



## MEDIATION IN THE EU: LANGUAGE, LAW & PRACTICE

- Language training for judges
- Focus on civil and commercial mediation



Sofia, 15-17 March 2023

**UP  
GRADE**  
YOUR LEGAL  
EXPERTISE

Consumer Law -  
Contract Law -  
Mediation

### Speakers

**Renate Dendorfer-Ditges**

Attorney-at-Law, Arbitrator and Commercial Mediator, Ditges  
Rechtsanwälte, Bonn

**Eva Samaniego Fernández**

Professor, Department of Foreign Languages, National Distance  
Education University (UNED), Madrid

**George Stanimirov Niagolov**

Senior Assistant Professor and Lecturer, Department of English  
and American Studies, University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Sofia

### Key topics

- Legal framework of cross-border civil and commercial mediation
- Key features and different phases of the mediation process
- Mediator skills and negotiation techniques
- Interaction between mediation and civil proceedings
- Online dispute resolution schemes
- English legal terminology in mediation

Language  
English

Event number  
123DT03

Organisers  
ERA (Anastasia Patta) in  
cooperation with the Bulgarian  
National Institute of Justice

Location  
National Institute of Justice,  
14, Ekzarh Yossif str., 1000 Sofia



Co-funded by the Justice Programme  
2014-2020 of the European Union

# Mediation in the EU: Language, Law & Practice

## Wednesday, 15 March 2023

- 08:45 Arrival and registration of participants
- 09:00 **Opening session and introduction to the programme and project**  
*Representative of Bulgarian National Institute of Justice*  
*Anastasia Patta, ERA*
- 09:30 **Key legal terminology in EU civil law**  
*Eva Samaniego Fernández*
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 11:00 **The mediation landscape in the EU**
- Legal framework of cross-border mediation in civil and commercial cases
  - Mediation Directive
- 12:00 **DISCUSSION ROUND: National procedural frameworks and the latest legal developments in the participating EU Member States**
- 12:30 Lunch break
- 13:30 **GROUP A: Preparing a mediation procedure – the key to mediation success**  
Practical session based on an international sales and distribution contract dispute
- Different phases of the mediation process
  - Opening of the procedure and building trust
  - Scope and borders of confidentiality
- 13:30 **GROUP B: Legal language training (Part I)**  
Oral and written exercises  
*Eva Samaniego Fernández*
- 15:00 Coffee break
- 15:30 **GROUP A: Legal language training (Part I)**  
Oral and written exercises  
*Eva Samaniego Fernández*
- 15:30 **GROUP B: Preparing a mediation procedure – the key to mediation success**  
Practical session based on an international sales and distribution contract dispute
- Different phases of the mediation process
  - Opening of the procedure and building trust
  - Scope and borders of confidentiality
- 17:00 End of the first day

## Thursday, 16 March 2023

- 09:00 **GROUP A: Key features of civil & commercial mediation**
- Mediation concepts for business mediation
  - Mediator skills and negotiation techniques
  - Dealing with power imbalances
- Renate Dendorfer-Ditges*
- 09:00 **GROUP B: Legal language training (Part II)**  
Written comprehension & exercises  
*Eva Samaniego Fernández*
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 11:00 **GROUP A: Legal language training (Part II)**  
Written comprehension & exercises  
*Eva Samaniego Fernández*

## Objective

The purpose of this interactive seminar is twofold: first, to introduce participants to the law and practice of cross-border civil and commercial mediation and, secondly, to improve their English language skills.

Participants will be encouraged to make use of mediation techniques and procedures, while also receiving the tools to and developing the ability to communicate effectively in English in cross-border situations.

## Who should attend?

Judges from Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Lithuania, Spain and Romania nominated by the project partners.

## Your contact persons



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Project Manager  
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Judith Morandini  
Assistant  
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11:00 **GROUP B: Key features of civil & commercial mediation**

- Mediation concepts for business mediation
- Mediator skills and negotiation techniques
- Dealing with power imbalances

*Renate Dendorfer-Ditges*

12:30 Lunch break

13:30 **WORKSHOP** (coffee & tea will be served during the workshop):  
**Solving an employment dispute out of court**

- The role of the lawyer, the mediator and the parties
- Negotiation techniques and efficiency by caucus
- Drafting a settlement agreement

*Renate Dendorfer-Ditges*

17:00 End of the second day

19:00 Dinner

## Friday, 17 March 2023

09:00 **GROUP A: Interaction between mediation and civil proceedings**

- Effects of mediation on limitation and prescription periods
- Enforcement of settlement agreements
- **WORKSHOP – Online dispute resolution schemes in a cross-border consumer dispute**

09:00 **GROUP B: Legal language training (Part III)**

Preparation of short oral presentations & exercises

*George Stanimirov Niagolov*

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 **GROUP A: Legal language training (Part III)**

Preparation of short oral presentations & exercises

*George Stanimirov Niagolov*

11:00 **GROUP B: Interaction between mediation and civil proceedings**

- Effects of mediation on limitation and prescription periods
- Enforcement of settlement agreements
- **WORKSHOP – Online dispute resolution schemes in a cross-border consumer dispute**

12:30 **DISCUSSION ROUND: Judicial, court-annexed or extra-judicial mediation? Experiences in the Member States**

*Coordinated by George Stanimirov Niagolov*

13:15 End of training

## Project partnership

### EU-wide networks

**EJTN** – European Judicial Training Network

**GEMME** – European Judges Group for Mediation

**MiKK** – International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction

### National judicial training institutions

**Belgium** – Judicial Training Institute

**Bulgaria** – National Institute of Justice

**Estonia** – Supreme Court

**Finland** – National Courts Administration

**Greece** – National School of Judges

**Latvia** – Judicial Training Centre

**Lithuania** – National Courts Administration

**Poland** – National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (*Beneficiary*)

**Romania** – National Institute of Magistracy

**Spain** – General Council for the Judiciary

### Bar associations

**Czechia** – Czech Bar Association

**Greece** – Thessaloniki Bar Association

**Latvia** – Latvian Collegium of Sworn Advocates

**Lithuania** – Lithuanian Bar Association

**Slovakia** – Slovak Bar Association

**Spain** – Barcelona Bar Association

# Registration

## MEDIATION IN THE EU: LANGUAGE, LAW & PRACTICE

Sofia, 15-17 March 2023 / Event no.: 123DT03



### Registration procedure

This seminar series is co-funded by the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020). The following terms and conditions of participation apply:

Interested judges from the partnering Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Lithuania, Spain and Romania) may register via their national judicial training institutions. Interested members of the Association of European Judges for Mediation (GEMME) may register via GEMME. Participation is subject to selection.

<b>Location</b> National Institute of Justice, 14, Ekzarh Yossif str., 1000 Sofia	<b>Participation</b> Participation is free of charge. Please note that the <b>number of places available is limited</b> . Participants should have a working knowledge of English.
<b>Language</b> English	<b>Travel expenses</b> Selected judges will receive a significant contribution to their travel costs upon receipt of the original invoices, tickets and receipts. Participants are asked to arrange their own travel.
<b>Contact Person</b> Judith Morandini Assistant jmorandini@era.int +49 (0) 651 93737-123	<b>Accommodation</b> Accommodation for a maximum of 3 nights will be booked and covered directly by ERA. Coffee breaks and lunches are included. ERA will organise and cover a joint dinner for all participants.



### Project description

**Within the framework of the Justice Programme the European Union is co-financing a series of nine language training activities on cross-border mediation.**

Each seminar will last 2.5 days and will be organised in the partnering Member States. The number of participants (judges, lawyers and mediators) will be limited to 30 per event.

The training activities will combine interactive language training and legal training with a focus on cross-border mediation.

**More information about the project on:**

**<https://era-comm.eu/mediation-project/>**

This publication has been produced with the financial support of the European Union's Justice Programme (2014-2020). The content of this publication only represents the views of ERA. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.