

# Civil Society Programme at the Annual Meeting 2017



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## The Role of Cypriot Civil Society in Promoting Economic Development for Reconciliation



**Tuesday, 9 May, 16.00 – 17.30**  
**Home for Cooperation - Markou Drakou 28, Nicosia**

Organised by the NGO Support Centre, this roundtable discussion will explore the role of Cypriot civil society in developing socioeconomic relationships across the green line and how economic collaboration can pave the way towards longstanding peace.

Participants of the panel will present the work of their organisations, highlighting different approaches to bi-communal cooperation that range from grassroots initiatives to private sector collaboration, and discuss the way forward for Cypriot civil society. The panel will be hosted at the symbolic Home for Cooperation (H4C) in the UN Buffer Zone, a unique site for civil society dialogue.

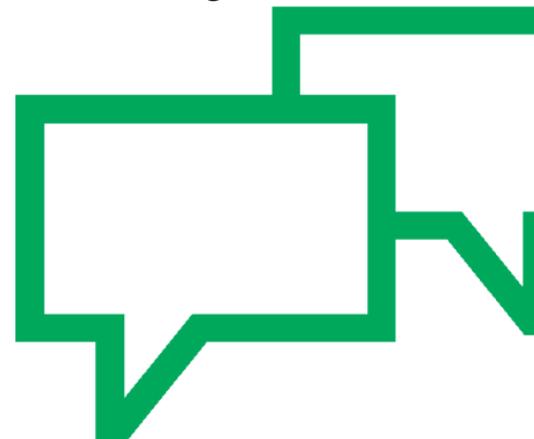
### Moderator

- ▶ Ms Esra Aygin, Freelance Journalist

### Speakers

- ▶ Mr Costas Apostolides, Visiting Lecturer, University of Malta, Pax Cypria Cyprus Institute for Peace
- ▶ Mr Leonidas Paschalides, Senior Manager, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- ▶ Mr Mustafa Erk, Member of the Executive Board, Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Mr Marios Missirlis, Cyprus Coordinator, Stelios Philanthropic Foundation
- ▶ Ms Selen Lermioglu, Capacity Development Expert, Civic Space

The event is open to all Annual Meeting participants. However due to capacity restrictions at the event venue, please e-mail Luiz Loures at [louresl@ebrd.com](mailto:louresl@ebrd.com) to express your interest in attending. The Home for Cooperation venue has limited capacity and access to the event will be granted on a first come, first serve basis.



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## Badges & Logistics

You must have your passport and EBRD Annual Meeting badge to enter the venue. Annual Meeting guests who have not received their badges in the post should note the location and time for collecting their EBRD Annual Meeting badges on Tuesday 9 May:

- 7:00 – 16:00: Filoxenia Conference Centre, Thrakis 17, 2112 Aglantzia-Nicosia
- \*13:00 – 17:30: Home for Cooperation Markou Drakou 28, Nicosia

\* Collection at the Home for Cooperation will only be available for guests who registered after 26 April, 2017.

All participants will need to cross the Ledra Palace crossing point to enter the UN Buffer Zone and access the Home for Cooperation. Participants are required to show their passports at the crossing point and should allow 15 minutes to cross.

## Transfer Times

Filoxenia Conference Centre (FCC) to Ledra Palace crossing point: 30-minute drive. The Home for Cooperation is located within a 2-minute walk from the Ledra Palace crossing point.

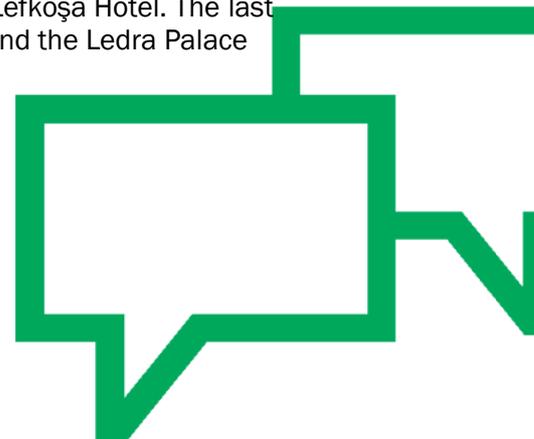
## Coach Transfer Service

Coaches will be available for all participants attending events in the Turkish Cypriot community and the UN Buffer Zone. All passengers will have to show their passport and Annual Meeting badge before being allowed to board the coaches. Please note above the Tuesday 9 May collection times and location for badges.

All participants are advised that as separate vehicles will be used for transfers to the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, they should not leave any belongings on the vehicles.

In the morning, coaches will depart from the FCC between **8:30 and 9:30**. Participants are advised that once the last coach is full no further provision for transfer to the Turkish Cypriot community will be made until **12:00**. As such it is strongly recommended that participants try to board one of the earlier coaches.

In the afternoon, from **12:00**, coaches will run on a continuous basis leaving every fifteen minutes from the FCC, the Ledra Palace crossing point and the Merit Lefkoşa Hotel. The last coach will leave the FCC at **17:00**, the Merit Lefkoşa Hotel at **18:15**, and the Ledra Palace crossing point (heading to the Greek Cypriot community) at **19:00**.



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## Speakers List



**Mr Costas Apostolides, Visiting Lecturer, University of Malta, Pax Cypria Cyprus Institute for Peace**

Costas Apostolides is a founding member of Pax Cypria Cyprus Institute for Peace (PCCIP), a Lecturer for the University of Malta and Economic Planner at the Planning Bureau (ROC). Mr Apostolides is also Advisor to the ROC President on the UN Cyprus Peace Talks (1997-present). In the past he has also served UN agencies in Europe, Asia and Middle East. Mr Apostolides specializes in economic transactions across ceasefire lines, and from 2009 to 2012 was co-chairman with Dr. Erdal Guryay of the Peace Economics Consortium which studied economic interdependence and the economics of a Cyprus settlement. He studied Development Economics (MA Boston University) and Project Evaluation (Harvard University).



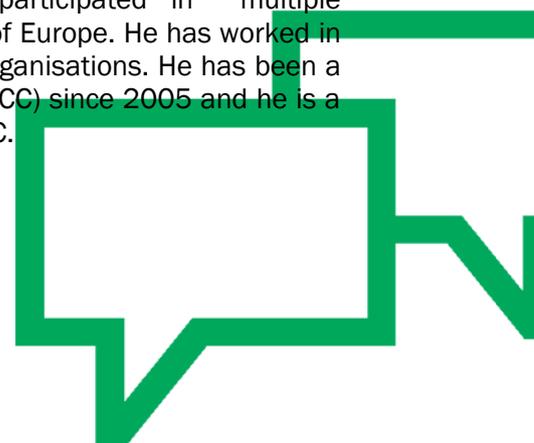
**Mr Leonidas Paschalides, Senior Manager, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Leonidas Paschalides is a Senior Director at the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) and he heads the Departments of the Chamber that deal with Education, European Programmes, International and Public Relations. He is also responsible for the relations of the CCCI with the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce and more generally Turkish Cypriot issues. He represents the CCCI in a large number of Committees, Councils, Organisations and Bodies both in Cyprus and abroad. Leonidas has taught in numerous seminars and business courses and is also the author of many publications and guides for business that deal with the accession of Cyprus to the EU, the Euro, EU policies and regulations and the promotion of Cyprus as a Business Centre.



**Mr Mustafa Erk, Member of the Executive Board, Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce**

Mustafa Erk is a Turkish Cypriot businessman acting as a Managing Director of a family company in Cyprus since 2003. He was awarded with a Chevening Scholarship (UK) to complete a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Manchester. Mustafa has attended an international youth camp, Seeds of Peace, in the USA sponsored by the Cyprus Fulbright Commission and also participated in multiple bicommunal seminars organized by Council of Europe. He has worked in active roles in bi-communal and Turkish Cypriot non-governmental organisations. He has been a member of the council of Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce (TCCC) since 2005 and he is a board member for second term (2014-2016 and 2016-2018) of TCCC.



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**Marios Missirlis, Cyprus Coordinator, Stelios Philanthropic Foundation**

Marios Missirlis joined the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation in 2009 to help establish and promote the Foundation's activities in Cyprus. Previously, Marios has been the franchisee of the easyInternetcafé in Cyprus and has helped - as Cyprus Co-ordinator - to establish other franchises of easyGroup on the island, such as easyCar and easyHotel. He graduated from Richmond, the American International University in London with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Economics.



**Ms Selen Lermioglu, Capacity Development Expert, Civic Space**

Selen Lermioglu is an expert with more than 17 years of experience in the fields of democracy and governance. She has worked with a range of partners such as CSOs and international institutions in different regions including Turkey, Cyprus, Greece, the Western Balkans and Africa. In addition, Selen acted as a trainer and consultant for CSOs and activists from Egypt and Iran for more than 3 years as well as for universities in Turkey. With regards to her work in Cyprus, Selen worked as a key expert in the EU funded Civil Society Support Team Project between 2008 and 2011, and as a short term trainer or consultant for other projects since 2011. Since September 2015, she has been working as the Capacity Building Expert within the Civic Space Project, which is a Technical Assistance Project funded by the EU under the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community.



**Ms Esra Aygin, Freelance Journalist**

Esra Aygin studied Journalism at Syracuse University in New York. She has extensive experience in covering the Cyprus solution process since 2000 when she was a reporter for the Associated Press covering the Annan Plan period. Between 2005-2010 she served as a press officer for the then-Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat. As of 2010, Esra Aygin wrote about the Cyprus solution process for the Turkish Cypriot Havadis newspaper, contributed to the broadening of the scope of Phileleftheros group's Cyprus Weekly to cover north Cyprus, and played a central role in the Havadis - Cyprus Weekly partnership - the first such corporate media partnership. She is currently writing on both sides of the divide.

