



European Conference on Mediation in Cross-Border Succession Conflicts

Cross-border inheritance disputes and the effects of the EU Succession Regulation are the focus of the conference held in Leipzig on June 26th

8 July 2019 - The conference, organized within the EU-funded project “**Fomento**” in the framework of the **5th Leipziger Mediationsforum**, under the patronage of the **Saxon State Minister of Justice Sebastian Gemkow**, gathered nearly 100 lawyers and mediation practitioners from around Europe.

The Plenary Session started with the opening speeches by **Cristiana Marucci**, **Claudia Covata**, (Resolutia - Gestione delle controversie) and **Jonathan Barth** (Steinbeis Beratungszentrum Wirtschaftsmediation), who presented the 2-year project Fomento (2017-2019) and the main results of its wide research on the effects of the EU legislation in the mediation and inheritance law sector.

The Civil Law Notary **Paolo Pasqualis**, Former President of the Council of the **Notariats of the European Union (CNUE)**, held the speech “*Let’s do something European*”, stressing the importance of developing a common interpretation and application of the European rules, too often influenced by those existing in the different national legal systems. **Isabel Fernández de Castillejo y Peetsch**, 1st Chairwoman of the non-profit association MIKK (International mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction) spoke about the Cross-Border Family Mediation Model (CBFM) and addressed strengths and opportunities of using this method in cross-border succession conflicts: “*CBFM (Cross-border Family Mediation) towards Mediation in CBSC (Cross-border Succession Conflicts) - less problems more success? Application of CBFM Models in CBSC*”.

The afternoon sessions of the conference offered a rich program of workshops and lectures delivered by leading experts in wide-ranging fields: ✓European Certificate of Succession, ✓pre-testamentary mediation, ✓secure platforms and blockchain based technology, ✓neurosciences in cross-border disputes, ✓probate dynamics, ✓co-mediation in cross-border context ✓online mediation, ✓elder mediation, ✓cultural stereotypes in negotiations.

Speakers included: **Gernot Barth**, **Bernhard Böhm**, **Luca Dal Pubel**, **Maurizio Di Rocco**, **Nicola Giudice**, **Gert Nilsson Eldrimner**, **Paolo Pasqualis**, **Mariaclaudia Perego**, **Victoria Riedel**, **Ulrich Wanderer**.

The audience response to the conference was very good, especially regarding the main focus of the meeting, the international background of guests and speakers, the combination of mediation and law, the wide range of topics addressed in the workshops and the networking opportunities offered by the event.

Most of the participants expressed their interest in attending this type of training events, with a special attention to the issues of Succession Regulation, cross-border successions, succession law and family law. Other topics of interest are intercultural training, psycho dynamics of succession conflicts, legal aspects of international succession conflicts, intercultural communication, mediation and new technologies.

Against the background of increasing international interdependences, the opinions conveyed by the audience reflect the growing interest in the topic of mediation in cross-border succession conflicts and the relevance that this issue is gaining among mediators and legal practitioners, who are particularly willing to regularly work in this area.

The FOMENTO conference gave mediators and jurists the opportunity to network and to exchange information and experiences in the field of succession conflicts, providing a venue for sharing useful insights into the perspectives and future developments of mediation across Europe.

As the Justice Minister **Sebastian Gemkow** wrote in his greetings, “*not only do the mediation techniques significantly contribute to the high quality of the mediation practice, but also does a lively exchange of experiences made with them*”.

Resources:

[FOMENTO E-BOOK: Mediation in cross-border succession conflicts and the effects of the ‘Succession Regulation](#)

[FOMENTO BOOKLET: How to deal with cross-border succession matters?](#)

[FOMENTO ANIMATED VIDEO: How to deal with cross-border succession matters?](#)

[FOMENTO GUIDELINES FOR CITIZENS: Succession conflicts with a cross-border impact](#)

[FOMENTO GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONALS: Succession conflicts with a cross-border impact.](#)

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