

## ■ Notes on Contributors



**Lin Adrian** is associate professor of mediation at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen, and she is director of the Faculty's executive, postgraduate and interdisciplinary Master in Mediation and Conflict Resolution. In addition to teaching in university settings, she teaches and trains practitioners as well as speaks on mediation in numerous settings outside the university – in Denmark and abroad. She also consults public agencies that provide mediation services. Furthermore, she is a practicing mediator in primarily workplace, business and family disputes. Prior to her university

career, she worked in the courts, with a governmental agency, in a consultancy firm and with an NGO providing mediation services.

Lin Adrian's main area of research is alternative dispute resolution (ADR), especially mediation. Currently, she is particularly interested in the use of technology in conflict management processes. Among others, she investigates online mediation and robot supported negotiations. She also has a keen interest in the intersection of formal and informal conflict resolution procedures such as mediation in conjunction with court proceedings.

She has authored three books, edited four books and published numerous articles and book chapters on mediation and other dispute resolution processes.

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**Lesley Allport** has a long career as a mediation practitioner spanning more than 30 years. Working initially as a family mediator in the 1980's, she has been involved in developing new areas of practice such as Special Educational Needs Mediation and Disability Conciliation. She mediates conflicts within families, workplace disputes and education settings as well as having experience in community mediation and cross border child abduction cases.

Lesley delivers foundation mediation training in several different delivery areas. She has a particular interest in involving children as part of the mediation process and was a member of a national working group in the UK to promote best practice in this area; she contributed a chapter to a recent publication edited by prominent mediation practitioners in the UK and she delivers training both nationally and internationally on the Voice of the Child in Mediation.

She has a keen interest in developing professional standards. She chaired the Professional Standards Committee (PSC) of the College of Mediators in the UK and currently sits on the Standards Boards of both the Family Mediation Council and the Civil Mediation Council.

Lesley's academic interest in mediation began in 2005 with a European Masters' Degree as part of which she developed a model of supervision specific to mediation. In 2016 she successfully completed her PhD with the Birmingham Law School examining the comparative growth of mediation. Her research included conversations with many mediators working in a variety of contexts and investigated core aspects of mediation practice operating across all sectors.

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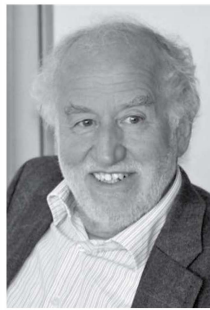


**Sabine Brieger** is a German family court judge, meanwhile retired, who worked mainly civil law at various courts in Berlin since 1982. As a specialised family judge, she was responsible for international abduction cases (Hague Convention of 1980) in the Berlin Pankow District Court from 2004. She has been a Network Judge in the European Judicial Network since 2006 and in the International Hague Network of Judges from 2011 until her retirement in 2018. She completed mediation training and worked as a mediator in court in family affairs from 2006.

As a member of the Hague expert's group "on cross-border recognition and enforcement in family matters," she has been dealing with the problem of cross-border recognition and enforcement of agreements reached through mediation in family law for some time. This work continued in the AMICABLE project (2019–2021), which created a kind of "legal roadmap" EU general Best Practice Tool as well as four country-specific tools for Spain, Poland, Italy and Germany for this purpose. During her judicial activity and together with MiKK, Ms Brieger developed a Best Practice Model (MiC)

for incorporating mediation into the tight six-week timeframe of child abduction proceedings under the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention. In this respect, she trained judges, mediators and legal practitioners both within the AMICABLE project and in many national and international trainings.

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**Eberhard Carl** is a retired appeals court judge and a certified mediator and mediation trainer with the German Federal Mediation Association (BAFM). After working as a judge in family, civil and guardianship cases in the German state of Hesse for 10 years, he worked as a research associate at the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe/Germany for three years. From 1994 to 2002 he was judge at the court of appeals in Frankfurt/Main in the chamber responsible for child abduction proceedings under the 1980 Hague Convention and also worked part-time as a mediator. From 2002 to

2005 he was delegated to the Task Force for International Children's Issues at the German Federal Ministry of Justice in Berlin. During this time he transformed the German-French parliamentary mediation initiative created in 1999 into a bi-national professional mediation project for cross-border family cases. He proceeded to set up and develop together with Christoph C. Paul and Sybille Kiesewetter the international cross-border family mediation project in Germany. Eberhard Carl designed and planned the Judges' Seminar on the 1980 Hague Convention and cross-border custody and access conflicts that has been held regularly since 2003. From 2006 till 2012 he headed the Division for Mediation, Conciliation and Settlement of Conflicts in International Parent and Child Cases at the Federal Ministry of Justice. After he retired in 2012 Eberhard was a trainer for family court judges and published, inter alia, together with a child psychologist and a child psychiatrist, a book on how to communicate personally with children in family court proceedings (Kindesanhörung im Familienrecht). Moreover, Eberhard worked as a trainer and a mediator in numerous mediation proceedings concerning cross-border family conflicts.

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**Mary Carroll** is a linguist, mediator, trainer and consultant. She has specialized in personnel and organizational development as well as mediation and conflict management. Mary holds a Master's degree in Mediation from the Viadrina University in Frankfurt/Oder where she developed a special interest in international family mediation, bilingual mediation and mediation involving interpreting. In 2013 she co-launched the international conference series InDialog. From 2013 till 2017, she was Managing Director of MiKK e.V. International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child

Abduction in Berlin where she was responsible for, among other things, MiKK's advanced training courses in cross-border family mediation for family mediators, judges, lawyers, guardians ad litem and others active in the field of cross-border family mediation. Prior to this, she founded and was Managing Director of the multilingual audiovisual translation company Titelbild in Berlin for over 20 years, a field in which she also provided training and published extensively. In 2012 she was granted the Jan Ivarsson Award for invaluable service to the field of audiovisual translation.

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**Martina Erb-Klünemann** is a German family court judge. She worked as a judge in civil law and criminal law cases at various courts before her appointment as a family judge in 1996. In this capacity she is responsible for international family conflicts pending at Hamm District Court as the centralized court for the District of Hamm Court of Appeals. Because of her wide experience in cross-border family conflicts and her particular interest in international family law and the European peculiarities she is often asked to share her knowledge in Germany and abroad.

She was a member of the working group on drafting the Hague Guide to Good Practice on art. 13 (1) (b) of the 1980 Hague Convention as well as of the European Judicial Network Working Group on Family Mediation in International Child Abduction Cases and chairperson of the German Working Group on Implementing the Mediation Process in 1980 Hague Convention Proceedings. Martina Erb-Klünemann has led the annual German Judges' Seminars on the Hague Convention on Child Abduction

since 2008. She is a network judge in the European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters (EJN) and in the International Hague Network of Judges (IHNJ) as well as co-chair of the Association of International Family Judges (AIFJ). She publishes on different aspects of international family law including commentaries on the 1980 Hague Convention and the Brussels IIb-Regulation. She is the co-author of a text book on international family law which she wrote together with the lawyer Niethammer-Jürgens. She runs worldwide courses in cross-border family law and training courses on the integration of mediation in addressing cross-border family conflicts. She consults States in improving their national law in order to deal in a more effective way with return proceedings under the 1980 Hague Convention. Her main focus is on strengthening the rights of children and supporting families in finding an amicable solution.

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**Juliane Hirsch** holds a law degree from the Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany (1999) and a LL.M. degree from Trinity College Dublin, Ireland (2006) as well as a French State Diploma for Family Mediation. She obtained both German State Examinations in Law (1999 & 2002) and has been admitted to the Bar in Munich, Germany (2003). She completed family mediator training at the University of Paris X – Nanterre, France (2012–2014).

Juliane Hirsch has worked in the field of international family law for many years. She worked for the Hague Conference on Private International Law for more than five years – first as a Legal Officer, later as a Senior Legal Officer (2007–2012). Since 2012, she has been working as independent expert on several international family law and mediation projects. In 2012/2013 she was responsible, in the course of the “EUROMED Justice III” Project, for the preparation of a “Handbook on Good Practices for the Resolution of Cross-border Family Disputes” involving States from the Mediterranean and European Region. In 2014/2015 she worked as Legal Consultant to the Hague Conference project “ISupport”, which aimed at setting up an electronic case-management system for cross-border maintenance cases (2014/2015). She prepared e-learning courses on European and International Maintenance Law for the Academy of European Law ERA (2014/2016). As leading legal expert in the Amicable Project (2018–2021) she drafted the “European Best Practice Tool for the Recognition and Enforcement of Family Law Agreements involving Children within the European Union”. In

2017 she joined the Verlag für Standesamtswesen, where she continues to head the editing team of the loose-leaf collection on international family law Bergmann/Ferid/Henrich "Internationales Ehe- und Kindschaftsrecht".

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**Mohamed M. Keshavjee** LLB (Canada) LLM (Hons) PhD (London) is a qualified lawyer from three Common Law Jurisdictions. In 2000 under the guidance of His Highness the Aga Khan, Spiritual Leader of the Shi'a Ismaili Muslims, he pioneered an international mediation training programme which was rolled out in 25 countries. A specialist in international cross-cultural mediation, Dr Keshavjee has trained imams and pastors in mosque and church disputes, respectively. A member on the Advisory Panel on mediation to the Secretary General of the International Social Service of Geneva, Dr Keshavjee was involved in the conceptualization of the Global Charter of Mediation which was promulgated in 2015. A keynote speaker at leading conferences on mediation in Europe and North America, he was invited as an expert to the Malta 4 Conference in Valetta in 2016 by the Secretary General of the Hague Conference where he spoke about the Global Mediation Programme set up by the Ismaili Muslim Community. He is the author/co-author of 4 books including: *Islam, Shari'a, and Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mechanisms for Legal Redress in the Muslim Community*, as well as *Understanding Shari'a: Islamic Law in a Globalised World*. In 2021, he was invited by the Pan-African Bar Association of South Africa to train members of the South African Judiciary on the principles of mediation on a programme launched by Justice Albie Sachs, one of the founding judges of the Constitutional Court of South Africa. In June 2023, he was invited to present a paper on the impact of the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King Junior, and Nelson Mandela on Transformative Mediation. For his work in Peace and Human Rights Education, Dr Keshavjee was conferred the Gandhi, King, Ikeda Peace Award for 2016.

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**Ischtar Khalaf-Newsome** is Head of Advisory Services & Co-CEO of MiKK e.V. *International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction*. She is a cross-border family mediator, family lawyer and trainer. Prior to joining MiKK in 2014 she practiced family law for 9 years with *Dawson Cornwell*, London, specializing in international family law and parental child abduction cases. Before that, Ischtar was case manager at the child abduction NGO *reunite*, London. Ischtar completed her legal studies (PGDL) at BPP University Law School, London, holds a Master's degree (MA) in

Near & Middle Eastern Studies, Arabic & Islamic Law from SOAS, University of London and an MA in German & English, Freie Universität Berlin. She qualified as a mediator with the FMA, London and Inmedio (Peace Mediation), Berlin and trained in Child Inclusive Mediation. Ischtar is a MiKK Cross-border Family Mediation (CBFM) Trainer and has also developed and conducted trainings for the Academy of European Law (ERA) and the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) in this field. She has represented MiKK at national and international conferences, for example at the 4<sup>th</sup> Malta Process Conference (2016) and at Meetings of the Malta Process Working Party on Mediation in Amman, Jordan (2019) and in The Hague (2019) organized by the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH). She was invited to present at the *High-Level Conference* on the Brussels IIb Recast Regulation (2022) organized by the European Parliament (EP) Coordinator on Children's Rights and the European Commission and she was a panel expert at a European Parliament public hearing on "safeguarding the rights of the child in cross-border family disputes" (2018). Ischtar has co-conceived and managed several EU co-financed projects (i.e. AMICABLE, ACCORD) and projects financed by the German Ministry of Justice (BMJ) (i.e. *Expert Meeting on Mediation in Cases with a Muslim Context*, 2017). She has published articles in: *Research Handbook on International Child Abduction* (2023), Edward Elgar Publishing, *Spektrum der Mediation* (2017), *Die (Wirtschafts)Mediation* (2015), *The Family Law Journal* (2009).

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**Sybille Kiesewetter** is a psychotherapist specialized in psychoanalysis, a family mediator and licenced trainer. Between 2003 and 2008 she worked with Christoph C. Paul and Eberhard Carl to develop and coordinate the project “Mediation in International Family Conflicts” within the German Federal Association for Family Mediation. From 2008 until 2014 she has been the Managing Director of MiKK (International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction). From 2010 to 2012 she was concept developer and lead trainer in the EU project “Training in International Family Mediation”.

Nowadays Sybille Kiesewetter runs a practice for psychoanalysis and is active in the fields of family and inheritance mediation and supervision for mediators. She is lead trainer within the team of “FairStreiten” – family mediation training in Berlin. She has published numerous articles in the field on mediation and psychotherapy.

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**Ewa Bożena Kopacz** is a Polish MEP and Vice-President of the European Parliament.

Prior to her election to the European Parliament Ewa Bożena Kopacz was Prime Minister of Poland (2014–2015). She served as Minister for Health from November 2007–2011. She held the position of Marshal of the Sejm in 2011 – the first woman to have held this post. In 2015, Forbes magazine described her as one of the leaders of the European Union and ranked her as the world’s 40th most powerful woman.

As Vice President, she was appointed European Parliament’s Coordinator on Children’s Rights by the President of the Parliament in 2019. One of her main roles is to advocate for the rights of the child in cross-border family law disputes, including parental child abduction. She is convinced mediation can help parents focus on their child and to find a solution that can work for both parents, but most importantly help ensure their child will not be deeply and profoundly affected by their parents’ dispute throughout their childhood and even beyond.

Before entering politics, Ewa was a paediatrician and a general medical



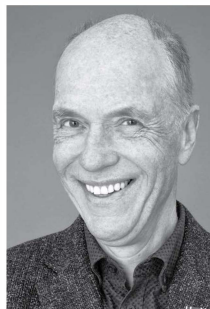
practitioner. She remains passionate about children's health and wellbeing and this passion continues to inform her political career.

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**Kyra Nehls** is an attorney, mediator, guardian *ad litem* and legal guardian. She has been active in the field of family law and the 1980 Hague Convention since 1993. She is co-author of *Rechtsfragen internationaler Kindesentführung, 2002* (Legal Aspects of Cross-border Child Abduction). Kyra Nehls works in these areas as a lawyer and mediator in her own practice and assists in child abduction hearings as a guardian *ad litem*. She also holds lectures for lawyers, mediators and guardians *ad litem* on the subject of the 1980 Hague Convention.

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**Christoph C. Paul** has been a lawyer and notary public (rtd) in the law firm Paul & Partner in Berlin since 1978. He has been working as a certified mediator and mediation trainer since 1995. He has launched and conducted numerous projects dealing with cross-border family mediation and has published widely in the fields of mediation, mostly in relation to family conflicts, family businesses, and inheritance. His current focus is on mediation and mediation training in cross-border family conflicts including child abduction cases in Europe, Japan, and Singapore. Christoph was Chair

of the Board of the German NGO MiKK International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction since its inception as an independent entity in 2008 until 2017. He currently serves as the inaugural Patron of MiKK. Christoph was honoured with the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for his work in implementing cross-border family mediation in conflicts involving parents and children. In 2010 he received the Socrates Award for Mediation in recognition of his lifelong work as a mediator and as a “mediator of mediation” in institutional contexts.

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**Charlotte Risbjerg** is a mediator, trainer, and conflict consultant with extensive experience in cross-cultural mediation and negotiation across borders. She holds a Master of Science degree in International Business Language and Culture and started negotiating cross-culturally as a manager in international companies in 1995.

For the past 15 years, she has worked as a consultant, specialising in workplace mediation and conflict advisory, with expertise in intercultural and cross-cultural conflict management.

Having lived and worked in several countries worldwide, she has been conducting online meetings from an early stage. During her time in Greenland, she encountered the challenge of bringing people together for mediation due to vast physical distances and logistical obstacles. Faced with leaving the parties behind in their conflict or offering online mediation, she gained her initial practical experience in online mediation more than a decade ago. Since then, she has continued to mediate online, initially as an alternative when face-to-face meetings were impossible, and today as a strategic choice and a valuable tool in her mediation toolbox.

Driven by curiosity and a scientific perspective, she has continuously explored the online media and wrote her master's thesis on online mediation during her Master's program in Mediation and Conflict Resolution in the Spring of 2020.

She conducts training in mediation and has authored several articles on conflict management and (online) mediation, all of which take a practical approach.

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**Jamie Walker** holds degrees in Adult Education and is a certified mediator and mediation trainer with the German Federal Mediation Association. Starting out as a trainer in nonviolent direct action in the peace movement of the early 1980s, Jamie went on to specialise in violence prevention and mediation in schools and communities, conducting a study on Violence and Conflict Resolution in Schools for the Council of Europe, developing curriculum materials on how to teach children and youth communication and conflict skills and lec-

turing at the Education Department of the Technical University Berlin where she completed her doctorate. She has worked as a freelance mediator, trainer and consultant since 1996, conducting workshops, seminars and projects and running the Central Mediation Bureau in Berlin from 1999 to 2008. Jamie became active in the field of cross-border family mediation in 2004 and was a founding member of the International Mediation Centre for Family Mediation and Child Abduction (MiKK) and its vice-chair for many years, as well as concept developer and lead trainer in the EU project Training in International Family Mediation from 2010 to 2012. She later served as an International Mediation Advisor for the GIZ Civil Peace Service Programme in Ethiopia for two years and ran intensive courses at the Academy for Conflict Transformation in Cologne. Having now returned to her beloved Berlin she still enjoys the challenge of mediating high-conflict cases, most of all those involving parents and children.

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**Konstanze Welz** Born into a German-Indian family and brought up in Germany, India, and the US, Konstanze learned to navigate different cultures at an early age. An interculturalist by birth, building bridges between cultures has always been at the heart of her work. For almost two decades – as a project manager in the German film industry – she travelled between Germany and Asia to bring together creative talent and economic forces from these parts of the world.

However, a severe illness with a long road to recovery became a turning point in her life. Konstanze left the film industry to become a family mediator. She wanted her work to be more personal and engaging families in conflict allowed her to bring to this work the personal experiences and learnings of her own family's troubled story which unfolded across three different cultures. Konstanze learned about the International Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction (MiKK e.V.), and knew that her work had to become even more personal. As a previously abducted child she had experienced all the emotional pain this causes for a child and the whole family, as well as the long-term effects of this traumatic childhood experience. She now works as a cross-border family mediator and a trauma recovery coach.

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