



AFTER WORK DRINKS

Time: 18:30 PM

Date: Thursday 30 July 2015

Venue: Michael Collins Irish Pub

Our social/networking drinks are held monthly. It's an opportunity to meet other professionals who share an interest in alternative dispute resolution (ADR). These events are usually held in Brussels so if you're in town, please do join us!

The AIA after work drinks are usually scheduled on the last Thursday of the month at 6.30 PM. The venue may vary week to week. After the first successful event, the July social drinks will be held at the Michael Collins Irish Pub - Baljuwstraat 1, Brussels.

Please RSVP by sending an email to admin@arbitration-adr.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Mediation Training:**
 - For more information, [click here](#).
 - To register, please complete the [registration form](#) and email it to admin@arbitration-adr.org

- **[European Mediation Training for Practitioners of Justice 2015](#)**
 - For more information, [click here](#).
 - To register, please complete the [registration form](#) and email it to admin@arbitration-adr.org
- **[Qualifying Assessment Program approved by the International Mediation Institute 2015](#)**
 - For more information, [click here](#).
- **[Investment Arbitration Master Class](#)**
 - For more information, [click here](#).
 - To register, please complete the [registration form](#) and email it to admin@arbitration-adr.org
- **[Training transformative mediation for current facilitative mediators](#)**
 - For more information, [click here](#).
- **[How to quantify your damage? – preparing for a negotiation/ mediation/ arbitration/ litigation](#)**
 - For more information, [click here](#).
 - To register, please complete the [registration form](#) and email it to admin@arbitration-adr.org
- **[The art of convincing: tools and strategy](#)**
 - For more information, [click here](#) or watch this [video](#).
- **[AIA Brussels Arbitration School](#)**
 - For more information, [click here](#) or watch this [video](#).
 - To register, please complete the [registration form](#) and email it to admin@arbitration-adr.org
- **[Negotiation training](#)**
 - For more information, send an email to events@arbitration-adr.org

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Membership of AIA takes the form of yearly subscriptions.

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All members benefit from a number of advantages available on the website!

The annual membership fee is 200 EUR, or 150 EUR for members under 40 years of age (VAT excluded). To become a member of the AIA, please fill in our online form at the bottom of our Membership page by clicking the signup button below.

AIA recommends the following upcoming event in the field of arbitration:

The AIA recommends to attend: Class & Group Actions in Arbitration at the International Chamber of Commerce on 30th of November 2015.

Program and speakers' list are available [here](#).

Background information: The ICC Institute of World Business Law, which acts as a think-tank working closely with the ICC International Court of Arbitration, is composed of a Council of 34 members of 21 nationalities, all experienced professionals or academics in international business law or international commercial arbitration, as well as over 200 members from around the world. In line with its philosophy of excellence, the ICC Institute organizes this annual conference, an occasion for legal experts to deliberate on a topical issue and contribute towards reflection on new practices in international arbitration.

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Clients look to Billiet & Co Lawyers for excellence, a creative and individual approach to solving problems, and a deep understanding of Belgian and European law.

In partnership with:

CALL FOR DONATIONS

Invitation: Crowd Funding research project for the research project named '*Erasmus Politicus: the conceptualization and manifestation of the political thought of Erasmus, the development and impact of his political theory and activity in his contemporary humanistic and political environment and their further European influence in the later sixteenth and seventeenth century*'.



Please find the relevant info [click here](#).
Thank you for your support and generosity!

BLOG on future of mediation in Belgium

Winner of the stay in Mallorca

offered by MUNDO MEDITERRÁNEO S.L.



Andre Meiresonne is the winner of the most creative and interesting suggestion for a future AIA activity.

Congratulations!



MUNDO MEDITERRÁNEO S.L. (est. 1998) is an international real estate agency and development company with offices in Mallorca, Ibiza and Miami. We focus on mid to high-end real estate providing a comprehensive service for both buyers and sellers. Additionally, we can help you with the maintenance and renting out of your property as well as the development of your own project on the Balearic Islands.

Our team is ready to assist you in your own language: English, Dutch, French, German, Spanish and Catalan.

For more information see www.mundomediterraneo.com and www.vincicapital.com (Investment Advisory).

The FMB initiative is an initiative that aims to provide a joint communication platform to all mediation stakeholders, thereby offering them the opportunity to contribute to identifying best practices (including legal amendments) and setting out a common action plan for the enhancement and promotion of Mediation in Belgium. The FMB Committee got an assignment of the **Belgian Ministry of Justice** to identify existing initiatives related to mediation. Please fill in the [form](#) and [send](#) it back to the AIA team.

To read the first FMB report [click here](#).

To read the second FMB report [click here](#).

The FMB project was created with the support of AIA IVZW (www.arbitration-adr.org). [Click here](#) for a word of the chairman.

European Mediation Training for Practitioners of Justice

(EMTPJ): training for certified cross-border mediators

EMTPJ 2015 Session

Now Open For Registration!!!

On the 17th-28th of August 2015, the European Mediation Training for Practitioners of Justice (EMTPJ) session will run for its 6th consecutive year. For more information about the EMTPJ please visit our [website](#).

The European Mediation Training for Practitioners of Justice is an 11-day intensive training course on cross-border mediation in civil and commercial matters. The training is unique because it is tailored to cover both theoretical and practical elements of mediation with a European perspective. Establishing such a training represented an important milestone for mediation as it allows participants to apply for accreditation in many jurisdictions, thereby creating truly **'European Mediators'**.

Don't miss this opportunity and register now! Please, send the AIA team an [email](#) for preliminary registration. Please find the registration form [here](#).



We encourage mediators who can demonstrate 200 hours of mediation experience and 20 mediation cases, to apply for the **AIA's Qualifying Assessment Program (QAP)** which will take place at the end of the EMTPJ 2015 session on the 30th of August 2015. Please visit our [website](#) for details.



Investment Arbitration Master Class

The Association for International Arbitration organizes with the Brussels Diplomatic Academy a joint Master Class on investment Arbitration on **7, 8, 14 and 15 September 2015**, from **13.30-17.30h**, at the **Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB University), Room Bruges**.

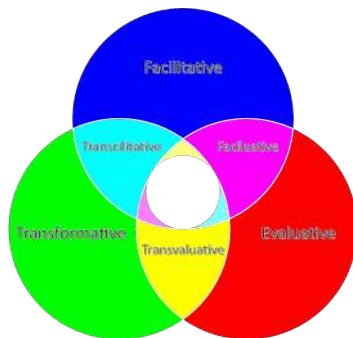
The **four-day master class** is designed to provide its participants with a concentrated and affordable educational experience in the areas of law on foreign investment protection and

investment arbitration. The seminar's unique feature is its international scope. Participants from a broad range of backgrounds will participate in a dynamic learning experience, where the multifaceted aspects of arbitration are considered from a range of comparative perspectives.

Fee: the 4 days seminar fee is 1850 EUR. Members of the Association for International Arbitration IVZW benefit from a discount of 50%. VAT Settlement: exempted from VAT: Art 44 § 2, 4° of the VAT code. Please find more info [click here](#).

TRANSFORMATIVE MEDIATION

The Association for International Arbitration organizes a training on transformative mediation on **23 – 25 September 2015**, from **10.00-17.00h**, at Billiet & Co, Avenue Louize 146, 1050 Brussels.



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Transformative mediation is based on the values of empowerment of each of the parties and recognition of each of the parties' needs, interests, values and points of view. The potential for transformative mediation is that any or all parties or their relationships may be transformed during the mediation. In transformative mediation, the parties structure both the process and the outcome of mediation, and the mediator follows their lead.

Topics:

- Core purpose and principles of transformative mediation
- Patterns and dynamics of transformative practice

Seminar Fee:

400 EUR excluding VAT.

THE ART OF CONVINCING

This course is set up to make you more persuasive and convincing in professional situations. Along the 2 day course you build up insight, knowledge en competence on what it take to win over others for a mutual beneficial proposal.

Learning objectives:

- The participant knows the cycle of persuasion and is able to use appropriate influencing techniques in the different stages of the process
- The participant is able to stand his ground and defend himself when tactics are being applied by the counterparties
- The participant is able to use personal communication as a positive means of communication to convince the other of an mutual beneficial offer
- The participant has an ethical approach on persuasion and show professional maturity

and confidence in debate and mediation

Date: 12 and 13 November 2015

Useful links:

- Click [here](#) for the registration form.
- Click [here](#) for the brochure.
- Click [here](#) for a word about the the art of convincing by Jochen Roef (trainer).

DECEMBER EDITION 2015 OF AIA BRUSSELS ARBITRATION SCHOOL (ABAS)

7-11 December

5 days intensive arbitration training

Benefits of this training are the following:

- Arbitrator certification (in case of full participation)
- 25 bar points
- Bringing participants in contact with arbitration providers
- Bringing participants in contact with Belgium's leading arbitrators
- Tailor content to the participants profiles
- Possibility to submit questions upfront (allowing the trainers to include these in their presentations)
- Ideal way to update your knowledge on arbitration or to make your entrance in the arbitration 'sector'
- A-Z focus on arbitration

The third ABAS training is open for only a limited number of participants and places will be allocated on *first come first served* basis.

Do not miss this opportunity if you want to become one of the ABAS certified arbitrators in Belgium. Click [here](#) for a word about ABAS by the AIA Manager.

INTERVIEW KONSTANTINOS ADAMANTOPOULOS

Dr Konstantinos Adamantopoulos is the partner in charge of the Brussels office of Holman Fenwick Willan LLP. He graduated from his PhD studies in 1987 in Germany at the European Institute of the University of Saarland. He started to practice EU law in Brussels in 1988. He is a member of the Athens Bar 1984, a member of the European section of the Brussels Bar and an associate member of the American Bar Association. He has been involved on behalf of companies, trade associations and government bodies in several proceedings before the European Court of Justice and the General Court of the EU; the WTYO Dispute Settlement Body; and major ICC arbitration proceedings.

What is your opinion on the TTIP and its implications regarding WTO disputes? In your opinion, how will the TTIP affect international trade?

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is a trade and investment deal

between EU and US. The TTIP could boost economic growth and create jobs, but one needs to be careful. The TTIP is designed to harmonize standards between the EU and the US. There should be an appellate body but only vested with authority to review issues/questions of law thereby maintaining a judicial view. Such a system of appellate review currently exists at ICSID. However, it may be seen as challenging simply because it is not mandatory. The investor still has the choice to go to domestic courts or to initiate ICSID proceedings. I have the same opinion on the TTIP; it is not mandatory and allows parties to still have a choice.

Would you be interested in working more often for the future investor-state dispute settlement mechanism of the TTIP? And, if yes, why?

Yes, I am eager to work more on future investor state dispute settlement mechanisms. I find this area very interesting. I have qualification and expertise in European law and my experience in proceedings before the EC, GATT/WTO dispute settlement etc. I believe these experiences/knowledge makes me well suited and qualified to work in this area. Many cases are now connected or involve EU law and arbitration, for example recent CDC judgment of the Court of Justice ([For more information click here](#)). I have also been involved in many cases relating to EU State aid claims vs. investment protection under BITs. In my opinion, it is obvious that EU law and arbitration are very much intertwined. EU State aids recovery orders play an important role in two arbitration proceedings I am currently involved in.

What in your opinion distinguishes the procedures between the EU and the WTO Dispute Settlement Body?

The Dispute Settlement Body of the World Trade Organization makes decisions on trade disputes between governments. The only participants to WTO disputes are member governments of the WTO. Private individuals or companies etc. do not have direct access to the dispute settlement system of the WTO. However, private parties frequently assist governments in articulating their legal positions in WTO Dispute Settlement Procedures and operate as "shadow draftsmen" or *amici curiae*. Once the panel renders a decision on a dispute, it may make a ruling against a government and require it to ensure that its laws and regulations comply with WTO agreements within a reasonable period of time. However, the parties to a dispute (losing government) may refuse to take action. In these situations, there is no punishment/sanction. If a party does not do it in time, the dispute settlement body has power to authorize retaliation when a State/government does not comply with a ruling. These retaliation measures are not seen as an actual punishment/sanction on the losing State/government but rather it is a remedy. It is kind of a political procedure.

Legal procedures before EU courts and administrative procedures before EU institutions regularly involve private parties. They are therefore not only government to government. Increasingly we see EU law interfering in the operation of bilateral investment treaties.