

## Civil Service vs Entrepreneurship

### The start-up of supporting start-ups

It used to be the dream of all parents in Cyprus to have a son in the Civil Service or ... in a Bank. Good salaries, excellent working conditions, pensions or severance packages and lifetime security of employment. Some even tried to buy into whatever political patronage might facilitate them to take this path.

Then crisis strikes, banks are shamed and the civil service isn't recruiting. The young must seek other employment options and these are not so abundant in the private sector either. The upside of this is that there is a huge wave of entrepreneurial activity among young people. And an ecosystem for entrepreneurship is beginning to form with government, Europe and the private sector rallying to support young entrepreneurs. Here are some highlights:

1. [Cyprus Entrepreneurship Competition](#)
2. YOUR FIRST EURES JOB - see how a new EU funding program works, see [here](#)
3. [Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency](#)
4. Funding Program for enhancement of Business Innovation 2014 - 2010, see [here](#)
5. [Capital source for start-ups in Cyprus](#)
6. CIIM Entrepreneurship and Innovation Centre, ENTICE aims to contribute, through the provision of specialised consulting services, education and mentoring, in the creation of innovative new ventures (start-ups) and in the improvement of the competitiveness of existing innovative enterprises. ENTICE has three main pillars of activities, educational and training services, the ENTICE Accelerator and research in Innovation and Entrepreneurship. See [here](#)
7. The Cyprus Entrepreneurship Fund (CYPEF), established by the Republic of Cyprus to support and strengthen entrepreneurship in the country by enhancing access to finance to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Amounts dedicated from the Cypriot government to CYPEF are made available through financing from the European Investment Bank (EIB). CYPEF is managed by the European Investment Fund (EIF). See [here](#)



## Performa News

### EUMA Conference - Limassol, Cyprus, 25th September 2015

At the annual Conference of the European Management Assistants of Cyprus, Dimis together with Aleen Andreou addressed the participants with the exciting workshop **Improvise your Life!** In addition, Dimis presented a session on **Embracing Change!**

See [here](#) for images from the group work of the workshops

### Dimis' interview in Slovenian Newspaper and Radio

See [here](#) for another interview on Dimis' work and beliefs on Happiness at Work, in Slovenian magazine Issuu.com

See [here](#) for the article in newspaper Sobotno Delo  
See [here](#) for the radio interview in Radio Slovenia



## Creativity Cool & More...

How a light, nonsexual touch can increase compliance, helping behaviour, attraction, and signal power.

Even the lightest touch on the upper arm can influence the way we think. Read [here](#) the 10 Psychological Effects of Nonsexual Touch

### Funifi: Cypriot start up with 50.000 users

Read on this new app available on App Store which gives parents the chance to assign various chores to their children and to the children to gain points and exchange, through Funifi, with specific rewards! Read [here](#) more in Greek and [here](#) in English

8. STELIOS PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION

The Stelios Bi-communal Awards have now opened for the 7th consecutive year and since 2009 Stelios has given away €1.2 million to 40 bi-communal teams. This year, he is giving away more prize money funds than ever, offering €300,000 to 30 bi-communal teams - that's €10,000 each! So the possibility of now winning a cash prize is now greater than ever! See [here](#)

9. PwC Cyprus, within the framework of its Corporate Responsibility Programme, announced its cooperation with the University of Cyprus for the operation of a Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Institute. By providing free consultative services, volunteer action, technical and other support, PwC supports a series of programmes and initiatives which encourage entrepreneurship and innovation, especially among the young:

- Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Institute at the University of Cyprus, see [here](#)
- “Insights” conference (Cypriot Enterprise Link) see [here](#)
- “ClimateLaunchpad 2015” Business Ideas Competition (Chrysalis Leap), see [here](#)
- Connecting innovating fast growth companies to equity finance (Cyprus Business Angels Network, CYBAN). See [here](#)
- Educational Programmes in schools for youth (Junior Achievement) See [here](#)

10. [European Social Innovation Competition](#). The winners of the 2015 European Social Innovation Competition will be announced at the awards ceremony on 25 November 2015 in Brussels. Of the 1,408 ideas that were entered in the competition, 30 semi-finalists have been selected and are competing for the three prizes of €50,000.

11. The [Tellalis](#) site is intended to promote the talent, creativity and originality that occur amongst the constantly growing community. This platform can work as a promotional tool for these people to come closer to potential clients, collaborators and opportunities.

12. [Chrysalis](#) is a team of individuals of diverse backgrounds driven to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship in sustainable development in Cyprus.  
15. 7 Universities with Free Online Business Entrepreneurship Courses

13. KPMG Startups has been established to help entrepreneurs transform their startup into a successful business. See [here](#)

14. [Startups](#)

There are no doubt more organizations in the loop. If we have missed you, do let us know and we will rectify in our next newsletter.

Long Live the Entrepreneur!