

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Kyriacos G. IONAS



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Sex Male | Date of birth 10 Mar. 1976 | Nationality Cypriot

FOR

OECD International Academy for Tax Crime Investigation

Conducting Financial Crime Investigations Programme

Ostia, Italy (Virtual), 8-19 February 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE

01/07/2014 – today

V.A.T. Officer

Tax Department, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Cyprus

- Digital Evidence Specialist
- Tax Fraud Investigator
- e-Auditor
- Responsible Officer for operation and general management of the Digital Forensics Lab
- Information Security / Data Privacy Champion
- IT Support
- EUROPOL AP MTIC representative

Sector Government / Law Enforcement

15/01/2003 – 30/06/2014

V.A.T. Officer

V.A.T. Service, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Cyprus

- Control visit auditor (2004)
- V.A.T. Investigator (2006)
- e-Auditor (2008)
- eBay monitoring (2010)
- Digital Forensics Lab (2013)

Sector Government / Law Enforcement

12/11/2001 – 10/01/2003

Customer Service Officer

Cyprus Popular Bank Public Co Ltd, Cyprus

- Cashier
- Product cross-selling
- Customer service

Sector Banking

01/01/2001 – 11/11/2001

Managing Director

DATEKwatch on-line, Paphos, Cyprus

- Office manager
- Investment consultant
- Stock broker

Sector Financial Services / Stock exchange

01/06/2000 – 31/12/2000

Investment Consultant

EQUITY CONNECT, Nicosia-Paphos, Cyprus

- Region Office manager
- Investment consultant
- Stock broker

Sector Financial Services / Stock exchange

07/07/1994 – 07/09/1996 **Army cadet officer, sub-lieutenant**
 Cypriot National Guard, Nicosia, Cyprus

- Telecommunications officer
- T/C Platoon leader
- Trainer for new T/C recruits

Sector Army (obligatory conscript service)

FORMAL EDUCATION

01/04/2001 – 13/07/2005 **Master of Science in Finance** Level 7
 University of Leicester, Leicester, United Kingdom

- Finance, Accounting, Risk management.

23/09/1996 – 05/07/2000 **Bachelor in Public and Business Administration** (Grade: Very Good) Level 6
 University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus

- Major in Finance
- Management, Marketing, Accounting, Management Information Systems, Statistics, Options
- Member of the Student Union Council during Spring Semester, 1997-1998.

CERTIFICATIONS AWARDED

Dec. 2018 – Dec. 2021 **Certified Advanced Windows Forensic Examiner (CAWFE)**
 International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS) – Certificant ID: 15732

Nov. 2017 – Nov. 2023 **EnCase Certified Examiner (EnCE)** – ID: 15-1117-7861
 opentext (formerly Guidance Software)

April 2015 – Dec. 2021 **Certified Forensic Computer Examiner (CFCE)**
 International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS) – Certificant ID: 15732

July 2014 – July 2020 **AccessData Certified Examiner (ACE)**
 AccessData

April 2014 – (no expiration) **Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)**
 Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) – member no.: 654110

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) Greek

| Other language(s) | UNDERSTANDING | | SPEAKING | | WRITING |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Listening | Reading | Spoken interaction | Spoken production | |
| English | C2: Proficient | C2: Proficient | C2: Proficient | C2: Proficient | C2: Proficient |
| TOEFL (Aug. '97) Reg. No.: 7606790 – Total Score: 663 TWE: 5.5 | | | | | |
| French | A1: Basic | A2: Basic | A1: Basic | A1: Basic | A1: Basic |
| Certificat Élémentaire de Langue Française (30 Août 1991) – Assez Bien | | | | | |

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user
 Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills

- Good communication and presentation skills gained through my experience as representative of my Agency in various workshops, working visits and meetings in the EU.
- Good interviewing skills gained through my experience as investigator for the V.A.T. Service.

Organisational / managerial skills

- Administration skills gained as responsible officer for the Digital Forensics Lab.
- Continuous personal development and willing to share the knowledge through coaching colleagues and organising training events; *i.e. I have proposed, organised and delivered a workshop on "IT Forensics & electronic evidence collection" at the Cyprus Academy of Public Administration.*
- Organisational / managerial experience as Presider in election procedures since 2014.
- Experience as Chair and Facilitator of the FISCALIS Workshop (FWS/102/001 – "Live data forensics and triage tools") held in my hometown (Paphos, Cyprus), from 19 to 21 November 2018.
- Project leader skills gained as responsible officer in various projects of my Department and as Officer in the National Guard.
- Administrative experience acquired through various committees as VAT Officer; *i.e. Committee about the new data management system for the Tax Department of Cyprus, Committee for the acquisition of necessary tools regarding the Digital Forensics Lab of the Tax Department, Committee for Safety and Health in the Regional Tax Office of Paphos etc.*

Computer skills

- Basic understanding of programming languages and scripting
- EnCase Certified Examiner (EnCE)
- Certified Computer Forensic Examiner: AccessData Certified Examiner (ACE)
- Certified Forensic Computer Examiner (CFCE) by International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS)
- Excellent command of Microsoft Office™ tools verified by the ECDL certificate (01/09/2006)

Other skills

- Forensic interviewing skills
- Basic knowledge of 'Body Language' signalling

Driving licence

- D – Light Goods vehicles [Date of issue: 31/03/1994]
- H – Motorcycles (with or without side car) [Date of issue: 08/08/2003]
- I – Motor Tricycles [Date of issue: 08/08/2003]
- J – Auto cycles [Date of issue: 08/08/2003]
- Speedboat Operator Licence [Date of issue: 07/04/2010]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications

- **When magnets kiss magnetic storage media** (2 Apr. 2017)
<http://www.linkedin.com/pulse/when-magnets-kiss-magnetic-storage-media-kyriacos-ionas>
- **To change or not to change: is there a question?** (1 Feb. 2016)
<http://www.linkedin.com/pulse/resistance-change-inherent-everything-everyone-kyriacos-ionas>
- **A New Digital Forensic Unit in EU (CY)** (June 2014) E-Audit Newsletter n° 9
- **Do not kill liquidity** (23-24 Dec. 2000) 'Νέος Τύπος' financial newspaper (with Lambros Lambrou)
- **C.S.E. a derivative of Sophocleous** (16-17 Sept. 2000) 'Νέος Τύπος' financial newspaper
- **Liberalization of interest rates and the investor** (9-10 Sept. 2000) 'Νέος Τύπος' financial newspaper
- **Finance, the only safeguard for sound investing** (26-27 Aug. 2000) 'Νέος Τύπος' financ. newspaper
- **Supply & demand for determining a share price** (29-30 July 2000) 'Νέος Τύπος' financial newspaper
- **Short-term investors and stock-market rise** (10-11 June 2000) 'Νέος Τύπος' financial newspaper
- **Stock price and Net Realizable Value** (7 May 2000) Section Economy, 'ΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ' newspaper
- **Why the SE general index rises on a Friday and drops on a Monday** (29-30 April 2000) 'Νέος Τύπος' financial newspaper
- **X.A.K. και ό,τι δηλώσεις, είσαι...** (5-6 Feb. 2000) "Νέος Τύπος" financial newspaper

◊ Workshops attended

- ◊ **Live data forensics**, OLAF Digital Forensics Training in Malaga, Spain. (11-15 Nov. 2019)
- ◊ **Live data forensics and triage tools**, FISCALIS Workshop in Paphos, Cyprus. (19-21 Nov. 2018)
- ◊ **IT Forensics Lab**, FISCALIS Working Visit in Opole Customs Chamber, Poland. (7-9 Feb. 2017)
- ◊ **Advanced Windows Forensic Examiner**, OLAF Digital Forensics Training, Croatia. (17-21 Oct. 2016)
- ◊ **E-Audit Contact Persons Plenary Meeting**, FISCALIS Working Visit in Limassol, Cyprus. (15-16 June 2016) – *observatory participation*
- ◊ **Encase Computer Forensics II**, OLAF Digital Forensics Training, Croatia. (28 Sept. - 2 Oct. 2015)
- ◊ **IT FORENSIC Workshop**, FISCALIS Workshop in Brussels, Belgium. (3-4 Feb. 2015)
- ◊ **Windows Forensics (Core)**, AccessData Workshop in London, U.K. (2-4 Dec. 2014)
- ◊ **Basic Computer Forensic Examiner**, OLAF Digital Forensics Training, Croatia. (13-24 Oct. 2014)
- ◊ **Advanced FTK**, AccessData Workshop in London, U.K. (11-13 Mar. 2014)
- ◊ **IT Forensics Lab visit**, FISCALIS WV in London, U.K. (20-21 Feb. 2014)
- ◊ **IT Forensics Working Visit**, FISCALIS WV in Copenhagen, Denmark. (10-13 June 2013)
- ◊ **Tools Against Financial and Economic Internet Crime (TAFEIC)**, TAFEIC Project Workshop in Brussels, Belgium. (16-17 April 2013)
- ◊ **E-commerce - Find and identify Internet related activities including cloud and deep web problematic**, FISCALIS Workshop in Gothenburg, Sweden. (4-6 Dec. 2012)
- ◊ **The use of Forensic Tools & techniques to combat fraud**, Intra-European Organisation of Tax (IOTA) Workshop in Oslo, Norway. (1-3 February 2012)
- ◊ **Computer Forensic, auditing of e-commerce and e-audit**, FISCALIS WV in Malmö, Sweden. (26-30 Sept. 2011)
- ◊ **Setting up an IT Forensic Unit**, FISCALIS WV in Stockholm, Sweden. (21-23 Sept. 2011)
- ◊ **Control issues regarding intervention in the operation of electronic cash registers: trends, manipulation techniques detected, legislative and practical solutions**, FISCALIS WV in Riga, Latvia. (1-3 June 2011)
- ◊ **Internet monitoring and search tools**, FISCALIS Workshop in Vienna, Austria. (Nov. 2010, 3-5)
- ◊ **IT Tools in an Anti-Fraud Unit**, FISCALIS Working Visit in Copenhagen, Denmark. (14-16 Sept. 2010)
- ◊ **IT Forensics**, FISCALIS Working Visit in Copenhagen, Denmark. (10-12 May 2010)
- ◊ **Xenon User Meeting**, FISCALIS Working Visit in Antwerp, Belgium. (14-18 Sept. 2009)
- ◊ **IDEA Software Working Visit: 'Pushing the boundaries of e-audit'**, FISCALIS Working Visit in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. (2-4 June 2009)

✚ Presentations delivered

- ✚ **Φορολογικά ποινικά αδικήματα - Έμμεσης και Άμεσης φορολογίας: Ανακριτικά καθήκοντα & δυνατότητες** [Taxation criminal offences], Nicosia, Cyprus. (4 Sept. 2020)
- ✚ **Κανονισμοί Ασφαλείας Διαβαθμισμένων Πληροφοριών** [Security Regulations Relating To Classified Information], WebEx on-line meeting. (10 Apr. 2020)
- ✚ **Chain of Custody**, Thematic FISCALIS Workshop "Live Data Forensics and Triage tools" in Paphos, Cyprus. (21 Nov. 2018)
- ✚ **Crime Scene Investigation (e-evidence)**, Thematic FISCALIS Workshop "Live Data Forensics and Triage tools" in Paphos, Cyprus. (20 Nov. 2018)
- ✚ **The basics (Forensics, e-Evidence, Principles and Rules)**, Thematic FISCALIS Workshop "Live Data Forensics and Triage tools" in Paphos, Cyprus. (19 Nov. 2018)
- ✚ **Κυβερνοπόλεμος** [Cyberwar], Communications and Information's Platoon Reserves (3 Mar. 2018)
- ✚ **Δικανική πληροφορική & συλλογή ηλεκτρ. τεκμηρίων** [IT Forensics & electronic evidence collection], Cyprus Academy of Public Administration & Cyprus Tax Department, Nicosia. (13 Sep. 2016) & (14 Sep. 2016)
- ✚ **Electronic Cash registers in Cyprus**, FISCALIS Working Visit on "Working Visit on Control Issues Regarding Intervention in the Operation of Electronic Cash Registers" in Riga, Latvia. (2 June 2011)
- ✚ **eBay monitoring: The International seller perspective – experiences in Cyprus**, FISCALIS Workshop on "Internet monitoring and search tools" in Vienna, Austria. (4 Nov. 2010)
- ✚ **IT Forensic in Cyprus**, FISCALIS Working Visit on "IT Forensics", in Copenhagen, Denmark. (12 May 2010)
- ✚ **e-Audit in Cyprus** – presented with Mr. Andreas Stouppas FISCALIS Working Visit on "IDEA Software Working Visit: 'Pushing the boundaries of e-audit'" in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. (4 June 2009)

❖ Participation in projects

- ❖ **Log-in access to internal Databases** (Registrar of Companies, IRD information System), **for Tax Fraud Investigations Unit personnel** – suggested it and followed it through (April 2019)
- ❖ **Thematic FISCALIS Workshop “Live Data Forensics and Triage tools”** – suggested it, planned and organized along with Cyprus Tax Department’s Fiscalis Administrator, chaired it and facilitated the event (19-21 Nov. 2018)
- ❖ **Cyprus Tax Department gaining access to the Secure Information Exchange Network Application (SIENA) by Europol** – suggested it and followed it through (Sept.- Dec. 2018)
- ❖ **Delivery of Functional Requirements regarding the new Tax Administration System** – Member of Tax Fraud Investigations Unit’s team (Oct. 2016)
- ❖ **Update of Manuals prepared in cooperation with HMRC: eCommerce** – Member of team updating eCommerce Manual (Sept. 2016 – May 2018)
- ❖ **NW3C Membership - Republic of Cyprus Tax Department/Operations/Fraud & Investigations Unit (14096)** – Submitted the application and followed it through for our Unit to become an associate member of the National White Collar Crime Center (June - Dec. 2016). Currently appointed as the NW3C agency representative (AR).
- ❖ **Deliberation on legislation draft “Tax Procedures Law”** – Member of Tax Fraud Investigations Unit’s team (Dec. 2015)
- ❖ **Call For Proposals 2015: Technical Assistance for the Fight Against EU-Fraud (Hercule III Programme 2014-2020)** – Suggested the project to senior management, prepared unassisted the application to OLAF and was designated as the contact-person for the results (July 2015 – Feb. 2016)
- ❖ **EU Project “Tools Against Financial and Economic Internet Crime” (TAFEIC)** – Guest member (2013-2016)
- ❖ **SAS - Fraud Detection** – Helped to formulate a list of databases that could be used in a Statistical Analysis System. This project was the forefather of the Government Data Warehouse. (Dec. 2014)
- ❖ **Aluminium industry rebates** – Identified an industry-wide tax treatment issue and proposed a national campaign for informing and allowing/requesting correction of mistakes. Prepared the letter template and identified relevant business to which the letter was sent. (2013)
- ❖ **Incoming Working Visit “IT Forensics”** – Suggested and organized a ‘FISCALIS Working Visit’ to assist with the starting-up of our new Digital Forensics Lab. (26-28 Mar. 2013)
- ❖ **Digital Forensics Lab for the VAT Service in Cyprus** – Suggested the creation of a Digital Forensics Unit and participated in all subsequent stages having a vital role (management briefing, tools ordering, designing of lab). (2011-2013)
- ❖ **E-bay Monitoring** – Liaised with Mr. Wolfgang Reiterer of Center for Risk and Analysis, Ministry of Finance, Austria, to receive the tool Ebay-Downloader. Monitored Cypriot sellers’ activity in e-bay. Analysed data and suggested traders to be investigated. The purpose of the project was to combat tax evasion and send out the message that internet sales are also being monitored by the Tax Authority. (2010-2011)
- ❖ **Due-taxes Collection System (Telonis)** – Member of the team that developed the specification for an intranet system that helps monitoring the taxpayers who owed taxes. We were responsible for overseeing the implementation of the specification and troubleshooting the system for the first year of its production (2006-2007)
- ❖ **Construction industry** (pilot project) – Project manager and database maintenance regarding turnover of local construction industry. Collected information through local architects and through input by teams of officers visiting construction sites for recording data. (2004)

🔒 Online Courses
attended

- 🔒 **Managing Financial Investigations (Intermediate) Programme**, OECD International Academy for Tax Crime Investigation. (7-18 Sep. 2020)
- 🔒 **Unraveling the Confusion: What and Who Is a Whistleblower? (webinar)**, ACFE. (5 Sep. 2020)
- 🔒 **Fighting tax crime: The ten global principles**, OECD. (29 Apr. 2020)
- 🔒 **Looking Fraud in the Eye (webinar)**, ACFE. (1 Sep. 2019)
- 🔒 **Judicial challenges and asset recovery issues in MTIC fraud**, CEPOL - LMS. (7 Dec. 2018)
- 🔒 **Forensic Awareness for Police First Responders**, CEPOL - LMS. (29 Aug. 2018)
- 🔒 **How to investigate IP addresses for law enforcement authorities**, CEPOL - LMS. (21 May 2018)
- 🔒 **EnCase® EnCE Prep OnDemand**, GUIDANCE Software. (Summer 2017)
- 🔒 **Cybercrime**, CEPOL - Learning Management System. (24 Aug. 2017)
- 🔒 **Conversation with a Fraudster**, ACFE. (10 Aug. 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 155 – Online Undercover**, NW3C. [Certificate # 127002] (8 June 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 156 – Post-Seizure Evidentiary Concerns**, NW3C. [Certificate # 126291] (2 June 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 153 – Searching Without a Warrant**, NW3C. [Certificate # 118063] (29 May 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 154 – The Stored Communication Act**, NW3C. [Certificate # 127003] (7 May 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 152 – Search Warrants & Digital Evidence**, NW3C. [Certificate # 117357] (30 Jan. 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 151 – First Responders & Digital Evidence**, NW3C. [Certificate # 116923] (25 Jan. 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 100 – Identifying and Seizing Electronic Evidence**, NW3C. [Certificate # 116200] (24 Jan. 2017)
- 🔒 **CI 099 – Basic Computer Skills for Law Enforcement**, NW3C. [Certificate # 114017] (16 Jan. 2017)
- 🔒 **Ethical Theory for Fraud Examiners (2014)**, ACFE. (15 Aug. 2016)
- 🔒 **How to Catch a Tax Cheat: Using Advanced Analytics to Detect and Pursue Tax Evasion**, ACFE. (30 May 2015)
- 🔒 **Cyber Fraud: The New Financial Crime Wave**, ACFE. (23 Jan. 2014)
- 🔒 **Forensic All Access Pass on-demand learning**, AccessData Learning Management System, (2013)
- 🔒 **ER22x: Justice**, HarvardX (Harvard University through edX). (1 Aug. 2013)
- 🔒 **Advanced Power Searching with Google**, Google Courses. (February 2013)
- 🔒 **Internet History, Technology, and Security**, Coursera. (13 Oct. 2012)
- 🔒 **Introduction to Computer Forensics**, VTC Online University. (21 Aug. 2011)

- ◇ **Seminars attended**
 - ◇ **EU COFFERS dissemination Conference on The Dark Grey Zones between Tax Avoidance, Tax Evasion and Money Laundering**, Vienna. (24-25 Sept. 2019)
 - ◇ **Professional Ethics and Forensics in a Digital World**, ACFE, Nicosia. (6 Nov. 2018)
 - ◇ **3rd Cyprus Police International Conference - “Cybercrime Trends and Threats: European and International Dimensions”**, Filoxenia Conference Centre, Nicosia. (11-12 June 2018)
 - ◇ **Audit of e-Commerce for the technical staff of the Tax Department**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (16-17 May 2018)
 - ◇ **Πρόγραμμα για την Κατανόηση του Περιεχομένου του Κώδικα Ηθικής και Δεοντολογίας**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (19 Jan. 2018)
 - ◇ **Ψυχολογία των υπόπτων – Γλώσσα του σώματος**, Veneti Counseling, Psychotherapeutic & Training Services, Nicosia. (27 Nov. 2017)
 - ◇ **Ethics for Fraud Examiners**, Cyprus Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Nicosia. (2 Oct. 2017)
 - ◇ **Direct Tax Legislations Programme (for Tax Department personnel)**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (28-30 June 2016)
 - ◇ **Training of Cypriot Civil Servants on EU Competitive Programmes – Proposal Development under EU Competitive Programmes**, Europa Media Trainings, Nicosia. (23-24 May 2016)
 - ◇ **Training [for] the trainers**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (17-19 Feb. 2016)
 - ◇ **Electronic Crime and Forensic Examination of Evidence**, Police Headquarters, Section C’ – Electronic Evidence Forensic Lab, Nicosia. (1-4 July 2013)
 - ◇ **Criminal Investigations, Court Cases, Authorities of the VAT Commissioner and taxpayers obligations based on the VAT Legislation**, The Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus. (28 Jan. 2013)
 - ◇ **Public prosecutor and investigatory tasks**, Cyprus Police Academy, Nicosia. (16-17 April 2012)
 - ◇ **Training of VAT Investigators**, Cyprus Police Academy, Nicosia. (5-8 July 2010)
 - ◇ **Advanced e-Audits for VAT**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (30 June – 2 July 2008)
 - ◇ **e-Audits**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (26-28 Mar. 2008)
 - ◇ **Mutual Administrative Assistance for Combating Carousel Fraud**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (3-7 Dec. 2007)
 - ◇ **Multilateral Control on VAT**, Cyprus Academy of Public Administration, Nicosia. (27-29 Nov. 2007)
 - ◇ **Training of “VAT Investigators”**, Cyprus Police Academy, Nicosia. (13-17 Nov. 2006)
- √ **Honours and awards**
 - √ **Honorary Praise and symbolic monetary prize** for the best suggestion during December 2001 and best suggestion received from any employee working less than three years in the organization, Cyprus Popular Bank Public Co Ltd. 17 Jan. 2002.
 - √ **1st Prize (team prize) by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry**, Department of Public and Business Administration, University of Cyprus. June 1999.
- + **Elections procedures work-experience**
 - + **Presider** of Voting Centre B, Ballot 036 at Yeroskipou – Paphos during European Parliament Elections on 26 May 2019.
 - + **Presider** of Voting Centre A, Ballot 001 at Paphos during Municipal Elections on 18 Dec. 2016.
 - + **Presider** of Voting Centre G, Ballot 006 at Paphos during Parliamentary Elections on 22 May 2016.
 - + **Presider** of Voting Centre A, Ballot 086 at Kritou Terra – Paphos during European Parliament Elections on 25 May 2014.
 - + **Assistant Presider** of Voting Centre B, Ballot 035 at Yeroskipou – Paphos during Presidential Elections on 17 Feb. 2013.
 - + **Assistant Presider** of Voting Centre A, Ballot 078 at Tala – Paphos during Municipal Elections on 18 Dec. 2011.
 - + **Assistant employee** at Yeroskipou – Paphos during Local City Council Elections on 17 Dec. 2006.