



## Background

Oxygen for Democracy (formerly Oxygono) is a non-profit non-governmental organisation registered in 2014 and based in Cyprus. It works to improve the policy-making process in Cyprus and to make it more participatory, transparent and scientific. It consists of people from a wide range of backgrounds. It is a fully independent organisation governed by a five-member board of directors, a ten-member executive committee and a number of advisory bodies.

The Cyprus Forum is the largest policy conference in Cyprus and already has presence in associated policy events in Greece, Brussels and Washington DC. The next step is the establishment of a satellite event in London to discuss critical issues and bring Cyprus and relevant topics in the United Kingdom into light, to expand our network, ideas and grow momentum within the year, leading to Cyprus Forum in September.

**When:** **Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup>** of May 2024 | Networking dinner

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>** May 2024 | Panels

**Where:** High Commission of Cyprus in London, the Hellenic Centre and other locations

**Partners:** High Commission of Cyprus in London, Hellenic Observatory at LSE, SEESOX (Oxford), London Politica, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law, The Hellenic Centre, Cypriots in the City, **(ALL TBC)**

## **(1) Justice**

### **The justice system and checks and balances in Cyprus: Is the English common law relevant?**

Cyprus has new Civil Procedure Rules since September 2023. The main figure behind the reform was Lord Dyson, former head of the Civil Court of Appeal of England and Wales led a Group of Experts who prepared a guiding draft for this reform, modelled on the English Civil Procedure Rules. The old Civil Procedure Rules in Cyprus were also largely based on the old Civil Procedure Rules of England and Wales. There was much debate as to whether this reform was necessary and what form it should take. There is also an extensive discussion taking place at the moment regarding the powers of the Attorney General and the adequacy of other institutional checks in Cyprus and balances. Is the English common law still relevant for the justice system as a whole in Cyprus? Should justice reform look to the English model more generally in its quest for process and better accountability.

- Sir Geoffrey Vos, Master of the Rolls (tbc)
- Masood Ahmed, University of Leicester
- John Sorabji, UCL (tbc)
- Dr Jan van Zyl Smit, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law (tbc)
- Member of the Cyprus judiciary (tbc)

## **(2) Geopolitics**

### **Cyprus and Future Scenarios for the Eastern Mediterranean (tbc)**

#### **Knowledge Partner: SEESOX**

Dr. Othon Anastasakis | Director of the European Studies Centre Director of South East European Studies at Oxford (SEESOX) Senior Research Fellow in South East European Studies

### **(3) Technology**

**The Digital Race – Reshaping Democracy, Geopolitics, Cybersecurity and Global Governance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century**

- **Manas Chawla | CEO of London Politica**

**Knowledge Partner:** London Politica

### **(4) Economy**

**Economy and jobs in Cyprus**

- **Vassilis Monastiriotis | Associate Professor in Political Economy**

**Potential Knowledge Partner:** LSE Hellenic Observatory