



# European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME)

Information provided by GEMME

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## A. General information

Name of network	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	<a href="http://www.gemme.eu/">http://www.gemme.eu/</a>

## B. Goals of the network

The Association's goals are:

- 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 network – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)*

The Members of the association are grouped in national sections established in each EU and EFTA Member State. The Group has national sections in 12 countries of the European Union and EFTA, and contacts in 21 countries and includes 450 judges.

#### **Members:**

- 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 network*

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 network*

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 Exchange Group (A.E.L.E), 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.

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 network's statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the network referring to judicial training*

The Association's goals are:

- to contribute to the development of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution, by participating in conferences and activities in the area of European institutions and those of A.E.L.E., working to promote teaching of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution in the course of legal studies and training of judges and lawyers, familiarizing professionals and citizens with mediation and participating in defining training of collaborating mediators.
- to use any means to assist judges with their individual steps to support mediation and encourage training for the purpose of relevant and effective practice of it, as for any other alternative method of dispute resolution that is legally permitted.

*G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the network with major judicial networks involved in the current project*

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Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "Lot 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training ", carried out by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)