Schedule

Friday, 9 May	
Welcome Drinks @ Restaurant EssDur	18:00-18:30
Opening Dinner @ Restaurant EssDur	18:30-20:30

Saturday, 10 May

Why are Certain Jurisdictions and the International Arbitration Community Not Rapidly Moving to Mediation? **9:00-10:15**

Moderator:

Alan M. Anderson is an internationally recognized lawyer with over thirty years of experience. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Alan practices primarily in the areas of intellectual property litigation, complex commercial litigation, international arbitration and dispute resolution, and appellate advocacy. His arbitration experience includes large domestic commercial disputes and international arbitration proceedings conducted under the auspices of the American Arbitration Association, LCIA, the SCC, the ICC, as well as *ad hoc* arbitrations. He has represented foreign corporations in court in the US and in international arbitrations and has acted as sole arbitrator and chair in international and domestic arbitrations. Alan is an associate door tenant with Littleton Chambers in London in its Arbitration Practice Group. He is a Fellow of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration and the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution. He is listed on the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center's (Geneva, Switzerland) List of Arbitrators for dispute resolution in all types of intellectual property matters. He also is included in the London Court of International Arbitration's database of neutrals. Alan has participated in more than 500 mediations during his career, both domestic and international, including on behalf of companies from around the world. He is an International Accredited Professional Mediator with the Mainland-Hong Kong Joint Mediation Center (MHKJMC). https://littletonchambers.com/people/dr-alan-m-anderson/.

Speakers:

Vincent Carriou is a senior associate at Gide, currently on secondment in London. Vincent is dual-qualified in France (Avocat à la Cour) and in England and Wales (Solicitor), with more than seven years of post-qualification experience in international arbitration. Vincent regularly acts as counsel and secretary to arbitral tribunals in arbitration proceedings conducted under the auspices of the main arbitration institutions (ICC, SCC, LCIA, ICSID, PCA, SIAC) relating to cross-border contracts across various industries such as construction, energy, mining and aerospace. Vincent also acts as counsel in French Court proceedings in relation to arbitration (set-aside proceedings, liability claims against an arbitral institution, claims for anti-enforcement/anti-suit injunctions). https://www.linkedin.com/in/vincent-carriou-0a10475b/.

Hon. Judge Kenneth (Ken) L. Fields (ret) is a retired Judge of the Superior Court of Arizona, Maricopa County, Phoenix, Arizona. He presided over civil, juvenile, criminal, probate, special assignment and family court calendars. From February 1993 through June 1995, he served as the Presiding Judge of the Domestic Relations Department (family court). Since his retirement, Ken has worked as a re-call judge doing both civil and criminal cases in various courts in the state of Arizona in addition to having an active mediation and arbitration private practice. He is the presiding commissioner for a five-person arbitration commission deciding disputes between the Native American tribes of Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe. In addition to civilian courts, Ken, a retired Army officer, acted as a Military Trial Judge for the Arizona National Guard presiding over Court-martials from 2010 until 2015. He was one of three judges assigned to the Complex Litigation Court, which was the first paperless (electronic filing) Court in the State Courts of Arizona. Ken has presented a class on US Civil Procedure to European judges in Madrid, Spain. He also taught Mexican judges, prosecutors and public defender and was a guest lecturer on ADR at the University of South Wales, Cardiff, United Kingdom. Other teaching engagements took him to Belgrade, Serbia; Pristina, Kosovo; Berdyansk, Ukraine, and Izhevsk, Russia. Ken is Chair Emeritus of this symposium, having co-chaired the editions of 2015, 2017, 2019, and 2023. https://fieldsmediation.biz/.

Christof Siefarth is a partner at BODENHEIMER, Cologne, Germany; he graduated from the University of Cologne with a Dr iur degree. In addition, he spent a year studying international and comparative law at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. Christof holds an LLM from University of Georgia, School of Law, Athens, GA, United States. He has been admitted to the Bar in Cologne, Germany, in 1989, and to the NY State bar in 1992. In 1996, Christof Siefarth became a founding partner of one of Germany's largest full-service law firms and remained a partner with this law firm until he joined BODENHEIMER in 2020. Christof mainly represents foreign clients as counsel in international commercial arbitration and litigation proceedings in a variety of areas, such as distribution, international commercial contracts, IP, international investments etc. To name a few representative matters, he acted as an arbitrator in *ad hoc* arbitration between a German manufacturer of medical products and an Israeli distributor as well as arbitrator under ICDR/Interim Supplementary Procedures for an ICANN Independent Review Process regarding the operation of the .org, .info and .biz generic top-level domains. Furthermore, he represented a German/Czech industrial commercial agency against an Italian/German automotive components manufacturer in two consecutive ICC arbitrations; Recognized in The Best Lawyers in Germany for Arbitration and Mediation. Christof is the immediate past president of the Atlanta International Arbitration Socirty (AtlAS – www.arbitrateatlanta.org and spends considerable time in the United States. He is also a board member of the Center for International Legal Studies and one of the Center's, if not the, most loyal, attendee of conferences, symposia and retreats since the late 1990s. https://www.changing-perspectives.legal/siefarth/.

Isabella Wijnberg is a lawyer and business mediator at Houthoff, specializing in dispute resolution with a focus on corporate litigation, mass claims, and complex commercial contract law disputes. She acts as a legal advisor for companies, semi-public entities, and financial institutions. Isabella is an IMI Certified Business Mediator and Mediation Advocate (graduated *cum laude*) and, in addition to her legal practice, serves as a guest lecturer at the Radboud University Nijmegen for the mediation course in the master's program. She also teaches at the Academy of Legal Mediation and conducts mediation and conflict management training for companies and C-level executives. Isabella is a member of the Mediation Advisory Committee of the Dutch Bar Association and has authored several publications on civil procedural law and mediation. Isabella is recommended in the Legal 500, Dispute Resolution: Arbitration (2023 Edition). https://www.houthoff.com/our-people/people/isabellawijnberg.

Coffee Break	10:15-10:35

Q & A - Trends, Developments, Observations

10:35-11:10

Open Forum for all participants led by

Simon J. Boehme is a technology entrepreneur and the author of *Smart Risks: AI in Self-Insurance*. He currently serves as a Partner at the 1000 Fund and as COO of BillingNav, a leading technology-enabled medical balance billing solution for self-funded employer health plan participants. In addition, Simon is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Negotiation & Dispute Resolution at the University of California College of Law, San Francisco, and co-chairs the Center for International Legal Studies Mediation Symposium, held biannually in Austria. Prior to these roles, Simon was Vice President of Partnerships at Legaler and President of Legaler Aid. He also served on the State Bar of California's Access Through Innovation of Legal Services (ATILS) Task Force. Earlier in his career, he was Head of Operations and Chief of Staff for Trust & Safety at Lime. Simon co-founded Disputly (formerly LegalWin) and founded Magnify, a contract company that summarized website terms and conditions, which was later acquired. He continues to advise multiple legal technology companies and the Legal Tech Fund, and he previously contributed to the Accord Project Dispute Resolution Working Group, helping to develop guidelines and open-source code for smart legal contracts.; https://www.linkedin.com/in/simonboehme/.

Lunch Snack	11:10-11:50

Networking Trip to Wachau

12:00-21:00

- 13:30-15:00 Guided Tour of ancient Krems Stein
- 15:30-17:30 Danube River cruise from Krems to Spitz
- 17:30-18:30 Visit and wine tasting at *Klosterhof* Spitz
- 18:30-20:00 Dinner at *Klosterhof*
- 20:00 Bus return to hotel

Sunday, 11 May

Cross-border Complex Mediation including Family Cases and Bridging Gaps with AI

9:30-10:30

Moderator and Speaker:

Hon. Judge Nancy Flatters, KC (ret.) began her community-related law career in 1976 until 1978 as the executive director, Kingston Interval House, Kingston, Ontario. Beginning in the fall 1978, she attended Queen's University Law School, graduated in May 1981, articled in Calgary, and was called to the Bar of the Law Society of Alberta in June 1982. Nancy practiced in various areas of law, including competition, civil, family/divorce/matrimonial property, child welfare/protection, and adult/youth criminal law. In 1984/85, she added mediation to her practice and began teaching and skills training in mediation and conflict management/resolution. She also taught at the University of Calgary as Practitioner-in-Residence (fall 1991) when she created and delivered the first ADR course for the faculty. Additionally, as an adjunct faculty (1988-2008), she taught legal interviewing, counselling, and negotiation techniques. In January 1996, Nancy was appointed a Queen's Counsel (QC) (now King's Counsel: KC) and a Justice of the Alberta Court of Justice in July 1996, sitting in Calgary Family and Youth [Criminal Justice] Court for her judicial career. Committed to increasing access to justice, and using her mediation skills, she designed and implemented the Court's Judicial Dispute Resolution/Settlement Conferencing Program (JDR) in 1998 together with a Caseflow/Case Management System. She retired from Judiciary in November 2015 and resumed private practice as a High Conflict Impartial Evaluator, Mentor, and Executive Leadership Coach. She continues to conduct skills training, teaching, and volunteering, including in leadership roles, at the local, provincial, national, and international levels. With almost 50 years of experience, Nancy remains dedicated to building bridges in all her endeavors.

Speakers:

Hon. Judge James H. Gilbert (ret.) is a former Associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. He was a certified trial lawyer (1997-2004) and was named Distinguished Jurist of 2004 by the Academy of Certified Trial Lawyers of Minnesota. In 2000 he also received 97% of the votes in the Minnesota State Bar Association Preference Poll. Justice Gilbert has served as mediator, arbitrator, special master, settlement administrator, and consultant on case resolution involving hundreds of cases for individuals, Fortune 500 companies, the State of Minnesota, municipalities, insurance companies, and partners and shareholders in Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Iowa. He has resolved a large variety of civil cases in state and federal court including employment, real estate, banking, insurance coverage issues, anti-trust, environmental, taxes, government regulation, discrimination, shareholder and partner disputes, municipal zoning issues and many more. Since stepping down from the MN Supreme Court, Justice Gilbert has mediated and arbitrated hundreds of cases in all types of civil cases. https://lawgilbert.com/qualified-neutrals/james-h-gilbert/

Tomoko Takase holds an LLB from Chuo University and was accredited by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations in 2000. Tomoko has expertise in international and domestic family law issues and worked extensively in the field of international matrimonial law, including in relation to jurisdictional disputes, child abduction proceedings, parenting matters, child support issues and property cases. She served on the International Committee of Osaka Bar Association and has been a vice chair of the committee in charge of international family law since 2016. From 2010 to 2014 she held a position as a part-time judge in Kyoto Family Court specialising in conciliation. Tomoko has undertaken Mediation Training for Japanese-Australian Family Disputes held by the Ministry of Foreign Affair of Japan. Tomoko has been a mediator dealing with cases under the Hague Convention 1980 in the Osaka Mediation Centre and a panel of Cross-Border Family Mediators of MiKK. http://arcus-law.net/info/english/

Coffee Break	10:30-11:00

Mediation and Arbitration Trends

11:00-12.15

Moderator:

Simon J. Boehme (see bio page 8)

Speakers:

Sean Ekhlas is an experienced international arbitrator, litigator, regulatory advisor, and legal practitioner, admitted to practice in Georgia, Washington, DC, and before the Iran Central Bar Association. He is a FCIArb, an arbitrator at the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), and a court member of the Arbitration Center of the Iran Chamber (ACIC). Sean has handled complex international commercial disputes across various industries, including oil and gas, construction, technology, telecommunications, and finance. His practice focuses on international arbitration, cross-border regulatory compliance, OFAC licensing, and investment advisory. Sean served for over five years as the independent legal counsel to the Embassy of South Korea in Tehran, advising on diplomatic and regulatory matters. With more than a decade of experience in international arbitration and litigation, he brings a unique perspective to dispute resolution, having represented clients before arbitral tribunals around the world. He is also the founder of Ekhlas Law, a boutique firm dedicated to delivering strategic legal solutions across the US, the Middle East, and beyond. https://www.ekhlaslaw.com.

Howard Rosenfield is an investment recovery attorney assisting investors throughout the United States and foreign investors who have suffered losses due to broker or advisor misconduct in arbitration and mediation proceedings in state and federal courts and in arbitration and mediation proceedings before FINRA (formerly the National Association of Securities Dealers [NASD]), JAMS, and other Alternative Dispute Resolution venues. He emphasizes that broker or advisor misconduct may include the recommendation of investments that were unsuitable considering an investor's background, experience, knowledge or financial needs. Every customer has the right to demand mediation or arbitration of any dispute with his or her broker/advisor or brokerage firm. Because arbitration is prompt and less costly than going to court, Howard resolves investment disputes through the mediation and arbitration facilities of FINRA and the AAA. https://www.stockbrokerproblems.com/.

Sarah Schröder's is a senior associate in the Paris arbitration team of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. Her practice focuses on international arbitration, litigation, and public international law. In particular, she represents clients in commercial arbitrations, as well as investors and sovereigns in investment arbitrations before various arbitration institutions and under various arbitration rules, including the ICC and ICSID. She also represents clients in proceedings before the French courts relating to arbitration. She has been involved in many arbitrations and high-stake disputes in various sectors, including energy and natural resources, infrastructure projects, financial services and post M&A. She is also a regular speaker and lecturer on international arbitration and litigation matters. https://www.clearygottlieb.com/professionals/sarah-schroder.

Walt Sapronov has represented enterprise, carrier and service provider clients – including some of the largest in the United States – in telecom transactions and regulation for over thirty years. He has been named in Georgia Super Lawyers and, since 1996, in every annual edition of "International Who's Who Legal – Telecom & Media". Mr. Sapronov has negotiated countless wireless, enterprise and wholesale commercial telecom contracts with every major telecom carrier in the U.S. and with many abroad. He represents clients in FCC and state regulatory matters, and in telecom mergers, acquisitions and financing transactions. He has also represented various institutional clients in foreign investment transactions in U.S. telecommunications and wireless infrastructure. https://wstelecomlaw.com/attorneys-and-staff/walt-sapronov/.

Networking Lunch	12:15-14:00

A Last Bit of Technology

14:00-15:15

Moderator:

Ken Fields (see bio page 7)

Speakers:

Simon Boehme (see bio page 8)

Sharon Breckenridge Thomas teaches business law, employment law, and organizational management at the Michael Neidorff School of Business, Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas. Prior to teaching at Trinity, she served as visiting law faculty at other US law schools and taught commercial law, secured transactions, employment law and ADR. Sharon has practiced law and served as a mediator for more than 30 years. She is managing shareholder of Breckenridge Thomas Noland Dunbar, PC, a business law firm with offices in San Antonio and Dallas/Richardson, Texas. She began her career with an appointment to the US Air Force Judge Advocate General's Department as an Air Force civilian JAG attorney and represented the Air Force in labour and employment law cases for more than 15 years. In her final assignment, she served as the Chief of the Class Action Litigation Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, San Antonio Air Logistics Center. Her office was responsible for successfully defending the Air Force in complex class action litigation matters. Sharon is renowned internationally as a speaker on global ADR, labour and humanitarian issues. She has presented and published papers in the US, China, Egypt, and Europe. Recognized for her expertise in labour/employment law, Sharon has been Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1994.

Sarita Woolhouse specialises in commercial dispute resolution, domestic and cross-border. Her research interests include arbitration, mediation, international investment law, and construction law. Before joining academia in 2017, Sarita spent several years in practice as a solicitor in London law firms and independently as a barrister, covering a wide range of commercial disputes. She advised private corporations as well as state governments, worked as a counsel in arbitration and mediation, and as an arbitrator. She recently trained as a mediator. She has co-authored a couple of books (one on legal aspects of building and engineering contracts and one on arbitration), published many articles, and presented several papers at international conferences. She currently lectures on alternative dispute resolution, commercial law, construction law, and competition law and digital economy among other modules. https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/staff/dr-sarita-woolhouse/

Hon. Judge Lauren Zorfas (ret.) is a former court commissioner with the San Mateo Superior Court. Lauren serves as a private judge, mediator, settlement officer, arbitrator, special master, neutral evaluator, and parent coordinator. She leads ADZ Law's ADR group, drawing on her experience on the Bench, her 22 years of ADR and litigation experience as well as her extensive training in mediation. Prior to launching ADZ Law with her partners Lauren managed her own successful law office where she focused on dissolution and legal separation of marriage/domestic partnerships, child custody and visitation, child and spousal support, domestic violence, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, advice counsel, limited scope, and mediation. As court commissioner, she presided over an array of cases including child support, domestic violence, general family law, and criminal law. https://adzlaw.com/attorneys/lauren-zorfas/.

Coffee Break	15:15-15:45

Interactive Session on Nonviolent Communication **15:45-16:45**

Panelists:

Michael Burnett has been an attorney for 30 years, and an expert in the valuation and resolution of sexual misconduct claims. He assists institutions in the prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation perpetrated against minors and vulnerable adults. He has represented a variety of clients in coverage claims, and provides valuation, coverage and resolution strategy services to insurers and insureds. In resolving abuse claims, Michael uses his extensive knowledge, expertise and his proprietary database to determine fair and just claim valuations. During the resolution process, he treats survivors of abuse with empathy, respect and compassion, and helps them to understand their claim valuation and the factors that comprise it. He works to keep the process non-adversarial, and survivors frequently comment that they feel "heard" and cared about in the process. Michael seeks to assist organizations in eliminating sexual misconduct and helps them to identify gaps in protocol so that opportunities for misconduct can be eradicated. In his work, he helps to prevent or significantly reduce sexual abuse in institutions and society, and the enormous associated human and financial costs. Michael holds a BA from the University of Notre Dame, and a JD from Notre Dame Law School. https://www.burnettrci.com/

Hon. Judge Colin F. Campbell (ret.) was appointed a Judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court in 1990 after 12 years of practicing both civil and criminal trial law. During his 17 years as a Judge, he sat on assignments related to nearly every area of law including civil, criminal, juvenile, and family matters. He was Presiding Judge from 2000 to 2005. After his retirement from the Bench, Colin returned to Osborn Maledon in 2007 where he maintains an active personal injury tort, commercial litigation, and public law trial practice. Colin is praised for having "extensive trial experience from the other side of the bench" (Chambers USA, 2017). He offers clients a unique perspective as a retired Judge returning to private practice. He holds a JD, *summa cum laude* from University of Arizona and a BS from Northwestern University. https://www.omlaw.com/ccampbell/.

Closing Dinner @ Restaurant Apron	18:00-20:00