

The Industry Advisory Board of the MSc Digital Finance (Distance Learning)



Christiana Aristidou

is a Transnational Technology Lawyer, Founder and Managing Partner of “The Hybrid LawTech Firm”. She has been practising business and technology law for more than 27 years and is usually involved in complex, multijurisdictional business and technology projects legal and regulatory compliance. Christiana is the Head of the National Delegation to ISO TC 307 on Blockchain and DLTs and a member of the ISO/IEC JTC/SC 42 on Artificial Intelligence (AI). She actively participates in ISO TC 68 on Financial Services and ISO TC 322 on Sustainable Finance. Also, she is a member of different CEN/CLC Committees. Christiana is the Director of the Legal Division of the Blockchain & Climate Institute (BCI), and the Ambassador of the European Legal Technology Association (ELTA) for Cyprus. She is an approved HRD Trainer and has trained regulators and private organisations in Cyprus and abroad. Christiana is a regular speaker at International Technology Conferences with particular expertise and experience in Digital Finance.



Sebastian Niehaus

is the Founder and CEO of Needlestack Technologies Ltd., where he and his team develop alpha research solutions for institutional investors and traders. By utilizing deep learning models, they process complex market data to identify the underlying drivers of market movements. Sebastian holds a Master of Science in Management Information Systems and is currently a Guest Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, where he was one of the first members of the Group of Neural Data Science. He is the author of several peer-reviewed journal publications, conference papers, and book chapters, and has filed multiple multinational patent applications in the fields of Data Science, Machine Learning, AI, and Quantitative Research.



Dr. Marios Kyriacou

is the Founder & CEO of eCREDO, a Fintech payment institution. Dr. Marios Kyriacou has 20 years of experience in the banking and financial services sector. He is consulting central banks, credit institutions, stock exchanges, investment firms, and funds as well as payment and electronic money institutions. Dr Kyriacou was previously the Head of Risk Management with Piraeus Bank (Cyprus). He also worked as Risk Manager with BNP Paribas UK investment bank. He has PhD and MPhil (Distinction) from Cambridge University, and BSc (First Class, Honours) from Warwick University. He is a member of several professional associations and a speaker at international events. He is appointed as a non-Executive Board member in regulated listed and non-listed financial entities.



Yannis Matsis

is currently the Global Head of Business Promotion at MUFG Investor Services. Previous roles include being CEO of Hellenic Bank in Cyprus, Global Head of Credit, Interest, and FX Derivatives in Mizuho Securities in London, and Global Head of Credit Derivatives in ING Barings in London. Yannis also served twice as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Association of Cyprus Banks (ACB), twice as Chairman of the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (CING), and twice as Member of the Board of Directors of the European Banking Federation (EBF). Yannis graduated from Cambridge University in the U.K. with a BA and an MEng degree in Chemical Engineering.



Shay Merary

is the Chief of Business Development at Flyfish, a FinTech payment services company. An expert in formulating financial strategies and possessing extensive knowledge of global markets. Shay's vision and execution are key to Flyfish's business development and global expansion. The Flyfish founders noticed that many individuals and businesses had trouble opening bank accounts, sending or receiving funds, and obtaining payment cards. Flyfish is an innovative solution to this widespread issue. It's a platform where users can easily access various digital payment services.



Costas Michael

is a seasoned financial professional currently serving as the CEO of Revolut Cyprus. With extensive experience in the FinTech and trading industries, his career includes leadership positions at XTB online trading and Leverate. A CFA charter holder, Costas has a strong educational background with MSc degree from the University of Southampton and a BSc from the University of Essex. His career progression demonstrates a consistent rise through management roles in the financial sector, reflecting a commitment to innovation and leadership in finance.