# Electronic Money & Payment Institutions



**EU Passporting Rights** - Cyprus is an EU member state compliant with EU laws and regulations. Once authorised in Cyprus, EMIs and PIs, may offer their services freely within the EU on a cross-border basis or by setting up branches through the so-called "EU passporting process" without any further authorization from the Central Bank of Cyprus ("CBC").

**High Regulatory Standards** – Harmonized national legislation with the relevant EU directives and practices governing the operations of PIs and EMIs, including the EU Directive 2015/2366 (the 2nd Payment Services Directive).

# Why Cyprus?

Domestic Business Infrastructure - High level business environment comprised
of highly qualified and experienced professional financial services providers i.e. banking, accounting, legal etc. Convenient time zone for conducting 24 hour a day business.

Tax System - Favorable tax system. e.g. no withholding tax on dividend distributions to foreign shareholders, 12.5% corporation tax with possibility to drop up to 2.5% due to Notional Interest Deduction (NID).

Cost efficiency - Cost effective set up and low ongoing operational costs.

**Educated Workforce** - Access to highly qualified and educated workforce with significant experience in a broad spectrum of industries including financial services and IT. English is the bus iness language

**Experienced Regulator** – Experienced, highly cooperative and business friendly Regulator in CBC which provides streamlined procedures, reduced bureaucracy and lower regulatory fees.

## License Types

**EMI License** captures the provision of electronic money services which is broadly defined as an electronic store of monetary value on a technical device that may be widely used for making payments to entities other than the e-money issuer.

PI License covers the following 8 distinct payment services:







As a member of the integrated **PwC Global Network**, PwC Cyprus possesses a unique depth of resources combined with an acute level of expertise to deliver standout, ongoing value to your business.

We are a **highly specialized team**, dedicated in the provision of licensing and advisory services for EMIs and PIs with a demonstrated ability to **successfully navigate clients** through the regulatory maze.

## **Our Service Offerings**



#### Licensing:

- Designing, drafting & review of the required application documents (i.e. Programme of Operations, Business Plan etc) & questionnaires of the CBC. Submission of the complete application
- for licensing authorization package as promoters of the applicant.
- Monitoring progress and liaison with CBC towards completion of the licensing application process.
- Draw from local or PwC network expertise by liaising with other PwC specialists i.e. IT, Cyber, Legal advisory.

#### Post-licensing & Ongoing Support:

- Acting as liaison with the CBC on behalf of the client for post licensing amendments and updates since initial authorisation (i.e. changes to service offerings, ownership and organizational structures etc)
- Internal or External audit services.
- Tax and VAT compliance services.
- Accounting and legal services.
- Legal, IT, Cyber and other corporate governance advisory services.





#### Andreas J Yiasemides Partner Clients & Markets Leader In charge of Fund Services andreas.yiasemides@pwc.com

Tel: +357 22 555 035



Scan the QR code and we will reach out to you.



#### PwC Central, 43 Demostheni Severi Avenue, CY-1080 Nicosia, Cyprus <u>P.O. Box 21612, CY-1</u>591



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