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### NEWS REPORT

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Cyprus</b>
<b>Title:</b>	Civil Partnership Law
<b>Date:</b>	25 February 2016
<b>Expert:</b>	Lia Georgiades
<b>Issue at stake:</b>	Law pertaining to civil partnerships passed by the Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus
<b>Ground of discrimination:</b>	Sex
<b>Source:</b>	Legislation
<b>Field:</b>	Other
<b>Applicable law:</b>	Civil Partnership Law

### Content

**Law development:** The law pertaining to civil partnerships was passed by the Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus on the 26 November 2015 and was put into effect on 9 December 2015. A Civil Partnership concluded following the provisions of the Law 184 (I)/2015 has equivalent results and consequences to a marriage, following the provisions of the Marriage Law. Nevertheless, the Adoption Law is exempt from the above stated Law.

The conclusion of civil partnership requires the free consent of both persons. A primary requirement is that both parties must be adults of sound mind. An individual is not considered capable of concluding civil partnership if he or she has not turned 18 years old. A person is not considered capable of concluding civil partnership if he or she cannot assess his or her actions.

The persons who intend to conclude a Civil Partnership must present to the Registrar of the district where one of them resides. In case none of them is a permanent resident of the Republic of Cyprus, then they present to the Registrar of the district of their choice. The parties then submit a duly completed and signed Civil Partnership Form.

For the dissolution of the partnership, the two partners must present to the Registrar who facilitated the conclusion of civil partnership and submit a joint statement in the presence of at least two witnesses of sound mind who have turned 18 years old. The Registrar files this particular joint statement in the Register. A copy of the Civil Partnership dissolution statement is sent to the Deputy Registrar.

In addition, a Civil Partnership is dissolved by an order of the Court of the district where the Civil Partnership has been concluded, following a petition of one of the partners. In case the two partners get married, then the Civil Partnership is automatically dissolved. Moreover, a Civil Partnership is dissolved in case of death of one or both partners.

**Key points of analysis:** This is a landmark law for Cyprus and a step towards equality.

**Internet link source:** Civil Partnership Law No. 184(1)/2015  
[www.cylaw.org/nomoi/indexes/2015\\_1\\_184.html](http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/indexes/2015_1_184.html), accessed 31 December 2015.