

*“When you talk you repeat only what you know.
When you listen – you may learn something new”.*

The E-book on Mediation, developed as part of the Project 2014-1-LV01-KA203-000506 „Development of Mediation Network in Civil and Criminal Cases to foster European Wide Settlements of Disputes“, represents a compendium of articles on mediation, elaborated by teachers from several partnering European universities. The multinational network of collaborating Alma Maters behind this study book determines it as unique in its academic wealth and perplexity, as well as in its practicality. Separately, the cultural background of each contributing institution further very delicately and with a touch of profound deepness contribute to achieve a very balanced way of presenting mediation and practical tools to its effective use.

The E-book has one very useful feature – each of its article could be read on its own and serve as a specific guidance on a particular topic of interest to the reader. All this presents the reader with a choice - to explore the study as a whole or select articles on subjects of his/her own interest. In neither of the articles do the authors delve into the issues of mediation with the complexities of scholarly and doctrinal approaches; instead, they articulate mediation in a plain and easy-to-follow language and manner. At the same time, despite the premise of circumvented theoretic and the stylistic simplicity on which the study is built, the book successfully provides students and practitioners with a detailed examination of all the various processes, hard-nosed techniques, values, principles, ground rules and mediation tools one ought to know well both as mediator or disputant.

Another superb element of this invaluable study book is that it includes detailed examination of relevant legal frameworks with regards to the mediation process in a number of European states (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Italy). Thus, with this different model of structural foundation, it manages to fully explore the magic of mediation and scrutinize all interconnected legal, cultural and psychological aspects of the mediation experience.

In a nutshell – a BOOK worth reading and re-reading to give us the ears to "listen" and through this – learn something new. Instead of repeating the old that we already now.