



Telecommunications

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Anastasios Antoniou LLC is a Cyprus law firm with a truly global focus and a pioneering approach as regards its foreign clients, to whom they strive to render legal services of the highest quality at reasonable pricing.

The firm's industry-specific focus, along with its cross-area expertise and specialisation in practice areas such as competition law and intellectual property ensures that all of their clients' legal needs are dealt with in a clear, comprehensive and unequivocal manner. Telecommunications is an industry involving increasingly complex transactions, a fact that has been addressed in the formulation of the firm's dedicated telecommunications focus.

As a jurisdiction, Cyprus is an ideal investment destination. While the Cypriot tax system underwent a harmonisation process to comply with the acquis communautaire and international standards, appropriate actions have been carried out in order to maintain Cyprus's competitiveness as an international business centre and enhance its attractiveness as a suitable jurisdiction for holding companies.

As regards the legislative and regulatory framework, Cyprus has fully aligned its legal order with its Community counterpart. Maria Christodoulou, Partner at Anastasios Antoniou LLC said: "All major Community legal instruments concerning telecommunications, such as the Framework Directive, the Authorisation Directive, the Access Directive, the Universal Service Directive and the Privacy and Electronic Communications Directive, have been transposed in national legislation," she added. "The Cypriot national regulatory authority is the Office of the Commissioner of Electronic Communications and

Postal Services Regulation (OCECPR). The OCECPR is entrusted by statute with: ensuring that users derive maximum benefit in terms of choice, price and quality; encouraging investment in infrastructure and promoting innovation and encouraging efficient use and management of radio frequencies and numbering resources."

The aforementioned benefits of Cyprus' accommodating legislative and business environment elevate the island to a primary investment destination for foreign investors. Indeed, apart from using Cyprus as a holding jurisdiction, foreign Clients can and are increasingly enjoying the benefits of establishing their business operations here and entering markets with high prospects of success. Essentially, with respect to industry sectors such as telecommunications, Cyprus' market has only recently been liberalised and opened up for foreign investment.

Anastasios Antoniou LLC can serve and meet every legal need of clients active in the telecommunications market of Cyprus, particularly as regards regulatory compliance, competition issues and commercial transactions. Ms Christodoulou said: "Our legal services in the telecommunications sector cover regulatory matters, including disputes and all aspects of licensing, authorisations and permits to provide electronic communications services, mergers and acquisitions, including due diligence, purchase and sale agreements, registration statements and offering memoranda, international joint venture and teaming agreements, competition issues, including preparation of analyses on the requirements and risks in current and potential markets and ways to deal with them and data protection, including the process call interception, encryption online, itemised billing and storage of traffic data."