

Fact Sheet No. 9 – European Association of Judges for Mediation

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME)
Date of constitution	2003
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit International Association under French law
Legal Seat	5 quai de l'Horloge, 75001 Paris, France
Website	http://www.gemme.eu/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The purpose of this association is to bring together judges from the member States of the European Union and the member States of the European Free Trade Area (EFTA), including Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland, which use or wish to use recourse to alternative methods of dispute resolution and consider that effective and peace inducing justice involves, among other requirements, promotion and development of these alternative methods, especially judicial mediation.</p> <p>The Association's goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to promote within each EU and EFTA member State a national association of judges supporting mediation and strengthening and improving its practice;• to promote the exchange of information within each member State concerning practice and experience in the field of mediation, conciliation or any other alternative method of dispute resolution;• to contribute to the development of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution by participating in conferences and activities at European institutions; promoting the teaching of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution within studies in Law and training judges and lawyers, acquainting professionals and citizens with mediation and participating in setting up training programmes;• to use any means to assist judges with their individual moves to support mediation and encourage training for the purpose of a relevant and effective practice of mediation and other legal alternative methods of dispute resolution.	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>The Members of the association are grouped in national sections established in each EU and EFTA Member State.</p> <p>The Group has national sections in 12 countries of the European Union and EFTA, and contacts in 21 countries and includes 450 judges.</p> <p>Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Judges, professionals and non-professionals, either practicing or honorary;	

- Courts in which these judges work, subject to the possibilities given to them by the provisions that govern them;
 - Honorary members appointed by the General Assembly based on services rendered to the association;
- Associate members, upon agreement of the Executive Committee: attorneys, academics and other qualified individuals who have demonstrated an interest in mediation and work to promote it.

The **national sections** are in the following countries:

- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hungary
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Romania
- United Kingdom
- Spain
- Switzerland

Observers:

- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Greece
- Norway
- Poland
- Russia
- Slovenia

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is governed by a board of directors composed of at least five members elected by the General Assembly, to whom shall be added a member appointed by each national section established in the EU and EFTA.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

Over the past ten years, its actions have included:

- Thinking work with national, European and international institutions (brainstorming sessions, participation in national discussions on the implementation of the EU Directive);
- The identification and dissemination of good practice (in the context of conferences initiated by different sections);
- Information on alternative methods of conflict resolution (website, forums, books, articles in the press, handbooks, colloquia, films);

- Education of mediation prescribers (through organization or simple participation in training workshops).
- A new impetus was given to the action of GEMME by the European Directive of May 21, 2008.

F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

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G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

Awaiting information.