

# **Blazo Nedic**

## **Mediation & ADR Narrative**

### **General Biography:**

Blazo Nedic is an internationally accredited independent mediator based in Belgrade, Serbia. He is a trainer, consultant, and attorney with 25 years of experience including legal practice in the UK and Serbia, mediation practice in Serbia, Europe, and the USA.

He is an international rule of law development project manager and consultant, with over 40 technical assistance and capacity building projects developed, managed and implemented in the areas of rule of law, democracy & governance, ADR & mediation, in Serbia and the region. From 2001-2008 he worked as a Deputy Country Director of the USAID funded ABA/CEELI Rule of Law development program, implementing legal reform projects in Serbia. Since 2008, he leads Partners for Democratic Change Serbia, a local civil society organization implementing local, regional, and international development projects in the field of rule of law, development of ADR and mediation, democracy and human rights in Serbia and the region

### **Litigation practice**

He is an attorney licensed by the Serbian Bar Association since 1997, and Official Court Interpreter for English language certified by the Belgrade High Court since 2003. He practiced law in the UK and Serbia, and was a member of the legal team of *Ian Macdonald QC* in the UK House of Lords case *Regina v. SSHD (ex parte Abdi & Gawe) 1 WLR 298 HL*.

### **Mediation Practice**

Mr. Nedic has over 20 years of legal and mediation practice, specializing in civil, commercial, workplace, family, property mediation and discrimination. As a mediator he handled several hundred cases, including 40 cases as a mediator in the Los Angeles County Superior Court, and assisting Baker Hughes-a GE Company, global litigation department in resolving complex international commercial disputes.

He is certified by the ABA Dispute Resolution Section, ADR Group UK, and JAMS International. In Serbia he is licensed for mediation and accredited for mediation training by the Ministry of Justice, and is listed by the Serbian Chamber of Commerce and the Commissioner for Anti-Discrimination.

Blazo is one of the World Bank's 30 Regional Mediators contracted by Mediation Services (MEF) in Washington DC. Blazo serves as a mediator, facilitator and conflict competency trainer for the World Bank Europe and Central Asia region.

In 2015, Mr. Nedic co-founded ADR Partners, a Serbia-based company providing mediation services, including ADR consulting, and mediation, negotiation, and communication training.

## **ADR Achievements**

Mr. Nedic was a member of the Serbian Government working groups drafting the new Law on Mediation and Law on Free Legal Aid.

He is the President of the Serbian National Association of Mediators (NUMS) and a regional mediator of the World Bank Group, Office of Mediation Services, for Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Albania, Austria, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. As a mediator, he is licensed by the Serbian Ministry of Justice and listed by the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, and the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner of Serbia. He is also certified by the American Bar Association (ABA), and ADR Group (UK).

In 2012, he was a recipient of the JAMS Foundation Weinstein International Mediation Fellowship.

In 2017, Mr. Nedic was a competition judge at the XII ICC Mediation Student Competition in Paris, France.

## **ADR Training**

- ADR Group, Civil and Commercial Mediator Training, London UK, June 2003 (40 hours)
- Nordic Forum for Mediation and Conflict Management, Workshops & Seminars, Oslo/Helsinki, Norway/Finland , May 2006(40 hours)
- ABA Section of Dispute Resolution, Fifth Annual Advanced Mediation and Advocacy Skills Training, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, October 2006 (18 hours)
- Mediators Without Borders, Commercial Mediator Training, Belgrade, Serbia, April 2009 (12 hours)
- CSSP, Community Mediator Training, Skopje, Macedonia, April 2010 (24 hours)
- JAMS Foundation Mediation Workshop, San Francisco, USA, September 2012 (24 hours)
- JAMS Advanced ADR training, San Francisco, USA, March 2014 (12 hours)
- Advanced Negotiation Certificate, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, USA, June 2014 (40 hours)

- LLM In Dispute Resolution, Straus Institute, Pepperdine University School of Law, Malibu, CA, USA, 2017-2018 (two semesters, 26 unit LLM program)

## **ADR Teaching & Mentoring**

Mr. Nedic is a skilled trainer and experienced training program development expert, including e-learning programs. He attended several Training-of-Trainers programs and received certificates from International Development Law Institute Rome, and US Department of Justice. He developed and implemented numerous training programs, including training-of-trainers for judges, public prosecutors, police administrators, local government officials, as well as, lawyers, CSOs, media, commercial sectors and citizens. He organized and delivered training programs for the Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Judicial Academy, Bar Association, State Commissioner for Data Protection, Serbian Chamber of Commerce, local municipalities, and other state, local governments and other public and private stakeholders.

He specializes in the developing and delivering training programs in the area of mediation & conflict management, negotiation & communication skills, personal data protection and training-of-trainers methodologies. In 2014 he was a visiting lecturer at the Mediation Clinic of the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law. From 2015, as one of the Partners for Democratic Change Serbia trainers, he is accredited by the Ministry of Justice of Serbia to deliver basic and advanced training for mediators. In 2017, Blazo Nedic, as one of the Partners for Democratic Change Serbia trainers, received accreditation by the Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government to train local government officials.

Mr. Nedic delivers basic and advanced mediation trainings, facilitation, communication, and negotiation skills trainings, dispute resolution system design courses, mediation advocacy workshops for lawyers, and train-the-trainers courses.

## **Publications**

- "Financial Incentives for Mediation", author, British Council's Judicial Efficiency Project, EU, Serbia, June 2017
- "Mediation in Law Schools in Serbia Report ", co-author, Commercial Mediation in Serbia Project, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Serbia, December 2016.
- "The Variegated Landscape of Mediation Regulation, a Comparative Study in Europe and the World", editor for Serbia, Manon Schonewille & Dr. Fred Schonewille, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2014.
- Author: "Resolution of Property Disputes – analysis and recommendation of improvement of practice in Serbia" (article in "Mediation - Principles, Process Implementation", Center for Applied Psychology, Belgrade, Serbia, 2014)
- Article, "Mediation and Lawyers", The Lawyer Magazine, Bar Association of Serbia, June 2013.

- Co-author – “Mediation in Serbia – Achievements and Challenges”, Partners for Democratic Change Serbia, December 2012
- Co-Author, “Recommendations for Development of Mediation in Serbia”, World Bank IFC, Serbia, September 2011.
- Co-author, “Assessment of the Mediation Program in District Court Kraljevo” report, Canada Serbia-Judicial Reform Project, Canadian CIDA, August 2009
- Article, “Strategy of Mediation in Serbia”, Justice in Transition, Belgrade, Serbia, October 2009
- Co-Editor, Mediation Bench Book, ABA/CEELI Serbia, July 2005
- Article “Lawyers and mediation – threat or opportunity” - Mediation Bench Book, ABA/CEELI Serbia, July 2005
- Project Coordinator, “Mediation Training Video”, ABA/CEELI Serbia, June 2005

### **Educational Qualifications**

Mr. Nedic graduated at the Belgrade University Faculty of Law in 1991, and completed postgraduate studies in International & Comparative Business Law in London in 1995. In 2018 he received LLM in Dispute Resolution, at Pepperdine University School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, in Malibu, California.