In this article I describe how mediation is regulated under the Mediation Act, 2017 with particular reference to parts 1 and 2 of the Act. I highlight key provisions, providing rationale for my views.

## **Introduction to the Mediation Act (2017). Reference to Part 1: Preliminary and General** Sections

- 1. Short title and commencement- It is most helpful that a succinct, concise and unambiguous short title is chosen to define the Mediation Act (2017)<sup>1</sup>. The Mediation Act is an appropriate instrument for the modern era, yet with links to the historical principles of Brehon law. The practice of mediation itself has existed in various guises for centuries, and formalised more recently in Ireland by the Council of the Bar of Ireland and representative bodies including the Mediators Institute of Ireland, founded in 1992.'<sup>2</sup> This relatively recent rejuvenation of a historical practice reflects successful national and international interventions such as the role of mediation in the Good Friday/Northern Ireland/Belfast Agreement. The Mediation Act appropriately supports the trend in advancing methods of non-adversarial, restorative and alternative dispute resolution.
- 2. Interpretation<sup>3</sup>-this section defines the meaning of terms. It outlines the acts that are relevant to the Mediation Act section 2(a)(o), commencing with (a) section 8 of the Enforcement of Court Orders Act 1940 on through the decades to (n) the Children and Family Relationships Act 2015.

Subsection(o) provides for 'any other enactment which may be prescribed for the purposes of this definition.' Interpretation notes that "Council" has the meaning assigned to it in section 12(1) The Mediation Council of Ireland. I will highlight and explore this in further detail in Key Provisions Part 2.

3. Scope<sup>4</sup>-this section lays out the acts and the sections of those acts that are excluded, to which the Mediation Act does **not** apply. Section 1(a)(j) outlines specifically those Acts. Section 2 notes that nothing in the Act should be understood as replacing a mediation or other dispute resolution process. Section 3 outlines the Ministers regard in prescribing - the unsuitability, the availability and suitability of means other than mediation, and the rights of parties (if any).

The fact that the Mediation Act does not apply to when proceedings are underway under the Domestic Violence Acts 1996 to 2011, is difficult to comprehend. Whilst understandably it may be difficult for one party to be in the room with the other party, the availability of caucus could facilitate the process of mediation. It has been well documented that it is often difficult for a domestic violence victim to make progress within formal proceedings in court against the perpetrator, for a variety of reasons. I will discuss Section 3 Scope in greater detail under key provisions.

4. Regulations<sup>5</sup>-3 sections (1)(2)(3)-regulation is referred to here, as being the responsibility of the Minister and the House of the Oireachtas. It refers to matters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>*Ibid*, section 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> MII Code of Ethics and Practice for Mediators (1<sup>st</sup> May 2021)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>*Ibid*, section 2(a)(o).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>*Ibid,* section 3 (1)(a)(j) (2)(a)(b)(3)(a)(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Mediation Act 2017, section 4(1)(2)(3)

prescribed, or to be prescribed, without prejudice, with the flexibility of the minister to provide for incidental, supplementary and consequential provisions. The issue of regulation is an important one and is referenced under section 12 Council.

5. Expenses<sup>6</sup>. This outlines the Ministerial financial responsibilities of administering the act is to be sanctioned by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform. A Government Circular, File Reference: DPE-228-001-2017<sup>7</sup> outlines the use of mediation as an Alternative Dispute mechanism the resolution of workplace, contract and other disputes, recommends the use of mediation and provides a comparator framework cost benefit analysis between the costs of the legal system and the costs of mediation.

### Key provisions Part 1. Section 2 Interpretation and Section 3 Scope.

The key provisions to highlight in reference to Part 1 is Section 2 Interpretation and Section 3 Scope. I have chosen both sections as they are inextricably linked.

The rationale for choosing interpretation is that for mediation to appeal as a means of attempting to resolve a dispute and to be widely accessible to various professional sectors and networks within diverse educational, vocational and pedagogical disciplines and professional backgrounds, then the meanings inherent in the Act need to be widely understood and consistently interpretated according to a standardised framework. The interpretation provision refrains from the use of legal nomenclature, and complex legalistic language. The Act, as written in plain English aims, in my view, to facilitate enhanced understanding and interpretation by both the practicing mediators and the parties in dispute alike. The MII Code of Ethics and Practice further elaborates and channels the legal interpretation of the act into practical application within the broader legal context.

Clear unambiguous definitions of the meanings of key terms, such as mediation, mediation information session, mediation settlement, mediator, minister, party, practising barrister and practicing solicitor and legal documents supports a wide adoption of the terms. This plain English approach facilitates consolidation of the meaning of mediation and the principles pertaining to it. The clarity of interpretation further enables understanding and cohesion of mediation practice across jurisdictions, across cultural contexts and language differences, at a European and international level. In undertaking the legal research trail comparative analysis, I observed that despite minor cultural differences there is a commonality and standardisation of interpretation of mediation principles and practices that appear consistent, coherent and embedded in much of the literature, codes and practices across the jurisdictions in Asia, America, Europe, Britain and Ireland.

However interpretation can be highly subjective, is influenced by personal experiences and biases and exists within a complex web of professional disciplinary norms and standards. Cultural context has a role to play, alongside the interpretation that is located within ontological positioning and epistemological stance. The question arises, who interprets, and

<sup>6</sup>Ibid, section 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Government Circular File Reference: DPE-228-001-2017

shttps://circulars.gov.ie/pdf/circular/per/2017/17.pdf (Visited 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024)

based upon what epistemic knowledge? The subjectivity associated with interpretation can be problematic, a default position can lead to exclusionary practices and introduces a complexity to interpretation that may lead to maladroit practice. This is most notable under Section 3 Scope<sup>8</sup> and references to what the Act does **not** apply to, particularly how interpretation may lead to exclusion of access to mediation where proceedings are underway under certain acts, such as Domestic Violence Acts. Research undertaken by Conneelly & O'Shea (2019), Law Society Gazette <sup>9</sup> notes "*The Legal Aid Board's interpretation of the Mediation Act 2017 is that it* 

"excludes' family mediation taking place where proceedings are underway under the Domestic Violence Acts 1996–2011....domestic violence presented in almost 25 per cent of all private family law cases in the District Court. However, a substantial number of applicants did not return for full hearings, where evidence is tested rigorously. It will be interesting to see if the decision of the Family Mediation Service to refuse free mediation to parties where domestic violence proceedings are underway will discourage this upward trend."

In this context the research highlights the anomalies that exist within the Section 3 Scope in relation to what is **not** applicable to process within the Mediation Act. The researchers, O'Shea and Conneely<sup>10</sup> both object to opt-outs from the act where proceedings are under way, either under the Domestic Violence Acts or under the Child Care Acts<sup>11</sup>. "Equally, seeking to prevent victims of domestic violence from accessing mediation if they wish to do so is disempowering and limits their choices, particularly where there are children, and parenting issues or maintenance arrangements must still be resolved."

The Domestic Violence Act 2018<sup>12</sup> and the subsequent ZERO Tolerance Strategy<sup>13</sup> are progressive. However a word search for 'Mediation' 'mediation' or 'mediate' within Zero Tolerance reports no responses for any of the terms relating to mediation. The 2018 Act included the amendment of Section 3 Scope of the Mediation Act to include (or rather exclude) the Domestic Violence Act 2018.

The application of the provisions of Interpretation and Scope within the Mediation Act 2017, remain problematic and complexing, not alone for the non-legal professional practitioner of Mediation, but also there remains much dialogue to be considered within the legal profession in relation to interpretation and exclusion of court proceedings under the Acts outlined.

In summary, I have highlighted the provisions of Section 2 Interpretation and Section 3 Scope as significant sections to highlight. The rationale for these choices include the complexity and subjectivity of interpretation, as well as the legalistic approaches surrounding the process of interpretation. Reference to the diversity of interpretation that

<sup>11</sup> Child Care Acts 1991 to 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Ibid*, section 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Conneely & O'Shea, Law Society Gazette, Ireland, (2019) Many domestic violence cases don't return to court.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> S.Conneely, R. O'Shea, S. Dempsey. Domestic Violence in the District Court (2019) 22(4) I.J.F.L 7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Domestic Violence Act 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Zero Tolerance: Third National Strategy on Domestic Gender and Sexual Violence (2022-2026)

can arise between various professional bodies tasked with regulation of the Act have been made. In highlighting the provision under Section 3 Scope, the Acts to which the Mediation Act does **not a**pply have been discussed. In so doing this essay notes that the scope of the act raises potential for maladroit practice. Maladroit practices include interpretative variances across disciplines. The outcome and impact of Section 3 Scope may lead to unnecessarily reducing access to Mediation as contained within some laws. I have briefly explored the impact that can have in the instance of cases brought to court under the Domestic Violence Acts 1996-2011.

## Mediation Act 2017 Part 2: Mediation in General. Section 12

Sections<sup>14</sup>

- 6. Mediation
- 7. Agreement to mediate
- 8. Role of mediator
- 9. Codes of practice
- 10. Confidentiality

Having explored commonality of definition and interpretation in the legal research trail across the international spectrum, on sections (6)(7)(8)(9)(10) it appears that while there are different instruments across countries and jurisdictions, there is also consensus to be found in the wording and application of codes in mediation practice.

11. Enforcement of mediation settlements. On the issue of self-enforcement O'Higgins notes

"The Brehon Law system was in inexistence in Ireland since the Celtic times....One of the most fascinating characteristics of the Brehon Law system was that it was essentially self-enforcing.....judgements were left in the hands of the ordinary people to enforce'<sup>15</sup>

12. Council-Sections( 1) (2)(3) refer to the formation of the Mediation Council of Ireland, as being the one body that is recognised (1) 'for the time being'. It outlines the responsibilities of the Minister in relation to the order of recognition of that body, and Sections (5)(6) outline the circumstances in which the order would be revoked.

The act does not, of course, specify the members of a representative body, but several contenders exist as potential members of the Council in the role of representative bodies. Those bodies include the Council of the Bar of Ireland, Legal Aid Board, GEMME (Irish branch), Mediators institute of Ireland (MII), the International Mediators institution (IMI), Mediators Foundation of Ireland (MFI) the Irish Professional Mediators Organisation (IPMO)<sup>16</sup> the National Registrar of Mediators (NRM) and the Irish Commercial Mediation Association(ICMA). A recent meeting of unspecified mediation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> *Ibid.,* at 9-15.section (6)(1)(10) section 7(a)(g) section 8(1)(4) section 9(1)(8) section 10(1)(3) section 11(1)(4) section 12(1)(4)(a)(b)(8) section 13(1)(4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Higgins, N. (2011) The Lost Legal System: Pre-Common Law Ireland and the Brehon Law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> IPMO Conference 2024 <u>https://www.theipmo.ie/page-18049/13328140</u>

sector representatives and the minister's office engagement would appear to support the advancement towards a

"recognised body by order of the Minister' to be consulted upon in the formation of the Council, and potentially as members of the body that 4(a) complies with the minimum standards and (b) is sufficiently representative of mediation interests in the mediation sector." <sup>17</sup>

13. Reports of Council sections (1)(2)(3)(4)

### Key provisions Part 2. Section 12

The key provision I chose to highlight in reference to Part 2 is Section 12 'Council'. The rationale for choosing to highlight this provision, is that it is contemporary, it relates to the galvanising of mediation standards and cohesion of practice in the sector. A strong diverse governance body, would provide greater oversight to Section 2 interpretation and the dilemmas encountered under Section 3 Scope of the Act.

A submission by the Council of the Bar of Ireland on the Mediation Bill in 2017<sup>18</sup>, outlines its response to Section 12 the proposed Mediation Council of Ireland.

"It is submitted that the proposed Mediation Council of Ireland does not add any governance value to mediation in general.... It is submitted that setting up a new body to promote mediation is unnecessary....may lead to new fees for practitioners which will become part of the cost of providing the mediation service which will inevitably be passed on the public....adds a further layer of regulation.....rubber stamp the requirements of the proposed Act is unnecessary and not cost effective......has not been given clearly defined objectives."

In relation to Reports of the Council, Section 13, the submission further outlines "It is unclear what parts of the Council's functions the reports under Section 13 are envisaged to cover" and advises that "further consideration should be given to the necessity of establishing such a body."

In contrast, The Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)<sup>19</sup> in the UK reported overwhelming support in favour of regulation, with the Civil Mediation Council (82%) as the preferred body. Overall, 88% of mediator respondents agreed, *"there should be a single regulatory body for setting and monitoring professional standards of practice by commercial mediators and dealing with public complaints against mediators."* 

In the Irish context O'Shea, International Mediation Institution (IMI)<sup>20</sup> elaborates that

*"Talks are underway to establish the Mediation Council of Ireland..... 5 of the 11 Council seats are for members who represent bodies promoting mediation services or* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Ibid* section 4 (a)(b)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Council of the Bar of Ireland, *Submission in relation to the mediation Bill* (2017)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The CEDR Mediation Audit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> O'Shea, R. (2021) Ireland's Mediation Adventure. International Mediation Institution

representing the interests of mediators. It is vital for the development of mediation and the benefit of service users that the majority of these seats are held by organisations solely representing the interests or promotion of mediation."

Lally, National Registrar of Mediators blog<sup>21</sup> sense of urgency is apparent

"It is more urgent now than ever that the Mediation Council be formed to oversee and support the requirements set out in the legislation.....to ensure accountability and maximise the potential of the legislation to provide optimal dispute resolution by mediation."

It appears that there is support amongst practicing mediators and representative membership organisations, for the establishment of an oversight regulatory body, aimed at consolidation of professional practice and enhanced regulation. However there appears to be historically less support from the Council of the Bar on the formation of the Council, although this position may have changed in the intervening years. Research within the sector on the formation of the Council, its membership, functions, policy responsibilities and reporting mechanisms is obviously required. Experiences in the UK and Internationally suggest that a light handed approach to regulation can work effectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Lally, L. (2019) NRM Blog. Mediation Council needed now more than ever.

### Legal Research Trail.

My Legal Research Trail, was prompted by the following considerations

- Understanding the Mediation Act 2017, primary sources, statutory texts.
- o Regulatory guidance and sources-international perspective
- Comparative Analysis-of international codes, regulations and statutory instruments.
- Practical application-impact of provisions within the act.

### 1. Step 1 European context

I began by exploring the Kings Inns Mediation Manual<sup>22</sup>, which led me to broaden the search to international instruments in Europe. I searched 'EUR-Lex' using the term 'Mediation European context', and discovered.

Mediation directive (2008)

DIRECTIVE 2008/52/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 21 May 2008 on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters Available at <u>http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2008/52/oi</u>

## (Visited 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024).

Directive 2013/11/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on alternative dispute resolution for consumer disputes and amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 and Directive 2009/22/EC (Directive on consumer ADR) (Visited 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024).

European Code of Conduct for Mediators. <u>http://www.euromed-justice-</u> <u>iii.eu/document/eu-european-code-conduct-mediators</u> (Visited 23rd April 2024)

I explored online academic research, starting with the law society UK,

https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/ on the implications of the practice of mediation following Brexit, using the search term 'Mediation Brexit' and discovered the following. From the end of the transition period, <u>Directive 2008/52/EC (the EU Mediation</u> <u>Directive)</u> applying to cross-border civil and commercial disputes involving parties from EU member states is not applicable between the UK and the EU member states.(Visited 15<sup>th</sup> April. Law Society<sup>23</sup>. <u>https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/topics/brexit/alternative-dispute-</u> <u>resolution-after-brexit</u>

The <u>Cross-Border Mediation (EU Directive) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019</u><sup>24</sup>were made on 1 March 2019 and came into effect on 1 January 2021. Article 69 of the Withdrawal Agreement sets out the circumstances in which EU law applies in the case of ongoing procedures (with mediation covered within this). On 1 January 2021, the 2011 Regulations and associated changes to the Civil Procedure Rules, listed above, were repealed. As a result, the provisions of the EU Mediation Directive (relating to confidentiality, enforcement and limitation highlighted above) no longer apply to cross-border mediations taking place in the UK.I research online search terms 'Regulation of Mediation in England 'and discovered

Scherpe, Jens M., and Bevan Marten, 'Mediation in England and Wales: Regulation and Practice', in Klaus J. Hopt, and Felix Steffek (eds), *Mediation: Principles and Regulation in* 

<sup>23</sup> Law Society

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The Honorable Society of King's Inns, "Advanced Diploma in Mediation Course Manual 2024"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Cross-Border Mediation (EU Directive) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

*Comparative Perspective* (Oxford, 2012; online edn, Oxford Academic, 24 Jan. 2013), <u>https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199653485.003.0006</u>, (Visited 17 Apr. 2024).

Chapter 6

England has taken a very light-handed approach to the regulation of mediation, with few rules in place outside of the legal aid scheme's funding code, and those required by the Mediation Directive (which has been implemented only in relation to cross-border mediations).

## and

CEDR. The Tenth Mediation Audit: A survey of commercial mediator attitudes and experience in the United Kingdom (2023). Available at

https://www.cedr.com/foundation/mediation-audit/ (Visited 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024).

CEDR, European Code of Conduct for Mediation Providers. (4 December 2018) Available at: <u>https://rm.coe.int/cepej-2018-24-en-mediation-development-toolkiteuropean-code-of-</u> <u>conduc/1680901dc6 3</u>. (Visited 27th March 2024)

CEDR, Code of Conduct for Neutral Third Parties. (2020). Available at:

https://www.cedr.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Code-of-Conduct-for-ThirdParty-Neutrals.pdf 2 (Visited 27th March 2024)

I was then curious to explore mediation regulations more broadly in the international context in Asia, America and Africa, by way of comparative analysis within jurisdictions.

## 2. Step 2 International context:

I used the search term 'International Mediation Regulation'. This step led me to the Singapore Convention on Mediation <u>https://www.singaporeconvention.org/</u> Visited 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024). Ireland is currently not a signatory, the Hague Convention and the UNCITRAL Model Law and the Uniform Act of Mediation.

UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Mediation and International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation 2018 ("Model Law 2018") was concurrently developed alongside the Singapore Convention, marking the first time in the course of UNCITRAL's work that two forms of instruments were successfully concluded in parallel. The instrument provides States with consistent standards on the cross-border enforcement of international settlement agreements resulting from mediation.

American context: I then researched the 'regulation of mediation in America.' In the United States there is no governing or regulatory body for mediation. Associations such as the American Bar Association and the American Arbitration Association provide standards that are well respected in the practice of mediation. The Uniform Mediation Act https://www.uniformlaws.org/acts/overview/uniformacts) or adopting the state's own mediation statute with similar provisions.

# 3. Step 3 Irish context

(a) The search for the Mediation Act (2017), was initially through the Kings Inn's Manual, and books including Beer, E.J., Packard, C.C., with Stief, E. The Mediator's Handbook. (New Society Publishers, Canada, 2016) and Fisher, Ury, and Patton: Getting to Yes (Penguin Books, New York, 1991) and Higgins, N. (2011) The Lost Legal System: Pre-Common Law Ireland and the Brehon Law. I then explored regulatory guidance surrounding Mediation through online searches. Numerous Acts are referred to within the Mediation Act. For the

purpose of this search I focused on two, <u>Domestic Violence Act</u>, <u>1996</u> and <u>Child Care Act</u>, <u>1991</u>

**(b)**I searched the Mediators Institute of Ireland (MII) Code of Ethics and Practice for Mediators. (1 May 2021) <u>https://www.themii.ie/about-mii/code-of-ethics/</u> (Visited 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024)

(c)I researched legal databases, Irish statute law and the academic resources available on Open Access, and Moodle, beginning with Bloomsbury Professional Online, and then moving to Thomas Reuters Westlaw legal database. I used the search term 'Mediation Act (2017) Parts 1 and 2 of the Act'. I discovered McRedmond, *Mediation Law* (Bloomsbury Professional, Dublin, 2018).

<sup>25</sup>McRedmond, P. (n.d.). Chapter 11: Mediation and the European Union. In Mediation Law, : Bloomsbury Professional Ltd. available from:

<<u>https://www.bloomsburyprofessionalonline.com/view/mediation\_law/MLO-ch11.xml</u>> [Accessed 27 March 2024]

McRedmond provides detail on the historical background to Mediation, and notes the differences in the EU, CEDR and MII codes of practice. In Chapter 11, McRedmond outlines the Cross Border Mediation Directive (2008)<sup>26</sup> and the European Communities (Mediation) Regulations 2011<sup>27</sup>

(d) I then used the search term 'dilemmas in coordination of mediation law'. I searched Thomas Reuters Westlaw legal database and discovered

1 Mediation: Law, Policy and Practice Ch. 2 Refs.

January 2024 Update

Sarah R. Cole, Craig A. McEwen, Nancy H. Rogers, James R. Coben, Peter N. Thompson Chapter 2. Dilemmas Presented by Institutionalization of Mediation

(e)I then researched specific regulations in Ireland focusing upon statute based referrals to mediation, using the search term. 'Statute Based referrals to mediation' on the Irish statute book website.www.irishstatutebook.ie. Within the statute book website, I used the research term 'mediation' and this search brought me to the following links.

https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/16/enacted/en/html

S.I. No. 9/2018 - District Court (Mediation) Rules 2018

https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2018/si/9/made/en/print?q=mediation

S.I. No. 11/2018-Circuit Court Rules (Mediation) 2018

https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2018/si/11/made/en/print?q=mediation

S.I. No. 13/2018-Rules of the Superior Courts (Mediation) 2018

(f) I searched for legal commentaries on the websites of the Council of the Bar of Ireland, the law Society website, the Law Society Gazette, and Department of Justice government circulars with the search terms 'Mediation'

(g) Practical application. I searched the various representative bodies of Mediators in Ireland with the term 'Mediation Council of Ireland

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> McRedmond, *Mediation Law* (Bloomsbury Professional Ltd, 2018) at

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Mediation Directive (2008)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> European Communities (Mediation) Regulations 2011

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S.Conneely, R. O'Shea, S. Dempsey. Domestic Violence in the District Court (2019) 22(4) I.J.F.L 7

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https://www.lawlibrary.ie/app/uploads/securepdfs/2021/06/Submission-of-the-Council-of-The-Bar-of-Ireland-in-relation-to-the-Mediation-Bill-2017.pdf (Visited 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024)

Government Circular. File Reference: DPE-228-001-2017 Title: Use of Mediation as an Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanism in the resolution of workplace, contract and other disputes <u>https://circulars.gov.ie/pdf/circular/per/2017/17.pdf</u> (Visited 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024)

Government of Ireland. Zero Tolerance: Third National Strategy on Domestic Gender and Sexual Violence (2022-2026)

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Uniform Law Commission (ULC). Uniform Act of Mediation (UAM). <u>https://www.uniformlaws.org/committees/community-home?communitykey=45565a5f-</u> <u>0c57-4bba-bbab-fc7de9a59110</u> (Visited 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024)

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- 2. Child Care Acts 1991 to 2015
- 3. Child Care Act, 1991
- 4. Domestic Violence Acts 1996 to 2011
- 5. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT, 1996
- 6. Domestic Violence Act 2018
- 7. Protection of Children (Hague Convention) Act 2000 (No. 37)

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S.I. No. 11/2018-Circuit Court Rules (Mediation) 2018 https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2018/si/11/made/en/print?g=mediation

S.I. No. 13/2018-Rules of the Superior Courts (Mediation) 2018 https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2018/si/13/made/en/print?q=mediation

S.I. No. 104/2000 - Circuit Court Rules (No. 1) (Domestic Violence Act, 1996), 2000. <u>https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2000/si/104/made/en/print?q=dOMESTIC+vIOLENCE+a</u> <u>ct+1996</u>

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### **Codes of Conduct**

CEDR, Code of Conduct for Neutral Third Parties. (2020). Available at: <u>https://www.cedr.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Code-of-Conduct-for-ThirdParty-Neutrals.pdf 2</u> (Visited 27th March 2024)

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