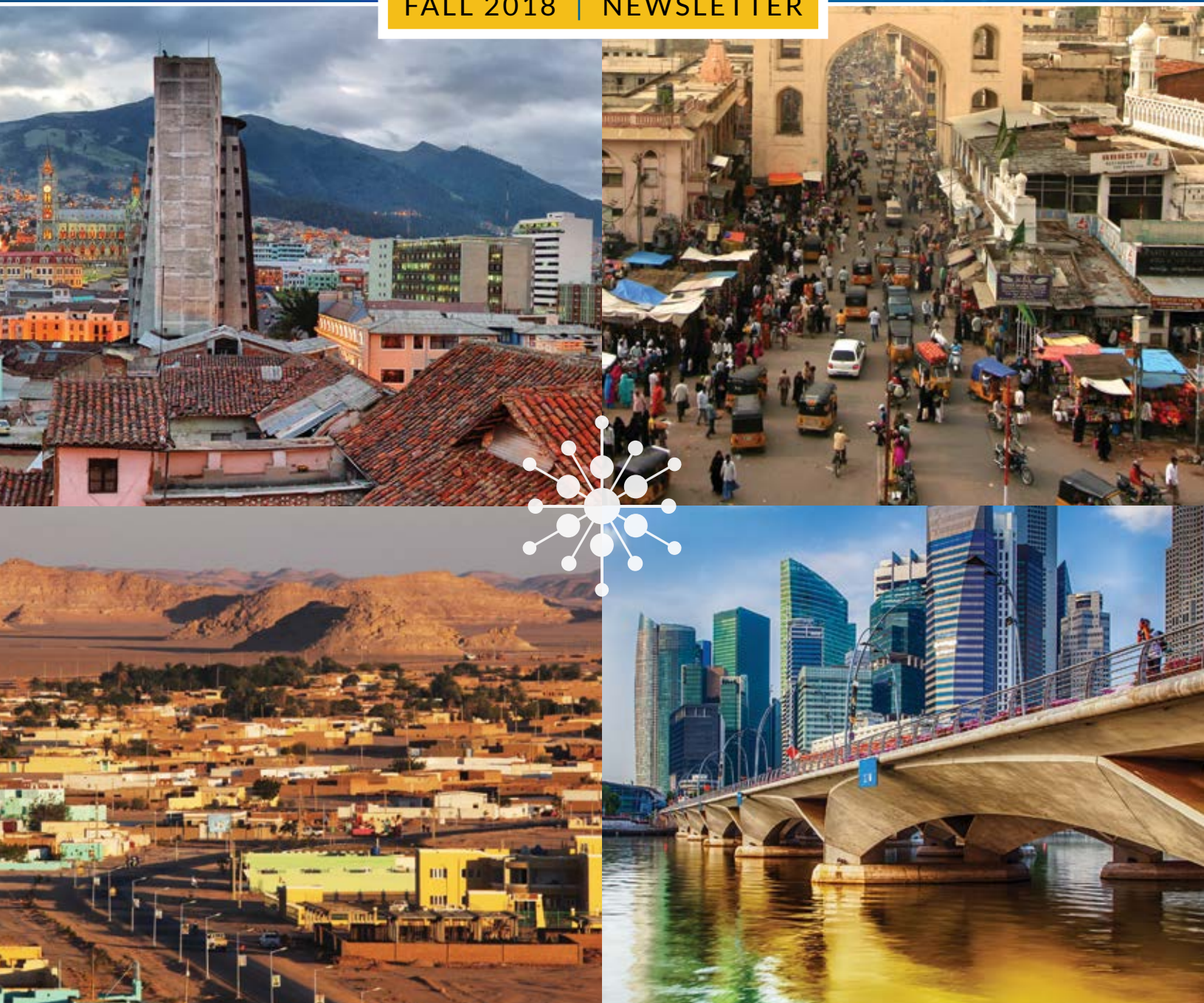




# Weinstein International Foundation

MEDIATING A BETTER FUTURE™

FALL 2018 | NEWSLETTER



FALL 2018  
NEWSLETTER  
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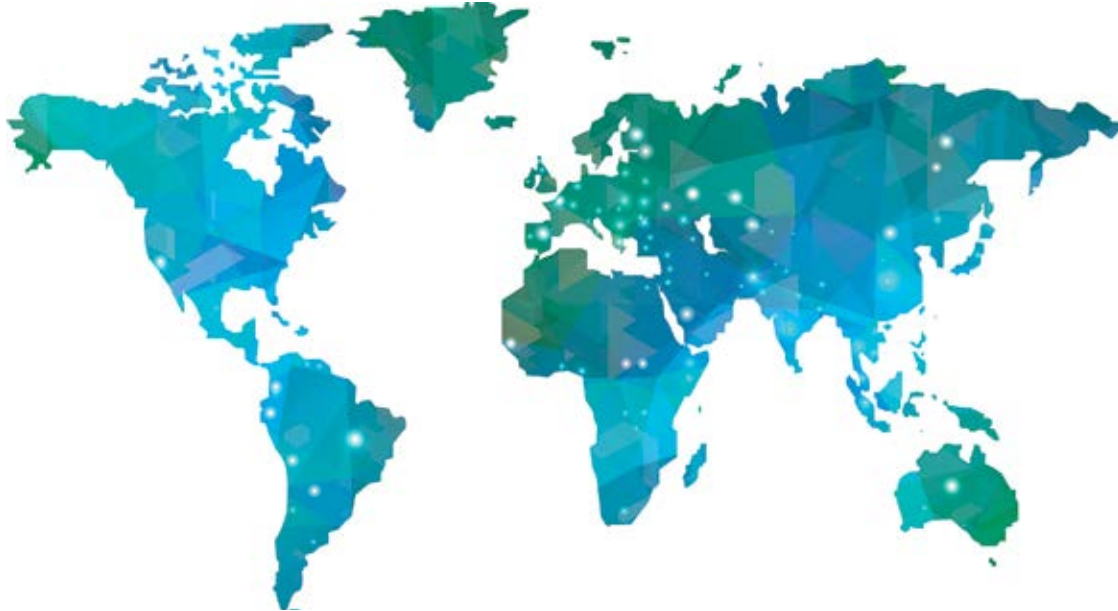
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## WEINSTEIN INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION WEBSITE

We invite you to view our new Weinstein International Foundation Website to learn more about the Foundation and its key initiatives. By viewing the website, you can learn about significant mediation developments around the world. You will also learn about the backgrounds and achievements of our accomplished global network of Senior Fellows. You can access the website here: [www.weinsteininternational.org](http://www.weinsteininternational.org).



### AFRICA

Cameroon  
DR. Congo  
Ethiopia  
Nigeria  
Rwanda  
Senegal  
Somalia  
South Africa  
Zambia

### CARIBBEAN

Barbados  
Trinidad & Tobago

### ASIA

Australia  
Bangladesh  
Bhutan  
Cambodia  
China  
India  
Japan  
Kazakhstan  
Kyrgyz Republic  
Malaysia  
Nepal  
Pakistan  
Singapore  
Thailand  
Uzbekistan  
Vietnam

### EUROPE

Armenia  
Azerbaijan  
Austria  
Belarus  
Bulgaria  
Bosnia-Herzegovina  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Greece  
Hungary  
Ireland  
Italy  
Kosovo  
Macedonia  
Netherlands  
Poland  
Portugal  
Russia  
Serbia  
Spain  
Switzerland  
Turkey  
United Kingdom  
Ukraine

### LATIN AMERICA

Argentina  
Brazil  
Chile  
Columbia  
Ecuador  
Mexico  
Peru

### MIDDLE EAST

Egypt  
Israel  
Iran  
Jordan  
Lebanon

## LETTER FROM HON. DANIEL WEINSTEIN (RET.)

### ANNOUNCING THE WEINSTEIN INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION



The peaceful resolution of conflict is one of the most important goals of all modern societies. Conflict is costly, wasteful of human and financial resources, and impedes the establishment and maintenance of peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable communities. Conflict comes in many forms, from war among nation states and insurgencies, to litigation between and among private parties. War destroys what generations who have come before us have built. Private litigation can put at risk the lives individuals have made for themselves. This is especially true in those places with underserved, underdeveloped or unfair legal systems.

But all forms of conflict share one common element: the capacity to limit our dreams by preventing us from reaching our full potential.

#### The Weinstein JAMS International Fellowship Program: Celebrating a Decade of Success

Thus in 2008, in partnership with the JAMS Foundation, we established the Weinstein JAMS International Fellowship Program, an initiative born of our hope to foster the growth of an international community of ADR-trained dispute resolution professionals to manage and resolve conflict around the world. The Fellowship program brings together judges, lawyers, NGO leaders, police officers, government officials, mediators and peacemakers to the U.S. for advanced training in mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution. The program, now in its tenth year, has provided training and collaborative opportunities for over 100 Weinstein JAMS Fellows from 70 countries. It is endowed to continue for years to come.

Fellows are now working in their own countries to resolve disputes and improve access to justice through the establishment of mediation programs connected with the courts. They also provide mediation services to private parties, draft legislation designed to promote mediation, and develop mediation training for law enforcement, among other pursuits. We are proud to have played a role in supporting the tremendous work they are doing.

#### The Origin of the Weinstein International Foundation: Mediating a Better Future

Now, ten years later, again we asked ourselves, "What else could we be doing to promote the peaceful resolution of conflict around the world?" In answering this question, we looked to the tremendous potential represented by the growing network of Weinstein JAMS Fellows and their motivation to continue to bring about societal change in their communities. We wanted to further support existing and future Fellows in the work they are doing in their own countries and create innovative new ways they can work together to resolve non-commercial disputes in the public interest across their regions.

#### We are now pleased to announce that we have established The Weinstein International Foundation committed to the following key initiatives:

- Increasing access to justice by supporting the expansion and adoption of mediation and dispute resolution around the world
- Providing education and training to promote mediation and other forms of dispute resolution internationally
- Sponsoring select mediations to facilitate the resolution of conflicts of societal significance impacting communities, regions and countries
- Harnessing the collective knowledge and cultural understanding of the expanding Weinstein JAMS International Fellows' network through ongoing collaboration and exchange to advance the settlement of conflict worldwide

With the inauguration of the Weinstein International Foundation, we invite you to learn more about the expertise of our "Senior Fellows" and the mediation and dispute resolution work they are undertaking in their countries. In a world of increasing international tensions and limited resources, we face an urgent imperative to manage the conflicts that are arising from global challenges. Together, as stated eloquently by one of our Fellows in these pages, "We will mediate a better future."

#### In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel H. Weinstein".

Hon. Daniel Weinstein (Ret.),

*Founder, Weinstein International Foundation and the Weinstein International Foundation Leadership Team*



## OUR LEADERSHIP



### FOUNDER

#### Daniel Weinstein

Hon. Daniel Weinstein (Ret.) is one of the preeminent mediators of complex civil disputes in the United States. Judge Weinstein is also internationally recognized as one of the premier mediators of complex, multi-party and high-stakes commercial and political disputes. He is the recipient of the 2014 International Advocate for Peace Award from the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution, whose past honorees have included: former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, and Nobel Peace Prize Winner Bishop Desmond Tutu. The National Law Journal has recognized him as an ADR Champion (2017-2018).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



#### David Carden

Ambassador (Ret.) David Carden returned to global law firm Jones Day in 2014, after serving as the first resident U.S. Ambassador to the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). In recognition of his efforts, Ambassador Carden was awarded the Department of State's Superior Honor Award in December 2013.



#### Jay Welsh

Jay Welsh is an established innovator in the ADR field. After joining JAMS in 1991, he played a prominent role in the growth of ADR within the U.S., as well as internationally. Most recently, as former executive vice-president and general counsel, he led the expansion of JAMS to include twenty-three Resolution Centers around the country and was instrumental in the growth of the company internationally. He was in charge of

training all incoming neutrals and all legal issues, and he engineered the acquisition of JAMS from the investment banking firm that had acquired it in 1989.



#### Leonardo D'Urso

Leonardo D'Urso is CEO and co-founder of ADR Center, Italy, one of the most respected mediation centers in the world. Since 1998, he has resolved more than 1,000 national and international complex civil and commercial mediations. With twenty years of full-time work in the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), Mr. D'Urso has been responsible for managing ADR Center's strategic activities, the opening of thirty-

one Resolution Centers in Italy, and the creation of ODR Center, an innovative cloud platform that manages the mediation process.



#### Ann Claire Williams

Hon. Ann Claire Williams (Ret.) is Of Counsel at Jones Day, where she leads its efforts in advancing the rule of law in Africa. Devoted to promoting the effective delivery of justice worldwide, Judge Williams has partnered with judiciaries, attorneys, NGOs and the U.S. Departments of Justice and State to design and lead training programs in Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. In November of 1999,

Judge Williams became the first and only judge of color appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. She retired from being a judge in early 2018. Before she became a circuit judge, she served as a U.S. District Court judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago from 1985 to 1999. She retired from being a judge in early 2018.



#### Bruce A. Edwards

Bruce A. Edwards Esq. is a pioneer in developing mediation as a tool for resolving commercial disputes in the United States. A professional mediator since 1985, he has mediated over 7,000 disputes throughout the United States, while contributing to a paradigm shift in the legal profession. He has played a central role in establishing the largest and most successful dispute resolution company in the U.S., JAMS,

where he also served as Chairman of the Board from 2011 to 2014. In addition to a number of ADR industry related awards received throughout his career, Mr. Edwards received the award of "ADR Champion" by The National Law Journal in 2018.



#### Sukhsimranjit Singh

Sukhsimranjit Singh is a law professor and Managing Director of the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine Law, where he directs the overall vision of the Institute's global outreach, world-class training programs, academics, and professional services. He is an international mediator, who has worked in Canada, India, New Zealand, and the U.S. A regular invitee for keynote addresses, he has lectured or

conducted dispute resolution trainings in more than thirty U.S. states, as well as Brazil, Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, India, Canada, China, France, Denmark, Egypt and Spain.



#### Ellen S. Bass, Executive Director

Ellen S. Bass Esq. is an attorney, trained mediator, and Executive Director of the Weinstein International Foundation. In her role as Executive Director, she manages the Foundation's daily operations and works with the Foundation's Board of Directors and global network of Senior Fellows to implement the Foundation's strategic initiatives, while defining and developing its procedures and programs.

## International Child Protection Through Mediation

In today's global world, the concept of "family" reaches beyond any national borders. Globalization has contributed to the rise in the number of families that can be placed into any of the following categories:

- International families: families in which each spouse has a different nationality
- Cross-border families: families that move totally or partially to another country
- Transnational reproduction-assisted families: Fertilization or surrogacy which takes place abroad
- Immigration-assisted families: Families that depend on the income of a paid migrant worker

Globalization even impacts families that are not included in the list above, since nearly everyone interacts with people who are part of, or embody a different family concept.

As a result, given the increase in the number of international families, there is also an increase in the number of cases, where children are wrongfully retained or removed from their habitual residence and/or separated from one or both of their parents, causing them unnecessary harm.

Mediation may be able to provide an effective remedy, reducing the length of time it currently takes to address these cases, so that children and their parents can be reunited more quickly. The subject of parent/child separation is of paramount importance, due to the extreme vulnerability of children under such circumstances.

### Using Mediation to Mitigate Family Separation in Undocumented Migration Cases

Historically, globalization has increased immigration, bringing together people from different parts of the world: those crossing borders seeking better living conditions, those fleeing untenable or dangerous conditions in their home countries, those studying abroad, tourists, and others, all who give rise to cross-border families.

Cross border migration, promoted by globalization, can also lead to family separation. In this context we have a "new" category of vulnerable minors. Mediation could be a powerful mechanism to help reach agreements that are in the best interests of these children. For example in the recent "zero tolerance" migration policy implemented in the U.S., all undocumented immigrants were considered criminals and were processed judicially as such, even in cases where there was no previous criminal record. This resulted in children being separated from their parents under highly traumatic circumstances.



Using mediation between the prosecuting Executive Branch of the U.S. government and the undocumented immigrants could potentially:

- Avoid the separation or expedite the reunification of the migrant family, thus eliminating or reducing the tremendous harm caused to children
- Simplify the judiciary process and reduce the related costs for all parties

There are precedents for using mediation to settle disputes between the Executive Branch of the U.S. government and individuals, such as the IRS Appeals Mediation Program, which allows taxpayers to reach settlements with the IRS. The Appeals mediator helps resolve disputes by identifying the core issues, possible obstacles to settlement, and working with the parties to develop resolution strategies.

Similarly, mediation programs could be created to allow undocumented immigrants to reach agreements with migration authorities. Mediation could result in a faster, more effective, and more humane process than the current dysfunction and chaos, resulting from separating immigrant families and then attempting to reunite them.

By Nuria Gonzalez-Martin, Senior Fellow-Mexico  
Weinstein International Foundation



## A SENIOR FELLOW REPORTS FROM THE SUDAN

**The following letter was received from Ihsanullah Khan, Senior Fellow from Pakistan.**

My name is Ihsanullah Khan, a graduate of the Weinstein JAMS International Fellowship Program, class of 2014. I am from Pakistan, and I am currently working with the UN refugee agency as Senior Protection Officer, based in Sudan. It is an honor for me to share my experiences with you. I hope to be able to continue to learn from your experiences as well, and be in touch with you all very soon.

Allow me to congratulate Judge Daniel Weinstein and the Weinstein International Foundation for bringing us together to continue our work in advancing dispute resolution globally. As this message is being shared, I am busy organizing emergency responses to refugees from South Sudan, fleeing the conflict and hunger in that country.

### DEAR FELLOWS,

My work is not related to the traditional mediation work that we are used to, or that we typically read about. I work with some of the most marginalized and distressed communities, helping them resolve conflicts that have no monetary value, but which have a huge impact on their lives. The internally displaced refugees and their communities, like other communities, need support in resolving minor issues before they escalate. I work with them on almost a daily basis to help them find solutions.

### A children's refugee crisis

South Sudan, the youngest nation in the world, fell into internal conflict less than three years after independence, following more than three decades of struggle. The conflict began in 2013 and recently entered into its fifth year, resulting in one of Africa's largest displacement situations, with over two million displaced internally within South Sudan and over two million taking refuge in six neighboring countries. UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, estimates that many numbers of refugees are below eighteen years of age. The crisis is considered by UNHCR as "a children's refugee crisis," with many children arriving unaccompanied, separated from their families, and deeply traumatized.

The South Sudan is, of course, not the only crisis situation in the world today: Syria, Afghanistan, the Congo, and Iraq are only some of the other nations that are facing terrible humanitarian crises.



### You have a huge role to play

If we look at history, there are not many crises, it seems to me, that were resolved through the use of force. Even when they were, such victories came only after massive suffering during and after the conflict. Peace can only come through dialogue and respect for everyone's basic human rights, irrespective of religion, nationality, sexual orientation, and political or social beliefs. My fellow mediators, arbitrators, diplomats and politicians – you all have a huge role to play!

If we look into some of these conflicts, we will find that many started from small disagreements, discontentment, or deprivation, and escalated into big disputes. My firm belief is that some of these crises, if not all, could have been prevented by resolving the conflicting issues at an early stage. It may not look that simple to most of us, since we see those conflicts now in their most complex development, but they were not so complex when they started.

### Resolving issues at their earliest possible stage

Allow me to provide an example from my own experience. The current conflict in South Sudan is primarily between the Dinka tribe of the President, Mr. Silva Kirr, and the Nuer tribe of the former Vice-President, Dr. Rick Machar. The two tribes and associated factions of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) are fighting each other. In June of 2014, when I arrived in Uganda to lead a South Sudanese Refugee emergency response,



## “TOGETHER, WE WILL MEDIATE A BETTER FUTURE”

I found that 79% of the total population of the refugee camp was either Dinkas or Nuers. They had just fled the ongoing conflict in their country, and they still hated each other. Any minor issue, such as who would fetch water first or who would sit next to each other in school, could quickly escalate into a tribal fight, resulting in hundreds from each tribe attacking the opposite side.

Thanks to the great learning and opportunity provided to me through the Weinstein Jams International Fellowship Program, I was able to apply some of the modern mediation techniques and practices I learned during my Fellowship in building a community-based mediation center. I trained eighty-five members of the refugees and their hosting community who had past experience, knowledge, and qualifications in conflict resolution and mediation techniques, and then provided support, so that they could help their fellow refugees in peacefully resolving conflicts.

In less than six months' time, we saw a 70% decrease in reported cases of clashes, and hundreds of matters were resolved peacefully. I was lucky enough to see these two communities come together in the camp: they elected a joint representative body with a Dinka Chairperson and a Nuer Vice-chairperson. Since that time, they have been living, to a large extent, peacefully.

The Dinka/Nuer conflict is not the only one in South Sudan. Conflicts between Sudanese refugees and their Ethiopian host communities is another situation where the promotion of dialogue helped create peaceful coexistence. I am currently working with South Sudanese Refugees and Sudanese host communities on similar projects, helping them resolve their issues at their earliest possible stage before escalation.

In a forced migration or displacement situation, we usually focus on immediate and obvious life-saving assistance, such as shelter, water, food and healthcare. There is also a need to build the capacities of these individuals and communities, since before displacement they were all living as part of a normal community.

For those of you who don't know, Einstein was once a refugee...

Migrants have skills that can be positively utilized in their new communities. For example, my Pakistani friend who now works at a fuel station in California was formerly a senior civil lawyer back in Pakistan.

This is my goal: I help displaced communities and their hosts find ways of living together in peace. I don't give them anything new. Instead, I help them use what they already have. I may not have resolved a multi-billion commercial matter, but I am sure my contribution may have saved a few lives.

My dear Fellows, you have a great role to play in making a more peaceful and better world. Your contributions for conflict resolution and peace building can make this world a better and safer place for generations to come. I sincerely congratulate you all on your great work and commend your commitment.

I want to commend everyone who has contributed to the ongoing support of the Fellows and created such an opportunity for all of us. Together, we will mediate a better future.

*Thank you. Ihsanullah Khan  
Khartoum, September 2018*

*Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author based on his personal experience and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of UNHCR.*





## The Remaking of Rwanda Through Mediation and Restorative Justice

Dispute resolution and restorative justice were integral to Rwanda's re-writing of its national narrative in the aftermath of the 1994 genocide. Both also played a traditional role in pre-colonial Rwandan society.

Historically, Rwandan communities addressed conflict and all matters of importance in a process known as Gacaca, literally, "cut grass," a method for dispute resolution, where the entire community participated in an outdoor circle. Drawing on this tradition, Gacaca Courts were established in this century as a way for Rwandans to confront their past through a transitional justice system. In the local community Gacaca Courts, perpetrators and survivors of the 1994 genocide were brought together face to face, as part of a countrywide effort to build a culture of reconciliation and forgiveness.

Expanding mediation within Rwanda has been a critical component of the country's aspiration to establish itself as a stable civil society, as well as a key economic hub in Africa. Declared a failed state in 1994, Rwanda has experienced steady growth since those troubled times. Today, Rwanda is considered to have the least corruption of any country in Africa.

A key feature of the Justice and Reconciliation Sector of the Rwandan government has been the establishment of a community-based mediation system. About 30,000 locally

elected mediators preside over the forum of original jurisdiction for the majority of all civil matters within the country. Court-based mediation, as part of the civil justice system, is thought to be the next key step.

Leading the effort to develop a court-based mediation program in Rwanda are Senior Fellows of the Weinstein International Foundation, in collaboration with African Peace Partners, Edwards Mediation Academy, and the JAMS Foundation.

A mediation pilot project that began in the Commercial Courts last year included the training of commercial court appellate and trial level judges, commercial litigators, and in-house counsel from the banking industry. Immediately after the training, amendments to the Civil Code were enacted to allow mediation in all courts. Subsequently, commercial court judges who had already begun successfully mediating, began training judges and attorneys in other areas of practice. At the same time, amendments to the criminal code have opened the door for further expansion of restorative justice processes as part of the plea bargaining process. Also underway is an effort to create a national policy to establish the theoretical underpinnings to consolidate and integrate these innovations into an ongoing national process of interest-based reform.



## Justice M. L. Mehta and the Delhi Dispute Resolution Society:

### Improving Access to Justice Through Mediation – Ideas for Today and Tomorrow



Justice M.L. Mehta, Senior Fellow of the Weinstein International Foundation, embarked upon the journey of turning Alternative Dispute Redressal into Appropriate Dispute Redressal (as he calls it) in India in the early 2000s, when he was serving as Judge in the district courts of

Delhi. He pioneered the institutionalization of ADR by establishing the Delhi Dispute Resolution Society (DDRS) as an autonomous registered government body, specializing in pre-litigation community mediation. Justice Mehta's goals in establishing DDRS were fivefold:

- To empower the public to resolve disputes amicably
- To reduce the backlog of cases in the courts
- To save the cost of litigation to parties and the State
- To promote greater public satisfaction with the legal system
- To make people build relationships and make a stronger and safer society

DDRS is the first initiative of its kind in India for the introduction of ADR processes, especially mediation and conciliation, to not only matters pending before the courts, consumer forums and other bodies, but also in pre-litigation matters, at low or no cost to the general public. DDRS engages extensively in community mediation to assist parties in resolving their local disputes and improving access to justice throughout Delhi.



#### Catering to a range of community disputes

Since its inception, DDRS has established nine mediation and conciliation centres and one mediation clinic throughout Delhi, catering to a range of community disputes including: neighborhood brawls, garbage dumping, domestic violence, petty fights, and city boundary disputes caused by racism, homophobia, sexism or ageism, among others. All these centres are well equipped with complete IT-backed infrastructure and are exceeding performance expectations. Funding for the centres is provided by the government and from the registration and processing fees charged from financial institutions. Services to the general public are provided at no cost.

Ultimately, DDRS intends to be a self-sustaining institution. While Justice Mehta continues as its founder and chairman, DDRS has a full-fledged governmental establishment within the Secretariat and is headed by a Director. The Society intends to establish ten more centres in the unrepresented areas of the city of Delhi. The fact that the public has begun to directly approach the centres without referrals for its services, and individuals are seldom represented by lawyers, demonstrates the increasing success of the program. The team of dedicated staff and mediators are the key assets of DDRS. The settlement rate of the DDRS Centres is steadily increasing gradually and has reached 40.35% from an initial 10%, as of 2018.

#### ADR services are low or no cost to the general public

With more than 227 million cases currently pending in the courts, Justice Mehta's establishment of DDRS is realizing his vision to provide ADR services at low or no cost to the general public as an alternative to endless litigation. DDRS increases social harmony in society by helping parties resolve their disputes amicably, economically and efficiently.

As the founder of DDRS, Justice Mehta continues to supervise mediation skills training programs and workshops for lawyers and judges organized by his team of trainers. DDRS regularly conducts mediation awareness training workshops and seminars for the general public.



## Important ADR Developments in Ecuador

Ecuador has witnessed important developments in ADR during the past twenty years. Mediation today is broadly used for the resolution of legal disputes. Other ADR mechanisms have also grown, including arbitration and dispute boards.

The Arbitration and Mediation Act, enacted in 1997, marked the starting point of modern mediation in Ecuador. Before 1997, indigenous communities included a form of mediation as part of their justice system. This allowed for the peaceful resolution of local disputes, but mediation was not used for any other type of controversy.

Since 1997, mediation has grown in acceptance and recognition by the legal community and the general public. It has been acknowledged by the Constitution since 1998 and incorporated into several pieces of legislation. As a result, mediations have steadily increased over the years. Today, there are several ADR providers, and mediation is broadly used for the resolution of increasingly complex disputes in various subject matters.

Ecuador's mediation has two features that distinguish it, compared with other countries. The first is the strength of the Mediated Settlement Agreement (MSA). The MSA is considered a final judgment that can be automatically enforced within Ecuador, without the need for any further approval. Private parties are empowered to administer their own justice. Recent legislation has also acknowledged the recognition of foreign MSAs, so that both local and transnational mediated settlement agreements are enforceable.

The second feature involves mediation with the State. In some civil law countries, mediation cannot be used to resolve disputes that involve a public entity. Ecuador has designed a coherent legal framework, however, which allows the government to participate in mediation and reach a settlement.

Mediators have designed processes that consider settlement barriers common to public functionaries, including fear of the consequences of certain decisions and budgetary issues, among others. Through mediation, many highly complex legal disputes with high stakes have been successfully resolved, preventing national, as well as international litigation.

Ecuador has developed the use of mediation over the years, and its practice is interesting as a potential model for other countries in the region to consider. However, it still faces important challenges. These include: the professionalization of mediation, so that it can become a successful profession for practitioners, the expansion of mediation to subjects that have traditionally been considered outside of its scope, and the enhancement of mediation attributes in order to build a culture of peace.



### Arbitration in Ecuador

Ecuador has a long practice of domestic arbitration, first with the issuance of the Commercial Arbitration Law on the 1960s and subsequently, with the Arbitration and Mediation Law of the 1990s. Lately, more controversies related to investment contracts are being directed to arbitration. There is also an initiative to harmonize actual law to the UNCITRAL model law, in order to improve domestic and international arbitration with actual standards.

Regarding other ADR mechanisms, Ecuador has explored the possibility of using dispute boards for the management of construction and public procurement conflicts. However, this mechanism has not yet been recognized by legislation.

Ecuador has also designed a peace justice system, by which a respected member of a community acts as an equity judge to resolve local controversies.

By Ximena Bustamante, Senior Fellow-Ecuador  
Weinstein International Fellow

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Senior Fellows Regional Conference in Tbilisi, Georgia

On October 26-29 of 2018, a select group of Senior Fellows from the Weinstein International Foundation will attend a three-day conference in Tbilisi and Kakheti, Georgia. The purpose of the conference is to share dispute resolution best practices and promote the application of mediation to conflicts in their communities across the mid-Asia and East European regions.

This is the third regional conference to take place in a series of conferences that are scheduled around the world, bringing together Senior Fellows from the Weinstein International Foundation to address conflict resolution initiatives in their regions.

The goals of the conference are: 1) To strengthen Fellows' mediation practices in their own countries, 2) To enhance collaboration among the Fellows by providing training and opportunities for educational exchange, and 3) To explore how Fellows can help mediate public interest disputes in their communities, such as conflicts involving natural resources, migration, land use, environmental issues and gender issues. It is anticipated that conference participants will also meet with local officials to explore how to assist in managing these kinds of disputes.

In a world of increasing international tensions and limited resources, there is an urgent imperative to manage the conflicts arising from global challenges. The impetus for the Weinstein International Foundation regional conferences is to further enhance the Fellows' capacity to mediate public interest disputes in their communities, both locally and across borders.

## Report on the Senior Fellows Regional Conference in Singapore

In June of 2018, eighteen Senior Fellows from across Asia attended the second in a series of planned Fellows' regional conferences hosted by the Weinstein International Foundation. The goal of the conferences is to enhance collaboration and training opportunities throughout the Fellows' global network. This conference took place in Singapore. The Fellows attending addressed how to further their own dispute resolution practices in their countries. They also considered how they might identify opportunities to participate in the mediation of disputes affecting their communities and region in the public interest.

As part of the conference, Fellows were introduced to the concept of the new Weinstein International Foundation and asked to provide input on the types of resources that might benefit their practice areas and strengthen their collaboration across the Fellows' network. The Singapore conference brought together the majority of all Senior Fellows working in the Asia region. In the words of Andrew Lee of China, it was, "An amazing and powerful gathering of hearts, souls and minds." Said Pema Needup of Bhutan, the three days of the conference were "Remarkable...Full of learning and exchange of great ideas and information among the Fellows [culminating] into building a common consensus."





**Weinstein International Foundation**  
MEDIATING A BETTER FUTURE™

## WHO WE ARE

The Weinstein International Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to making mediation available and accessible worldwide in the face of increasing global challenges and conflict. Founded by deeply experienced dispute resolution pioneers in the U.S. and abroad, we leverage the global network of ADR-trained Weinstein JAMS International Fellows to further promote mediation education and training while helping our communities manage local, regional and cross-border non-commercial disputes in the public interest.

## WHAT WE DO

### INCREASE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Supporting the expansion and adoption of mediation and dispute resolution around the world

### PROMOTE MEDIATION

Providing education and training to promote mediation and other forms of dispute resolution internationally

### PROVIDE CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Helping communities manage local, regional and cross-border non-commercial disputes in the public interest

### EMPOWER OUR GLOBAL NETWORK

Harnessing the collective experience of dispute resolution leaders to advance the settlement of conflict worldwide



**GET INVOLVED!**

Contact us at: [info@weinsteininternational.org](mailto:info@weinsteininternational.org)