



**Mary Papadopoulou**  
**President, BPW Cyprus**

Mary Papadopoulou is the Managing Director of a property development company she established in 1989, and the Executive Director of 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 Mary got involved in the political scene in Cyprus as a member of the Democratic Party (DIKO), the third largest political party in Cyprus. For over 15 years she served as a member of the Central Committee and the Executive Bureau. She was elected as the first President of GODEK, the women's organization of DIKO dedicated to the promotion of women's rights, and held this position for 16 years.

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 BPW Nicosia, and its President since 2009. In 2015, she was elected to her current post, as President of BPW Cyprus. Mary fully identifies with the mission, vision and values of the organization. She carries her title with pride and is committed to maximizing BPW's impact on the local society. In parallel, Mary is a member of the bicommunal Gender Equality Technical Committee of Cyprus, which brings women's perspective and contributions to the peace negotiations.

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