



# 3<sup>rd</sup> BPW VIRTUAL MEDITERRANEAN SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2020  
AT 3:30PM CYPRUS TIME (12:30 UTC)

Nicosia | Cyprus

TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE:  
Strategies for recovery and resilience



**Moderator:**

**Larisa B. Miller**

Executive Vice President  
STP Capital Partners



**Natasa Pilides**

Minister of Energy,  
Commerce and Industry  
Cyprus



**Irene Compte**

Co-founder CALP  
the Conscious and Agile  
Leadership Program



**Haidi Badawi**

Founder of Future  
STREAM\_preneur



**Francesca Burack**

CEO/President  
of Fearless Talent



**Noha Hefny**

Founder & CEO,  
People of Impact

**UNITY ♦ SOLIDARITY ♦ EQUITY ♦ TRUST**

**Together we forge the future**

## WELCOME MESSAGE

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**MARY  
PAPADOPOULOU**

Welcome to the 3rd BPW Mediterranean Symposium.

This year's Symposium is different... and special. On the one hand, the pandemic will not allow us to meet in person, as we've done during the past two Mediterranean Symposiums. On the other hand, technology provides an alternative that allows far more BPW members and friends from around the world to attend and participate in this year's virtual exchange. So let's make the most of it!

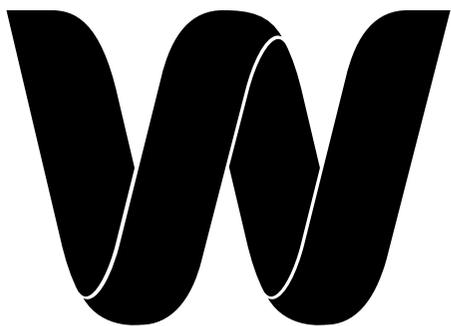
As you can see, the emphasis in our debate will be on strategies to tackle the impact of the pandemic on our business performance today, and how we can prepare ourselves for 'the day after' and pave the way for a powerful recovery.

I am delighted to introduce you to a panel of speakers from different parts of the world and different walks of life. All these inspiring ladies come with a strong message of guidance and support, to remind us all that women in business are not only a force to be reckoned with, but often a paradigm of resilience.

Make sure to join us this year, wherever you are, to take advantage of the experience and expertise our speakers will be generously sharing. You will also have the opportunity to submit your personal questions to the panel. So, sign up now – it's FREE! – spread the word, and save the date in your diary.

These are difficult times, but by sharing the burden all together, we can make it lighter for each one of us.

**Mary Papadopoulou**  
President BPW Cyprus



## PROGRAMME

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**BPW**  
Mediterranean  
Symposium **2020**



**BPW CYPRUS**  
CYPRUS FEDERATION  
OF BUSINESS AND  
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

### TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE – STRATEGIES FOR RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE AGENDA

3:30 PM *CYPRUS TIME*

12:30 PM *UCT TIME*

#### 3:30 PM WELCOME ADDRESSES

Prerecorded Welcome Notes by the BPW Presidents of the Mediterranean Countries

**Mary Papadopoulou** - President of BPW Cyprus

**Amany Asfour** - President of BPW International

**Pinella Bombaci** - BPW European Coordinator

#### PANEL DEBATE: TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE – STRATEGIES FOR RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE

**Moderator: Larisa B. Miller** Executive Vice President STP Capital Partners

**Panelists:**

**Natasa Pilides**

Minister of Energy, Commerce, and Industry Cyprus

**Irene Compte**

Co-founder CALP the Conscious and Agile Leadership Program

**Haidi Badawi**

Founder of Future STREAM\_preneur

**Francesca Burack**

CEO/President of Fearless Talent

**Noha Hefny**

Founder & CEO, People of Impact

#### Q&A

Closing comments

## MODERATOR

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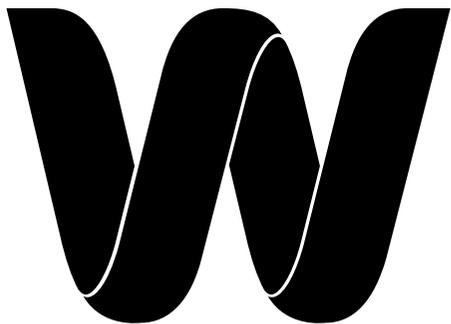


**Larisa B. Miller**

Larisa has been named one of the World's Top 100 People in Finance by Top 100 Magazine; one of the 10 Most Influential Business Leaders of 2020 by Exeleon Magazine; 100 Global Women of Excellence by Sovereign Magazine and one of the Top 10 Most Influential Friends of Africa by For Business in Africa Magazine. Larisa is CEO of Phoenix Global LLC, a consulting and investment firm headquartered in Miami, Florida, specializing in international municipal and governmental consulting; sustainability and innovation strategies; business development, recovery and acceleration; as well as assisting clients in global market expansion and development. As an investment firm, Phoenix Global is the vehicle to meaningful investment projects both domestically and internationally, matching large-scale investment opportunities with strategic capital partners.

Larisa serves as Executive Vice President of STP Capital Partners; Partner, Community Development Capital Management; and sits on the several global executive and non-profit boards.

As an active member of BPW globally, Larisa participates as speaker and participant at BPW events around the world. Currently, Larisa serves as 1st Vice President of Membership for NFBPWC in the USA.



## PANELISTS

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**Natasa Pilides**

Natasa Pilides was appointed Minister of Energy, Commerce and Industry on July 10th 2020.

Previously, on March 1st 2018 she had been appointed as the first Shipping Deputy Minister of the Republic of Cyprus, heading the strategic development and promotion of Cyprus as a world class, integrated, maritime cluster.

From April 2016 to March 2018, Ms Pilides was Director General of the Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency (Invest Cyprus), responsible for the design and implementation of Invest Cyprus' strategy in investment promotion, investor support and facilitation of reform.

She has more than fifteen years of private sector experience, notably as Director and Regional Chief Operating Officer at Baker Tilly South East Europe, heading the departments of Finance, Marketing, HR, Administration, Operations and IT, for Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova.

She also worked, for 9 years, at PwC in Cyprus, Milan and London, in audit and tax consulting of multinational companies active in the fields of banking and finance, shipping, insurance, energy, construction and FMCG.

Ms Pilides has wide experience in delivering professional training and courses for ICAEW, ACCA and CIMA exams, in the areas of audit, tax, corporate law, ethics, financial accounting and reporting, at BPP London, a leading professional studies organisation.

She graduated from Oxford University with a first-class honours degree, with distinction, in Modern Languages and Literature (French and Italian). She is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales (ICAEW) and a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus (ICPAC).



## PANELISTS

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**Irene Compte**

In a nutshell - I hold over 20 years of experience in leadership & management positions in organizations of public and private sectors, both local and international. Over my years as a leader in multi-cultural teams, I have developed a passion towards helping to improve organizational performance & culture, placing special focus on true diversity, conscious leadership and communication abilities for better interpersonal relationships at the work place. I am driven by continuously honing my talents so I can be of better service to others.

In detail - Educated as a Geographer in Spanish and Dutch universities, I devoted 15 years to the world of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applied to urban and territorial management. From 1999 to 2009, as a Director of the GIS & Remote Sensing Center of the University of Girona, I led the foundation of the distance learning program UNIGIS MSc, one of the first remote learning degrees to be offered in Spanish, and currently a reference for GIS professionals worldwide.

From 2009 to 2015, I was Deputy Director of Urbiotica, a technological company in the Smart Cities and Internet of Things' international market. Being part of the leadership team, my role included top responsibilities in financing, sales, communication and talent management. From 2015 to 2017, I joined the team at Anteverti Consulting as an International Senior Consultant in the Smart Cities domain, leading large strategic consulting projects mainly in Africa (Morocco, Algeria and Mauritius). Since 2017, my activity in the urban innovation domain is reduced to advisory missions for projects in Maghreb and Middle East cities. I also collaborate with the European Commission, mainly in the ICT & Society domains, as proposals' evaluator, reviewer for on-going projects and member of expert panels. In 2016, I founded Proshivendola as the platform from which I contribute to society my passion for developing conscious leadership in organizations of all kind. I am focused on advisory, facilitation and training activities for CEOs and high-performing teams. This is now my main professional project, the one embracing my best talents and also the skills that I have built over a fruitful career developing myself and helping others develop and grow.

My certification as a CLO (Chief Learning Officer) adds to my professional path a paramount step: becoming a facilitator of organizations' transformation processes, where continuous learning and innovation are fundamentals to the success and sustainability.

Starting in 2020, I am the co-founder of CALP©, the Conscious and Agile Leadership Program for leaders and aspiring leaders in the new era.



## PANELISTS

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**Dr. Haidi Badawi**

Dr Badawi is a Coach and mentor who lead inclusive leadership in various global boards and international/African and Australian women empowerment networks. Haidi is the Founder of Future STEAM\_preneur a community for thriving youth in STEAM and future learning opportunities of success. Haidi is a recipient of the Inaugural Women's Board leadership program scholarship from Victorian Government. She is recognised as an international Public Speaker at several international forums, such as the Women Economic Forum 2020 and received the “Iconic women creating a better world for all” award.

Haidi is a Global goodwill ambassador of Australia at GGA Global Ambassador and the co-director of Australia/Oceania, a member of (Australian Institute of company directors-AICD), was a Board Director at women with disabilities Victoria and a Board member at United National Australian Association (Victorian Division). Haidi is also a member founder of “Women Heart to Heart “that has members from all continents including Africa. She had a science background and had four registered patents in science innovation and has been awarded several international and national awards in the areas of Science and teaching innovations including an Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowship (Australian Government).



## PANELISTS

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**Francesca Burack**

Francesca Burack is the CEO/President of Fearless Talent Development, Inc a management consultancy that supports fearlessness in women.

She is a recognized international speaker, visionary, transformational leader, and change-maker.

As a speaker, Francesca has inspired business audiences around the world. As a consultant, she works with companies seeking systemic change in their management practices and culture. As a coach and strategist, she guides individuals to fearlessly step into their own power and take fearless action with heart and conviction.

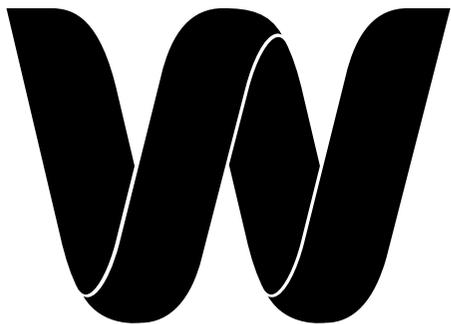
Francesca has been working with emerging and experienced leaders for 35 years. Her special gift is helping people reframe and refocus situations in the most positive, realistic way, so new options and directions are created and implemented.

Awards and Recognitions:

- New York Chamber of Commerce and Industry for “her excellence in business performance and commitment to New York City”
- U.S. Small Business Administration as “Women in Business

Advocate of the Year for her commitment to the advancement of women’s business ownership”

- Elected Delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business
- Women Appreciate Women as one of the “100 Most Inspirational Women in the World.”



## PANELISTS

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**Noha Hefny**

Noha Hefny is the Founder & CEO of People of Impact, a social impact innovation and consulting company. She is a senior corporate leader, consultant, humanitarian and entrepreneur with two decades of experience in the fields of strategic communications, partnerships, humanitarian protection and sustainable development with a focus on refugee protection, youth engagement, social entrepreneurship and women's economic empowerment.

During her career, she represented some of the world's most powerful and admired brands where her journey has been driven by purpose and social impact. She has a wealth of multi-faceted experiences across the public, private sectors and in entrepreneurship and she is a sought-after speaker on topics ranging from gender equality, social entrepreneurship, authentic leadership to youth engagement, and more.

In the private sector, she was the Director of Corporate Affairs and Social Responsibility at PepsiCo covering the Middle East and North Africa, followed by becoming the Director of Communications at McKinsey & Company covering Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa. She also co-founded two startups, one of which is 'She is Arab', the world's first dedicated speakers' platform for Arab women addressing under-representation in leadership and speaking roles.

She started her career at UNHCR in the field of refugee protection and worked in Egypt and Tunisia where she was the focal point for women survivors of violence and unaccompanied minors. She also undertook two field assignments in South of Algeria and East Sudan focused on reuniting families separated by conflict and voluntary repatriation. She was the only Arab woman on the field at the time. At UN Women and UNESCO, she served in a consulting capacity focusing on education and gender equality advocacy and programs.

She is a nominee of the Tallberg/Elliason Foundation Global Leadership Prize, the recipient of the GCC Women Leadership Award by CMO Asia and the World Women Leadership Congress in 2019. She was also nominated for the 2018 'Women of the Year' Award in the Humanitarian category by Emirates Woman. She was a board member in e7 Daughters of the Emirates Program, in addition to her role as a Mentor at the Cherie Blaire Foundation.

Noha holds a BA in Political Science and International relations from the American University in Cairo (AUC). She is also, an avid wellbeing and yoga enthusiast, a wife, and a mother to two wonderful boys.



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