

The Cyprus Fiduciary Association proudly presents:

Seminar 2

“AML in Complex Structures in the Age of AI: Trusts, Foundations, Crypto and the Challenge of Identifying True Control”

Thursday, 26th March 2026 | 09:00 - 12:30 | Online - Zoom

Featured Speaker



Mr Lazaros Ioannou
Director / APC Audit Tax Advisory Ltd

*The Seminar will be conducted in the English Language
Participants will receive a Certificate of Attendance for
up to 3 CPD Unit Hours.*

#CYFAseminars2025

Sponsors



Seminar Aims and Objectives

CYFA is proudly presenting **Mr. Lazaros Ioannou** for one (1) independent three (3) hour seminar titled: **“AML in Complex Structures in the Age of AI: Trusts, Foundations, Crypto and the Challenge of Identifying True Control”**.

Aims and Objectives:

Aims:

The seminar aims to enhance participants’ understanding of anti-money laundering risk in complex ownership and wealth-holding structures, with particular emphasis on situations where formal ownership, beneficial ownership, actual control and economic benefit do not fully align. Special focus will be given to trusts, foundations, layered fiduciary arrangements and structures involving crypto-related wealth or transactions.

The seminar also aims to examine the emerging role of artificial intelligence in AML reviews, including how AI tools may support ownership mapping, document analysis and risk identification, while also creating new concerns relating to reliability, accountability, confidentiality and overreliance. The session is designed to provide practical guidance to fiduciary and corporate service professionals on how to assess true control, identify hidden risks, and strengthen their risk-based approach in more sophisticated client structures.

Objectives:

By the end of the seminar, participants will be able to:

- Distinguish between legal ownership, beneficial ownership and actual control in complex structures.
- Identify AML red flags in trusts, foundations and layered ownership arrangements.
- Recognize how control may be exercised through informal influence, reserved powers, protectors, nominee arrangements or financial dependency.
- Assess source of wealth and source of funds issues where crypto exposure exists within otherwise traditional fiduciary structures.
- Understand where AI can assist in AML reviews and where it may create additional regulatory, operational or evidential risks.
- Apply a risk-based approach to mixed-complexity structures involving multiple overlapping risk factors.
- Improve internal documentation, escalation decisions and file defensibility in complex AML cases.

The seminar will cover the following (laws, regulations, directives, etc.):

- Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Law (Cyprus)
- EU AML Directives and relevant implementing measures
- FATF Recommendations and guidance on beneficial ownership and transparency
- Cyprus beneficial ownership transparency framework

Assessment Methodology:

For participants:

- Interactive lecture with PPP presentation
- Case Studies / Analysis / Discussion
- Practical scenarios insights to apply concepts
- Q & A Session for in-depth understanding

For Seminar Assessment:

Evaluation form that includes scale rating (1-5) on:

- Seminar Objectives & Learning Outcomes
- Seminar Content
- Seminar Teaching Methods
- Speaker Rating
- Provision for general comments

Programme Agenda

08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 10:30	<p>1. Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and objectives of the seminar • Why traditional AML analysis is no longer sufficient in complex structures • Setting the context: ownership, control, economic benefit and emerging technology • Brief overview of the agenda <p>2. Identifying True Control in Complex Structures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal ownership vs beneficial ownership vs actual control • Hidden control in layered entities and nominee arrangements • Red flags in multi-jurisdictional holding structures • Practical indicators that the declared UBO may not be the true controlling person <p>3. Trusts and Foundations: Looking Beyond the Legal Form</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AML challenges in trusts, foundations and similar arrangements • Role and risk relevance of settlors, trustees, protectors, beneficiaries and founders • Reserved powers, letters of wishes, veto rights and informal influence • When a structure appears acceptable in form but raises concerns in substance
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 12:15	<p>4. Crypto Exposure in Traditional Fiduciary Structures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How crypto appears in source of wealth, source of funds and asset holding structures • Practical AML questions for trusts, foundations and holding entities with crypto links • Red flags and tracing challenges in crypto-related backgrounds <p>5. AI in AML: Practical Use, Real Risks and Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where AI may assist compliance teams in AML reviews • Ownership mapping, document review and risk identification • Limitations of AI: hallucinations, bias, incomplete analysis and false comfort • Governance, human oversight and defensible use of AI in regulated environments

	<p>6. Interactive Case Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study discussion based on Cyprus-relevant fiduciary scenarios involving hidden control, trusts, foundations, crypto and AI-assisted review
12:15 – 12:30	<p>Q & A Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key takeaways • Open Q&A with participants • Closing remarks and feedback

Who should attend

It is particularly relevant for corporate service providers, directors, lawyers, compliance officers, risk management specialists, auditors, accountants, and financial services professionals. By focusing on practical cases and real-world applications, the program equips participants with essential skills to manage sanctions risks effectively within the Cyprus regulatory framework.

***THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IS 50 PERSONS. REGISTRATIONS WILL BE HANDLED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS.**

For registrations please visit our [website](#) or complete and sign the registration form attached and submit it to the Cyprus Fiduciary Association e-mail address info@cyfa.org.cy.

Deadline for Seminar Registration: Monday the 23rd March 2026

Click [here](#) to review the CYFA Payment & Refund policy.

Speakers' Bio

Lazaros Ioannou

Director / APC Audit Tax Advisory

Lazaros Ioannou holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a specialization in Management and Marketing, as well as a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree. He also holds the Advanced Certificate and the AML Certificate from the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (CySEC), and he is a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS) and a Certified Global Sanctions Specialist (CGSS), both awarded by ACAMS.

Lazaros Ioannou is the Head of Compliance Services at APC Compliance Ltd, bringing over 10 years of professional experience. He advises clients in Cyprus and abroad on a wide range of Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Sanctions, and Regulatory Compliance matters. He is an accredited trainer by the Human Resource Development Authority of Cyprus (HRDA) and the author of the book "Money Laundering: Legal Framework, International Standards and Practical Implementation", published by Nomiki Bibliothiki in Greece.

He regularly delivers training seminars on AML and Sanctions-related topics to various professionals and organizations, including lawyers, auditors, and investment firms.