



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Mr Gediminas Kirkilas
Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs
Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
Gedimino pr. 53, LT-01109, Vilnius,
Lithuania

Nicosia, 9 September 2013

Dear Colleague,

I am pleased to inform you that the House of Representatives of Cyprus has decided to propose Ms Christiana Fryda for the post of permanent member of the COSAC Secretariat. Please find attached her curriculum vitae and her motivation letter.

Christiana has had long experience as a permanent representative of the House at the European Parliament since 2007 and has, in this capacity, developed excellent working relations with colleagues from other national parliaments and officials of EU institutions. During this period, she had the opportunity to actively contribute in the preparations of the parliamentary dimension of the Cyprus' Presidency of the Council of the EU (1 July - 31 December 2012) and to participate, in this context, in the COSAC Secretariat under the coordination of its permanent member. Before her appointment in Brussels, she had worked for many years in the European Affairs' Service assisting the Committee on European Affairs, where she became acquainted not only with EU legislation and the EU decision-making process, but also with the functioning of COSAC.

I am confident that Christiana, with her experience, excellent interpersonal skills in a multi-cultural environment, sense of responsibility and enthusiasm in undertaking new tasks and challenges, would successfully and constructively support the Secretariat in its activities.

Yours sincerely,

Averof Neofytou
Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on
Foreign and European Affairs

Curriculum Vitae

Christiana Fryda

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Apr 2007-present European Parliament, Brussels**
- Permanent representative of the House of Representatives of Cyprus at the newly established office of the House at the European Parliament.
 - Acting as the contact point of the House of Representatives of Cyprus at the European Parliament.
 - Reporting on issues of specific interest on the agenda of the European Parliament and on other issues relating to the activities of EU institutions.
 - Writing comparative reports/studies for the House on 'good parliamentary practices'.
 - Actively engaging in strengthening interparliamentary cooperation through the establishment of contacts with the group of representatives of national parliaments.
 - Cooperating with the group of national parliaments' representatives and exchanging information relating to subsidiarity issues, political issues and other technical issues relating to our every day work.
 - Establishing contacts with the relevant services of the European Parliament and other EU institutions.
 - Accompanying delegations from the House of Representatives participating in interparliamentary meetings in the European Parliament.
 - Involved in the preparations relating to the parliamentary dimension of the Cyprus' Presidency of the Council of the European Union (July-December 2012).
 - Member of the COSAC secretariat for the period between 1 January 2012 and 1 July 2013 in the framework of which had the chance to get acquainted with the activities of the secretariat and to cooperate closely with officials of the troika under the coordination of the permanent member of COSAC.
- May 2004-Apr 2007 House of Representatives of Cyprus, Nicosia**
- Permanent officer of the European Affairs' Service of the House.
 - Assisted the Committee on European Affairs and other parliamentary committees and worked on proposed legislation for harmonising national legislation with the *acquis communautaire*.
 - Wrote reports for members on proposed harmonising legislation and on the chapters of the *acquis communautaire*.
 - Engaged in legal drafting of proposed bills by members of the House.
 - Involved in subsidiarity checks of legislative proposals performed by the Committee on European Affairs in the framework of COSAC.
 - Involved in the scrutiny of European legislation through the scrutiny of legislative and non-legislative proposals of EU institutions.
- Mar 2001-May 2004 House of Representatives of Cyprus, Nicosia**
- Temporary European Law officer at the European Affairs' Service of the House.
 - Assisted the Committee on European Affairs and worked on proposed legislation for harmonising national legislation with the *acquis communautaire* before Cyprus' accession to the EU.
 - Wrote reports for members on proposed harmonising legislation and on chapters of the *acquis communautaire*.
 - Engaged in legal drafting of proposed bills by members of the House.
 - Involved in the organisation of lectures and workshops in the context of the campaign "dialogue with citizens" launched by the House of Representatives.
 - Took part in study visits at the European Parliament and the Finnish Parliament.
 - Accompanied members of the House at meetings of the European Convention preparing the Constitutional Treaty of the EU.
- Oct 2000- May 2001 Demetris Eliades' Law Office, Nicosia**
- Trainee lawyer.
 - Acquainted with national legal practice and court proceedings.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Oct 2001 **Cyprus Bar Association's Examination; highest grade among October 2001 candidates.**
Examination authorising registration in the registry of practising lawyers in Cyprus.

EDUCATION

1999-2000 **University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK**
LL.M (Master of Laws) in International and European Law; Distinction
Course included: International Law, European Community Law, Environmental Law, Employment Law and Legal Research and Writing Skills.
Dissertation: "Sustainable Development – Theory and Practice in relation to the environmental policies of the EU and the UK."

1996-1999 **University of Bristol, Bristol, UK**
LL.B (Bachelor of Laws); 2.2 Honours
Course included the obligatory subjects of Criminal Law, Legal Methods, Public Law, Law of Tort, Property Law I, II and III, Law of Contract, Jurisprudence, Law and Policy of the European Union, and the chosen subjects of Environmental Law, Gender and the Law, Law and Literature and Medicine, Law and Ethics.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Greek (mother tongue)

English (fluent)

French (fluent) Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française (DALF, 2005)

Italian (intermediate) A2 Diploma, Institut Marie Haps, Brussels, 2011

Followed a three-week course of French language and French civilisation at the Département d' Etudes de Français Langue Etrangère of the University Michel de Montaigne Bordeaux 3 in Bordeaux, France (4 – 25 Aug 2005).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications

- Article "The European External Action Service and the role of the European Parliament", *Legal and more*, Cyprus' journal, October 2010.
- Article "The Legislation regarding the Right of Public Access to Information in relation to Environmental Issues", *Journal of Cyprus' Law and European Law*, October 2006, Issue 2, p.311.
- Chapter "The House of Representatives and the challenge of Cyprus' accession to the EU" in "Policy Proposals – Cyprus After Accession to the EU", Achilles Aimilianides (ed.), Power Publishing, Nicosia, 2005.

Interests

- Reading
- Writing reviews of literary works and other literary articles in Cypriot literary magazines
- Doing yoga and body balance
- Travelling
- Going to the cinema and the theatre
- Interior design, art and handcraft

CONTACT DETAILS

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Mr Gediminas Kirkilas
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10 September 2013

Cover letter for Christiana Fryda

Dear Chairman,

With this letter I would like to express interest in applying for the post of permanent member of the COSAC secretariat and present my motivations for this application.

My professional experience in European Affairs commenced in 2001, prior to Cyprus' accession to the EU, when I was employed by the House of Representatives of Cyprus, as part of the then newly established European Affairs' Service consisting of a group of young lawyers specialised in EU law, to work in the field of harmonisation of national legislation with the *acquis communautaire* and to support members in the House's activities involving EU affairs. It is in this context, through preparing members, that I first got acquainted with the proceedings, the agendas, the rules of procedure, the biannual reports, but also the substance and vision of COSAC as a platform for interparliamentary cooperation. My knowledge of the functioning of COSAC has been further developing since 2007 when I was posted as a permanent representative of the House to the European Parliament in Brussels. Since then I have been able to deepen my understanding of the dynamics of COSAC through a constructive exchange of views with colleagues from other national parliaments and the European Parliament.


My relationship with COSAC was more enhanced when the House of Representatives engaged in preparing the parliamentary dimension of the Cyprus' Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Working for the Presidency and assisting the House as its representative in Brussels gave me the opportunity to experience both the practical aspect of the organisation of COSAC and its substantive aspect from the inside. Being a member of the COSAC secretariat itself for a year and a half (1 January 2012 and 1 July 2013) enabled me to cooperate with officials from the troika, under the coordination of the permanent member, both as a member of the secretariat assisting Presidency parliaments and as a member representing a Presidency parliament. It is my view that this experience, along with my ability to work well both in English and in French, would contribute to a great extent to the effective functioning of the secretariat.

Both my skills acquired through my academic education and my skills and understanding acquired through my multi-faceted professional experience may prove very useful for the post. My legal background has provided me with the necessary drafting skills, skills in analysing and processing information and a keen analytical eye for detail. It has moreover provided me with the ability to work efficiently under pressure on thesis, antithesis and 'grey areas' and, in this context, to facilitate synthesis of ideas and views. My professional experience in interparliamentary affairs all these years in the House of Representatives in Nicosia, and especially in Brussels, has enhanced my understanding of the workings of other national parliaments and the European Parliament. What is more, it has strengthened my interpersonal relations and my ability to work in a changing multi-cultural environment. In addition, the task of establishing an office representing the House at the European Parliament from scratch entrusted to me, as one of the first two employees of the House in Brussels, has not only improved my organisational and managerial skills, but has also promoted my ability to find innovative effective working methods at the workplace. Last, but not least, my background enhanced by a literary element has encouraged me to approach my work as a challenging project and the workplace as a creative space, where development of ideas could potentially be envisaged and implemented.

The challenges entailed in assisting the functioning of an important forum such as COSAC aiming to promote the exchange of information and best practice between national parliaments and the European Parliament would, at the same time, deepen my own understanding of interparliamentary cooperation and provide a stimulating working environment for me.

In the light of the above, I believe that my skills and experience, if I were successful in this application for the post of permanent member of the COSAC secretariat, would provide the secretariat with the support needed to successfully fulfil its tasks.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Fryda', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the name.

Christiana Fryda