

# The Bridge

CGBA's latest news, views and announcements



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## Member Appreciation

Special benefits await our members. Find out what's in store for you!

## Business Showcase

Get to know our highlighted business of the month

## New Member Welcome

Extend a warm welcome to our newest members as they join our community

## Memorable Nights - Αξέχαστες Βραδιές

As we step into the final months of the year, we reflect on the exciting developments and successful events that have strengthened our community and partnerships. October was a month filled with vibrant connections, highlighted by our Beer & Barbecue Networking Event at the Lidl Cyprus Food Academy, which brought together members, VIPs, and esteemed diplomats for a night to remember.

In this edition of our Newsletter, we will share important updates and opportunities for involvement as we continue to foster collaboration within the Cyprus-German business community. We are also gearing up for more events and initiatives, so stay tuned for what's ahead!

Thank you for being part of the CGBA, and we look forward to celebrating the festive season and welcoming you to our German themed Gala Dinner at the Columbia Plaza Venue Centre, taking place on the 13th of December. The annual dinner is exclusively for CGBA members and their guests, corporate tables are also available.

Let's wrap up 2024 in style, together!

## New Member Welcome

An incredibly warm welcome to our new members, whose collaboration we are thrilled about!

*It's a pleasure to have you with us!*



**About:** SWORD Group is an international Consulting, Service and Software company driving global leaders in their digital & technology transformation.

Created in November 2000, Sword provides its clients with high-value-added know-how, a high production capacity and an optimised economic approach. One of the key factors in Sword's success is the local service it fosters with its clients. To meet its clients' strategic challenges and their need both to make changes to their technological environments and to update their business processes, Sword is divided into specialist competence centres (Business Units). As at 31 December 2023, Sword Group employed over 3,015 people and had a consolidated revenue of €288.1 million."

The company will be represented at the CGBA by George Hasapakos.

➤ More info: [www.SWORD-group.com](http://www.SWORD-group.com)



**About:** Tsiakkastel is one of the leading supplier of Print Management Solutions and Office Equipment in Cyprus. We offer a variety of office printing devices (multifunctionals and printers) as well as shredders and interactive presentation panels. In addition we specialise in print management software, document management solutions for archiving, retrieval and workflow management as well as a variety of cybersecurity products. Through our branch network we cover the whole of Cyprus with direct sales and service.

The company is represented at the CGBA by Maria Tsiakka.

➤ More info: [www.tsiakkastel.com.cy](http://www.tsiakkastel.com.cy)

- If you would like your company featured here, contact us **here**
- To view our complete Member Directory **click here**
- To become a member **click here**

## Business Showcase

U R B A N I C A  
HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

Urbanica Hospitality Management is Larnaka's leading Hospitality Management Company, providing all-encompassing turnkey services that cover every aspect of Property Management. With a strong focus on delivering a seamless, profitable experience for landlords, we handle both long-term and short-term rentals, ensuring exceptional guest satisfaction and high occupancy rates. Our offerings go beyond traditional property management, including thoughtful interior design services to enhance the appeal and functionality of each space. From marketing and guest relations to meticulous maintenance and financial oversight, Urbanica manages all the details, allowing property owners to enjoy a truly hands-off approach.

The company is represented at the CGBA by Constantinos Karakontis.

➤ More info: [www.urbanicahospitality.com](http://www.urbanicahospitality.com)

## CGBA Member Appreciation

This month's **special offer** is brought to you by Century Travel

Century  Travel

### BESPOKE CRUISE PACKAGES:

With exclusive access to some of the world's leading cruise lines, Century Travel offers customised cruise packages to destinations worldwide. Whether exploring the Mediterranean, Caribbean, or beyond, our team can craft a journey tailored to your preferences.

### EXPERT TRAVEL ADVICE:

With over 30 years of combined expertise, Century Travel's team has firsthand experience on more than 80% of the world's cruise ships. We provide unique insights and recommendations, ensuring an unforgettable experience.

### EXCLUSIVE BLACK FRIDAY DEALS – EARLY ACCESS FOR CGBA MEMBERS:

In celebration of our partnership with CGBA, we're thrilled to offer all members **exclusive early access to our Black Friday deals** – a privilege available only to CGBA members in Cyprus. While these offers open to the public on November 28th, you can enjoy access **starting November 19th**, securing the best cabin selection and an **additional 10% off** cruise fares.

To learn more, contact us at [info@centurycyprus.com](mailto:info@centurycyprus.com). Our team is here to answer questions and help you choose the perfect cruise.

We look forward to building connections within the CGBA community and creating unforgettable travel memories together!

## Meet the Board



**For The Bridge Issue #6, we sit down with our Board Member George Strati, Principal | Audit and Assurance Department at K. Treppides & Co Ltd to ask him our 7 Questions**

### 1) How long have you lived in Cyprus and where were you before moving here?

I am a Cypriot who was born and raised on the beautiful island of Cyprus. Fifteen years ago, I embarked on an exciting educational journey that took me to the United Kingdom to pursue my studies. Living and studying in the UK has been a transformative experience, broadening my horizons and exposing me to diverse perspectives and opportunities. I have completed my studies in 2013 and I have been living in Cyprus the last 11 years.

### 2) What do you enjoy most about Cyprus?

Cyprus offers a wealth of experiences that cater to a wide variety of interests. Cyprus is renowned for its stunning beaches with crystal-clear waters and soft sands, its sunny weather and the friendly locals who are known for their hospitality and friendliness, making visitors feel welcome and at home.

### 3) What do you miss about the UK?

During my stay in United Kingdom, I appreciated the strong emphasis on law and order as well as the lack of bureaucracy and the culture of punctuality.



# TREPPIDES

➤ More info: <https://www.treppides.com>

### 4) Which is the biggest challenge in your job?

The biggest challenge for an audit engagement leader is often managing the balance between maintaining high-quality audits and meeting client expectations. This encompasses several specific difficulties such as, regulatory compliance, independence and objectivity, technological advancements, risk management, talent management and client relations. These challenges require audit engagement leaders to possess strong technical expertise, leadership skills, and the ability to adapt to changing environments.

### 5) If you had not chosen this career path, what would have become instead?

If I had not chosen a career in auditing, I would likely have pursued a path in financial analysis or consulting. Both fields leverage analytical skills and a strong understanding of business operations, which align with my interests in finance and helping organizations optimize their performance.

### 6) What are your interests outside of work?

Outside of work, I have a passion for traveling and exploring new cultures. I also enjoy horse riding, which offers a great way to connect with nature and experience the thrill of the ride. Additionally, I'm enthusiastic about football and basketball, both playing and watching, as it keeps me active and engaged with the sports I love.

### 7) Your favourite quote is?

"Let your failures refine you, not define you."

## Cultural Corner

### Germany was the first country in the world to adopt Daylight Saving Time

Also known as summer time, DST was introduced in 1916 in the midst of WWI as a means to conserve energy.

### Cyprus was the first country in the world to put its map on its flag

It was defined in 1960 when Cyprus became an independent sovereign state. The only other state to place its map on the flag is Kosovo, in 2008.

# Update on the Board of Directors

At the Board Members' meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> October, we were pleased to appoint Sara Gunnervik as a Director of the CGBA. Sara joins us with extensive expertise as Managing Partner at KENDRIS Cyprus and Executive Director of KENDRIS Capital, and we are excited to welcome her insights and leadership to the team.

We look forward to working together. Please join us in welcoming Sara and wishing her great success in this new role!



## APP-xplainer

Our very own App by GlueUp is an excellent way to have the entire CGBA community in your pocket. In this new series, we aim to pick a different feature every month and look at it in detail.

### Episode 1 – How to see all members

The full member directory is accessible via the second icon on the bottom bar of your home screen. This opens to several sections, namely Featured Organisations (Annual Sponsors), Newest Members, and Newest Organisations. All sections have a 'View all' option.

You can browse alphabetically by company and by member name.

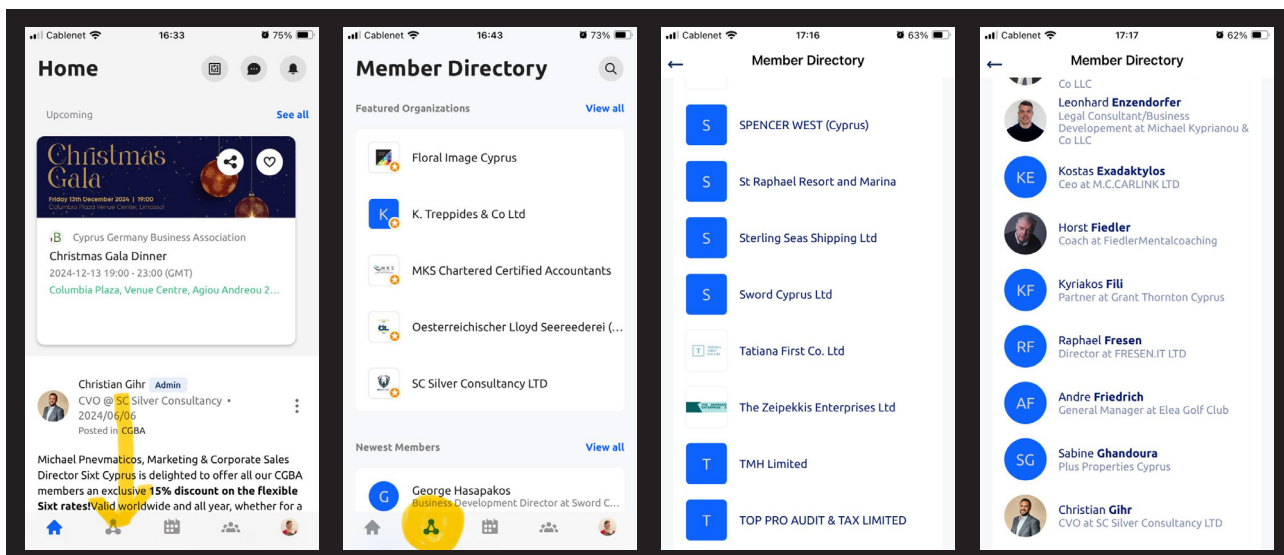
### Start by downloading our App here



You will see that several organisations and members have yet to upload their logos and personal profile photo.

May we invite those concerned to do so, as it will greatly enhance the overall functionality of our app and make it easier to visually identify the users.

Thank you for contributing to an improved user experience and see you next time for another episode of App-xplainer!



# Partnership Opportunities

CGBA offers annual sponsorships as well as the opportunity to support a specific event.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for the generous support of our current annual and event sponsors. Their contribution plays a vital role in helping us offer varied networking opportunities, as well as an array of interesting events that benefit our members.

➤ **Click here** to view our sponsorship packages



# Upcoming Events



Our innovative 'CGBA Spotlight & Networking' series will enable you to showcase your company, putting you and your industry on stage.

There is no fee from the CGBA for hosting such an event. However, we highly recommend that after your presentation, you offer light refreshments for guests to enjoy during the networking part. We kindly ask that you cover the cost of this catering, as we aim to avoid charging our members.

This approach allows your company to gain valuable exposure to your target audience in a friendly and mutually beneficial setting, as we work together to share these objectives and opportunities:

- **Knowledge sharing and exchange:** each event will be covering a different theme and topic and each speaker will have the opportunity to share their knowledge on a specific sector, or present the dynamic of their company and services offered
- **Connecting and networking:** facilitate connections among members, industry experts and stakeholders
- **Community Building:** fostering a community that collaborates and supports each other
- **Visibility:** enhancing the CGBA's visibility and awareness.
- **Membership Growth:** attracting non-members and showcasing the benefits of becoming part of our association

To host your CGBA Spotlight & Networking event, please contact us **here**

Mark your calendars! More information on our forthcoming events can be found **here**

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DECEMBER 2024

Annual Christmas Gala Dinner

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7:00 pm - 11:30 pm

📍
Columbia Plaza Venue Centre  
Agiou Andreou 223, Limassol 3036

For all our 'Get Connected' Networking events we offer the use of nametags to enhance interaction among our guests. Registered participants can collect their personal tag from the registration desk. As part of our sustainability initiatives, kindly return your name tag to the designated box before leaving the venue, ensuring it is available again when you join us the next time! Thank you.

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This newsletter is brought to you by the editorial team **Uta Steffen** and **Carine Khoury**, design by CGBA's Media Partner **HOB**