lifetime cap of €85.430.

Type of disposal	Amount
Disposal of private principal residence	€85.430
(certain conditions apply)	
Disposal of agricultural land by farmer	€25.629
Any other disposal	€17.086

#### 6. Inheritance Tax

Estate duty is no longer imposed in Cyprus.

However, the executor of the deceased's estate is required by Law to provide a statement of the deceased's assets and liabilities to the tax authorities within a period of 6 months from the date of death.

# 7. Value Added Tax (VAT)

#### 7.1. Introduction

VAT is applied to products and services in Cyprus, as well as the acquisition of products from the EU and the import of goods into the country.

Taxable persons charge value-added tax (VAT) on their taxable sales (output tax) and are charged VAT on goods and services they receive (input tax).

If output tax exceeds total input tax during a VAT period, a payment must be made to the state. If input tax is more than output tax, the excess input tax is carried forward and offset against future output VAT.

In the following instances, it is possible to obtain an immediate refund of excess input VAT:

- four months have passed since the date the VAT became refundable;
- the input VAT cannot be set off against output VAT until the last VAT period of the year that follows the year in which the credit was created;
- the input VAT relates to zero-rated transactions;
- the input VAT relates to the purchase of the company's capital assets; and
- the input VAT relates to zero-rated transactions.

As the acquisition accounting method is used to account for VAT, there is no VAT cash outflow on intra-community purchases of products (with the exception of goods subject to excise taxes). This entails a simple accounting entry in the company's books wherein it self-charges VAT and simultaneously claims it back, provided it corresponds to goods for which the right to reclaim input VAT is given, hence incurring no expense.

In instances where the acquisition pertains to a transaction for which the right to reclaim the input VAT is not granted, the trader must pay the acquisition-related VAT.

#### 7.2. VAT Rates

- Zero rate (0%)
- Reduced rate of five per cent (5%)
- Reduced rate of nine per cent (9%)
- Standard rate 19%

#### 7.3. Exemptions

The following are VAT exempt:

- Leasing of residential structures.
- the majority of banking, financial, and insurance services;
- the majority of hospital, medical, and dental care services;
- · specific cultural, educational, and sports activities;
- certain building supplies, subject to conditions;
- postal services provided by the national postal authority;
- lottery tickets and betting coupons for football and horse racing;
- management services provided to mutual funds.

#### 7.4. Immovable Property

#### Leasing of immovable property

The standard rate of value-added tax (VAT) must be charged on the lease of immovable property where the lessee is a taxable person engaging in at least 90% taxable operations. The lessor may elect not to charge VAT on a particular property. The option cannot be revoked.

#### Sale of undeveloped building land

Beginning on January 2, 2018, a 19% VAT must be imposed on the sale of undeveloped building land. The definition of undeveloped building land is any land intended for the construction of one or more structures in the process of carrying out a business activity. The acquisition or sale of land located in a livestock zone or areas not intended for development, such as zones/areas of environmental protection, archaeological, and agricultural, is exempt from value-added tax.

# Repossession of immovable property by financial institutions

Transactions involving transfers of immovable property during the process of loan restructuring and for compulsory transfer to the lender are subject to reverse charge VAT accounting. Starting of 5 December 2019, the term "lender" is defined to encompass licensed credit and financial institutions, credit acquiring companies, including their subsidiaries, as well as any public body or licensed company that acquired/received from a credit

institution any nonperforming/overdue loans. This provision will remain in place until December 31, 2023.

# Leasing of immovable property which effectively transfers the risks and rewards of ownership

Leasing of immovable property that effectively transfers the risks and benefits of ownership of immovable property is considered to be a supply of goods and is subject to standard rate of VAT.

#### Supply of Buildings

The provision of a building is subject to VAT when made prior to its initial delivery and under any future deliveries within five (5) years after its completion, provided that no unrelated person has used the building for at least twenty-four (24) months. For the purposes of the aforementioned provision, the following definitions shall prevail:

- Completion refers to the completion of a building so that it can be utilized for its original purpose.
- Actual use refers to the building's systematic utilization.
- The definition of "related person" can be found in section 1(4) of the Fourth Schedule of the VAT Law.

# 7.5. Reduced VAT rate for the acquisition/construction of residence

The reduced rate of 5% applies to contracts signed on or after 1 October 2011 if they involve the acquisition and/or construction of residences to be used as the primary and permanent place of residence for the following ten years.

The reduced rate of 5% applies to the first 200 square meters. Based on the building coefficient, the remaining square meters are charged at the regular rate of 19%.

The reduced rate is only applicable after receiving official approval from the Tax Authority.

The applicant must submit an application stating that the dwelling will serve as their primary and permanent residence and submit a number of documentations proving ownership of the property and demonstrating that it will serve as their primary and permanent residence. The application must be submitted prior to the delivery of the property to the eligible individual.

Residents of Cyprus, EU Member States, and non-EU Member States are eligible, provided that the residence will serve as their

primary and permanent place of residence in the Republic.8.6. Reduced VAT rate for the renovation, repair and extension of residence

# 7.6. Reduced VAT rate for the renovation, repair and extension of residence

The reconstruction and repair of used private dwellings (for which at least three years have passed since their first use) are subject to VAT at the reduced rate of 5%, excluding the value of materials comprising more than 50% of the value of the services.

The lower rate of 5% will also apply to extensions added to a private residence that has been occupied for at least three years.

In addition, the renovation and repair of existing private dwellings (for which at least three years have passed since their first use) that are used as the primary residence of vulnerable groups or residences that are utilized as the primary residence and are located in remote locations are subject to 5% VAT.

#### 7.7. Zero rate and exempt supplies

Businesses that make exempt supplies are not eligible for VAT recovery on their purchases, expenses and imports, while business making zero rate products can and are entitled to recover the VAT charged on their purchases, expenses and imports.

#### 7.8. Irrecoverable input VAT

As an exception, input VAT cannot be reclaimed in the following instances:

- acquisitions used to make exempt supplies;
- purchase, import, or rental of saloon cars;
- entertainment and hospitality expenses (except than those associated with employees and directors).

#### 7.9. VAT treatment of vouchers

A voucher is an instrument (whether physical or digital) that bears an obligation to accept it as full or partial payment for the supply of goods or services. It excludes discount coupons, instruments that function as tickets, and postage stamps.

According to statutory rules, there are two sorts of vouchers, namely "single-purpose" and "multi-purpose" vouchers, and the VAT must be accounted for at different times.

#### • "Single-Purpose" vouchers

A "single-purpose" voucher is one for which the place of supply of the goods or services to which it relates and the VAT due on those goods or services are known at the moment the voucher is issued.

The VAT due on the underlying goods and services is due at the moment the voucher is issued, as well as at the time of any future transfer of the voucher should the transfer is effected for consideration.

# "Multi-Purpose" vouchers

A "multi-purpose" voucher is any voucher other than "single-purpose" voucher.

The VAT due on the underlying goods and services is accounted for at the time of voucher redemption, whereas there is no VAT supply at the time of voucher issuance or during any subsequent transfer prior to redemption.

#### 7.10. Registration

#### 7.10.1. Persons established in Cyprus

Individuals with a business or other permanent establishment in the Republic of Cyprus in relation to their business activities will be considered established in Cyprus for the purposes of registration. Registration is required for businesses with:

- a turnover subject to VAT in excess of €15,600 during the previous 12 months, or
- II. an anticipated turnover subject to VAT in excess of €15,600 over the following 30 days.

Companies having a taxable turnover of less than €15,600 or with supply that fall outside the scope of VAT but for which the right to reclaim the corresponding input VAT is given have the option to register voluntarily.

In addition, companies that acquire items from other EU Member States in excess of €10,251.61 in a given calendar year or companies that provide intracommunity services for which the recipient must account for VAT under the reverse charge requirements are required to register for VAT.

Furthermore, companies conducting economic operations based on the receipt of services from abroad for whom a need to account for Cyprus VAT under the reverse charge provision exists are required to register for VAT, subject to an annual registration

barrier of €15,600. There is no registration requirement for the provision of intracommunity services.

Exempted products and services, as well as the sale of capital assets, are not included in the calculation of yearly turnover for registration purposes.

# 7.10.2. Persons not established in Cyprus

Persons without a permanent establishment in Cyprus who engage in or anticipate engaging in taxable activities in Cyprus are obliged to register to VAT. There is no VAT registration threshold for non-established individuals operating in such activities.

The non-established person may apply to the Tax Commissioner for an exemption from VAT registration in Cyprus on the grounds that it engages only in activities subject to 0% VAT.

# 7.11. VAT Declaration and Payment of VAT

Quarterly VAT returns must be submitted online, and payment must be made by the 10th day of the second month after the month in which the tax period ends. When the deadline falls on a weekend or a public holiday in the Republic of Cyprus, it is automatically moved to the next working day.

Those registered for VAT may seek an alternative filing period. The consent of the Tax Commissioner is necessary. In addition, the Commissioner of Taxes has the authority to request that a taxpayer file his VAT returns for a different period.

The Tax Commissioner retains the power, to suspend the payment of a VAT credit balance and relevant interest in circumstances where taxpayers have failed to comply with the need to file income tax returns. The return is withheld until the taxpayer meets the applicable obligations.

The right to obtain a refund of a VAT credit balance is available for a period of six years after the end of the VAT period from which the credit originated. Any requests made after the six-year window will be reviewed at the Tax Commissioner's discretion.

#### 7.12. IOSS & OSS

As of July 1st 2021, the implementation of the EU VAT e-commerce package went into force, extending and transforming the Mini One Stop Shop (MOSS) into a One Stop Shop (OSS). The recently established plan addresses the following:

- New harmonised threshold of €10,000 for the place of supply of distance sales of goods within the EU and supply of Telecommunication, Broadcasting and Electronically supplied services, below which the VAT rate of the supplier's member state of establishment shall apply and above which the VAT rate of the customer shall apply.
- Expansion of MOSS to include all B2C services and intra-EU B2C sales of commodities subject to a €10,000 threshold (covers goods as well as telecommunication, broadcasting, and electronic services).
- Online marketplaces and electronic interfaces are obligated to gather and pay VAT on B2C supplies of goods (when they invoice or are responsible for the transfer of the goods)
- The Import One-Stop Shop (IOSS) is the new electronic portal that companies can use to meet their VAT e-commerce requirements on distance sales of imported goods, provided that the value of each shipment does not exceed EUR150.
- A supplier is obligated to collect VAT regardless of indirect involvement in the transfer of products.
- The VAT exemption for low-value imports of up to EUR 22 has been eliminated.
- A simplified procedure for the collection of import VAT by postal operators has been implemented for shipments that do not exceed EUR150 and do not utilise the IOSS.

Thresholds and Penalties	Amount
Registration threshold for established	€15.600,00
persons in the Republic of Cyprus	
(taxable supplies in Cyprus)	
Registration threshold for non-	No threshold
established persons in the Republic of	
Cyprus (taxable supplies in Cyprus)	
Registration threshold for distance sales	€10.000,00
(sale of goods consumers in Cyprus as	
well as electronically supplied services to	
consumers established in Cyprus, by	
suppliers resident in another EU Member	
State)	
Registration threshold for acquisition of	€10.251,61
goods in Cyprus from suppliers resident	
in another EU Member State	

Registration threshold for intra-	No threshold
community supply of services	
Registration threshold for receipt of	€15.600,00
services from abroad for which the	
recipient must account for VAT under the	
reverse charge provisions	
Late submission of VAT return	€100,00 each
	return
Penalty for failure to apply the reverse	€200,00 each
charge provisions	return up to a
	maximum of
	€400,00
Penalty for omission to keep books and	€341,00
records for a period of 6 years	
Penalty for late submission of VIES return	€50,00 each
	return
Penalty for late submission of corrective	€15,00 each
VIES return	return
Omission to submit the VIES return	€850,00
constitutes a criminal offence with a	
maximum penalty of	
Penalty for late VAT registration	€85,00 per
	month of delay
Penalty for late VAT deregistration	€85,00
Penalty for late payment of VAT	10% additional
	tax plus default
	interest on the
	late payment of
	VAT, including
	the 10%
	additional tax

#### 8. Customs and Excise Duties

#### 8.1. Customs Duties

Cyprus, being a member of the European Union (EU), is a part of the EU's Customs Union. The Customs Union ensures that all EU member states apply the same tariffs to goods imported from the world and no tariffs within the EU borders. Hence, upon the importation of products into Cyprus from outside the EU, customs duties and customs controls may be imposed in order to safeguard consumers, animals, and the environment from potentially dangerous or bad products.

All community customs legislation of the European Union is directly applicable in Cyprus with the Union Customs Code (UCC) and its implementing rules, as well as the Common Customs Tariff, commonly known as the EU's Combined Nomenclature (CN), being the most significant acts.

These rules are supplemented by Cyprus national laws, primarily in areas where the UCC does not apply.

The nature and value of the commodities, along with the applicable TARIC classification codes, determine the applicability of quotas and other measures, as well as the level of customs duties to be levied. Depending on the type of imported commodities, the Common Customs Tariff specifies a tax rate to be applied to the value or quantity of imported items. It can be represented either as a fixed amount applied to a specified quantity (specific tax) or as a percentage of the customs value (i.e. ad valorem tax).

Three main drivers are used to calculate the customs duties:

#### 1. Classification

For each type of product, the Common Customs Tariff specifies a tariff rate to be applied to the value or quantity of imported products.

The correct customs classification of the goods is one of the most important criteria that must be considered while importing goods into Cyprus. A misclassification may result in the imposition of higher-than-necessary customs taxes and an increased tax burden, or in the imposition of lower customs duties, which would increase the likelihood of a tax assessment by the Cyprus Customs Authorities.

# 2. Origin

If the imported products have a preferential origin based on international trade agreements between the European Union and non-EU nations, they may qualify for a lower or zero duty rate upon importation if certain conditions are met. For instance, the EU has established a free trade agreement with the United Kingdom in the wake of Brexit, thus Cyprus enterprises can trade with the United Kingdom duty-free.

Nonetheless, they must collect and retain the relevant evidence to demonstrate the preferential origin to the customs authorities.

#### 3. Valuation

The customs value of imported products into the EU is determined in accordance with the UCC. The most prevalent rule for determining the customs value is the 'transaction value,' with certain additions or deductions.

Additional expenses should be added to the price of the items to determine the customs value if they were borne by the purchaser. For instance, the following expenses must be taken into account when estimating the customs value:

- Commissions (apart from buying commissions)
- Transportation and insurance costs (towards the EU)
- Fees for royalties and licenses

Furthermore, there are several other valuation methods such as:

- 1. The transaction value of identical goods
- 2. The transaction value of similar goods
- 3. The deductive method
- The computed method#
- 5. The fall-back method

## 8.1.1. Special Customs Procedures

Existing customs procedures permit the importation of goods from non-EU countries into Cyprus with full or partial exemption from customs duties or suspension of customs duties. In order to support economic growth in the EU, the following processes have been implemented: Temporary Admission, Inward Processing Relief, Outward Processing Relief, and Customs Warehousing. Each special customs process has certain requirements that must be satisfied to qualify for the exemption or suspension.

#### 8.1.2. Customs Representation

A person may appoint a customs representative while dealing with the Cypriot Customs Authorities to carry out the customs formalities and obligations mandated by the customs legislation. Direct customs representation occurs when the representative acts in the name and on behalf of another individual, while indirect customs representation occurs when the representative acts in their own name but on behalf of another individual. In Cyprus, customs declarations can be filed by the owner of the goods, a representative, or the person in control of the products.

#### 8.1.3. Trade Measures

The law prohibits or restricts the importation and exportation of certain goods in an effort to preserve society and the environment.

They may include potentially harmful products to human health or the environment (e.g., chemical products), goods with controlled end-use (e.g., explosives), agricultural products, and dual-use goods (i.e., goods with both civil and military use). The competent authorities demand import/export licenses for these items, and their importation/exportation may be subject to particular conditions or even prohibited.

# 8.1.4. Authorized Economic Operator

EU AEO status may be applied for by EU-based traders engaged in international commerce and customs activities.

This status demonstrates that the holder has been vetted by the EU Customs Authorities based on a variety of criteria and may be regarded as a safe member of the supply chain and reliable business partner. AEO-designated organizations are eligible for expedited access to simplified customs processes.

AEO status can be given in any EU member state and is valid across the entire EU. For instance, it can be obtained from the Cypriot Customs Authorities and is valid in all EU Member States.

#### 8.2. Excise Duties

Some products produced in Cyprus, imported from foreign countries, or imported from other EU Member States are subject to excise duties. Being an EU member state, Cyprus levies excise duty on energy goods, alcoholic beverages, and manufactured tobacco in accordance with the EU Excise Duties Directive. Cyprus additionally levies excise duties on additional GOODS, such as smoked salmon and caviar, ASEU regulations permit Member States to tax additional products.

The current excise duty rates in Cyprus are specified by Cyprus Excise Duties Law No. 91(I) of 2004, as changed or replaced from time to time. The applicable list of excise goods and tax rates are as per the below table.

Type of Product	Excise duty
Energy Products	
Products of CN Codes 2707 10 00, 2707 30	€429,00
00 and solvent naphtha of CN 2707 50 00	
(per 1000 litres)	
Products of CN Codes 2710 19 99 and 2710	€429,00
20 90 excluding other lubricating oils or	
other oils not available for sale or used as	
motor fuel or as motor fuel additives (per	
1000 litres)	
Pentanes, hexanes, heptanes, octanes,	€429,00
octadecanes of CN code 2901 10 00, benzene	
of CN code 2902 20 00 and mixed xylene	
isomers of CN code 2902 44 00 (per 1000	
litres)	
Unleaded petrol (per 1000 litres)	€429,00
Leaded petrol (per 1000 litres)	€421,00
Gas oil used as motor fuel (per 1000 litres)	€400,00
Gas oil used as heating fuel (per 1000 litres)	€74,73
Gas oil used for agriculture purposes (per	€21,00
1000	
litres)	
Gas oil for other uses (per 1000 litres)	€74,73
Kerosene used as motor fuel (per 1000 litres)	€400,00
Kerosene used as heating fuel (per 1000	€74,73
litres)	
Kerosene used for agriculture purposes (per	€21,00
1000	
litres)	
Kerosene, for other uses (per 1000 litres)	€74,73
Heavy fuel-oil used as heating fuel (per 1000	€15,00
kg)	
Liquid petroleum gas used as motor fuel (per	€125,00
1000	
kg)	
Liquid petroleum gas used as heating fuel	€0
(per 1000	
kg)	
Liquid petroleum gas for other uses (per	€0
1000 kg)	
Natural gas used as motor fuel (per gigajoule	€2,60
gross	
calorific value)	

Natural gas used as heating fuel (per	€2,60
gigajoule gross calorific value)	
Natural gas for other uses (per gigajoule	€2,60
gross	£2,00
calorific value)	
Coal and coke used as heating fuel (per	€0,31
gigajoule	60,31
gross calorific value)	
Coal and coke for other uses (per gigajoule	€0
gross	
calorific value)	
Electricity (per MWh)	€0
Alcohol and Alcoholic Beverages	1 00
Ethyl alcohol (per hectolitre of anhydrous	€429,00
ethyl	0.123,00
alcohol)	
Beer (a) when brewed by independent small	€3,00
breweries (per hectolitre per degree of	23,00
alcohol of final product)	
Beer (b) when brewed by breweries other	€6,00
than	00,00
independent small breweries (per hectolitre	
per degree of alcohol of final product)	
Still Wine	€0
Sparkling wine	€0
Fermented beverages other than wine and	€0
beer	
Intermediate products (per hectolitre)	€45,00
Tobacco products	
Cigarettes (per packet of 20 cigarettes)	€1,10 and
	34% on retail
	sale price,
	with a
	minimum
	excise duty of
	€2,43 per
	packet of 20
	cigarettes
Cigars and cigarillos (per kilogram)	€90,00
Fine-cut tobacco for the rolling of cigarettes	€150,00
(per kilogram)	
Other smoking tobacco (per kilogram)	€150,00
Heated tobacco products (per kilogram of	€150,00
net weight of tobacco mixture)	, -
Other products	1
Smoked salmon and smoked sturgeon	€5,13
including fillets (per kilogram)	, -
	I

Caviar (per kilogram)	30% ad valorem
Articles of crystal which fall within CN Codes 7010, 7013, 7018 and 9405, with a lead monoxide (PbO) content by weight 24% or more and articles made of porcelain which fall within CN Codes 6913 and 6914	20% ad valorem
Liquid used in electronic cigarettes regardless of whether it contains nicotine (per ml)	€0,12

In general, excise duties become due in Cyprus when excise commodities are made available for consumption on the island. This may occur in the following situations:

- Production of excise products in Cyprus outside of a suspension arrangement
- Importation of excise products into Cyprus that do not enter into a suspension arrangement
- Exit of excise products from a suspension arrangement
- Possession of excise products outside of a suspension arrangement if the applicable duties have not been paid.

## 8.2.1. Suspension Arrangements

The production, processing, possession, or movement of excise products under a suspension arrangement is typically conducted through an authorized tax warehouse, for which the Cypriot Customs Authorities require a license regardless of whether you are the owner or user of the tax warehouse. In order to run a tax warehouse, you must obtain a license from the Cypriot Customs Authorities and fulfil specific requirements, such as the provision of a financial guarantee and the preservation of relevant books & records. The type of license is determined by the nature of excise goods.

Registration in the common EU registry SEED (System for Exchange of Excise Data), submission of the electronic administrative document (e AD) through the EMCS (Excise Movement and Control System), and payment of a financial guarantee are required for the movement of excise goods between Member States under a suspension arrangement.

# 8.2.2. Special Licenses

Producing excise goods or operating a tax warehouse requires a license. In certain instances, special licenses are also necessary. For example, a particular license is required to sell or display processed tobacco. Depending on the type of license, the Cypriot Customs Authorities require a yearly license fee.

# 8.2.3. Excise Movement and Control System (EMCS)

Currently, the EMCS is exclusively used for the intra-Community movement of excise products under suspension. A forthcoming release in 2023 will permit the use of EMCS for the movement of excise goods that were authorized for consumption in the territory of one Member State and will be transported for commercial purposes to another Member State.

#### 8.2.4. Refund

In certain instances, paid excise duty may be refunded. For instance, excise duties are paid when they are released for consumption in a Member State. Thereafter, if these items are transported to another Member State for commercial purposes, excise taxes are payable in that state. After the consignee pays the excise charges in the second Member State, the consignor is entitled to a reimbursement of the excise duties paid in the first Member State.

The Cypriot Customs Authorities are required to restore all or a portion of excise duties paid within three years of the date of payment if it can be demonstrated that the duties were not payable.

#### 8.2.5. Exemptions

The Cyprus law exempts some uses of excise products, such as those intended for use in diplomatic or consular relations, by internationally recognized organizations, as supplies for ships or aircraft, for temporary import and subsequent re-export, etc.

# 9. Levy on Cyprus Property Disposals

#### 9.1. Introduction

A charge of 0.4% is imposed on the sale of all immovable property under the jurisdiction of the Republic (i.e. both trading-nature and capital-nature disposals). The levy applies to all sales of immovable property and shares of a corporation that directly or indirectly possesses immovable property.

In cases regarding a direct disposal of immovable property, the tax is applied on the disposal consideration, but in cases regarding a disposition of company shares, the charge is imposed on the Department of Land and Surveys' most recent general valuation.

The levy payment an obligation of the seller.

# 9.2. Exemptions

The following disposals are exempt from the aforementioned levy:

- Debt for asset swaps
- · Qualifying reorganisations
- Shares listed on a recognised stock exchange

# 10. Trusts

### 10.1. Introduction

A trust is the requirement under which a person to whom property is given (the trustee) is required to deal with the beneficial interest in such property in a particular manner for the benefit of a designated person or persons or class of persons (i.e. the beneficiaries). The trust's creator is known as the settlor. A trust is not a legally distinct entity.

#### 10.2. International Trusts

The Law defines an International Trust as a trust for which:

- The Settlor is not a tax resident in Cyprus during the year preceding the year of creation of the trust;
- At least one of the Trustees is a tax resident in Cyprus during the trust period; and
- None of the Beneficiaries are tax residents in Cyprus during the year preceding the year of creation of the trust.

According to the applicable law:

 Where the beneficiary is a resident of Cyprus, the income and profits of a Cyprus International Trust earned or deemed to be earned from sources within and outside of Cyprus are subject to all forms of taxation imposed in Cyprus; and  Where the beneficiary is not a resident of Cyprus, the income and profits of a Cyprus International Trust earned or deemed to be earned from sources within Cyprus are subject to all forms of taxation imposed in Cyprus.

# 11. Transfer fees by the Department of Land and Surveys

The Department of Land and Surveys charges the acquirer for transfers of immovable property. The fees are stipulated in the below table.

Market Value	Rate
First €85.000	3%
€85.001 - €170.000	5%
Over €170.000	8%

- In the case where VAT is applicable upon purchasing immovable property, no transfer fees are applied.
- In the case where VAT is not applicable upon purchasing immovable property, the transfer fees are reduced by 50%.
- In the case of free transfers of immovable property between siblings, the transfer fees are calculated as per below:
- From parents to children N/A
- Between spouses 0,01%
- Between third degree relatives 0,01%
- To trustees €50.00
- Mortgage registration fees: 1% of current market value
- In companies' reorganisations, transfer and mortgage registration fees are not applicable to transfers of immovable property
- Certain debt-for-asset swap arrangements may be exempted from transfer fees (certain conditions apply).

## 12. Social Insurance & Other contributions

Currently, the following contributions shall be paid by the employees and employers in Cyprus. The rate is calculated based on the employee's gross salary. All below contributions (apart from the Social Cohesion Fund) are applied to a maximum level of emolument, which changes every year (for 2023 it is €60.060)

LIABILITIES	EMPLOYER'S	EMPLOYEE'S
SOCIAL INSURANCE	8.30%	8.30%
SOCIAL COHESION FUND	2.00%	N/A
INDUSTRIAL TRAINING		
FUND	0.50%	N/A
REDUNDANCY FUND	1.20%	N/A
HOLIDAY FUND (if not		
exempt)	8,00%	N/A

Self-employed individuals are subject to a 15,6% contribution of their income. The amount of the contribution is subject to a minimum and maximum limit, based on the profession or trade of the individual.

# 13. General Health System (GHS)

Cyprus introduced a General Health System in order to provide holistic health care to all patients. All income earners contribute to the implementation of said program, as stipulated in the below table.

GHS contributions are capped at €180.000 total annual income.

Category	Applied on	Rate
Employees	Own emoluments	2,65%
Employers	Employee's	2,90%
	emoluments	
Self-employed	Own income	4,00%
Pensioners	Pension	2,65%
Persons holding office	Officers'	2,90%
(holders of public or local	remuneration	
authority office or other		
office, the income out of		
which does not fall in the		
aforementioned categories)		
Persons earning rental,	Rental, interest,	2,65%
interest, dividend or other	dividend income	
income	etc.	
Republic Consolidated	Emoluments/	4,70%
Fund	pensions of all	
	employees, self-	
	employed,	
	pensioners and	
	persons holding	
	office	

# 14. Stamp Duty

Certain documents require stamp duty. Any transactions in the scope of a reorganisation are exempt from such duty, as well as, any documents regarding assets or business affairs outside Cyprus.

Type of Document	Stamp Duty
Receipts over €4 (receipts are exempt	€0,07
from stamp duty in some cases)	
Cheques	€0,05
Letter of credit	€2,00
Letter of guarantee	€4,00
Bills of exchange (payable within 3	€1,00
days, on demand or at sight)	
Contracts with fixed amount:	
- First €5.000	N/A
- €5.001 - €170.000	1,5‰
- Over €170.000	2‰ (max. €20.000)
Contracts with no fixed amount	€35,00
Customs declaration documents	€18,00 - €35,00
Bills of lading	€4,00
Charterparty	€18,00
Power of Attorney:	
- General	€4,00
- Limited	€18,00
Certified copies of contracts or	€2,00
documents	

15. Capital Duty

13. Capitai Bui	<u>'</u>		
	Upon	Upon subsequent	
	Incorporation of a	increases	
	Cyprus Company		
Authorised share	€105	N/A	
capital			
Issued share	If the shares are	€20 flat duty on	
capital	issued at nominal	every issue,	
	value, there's no	regardless if the	
	capital duty	shares are at	
	payable. Should the	nominal value or	
	shares be issued at	at a premium	
	a premium, there is		
	a €20 flat duty.		

# 16. Tax Treaties and Withholding Tax (WHT)

# 16.1. Withholding Tax on Dividends, Interest & Royalties

Cyprus does not impose a WHT on profits, interest, and royalties paid to non-residents, except for royalties earned on rights utilized within Cyprus, which are subject to a 10% WHT or 5% in the case of cinematographic industry. This Cyprus WHT on royalties for rights used within Cyprus may be reduced or removed by double tax treaties signed by Cyprus or by the EU Interest and Royalty Directive as implemented in Cyprus tax law. Cyprus also applies WHT of 17% on dividends paid by non-quoted companies, 30% on payments of passive interest (excluding payments by individuals), and 10% on payments of royalties and similar type payments (excluding payments by individuals) if the recipient of the payment is a company in a jurisdiction included on the EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions on tax matters (commonly known as the EU "blacklist").

WHT on Outbound Payments from Cyprus				
Paid to	Dividend s	Interest	Royalties Rights not used within Cyprus	Royalties Rights used within Cyprus
EU non- cooperative jurisdictions	17%	30%	10%	10%
Other non- treaty countries	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Andorra	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Armenia	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Austria	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bahrain	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Barbados	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Belarus	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Bosnia	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Bulgaria	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Canada	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work excluding cinematographic films are subject to 0% WHT and royalties related to cinematographic

				films are subject to 5% WHT)
China, P.R.	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Czech Republic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A (royalties related to patent, trademark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, computer software or industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial, or scientific experience are subject to 10% WHT)
Denmark Egypt	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A 10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Ethiopia	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Estonia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finland	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
France	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Georgia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Germany	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greece	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Guernsey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hungary	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iceland	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
India	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Iran	N/A	N/A	N/A	6% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)

Ireland	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A (royalties
irelatiu	N/A	IN/A	N/A	related to cinematographic films are subject to
				5% WHT)
Italy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jersey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jordan	N/A	N/A	N/A	7% (royalties related to technical services are subject to 7% WHT while royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Kazakhstan	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Kuwait	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Latvia	N/A	N/A	N/A	5% (0% applies if the payer is a company that is a Cy resident and the beneficial owner of the income is a company that is a resident in Latvia)
Lebanon	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lithuania	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Luxembourg	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Malta	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Mauritius	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Moldova	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Montenegro	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Norway	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Poland	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Portugal	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
Qatar	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Romania	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A (royalties related to patent, trademark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, computer software or

				industrial,
				commercial,
				or scientific
				equipment, or for
				information
				concerning
				industrial,
				commercial, or
				scientific
				experience are
				subject to 5%
				WHT)
Russia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
San Marino	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	N/A	N/A	N/A	8% (royalties
				related to the use
				or the right to use
				industrial,
				commercial,
				scientific
				equipment and
				cinematographic
				films are subject to
6 1:	21/2	21/2	21/2	5% WHT)
Serbia	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties
				related to
				cinematographic
				films are subject to
Carrahallas	N1/0	N1/0	N1/0	5% WHT)
Seychelles	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
Singapore	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties
				related to
				cinematographic
				films are subject to
Slovakia	N/A	N/A	N/A	5% WHT) N/A (royalties
SiOVakia	IN/A	IN/A	IN/A	related to patent,
				trademark, design
				or model, plan,
				secret formula or
				process, computer
				software or
				industrial,
				commercial,
				or scientific
				equipment, or for
				information
				concerning
				industrial,
				commercial, or
				scientific
				experience are
				subject to 5%
				WHT)
Slovenia	N/A	N/A	N/A	5%
South Africa	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spain	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sweden	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Switzerland	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Syria	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties
', '	'	'''	'	related to
				cinematographic
				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

				films are subject to 5% WHT)
Thailand	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to literary, dramatic, musical, artistic or scientific work are subject to 5% WHT)
Ukraine	N/A	N/A	N/A	10% (royalties related to copyright of scientific work, patents, trademarks, secret formulas, processes or information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience and cinematographic films are subject to 5% WHT)
United Arab Emirates	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Kingdom	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
United States	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

	WHT on Inbound I	Payments from Cypr	us
Paid to	Dividends	Interest	Royalties
Andorra	N/A	N/A	N/A
Armenia	N/A (a 5% WHT	5%	5%
	applies in cases		
	where a		
	dividend is paid		
	by a company in		
	which the		
	beneficial owner		
	has invested less		
	than €150.000)		
Austria	10%	N/A	N/A
Bahrain	N/A	N/A	N/A
Barbados	N/A	N/A	N/A
Belarus	5% (In cases	5%	5%
	where the		
	investment is		
	less than		
	€200.000 in the		
	share capital of		
	the company		
	paying the		
	dividend,		
	dividends are		
	subject to 15%		
	WHT which is		
	reduced to 10%		
	should the		
	recipient		
	company		
	controls 25% or		
	more of the		
	paying		
	company)		
Belgium	10% (In cases	10% (if the	N/A
	where the	interest is paid	
	receiving	to government,	
	company holds	Central Bank,	
	less than 25% of	Public Authority	
	the share capital	of the other	
	of the paying	state or it	
	company or if the recipient is	relates to	
	an individual a	interest on deposits with	
	15% WHT	banking	
	applies)	institution a 0%	
	арриса	WHT applies)	
Bosnia	10%	10%	10%
Bulgaria	10% (In cases	7% (if the	10% (the payment
Duigaria	where the	interest is paid	is made to a Cyprus
	receiving	to government,	entity by a Bulgaria
	company holds	Central Bank,	resident owning
	less than 25% of	Public Authority	directly or indirectly
	the share capital	of the other	at least 25% of the
	of the paying	state or the	share capital of the
	company a 5%	payment is	Cyprus entity and
	WHT applies)	made to a	the Cyprus entity
		Cyprus entity by	pays tax in Cyprus
		a Bulgaria	at a tax rate lower
		resident owning	than the usual tax
		directly or	

		indirectly at least 25% of the share capital of the Cyprus entity and the Cyprus entity pays tax in Cyprus at a tax rate lower than the usual tax rate, a 0% WHT applies)	rate, a 0% WHT applies)
Canada	15%	15% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state or it relates to an export guarantee, a 0% WHT applies)	10% (royalties related to literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work – excluding cinematographic films, are subject to 0% WHT)
China, P.R.	10%	10%	10%
Czech Republic	5% (if the dividend is received by a company which holds directly at least 10% of the share capital of the paying company for an uninterrupted period of at least 1 year a 0% WHT applies)	N/A	N/A (royalties related to patent, trademark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, computer software or industrial, commercial or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience, are subject to 10% WHT) N/A
Denmark	15% (If the dividend is paid to the government, Central Bank, public authority of the other state a 0% WHT applies. A 15% WHT applies in cases where the receiving company controls less that 10% of the share capital of the paying company or the duration of any holding is	IV/A	N/A

	less than 1		
	uninterrupted		
	year or the		
	receiver is an		
	individual)		
Egypt	10% (A 5% WHT	10%	10%
•	applies in cases		
	where the		
	beneficial owner		
	is a company		
	which holds		
	directly at least		
	20% of the		
	capital of the		
	paying company		
	throughout a		
	365-day period		
	that include the		
	day of the		
	payment of the		
	dividend)		
Ethiopia	5%	5%	5%
Estonia	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finland	5% (a 15% WHT	N/A	N/A
	applies in cases		
	where the		
	receiving		
	company owns		
	less than 10% of		
	the voting		
	_		
	power of the		
	paying company		
	or where the		
	receiver is an		
	individual)		
France	10% (a 15% WHT	10% (A 0% WHT	N/A (royalties
	applies in cases	applies in cases	related to
	where the	where the	cinematographic
	receiving	payment is	films are subject to
	company owns	made to a	5% WHT)
	less than 10% of	government,	
	capital of the	bank or	
	paying company	financial	
	or where the	institution)	
	receiver is an		
	individual)		
Georgia	N/A	N/A	N/A
Germany	5% (a 15% WHT	N/A	N/A
	applies in cases		
	where the		
	receiving		
	company owns		
	less than 10% of		
	capital of the		
	paying company		
	or where the		
	receiver is an		
	individual)		
Greece	25%	10%	N/A (royalties
3,000		1 20/0	related to
			cinematographic
	<u> </u>		films, other than

			television films, are
Guernsey	N/A	N/A	subject to 5% WHT) N/A
Hungary	10% (a 15% WHT applies in cases where the receiving company owns less than 25% of capital of the paying company or where the receiver is an individual)	10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state a 0% WHT applies)	N/A
Iceland	15% (a 5% WHT applies in cases where the receiving company holds directly or indirectly at least 10% of the capital of the paying company)	N/A	5%
India	10%	10% (if the interest is paid to government or any other institution agreed upon between the two States, a 0% WHT applies)	10%
Iran	10% (In the case of which the beneficial owner of the dividends owns directly at least 25% of the capital of the paying company a 5% WHT applies)	5%	6%
Ireland	N/A	N/A	N/A (royalties related to cinematographic films, other than television films, are subject to 5% WHT)
Italy	15%	10%	N/A
Jersey Jordan	N/A  10% (A 5% WHT applies in the case of which the beneficial owner is a company that holds directly at least 10% of the capital of the	N/A 5%	N/A 7%

	paying company)		
Kazakhstan	10% (A 5% WHT	10%	10%
Razakiistaii	applies in the	1076	10/6
	case of which		
	the beneficial		
	owner is a		
	company that		
	holds directly at		
	least 10% of the		
	capital of the		
	paying		
	. , 0		
Kuwait	company) N/A	N/A	%
		10% (A 0% WHT	5% (A 0% WHT
Latvia	10% (A 0% WHT	,	•
	applies in the	applies in the	applies in the case
	case of which	case of which	of which the payer
	the payer is a	the payer is a	is a Latvia-resident
	Latvia-resident	Latvia-resident	company and the
	company and	company and	beneficial owner of
	the beneficial	the beneficial	the income is a
	owner of the	owner of the	company that is a
	income is a	income is a	Cyprus resident)
	company that is	company that is	
	a Cyprus	a Cyprus	
	resident)	resident)	11/1
Lebanon	5%	5%	N/A
Lithuania	N/A (In the case	N/A	5%
	of which the		
	receiving		
	company holds		
	less than 10% of		
	the capital of the		
	paying company		
	or the receiver is		
	an individual, a		
	5% WHT applies)		
Luxembourg	5% (In the case	N/A	N/A
	of which the		
	beneficial owner		
	holds directly at		
	least 10% of the		
	capital of the		
	paying company		
	a 0% WHT		
	applies)	100/	100/
Malta	N/A	10%	10%
Mauritius	N/A	N/A	N/A
Moldova	10% (In the case	5%	5%
	of which the		
	beneficial owner		
	is a company		
	that holds		
	that holds directly at least		
	that holds directly at least 25% of the		
	that holds directly at least 25% of the capital of the		
	that holds directly at least 25% of the capital of the paying company		
	that holds directly at least 25% of the capital of the		
	that holds directly at least 25% of the capital of the paying company		
Montenegro	that holds directly at least 25% of the capital of the paying company a 5% WHT applies)	10%	10%
Montenegro Norway	that holds directly at least 25% of the capital of the paying company a 5% WHT applies)	10% N/A	10% N/A

	beneficial owner is a company that holds directly at least 10% of the capital of the paying company or in the case of which the beneficial owner is the government of Cyprus or Norway, a 0% WHT applies)		
Poland	5% (In the case of which the recipient company holds directly at least 10% of the share capital of the paying company for an uninterrupted period of at least 2 years, a 0% WHT applies)	5% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state, 0% WHT applies)	5%
Portugal	10%	10%	10%
Qatar	N/A	N/A	5%
Romania	10%	10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state, 0% WHT applies)	N/A (royalties related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or processes, industrial, commercial or scientific equipment, or information related to industrial commercial or scientific experience are subject to 5% WHT)
Russia	of which the beneficial owner of the company is an insurance undertaking or pension fund, or if the beneficial owner is a company whose shares are listed on a registered stock exchange provided no less than 15% of the voting shares of	15% (In the case of which the beneficial owner of the company is an insurance undertaking or pension fund, or the government of contracting state or a political subdivision or a local authority, or the Central	N/A

	that company	Bank of the	
	are in free float	contracting	
	and which holds	state, or a bank,	
	directly at least	or in the case of	
	15% of the	which the	
	capital of the	interest paid is	
	paying company	related to	
	throughout a	securities that	
	period of 365-	are listed on a	
	days that	recognized	
	includes the day	stock exchange,	
	of payment of	a 0% WHT	
	the dividends, or	applies)	
	if the beneficial		
	owner is the		
	government of		
	that contracting		
	state or a		
	political		
	subdivision or		
	local authority, a		
	WHT of 5%		
	applies)		
San Marino	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	5% (In the case	N/A	8% (In the case of
	of which the		payments for the
	recipient is a		use, or the right to
	company that		use industrial,
	directly or		commercial or
	indirectly holds		scientific
	at least 25% of		equipment, a WHT
	the capital of the		of 5% applies)
	paying company,		
	a WHT of 0%		
	applies)		
Serbia	10%	10%	10%
Seychelles	N/A	N/A	5%
Singapore	N/A	10% (if the	10%
		interest is paid	
		to government,	
		Central Bank,	
		Public Authority	
		of the other	
		state, 0% WHT	
		applies. If the	
		interest is paid	
		to a bank or	
		to a bank or financial	
		to a bank or financial institution, a 7%	
Clavalia	N/A /la the error	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies)	N/A /soughti-
Slovakia	N/A (In the case	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the	N/A (royalties
Slovakia	of which the	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid	related to patents,
Slovakia	of which the receiving	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government,	related to patents, trademarks, designs
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank,	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans,
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is holding less than	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is holding less than 10% of the	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or processes,
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is holding less than 10% of the capital of the	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state, 0% WHT	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or processes, industrial,
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is holding less than 10% of the capital of the paying company	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or processes, industrial, commercial or
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is holding less than 10% of the capital of the paying company or the receiver is	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state, 0% WHT	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or processes, industrial, commercial or scientific
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is holding less than 10% of the capital of the paying company or the receiver is an individual or	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state, 0% WHT	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or processes, industrial, commercial or scientific equipment, or
Slovakia	of which the receiving company is holding less than 10% of the capital of the paying company or the receiver is	to a bank or financial institution, a 7% WHT applies) 10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state, 0% WHT	related to patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas or processes, industrial, commercial or scientific

	partly by shares, a WHT of 5% applies)		commercial or scientific experience are
			subject to 5% WHT)
Slovenia	5%	5%	5%
South Africa	10% (In the case of which, the beneficial owner is a company that holds at least 10% of the capital of the paying company, a WHT of 5% applies)	N/A	N/A
Spain	0% (In the case of which the receiving company is holding less than 10% of the capital of the paying company or the receiver is an individual or a company not limited at least partly by shares, a WHT of 5% applies)	N/A	N/A
Sweden	5% (In cases where the receiving company holds less than 25% of the share capital of the paying company, a 15% WHT applies)	10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of the other state, 0% WHT applies)	N/A
Switzerland	15% (In the case of which the beneficial owner is a company which holds directly at least 10% of the capital of the paying company during an uninterrupted period of at least 1 year or in the case of which the beneficial owner is a pension fund or other similar institution or relates to the Government of Cyprus or	N/A	N/A

	Switzerland, 0%		
	WHT applies)		
Syria	N/A (In the case of which the receiving company holds less than 10% of the share capital of the paying company or in the case of which the beneficiary is an individual or a company not limited at least partly by shares, a 15% WHT applies	10% (if the interest is paid to government, Central Bank, Public Authority of is related to export guarantee, 0% WHT applies)	10% / 15% (Payment of royalties of any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematograph films, and films or tapes for television or radio broadcasting, are subject to 10% WHT. Payments of royalties of any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or any industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience, are subject to 15%
Thailand	10% (In the case of which the beneficial owner company holds directly at least 20% of the capital of the paying company and has invested at least €100.000 in the acquisition of shares or other	15% (In the case of which the interest is received by a financial institution or it relates to sale on credit of any industrial, commercial or scientific equipment or of merchandise, a 10% WHT applies)	WHT)  5% / 10% / 15% (5% WHT applies to any copyright of literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, or scientific work. 10% WHT applies for industrial, commercial, or scientific equipment. 15% applies for patents, trademarks, designs or models, plans, secret formulas, or processes.)  10% (Payment of royalties in respect of any copyright of scientific work, patent, trademark, secret formula, process or information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific

	rights in the paying company, a 5% WHT applies		experience, is subject to 5% WHT)
United Arab Emirates	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Kingdom	N/A (In the case of dividends paid out of income derived directly or indirectly from immovable property by an investment vehicle which distributes most of its income annually and whose income from such immovable property is exempt from tax, except in the cases where the beneficial owner is a pension scheme established in Cyprus, 15% WHT applies)	N/A	N/A
United States	5% / 15% (In the case of which the receiving company is controlling less than 10% of the voting power of the paying company, or in the case of which the beneficiary is an individual, 15% WHT applies. In the case of which the receiving company controls minimum 10% of the voting power of the paying company and certain conditions are met in regards to the income of the paying company, they may be eligible for 5% WHT)	10% (if the interest is paid to government, bank or financial institution, 0% WHT applies)	N/A

# 16.2. Withholding Tax on Other Types of Income

In certain conditions, Cyprus imposes a 10% WHT on the remuneration of non-Cyprus tax residents for technical services rendered to Cyprus tax payers. However, no such WHT is imposed if the services are performed through a permanent establishment in Cyprus of the non-resident or between "associated" entities, as defined by the EU Interest and Royalty Directive and enacted in Cyprus tax law.

Cyprus additionally imposes a 10% WHT on the gross income/receipts earned by a non-resident from the exercise in Cyprus of any profession or vocation and the remuneration of non-resident public entertainers (such as theatrical, musical, and other sports missions, etc.).

In addition, a 5% WHT is imposed on the gross income derived from within Cyprus by non-residents with no local permanent establishment for services related to the exploration, extraction, or exploitation of the continental shelf, as well as the establishment and use of pipelines and other installations on land, seabed, and sea surface.

# 17. 2023 Tax Diary

Deadline	Obligations
End of every month	Payment of PAYE (tax deducted from
	employees' remuneration) for the
	preceding month
	Payment of SCD (Special Contribution
	for Defence) on dividends, interest and
	rents
	Payment of tax withheld in the
	preceding month on payments to non-
	Cyprus tax residents
31st January	Submission of TD623 (Declaration of
	deemed dividend distribution) for the
	tax year 2020
31st March	Electronic Submission of TD4
	(corporation tax return) for the tax year
	2021
	Electronic Submission of the 2021
	income tax return of physical persons
	preparing audited financial statements
30th April	Payment of premium tax for life
	insurance companies (First instalment)
31st May	Electronic submission of TD7
,	(Employer's form of the total payroll) for
	the tax year 2022
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Payment of SCD (Special Contribution
30 Julie	Tax for Defence) for the first 6 months
	of 2023 on rents (applicable if the tax is
	not withheld at source) and on
	dividends or interest from sources
	outside Cyprus
31st July	Submission of 2023 provisional tax
	return & payment of first instalment
	Electronic Submission of 2022 personal
	tax return and payment of 2022
	personal income tax under the self-
	assessment method by employees

	and/or pensioners whose income does not include income from trade/business, rents, dividends, interest, royalties or income to trading goodwill and other individuals that have gross income that falls under Article 5 (salaries, dividends, interest and profits from share dealings) and who are not obliged to prepare audited financial statements.
01 <sup>st</sup> August	Payment of 2022 final corporation tax under self-assessment method  Payment of 2022 personal income tax under self-assessment method by self-employed individuals preparing audited financial statements
31 <sup>st</sup> August	Payment of premium tax for life insurance companies (Second instalment)
31 <sup>st</sup> December	Payment of provisional tax for tax year 2023 (Second instalment)  Payment of SCD (Special Contribution for Defence) for the last 6 months of 2023 on rents (applicable if the tax is not withheld at source) and on dividends or interest from sources outside Cyprus Payment of premium tax for life insurance companies (Third instalment)

Failure to comply with the above deadlines will result in interest and penalties for the tax payer.

### 18. How We Can Assist You

Your taxes are already complicated; changing regulations and legislation can make them even more so.

We can assist you in making income, estate, and other tax preparation an important and beneficial aspect of your overall financial strategy.

Our professionals can use tax methods to achieve the results you seek while also serving your wider goals, personal philosophy, and situation—even as they evolve over time.

That means you always have a plan integrated into your financial strategy for:

- Annual income taxes
- Capital gains taxes
- Gift taxes
- Estate taxes
- Corporation tax

\*DISCLAIMER: This brochure and its publication are intended to provide a brief introduction and act as a general guide. This is provided for information purposes only and cannot be utilized as a substitute for professional advice. This document does not represent a legal opinion and one must not rely on it without receiving independent advice based on the particular facts of their own case. No responsibility is accepted by the author or the publishers for any loss suffered from acting or refraining from acting based on the contents of this publication.

# 19. Contact us

We are a team of experienced professionals, all sharing a unique drive for learning and development through teamwork. The Group utilizes its various core activities to implement customized solutions for its clients. Our collective experience spans the areas of Global Corporate & Fiduciary Services, Assurance & Advisory Services, Fund Administration, Tax Advisory, Corporate Governance, Financial Services, Private Wealth Services and Compliance.

Start a conversation with us today to find out how you can benefit from a relationship with Flexi Group.

Tel.: +357 22 875 755

Email: info@flexi-group.net

Address: 80, Arch. Makarios III Avenue

Panos Englezos Building

5th Floor

1077 Nicosia – Cyprus

www.flexi-group.net

Follow us on: in





