

Dr Charis Savvides

LLB, LL.M, PhD



Practicing Lawyer & University Law Lecturer

- Faculty Member, University of Nicosia, School of Business
Dept. of Digital Innovation, School of Business
Member of the Institute for the Future
- Founder of the law firm Ch. P. Savvides & Associates LLC
- Grant Thornton (Cyprus), Partner, Head of Funds Services

LL.B (Athens) | LL.M (Nottingham) | Ph.D (Sheffield)
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Charis is a Partner, leading the regulatory compliance and funds services at Grant Thornton (Cyprus) Ltd. He is an experienced corporate lawyer, member of the Cyprus Bar Association, and law lecturer at the Department of Digital Innovation, School of Business of the University of Nicosia. Charis obtained his law degree from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 2005 and continued his postgraduate studies in the United Kingdom, with emphasis on International and European Business Law, obtaining his LL.M in International Commercial Law from the University of Nottingham and his PhD in Law from the University of Sheffield. His doctoral thesis was on competition law and more specifically on the EU regulatory framework on state aids to firms in difficulty.

His practice areas include, among others, the regulatory framework of digital services and digital markets, especially in the areas of corporate, investment and financial law. Charis is also one of the leading lawyers in Cyprus in the field of Blockchain and crypto-asset advisory services, serving a vast clientele in regulated markets, such as Investment Firms, Alternative Investment Funds and Fund Managers, Crypto Asset Service Providers, Banks and Electronic Money Institutions.

Charis is regular speaker and instructor at professional seminars, workshops and conferences, where he shares his knowledge and experience about the regulatory status and trends in the fields of Investment Funds and the broader area of regulation and technology, including Blockchain and digital currencies. He is also Expert Panel Member of the EU Blockchain Observatory & Forum (a European Commission initiative to accelerate blockchain innovation and the development of the blockchain ecosystem within the EU), as well as member of the Cyprus Investment Funds Association (CIFA).

Key Engagements

- Legal Advisor of various local and foreign Companies, including regulated entities by CySEC and Central Bank of Cyprus.
 - Trainer/Instructor of Global Training for CPD seminars on Investment Funds and Crypto-assets.
 - Support on compliance procedures to professional firms and other organisations.
 - EU Expert Panel Member of the EU Blockchain Observatory & Forum.
 - Trainer of various Law Enforcement Agencies in the world in relation to crypto crimes investigations (including CEPOL, Dubai Police and Abu Dhabi Police).
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Curriculum Vitae

Education:

PhD in Law (2014)

University of Sheffield, School of Law, U.K

LL.M in International Commercial Law (2006)

University of Nottingham, School of Law, U.K.

LL.B -Bachelors Degree in Law (2005)

National & Capodistrian University of Athens, School of Law, Greece.

Career as Practicing Lawyer:

Mar. 2023 - Present GRANT THORNTON (CYPRUS)
Partner

Nov. 2022 - Present CH. P. SAVVIDES & ASSOCIATES LLC
Managing Director

May. 2019 - Oct. 2022 STELIOS AMERICANOS & CO. LLC
Partner

Dec. 2011 - May 2019 CH. P. SAVVIDES & ASSOCIATES LLC
Advocate & founder of the Law Firm

Career as Academic Lecturer:

Sept. 2019 - Present UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA
School of Business, Department of Digital Innovation –
Lecturer (Blockchain, Regulation and Digital Currencies)

Sept. 2011- Sept. 2019 UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA
School of Law – Lecturer (EU Law, Competition Law, Financial Law)

Awards / Distinctions:

Awarded a Vice Chancellor's scholarship to undertake doctoral research in the School of Law, University of Sheffield, 2007

Nominee for the World Competition Journal's award for the best article published by a young writer in the field of Competition and State aid, 2009.

Key Professional Experience:

CySEC Advanced Certificate

Advisory and litigation service in the wider spectrum of corporate and investment law, with particular emphasis on regulated entities (Electronic Money & Payment Institutions, Alternative Investment Funds, Investment Firms, Crypto Asset Service Providers and others.)

Excellent knowledge of AML procedures requirements.

Advisory services to start-ups and established companies on numerous tech projects in the broader FinTech and RegTech areas.

Innovations

www.lawsavvides.ai

Design and operate the first ever website of a law firm, powered exclusively by Artificial Intelligence (August 2023).

**Research & Publications
(selection of most recent):**

“Fraud, Crime Prevention and Financial Crime Investigation in Blockchain” in Handbook of Blockchain Technology, Edward Elgar Publishing (2025)

“Exploring the Landscape of Tokenization: A Comprehensive Systematic Literature Review” in Handbook of Blockchain Technology, Edward Elgar Publishing (2025)

Digitalization in Cyprus: Opportunities, Challenges and the Legal Sector (Winter 2022)

Cryptoassets and Banking: a Cyprus Law perspective (Summer 2022)

Green Funds: Business Trends & Regulatory Developments (Summer 2022)

NFTs: Business Trends & Legal Uncertainties (Summer 2022)

Asset Tokenization (Spring 2021)

Conference Presentations & Professional Trainings (selection of most recent):

Financial & Regulatory Technology Firms: A Guide on Legal Developments and Government Initiatives in Cyprus (Spring 2021)

Competition Law and the Acceleration of Trade Digitalization: Overview of recent developments amid Covid-19 pandemic (Spring 2021)

The Film Industry in Cyprus: A Blooming Sector (Spring 2021)

Securities Fraud in the Crypto Space: Blending Boundaries (**World Police Summit**, Dubai, 5-7 March 2024)

Technological Evolution in Legal Practice (**Best Legal Conference 2023**, Limassol, 28 September 2023)

Policy Making and Regulatory Issues (**EU Blockchain Observatory & Forum (EUBOF)**, Slovenia, 6 October 2023)

RegTech Trends and Updates (**16th NextGen Payments & RegTech Forum**, Limassol, 2 November 2023)

Financial Investigations in Virtual Currencies (**Abu Dhabi Police**, UAE, Winter 2023)

The Developing Regulatory Landscape of Cryptocurrencies: A Crime Prevention Orientation (**CEPOL**, Autumn 2022)

Know Your Crypto Client (**4th Digital Banking & Payments Conference**, Cyprus, Autumn 2022)

The Developing Regulatory Landscape of the Crypto Market (**Dominican Republic, International Masterclass**, Summer 2022)

Blockchain and Crypto-Assets in the Financial Sector (**EBTN**, Summer 2022)

NFTs and Financial Fraud Prevention (**City, University of London**, Spring 2022)

Virtual Law Firms (**Cyprus Bar Association**, Spring 2021)

Blockchain and Digital Currency for Law Enforcement

Agents (**Dubai Police**, Autumn 2021)

Fund Administration Law (**Global Training**, 5h CPD Training Session, 2022)

Fund Administration and Reporting Obligations to CySEC (**CYFA**, Summer 2020)

Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies: Business Trends and Regulatory Developments (**Global Training**, Bi-annual 5h CPD Training Session, 2019 - present)

Cryptocurrencies and Crowdfunding Investments: Regulatory Actions & Trends (**CySEC**, Winter 2019)

Blockchain in the Legal Practice (**Decentralized** – Athens, Autumn 2019)