



## PRESS RELEASE

## CySEC: The public's financial education is imperative

The Securities and Exchange Commission is participating in World Investor Week 2021

The Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (CySEC) is joining forces with Regulators worldwide, participating in World Investor Week 2021, with the aim of contributing to the global drive to educate and protect investors, as well as the broader public.

World Investor Week is an annual event held by the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO). The event's fifth edition will take place on 4-10 October and will focus on raising awareness about the importance of educating and protecting investors. It will also highlight the various initiatives that are being taken by Supervisory Authorities to deal with these two crucial issues.

Over 100 countries represented by their Supervisory Authorities, along with 11 regional and international organisations, will gather to mark World Investor Week by promoting investors' best interests.

More specifically, CySEC will provide information to investors regarding the kinds of risks lurking behind the sector, as well as highlight the importance of educating the public on basic financial knowledge, which is something Cyprus is lagging behind in, as shown by previous, as well as more recent studies.

Throughout World Investor Week, CySEC will take various initiatives directed at investors but also the general public. Among other, it will issue a brief Guide for investors, with useful and practical advice on how to identify the risks in time and avoid possible scams. The Guide will be published on CySEC's website, in the space designated to keeping investors informed. Furthermore, CySEC will promote the messages from this year's campaign through a series of social media posts, in the form of advice towards investors, while once the Week is over, the advice will be included in a Smart Investor Booklet, which will also be posted on CySEC's website.

In addition, ahead of the Week, CySEC will upgrade the special space it has created on its website to make it more user friendly, and reinforce it as a means of educating investors.

As of today, CySEC has placed the World Investor Week logo on its website, along with a link to the website of World Investor Week 2021, while it has also encouraged its regulated entities to spread the campaign's message in their own way.

In statements, CySEC Chairman Dr George Theocharides stated: "World Investor Week 2021 is a prime opportunity to raise awareness among investors, but also the broader public, about the various risks involved, as well as step up our efforts to educate them. Prevention is the most effective way to minimise the risks investors are exposed to and this is where CySEC focuses its efforts." He further added, "Particularly in this unstable economic environment, where the digitisation of financial services is being accelerated, and taking into account the negative results of studies on the public's financial education, it is now more crucial than ever to promote financial education".

It is worth noting that CySEC participates in the Ad Hoc Committee that was established in December 2020 to carve out a National Strategy to promote financial literacy and financial education in Cyprus. The Committee consists of state authorities and academics, and is coordinated by the Central Bank.

For more information on World Investor Week 2021, click here.