

Embrace Lobbying as a Promising Career in Modern Cyprus



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As a legal professional, I am excited to discuss the recent advancements in Cyprus regarding the regulation of lobbying activities. The introduction of the new lobbying law, which came into effect in March 2024, marks a significant shift in the legal and political landscape of Cyprus. This development not only brings transparency and accountability but also legitimizes lobbying as a professional practice.

The “Law on Transparency in Public Decision-Making and Related Issues (Law 20(I)/2022)” and subsequent regulations have established a framework that mandates the registration of lobbyists with the Cyprus Independent Authority Against Corruption. This registration is crucial for ensuring a structured approach to monitoring and controlling lobbying activities, thereby promoting ethical practices in the field.

Under this law, lobbyists are required to submit detailed reports of their activities, including information about the interests they represent, the officials involved in decision-making, and the objectives and outcomes of their discussions. This level of transparency is aimed at fostering a more ethical environment for lobbying, which has historically been viewed with skepticism in Cyprus due to associations with corruption and nepotism.

Moreover, the law extends its scope beyond traditional lobbyists to include entities like trade unions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), broadening the range of entities that must comply with lobbying regulations. This inclusive approach ensures that a diverse range of voices can contribute to public decision-making processes.

State officials are also held to account under this law. They are required to report their interactions with lobbyists and are subject to penalties for non-compliance or dishonest reporting. This mutual accountability between lobbyists and officials is crucial for maintaining the integrity of the lobbying process.

For those interested in pursuing a career in lobbying, this new legal framework presents an exciting opportunity. Lobbying, when conducted ethically and transparently, is a vital component of a democratic society, allowing for the representation of diverse interests in public policy formation. **The new law recognizes and legitimizes lobbying as a professional practice, opening the door for individuals to engage in this field in a regulated and respected manner.**

Our course on effective lobbying aligns perfectly with these developments. It offers practical training in compliance with international standards, including exercises in policy proposal drafting. This is an opportune time for anyone looking to embark on a career in lobbying, as the profession now operates within a clear legal framework that values transparency and ethical conduct.

The introduction of the lobbying law positions lobbying as a respected profession within Cypriot society. This evolution in the legal framework opens new avenues for professionals looking to make an impact in the realm of public policy and governance.

