



## **Mary Papadopoulou**

Mary Papadopoulou is the Managing Director of Meriniel Company Ltd, a property development company she established in 1989. She is also the Executive Director of International Operations of Solar Logic, a renewable energy company.

With a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science & Public Relations, and a Master's Degree in Political Science, both from Fairleigh Dickinson University, USA, Mary worked in the Public Relations Department of the Bank of New York before returning to Cyprus to pursue her personal and professional goals.

Right from the start she got involved in the political scene in Cyprus as a Member of the Central Committee and the Executive Bureau of the Democratic Party (DEKO), the third largest political party in Cyprus. She was elected the first President of GODEK, the women's organization of DEKO, and a pioneering movement for the promotion of women's rights.

In these capacities Mary attended several top-level conferences in Europe and the United States, where she had the opportunity to meet and engage with officials in the upper echelons of government and political parties.

For eight years she served as a Member of the Board of the Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO), the primary vehicle for drafting long-term policy relating to the tourism industry and the promotion of Cyprus as a tourism destination.

Since 2000 Mary has been a Member of the Board of Business and Professional Women (BPW) Nicosia, and has been the organization's President since 2009. As well as being inspired by BPW's goals, she fully identifies with the mission, vision and values of the organization. As such, she carries her title with pride and is committed to maximizing BPW's impact on the local society.

With her dynamic can-do attitude, and as an unrelenting advocate of equal right and women's rights in particular, Mary does not surrender to obstacles, but finds ways to overcome them.

To top her achievements in both business and politics, Mary concedes that her children are a major source of satisfaction and support, as well as being her greatest pride and joy.