



# SEMINAR 1

Family Governance – Preparing  
the Next Generation



THE SPEAKER

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Course Title:** Family Governance – Preparing the Next Generation **Course Date:** 29 January 2026

**Time & Duration:** 09:30 – 11:30

**Course CPD's:** 2 units

**Language:** English

**Delivery Mode:** Online, via Zoom

**Speaker/Instructor:** Nicky Xenofontos / Advocate – TEP (certified trust and estate practitioner by STEP UK, STEP Cyprus Branch Chairwoman, certified AML Compliance Officer)

**Fees:** €85

**Organiser:** AUCY in conjunction with N. Xenofontos LLC Law Firm

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### Aims & Objectives

This seminar aims to provide participants with a practical and legal framework for designing and implementing effective family governance structures, with a particular focus on preparing the next generation for ownership, stewardship and leadership roles within family businesses, trusts and wealth structures. The course seeks to bridge legal theory with real-world family dynamics, equipping advisers and families with tools to mitigate succession risk, inter-generational conflict, governance failure and regulatory exposure.

### Learning Outcomes

**Upon completion of the seminar, participants will be able to:**

- Understand the concept and purpose of family governance and how it differs from corporate governance.
- Identify common governance and succession risks faced by family-owned structures.
- Advise on appropriate governance instruments (e.g. family constitutions, councils, charters & policies).



- Understand the role of trusts, foundations and corporate vehicles in next-generation planning.
- Recognise the legal, fiduciary and behavioural challenges of involving the next generation.
- Apply best practices for education, engagement and gradual empowerment of successors.
- Assess when and how governance failures may result in legal disputes or regulatory issues.

### Target Audience:

- Lawyers and legal advisers
- Trust and estate practitioners
- Fiduciary service providers
- Family office professionals
- Accountants and tax advisers
- Trustees, protectors and private clients
- Family business owners and next-generation members

## OUTLINE OF LAWS AND LEGAL PRINCIPLES

**The seminar will refer to, inter alia:**

- Principles of trust and fiduciary law (common law & Cyprus law perspective)
- Cyprus International Trusts Law
- Company law principles relevant to family-owned companies
- Directors' duties and conflicts of interest
- Succession planning and estate-planning principles
- Confidentiality and disclosure in family structures
- Governance best practices as developed through international trust and estate practice (STEP guidance)

## SEMINAR PROGRAM

**09:15 – 09:30 Online registration & introduction**

- 09:30 – 10:30**
- Session 1: Foundations of Family Governance
- What is family governance and why it matters
  - Family governance vs corporate governance
  - Typical family wealth structures (companies, trusts, foundations)
  - Identifying governance gaps and succession risks
  - Family dynamics, values and decision-making models
  - Case studies: governance failures and lessons learned

**10:30 – 10:45 Short break**

- 10:45 – 11:15**
- Session 2: Preparing the Next Generation
- Who is the "next generation" and when should preparation begin
  - Education, mentoring and staged involvement
  - Rights vs responsibilities of beneficiaries
  - Role of family councils, committees and advisory boards
  - Managing expectations, entitlement and conflict
  - Legal tools to balance protection and empowerment

**11:15 – 11:30 Q&A and closing remarks**

## REGISTRATION

Registration Method: Book Now

## CERTIFICATION

Participants will receive a Certificate of Attendance for 2 CPD units subject to full attendance of the webinar.

## PAYMENT

Fees are non – refundable in case of non-attendance