



CHRISTOS YIANGOU

- **Managing Director, BLC BUSINESS LINKS CONSULTANCY LTD**

Christos Yiangou is a Cypriot citizen and was born in Nicosia, Cyprus on the 3rd of October, 1970.

EDUCATION

Mr. Yiangou holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree (1994) in History and Economics and a Master of Arts Degree (1996) in Political Science (International Relations) from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (New Brunswick).

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Upon finishing Rutgers Graduate School in 1996 Mr. Yiangou joined the Diplomatic Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus. He served for two years in the Economic Affairs and Political Affairs Divisions of the said Ministry and in 1998 was appointed as Consul and Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus in Syria. In 1999 Mr. Yiangou resigned from the Cypriot diplomatic service and he subsequently became director and partner of IMH Consulting Ltd (a Cypriot private consulting firm specializing, inter alia, in the organization of training seminars and conferences and in event management). In 2002 Mr. Yiangou established his own private consulting firm by the name BLC Business Links Consultancy Ltd (www.blc-group.com). The said company specializes in business match-making, namely offering to Cypriot (and to other international companies and organizations) market entry, lobbying, intelligence and networking services to Europe and the Middle East.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Mr. Yiangou has international experience in the field of trade and investment promotion. While serving as Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus in Syria Mr. Yiangou organized the Syrian end of numerous Cypriot trade and investment delegations thus developing close relations with prominent Syrian individuals from the diplomatic, political and economic spheres of the said country. In addition, in his capacity as Managing Director of Business Links Consultancy Ltd, Mr. Yiangou has so far developed extensive international experience in introducing Cypriot companies to foreign counterparts in Europe and the Middle East in order for them to form joint-ventures and/or buy or sell goods and services (i.e. business match-making). Finally, Mr. Yiangou's multi-dimensional, professional and academic background is manifested by his occasional attendance in various training seminars on diplomacy and business organized by the Greek, Israeli and Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as by the U.S. State Department, the European Commission and the Atlantic-Bruecke organization.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Mr. Yiangou's general areas of expertise cover *diplomacy, international business, business development, international networking, public relations, management and sales & marketing.*

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Cyprus American Scholarship Program.

HONORARY AWARDS

- Golden key National Honor Society.
- Phi Alpha Theta.
- Atlantic-Bruecke Young European Leader 2005.

PRIZES

- 1st Prize in a Pan Cyprian Essay Competition commemorating the 2500 years of Athenian Democracy organized by the newspaper "The Philelefttheros" in collaboration with the English newspaper "The Independent" (1993)

- 1st Prize in a Model Simulation Conference organized by Princeton University (1994)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Atlantic-Bruecke.

INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mr. Yiangou has so far undertaken and/or completed business activities in various countries and geographic regions like:

- Greece, Romania, Poland, Germany, Switzerland, Monaco, U.K., Sweden, Norway, Ukraine (in Europe).
- Syria, Lebanon, Israel, U.A.E. (in the Middle East).
- China (in Asia).