

ASSOCIATION FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION
International Day Agenda*
September 12, 2012
New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.

AGENDA

- 8:30 A.M.** *Welcome*
Walter A Wright, Chair, and Rochelle Arms, Chair-Elect, ACR
International Section
- 9:00 A.M.** *ACR International Outstanding Leadership Awards Presentations*
- Lada Busevac (2012 Individual Recipient), Senior Country Officer for the International Finance Corporation, Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - MiKK (Mediation in International Conflicts involving Parents and Children) (2012 Organizational Recipient), represented by Jamie Walker, Berlin, Germany
- 9:30 A.M.** *“Mediating Financial Disputes in International Development Projects”*
Lada Busevac (2012 Individual Recipient of the ACR International Outstanding Leadership Award), Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 10:30 A.M.** *Coffee Break*
- 11:00 A.M.** *“Mediating Cross-Border Child Abductions by Separating and Divorcing Parents”*
Jamie Walker, Representative of MiKK (2012 Organizational Recipient of the ACR International Outstanding Leadership Award)
- 12:00 P.M.** *Lunch Together*
Update on the Chantal Paydar Foundation
Rochelle Arms, New York, New York., U.S.A.
Remo Moomiaie-Qajar, M.D., San Diego, California, U.S.A.
- 1:15 P.M.** *“Environmental Conflict Resolution in Ecuador”*
Marco Aníbal Navas-Leiva, Quito, Ecuador
Milton Castillo-Maldonado, Quito, Ecuador
- 2:15 P.M.** *“Building Peace through Environmental Dispute Resolution: A Theoretical Framework and some Practical Applications”*
María Alba Aiello de Almeida, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Walter A. Wright, San Marcos, Texas, U.S.A.
- 3:15 P.M.** *Coffee Break*

3:45 P.M. *“Conflict Resolution Techniques and the Preservation of Panama’s Rainforests”*
Al Amado, Houston, Texas, U.S.A. and Quito, Ecuador
Catherine Potvin, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

5:00 P.M. *Adjourn*

SPEAKERS’ BIOGRAPHIES**

María Alba Aiello de Almeida, an attorney and mediator from Buenos Aires, Argentina, received her law degree from the Universidad del Salvador and her mediation training from the Universidad Católica Argentina, both in Buenos Aires. She has mediated many types of civil, commercial and family cases. She has taught courses in professional ethics at Universidad del Salvador and courses in law and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) at Universidad Nacional de Lomas de Zamora. She has also been a guest lecturer at several U.S. and Latin American universities and spoken on legal and ADR topics at numerous conferences in the United States and Latin America. She is the author of one book and co-author of five others, mostly on ADR topics, and she has authored numerous law and ADR articles in publications throughout Latin America. Currently, she is a Director-at-Large of the International Section of the Association for Conflict Resolution, and she is the Academic Secretary and an Instructor for Consultora Equipo I.M.C.A., a nonprofit ADR consulting firm in Buenos Aires.

Al Amado is the Director of the American Bar Association’s Rule of Law Initiative in Ecuador, and the Founding Director of the nonprofit Latin American Collaborative Education Project (LACEP). He has over 20 years of diverse trial, appellate, and business-management experience, both in private practice and in-house as Director of Latin America for a global fitness company. He holds a J.D. from Emory University, where he currently is a Fellow of the Emory Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution. He also holds a B.B.A. and an LL.M. from The University of Texas at Austin, where his course of study focused on international law, conflict resolution, and interdisciplinary Latin American studies. He has served as a private mediator, arbitrator, and trial and dispute-resolution consultant. He is bilingually fluent in Spanish and bicultural, having lived in Mexico for many years. He has been a frequent instructor, trainer, and adjunct faculty member for diverse university courses in the United States, as well as in foreign countries.

Rochelle Arms is the Restorative Justice Coordinator of the New York Peace Institute (formerly the Safe Horizon Mediation Program). She is responsible for mediation and restorative justice initiatives with the Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office, Juvenile Justice Courts, schools, and community agencies in Brooklyn and Manhattan. In the last 10 years, she has worked both in the U.S. and abroad in collaborative processes and restorative justice projects with a variety of groups, including civil-society organizations in India, indigenous peoples in Argentina, immigrants and refugees, and homicide offenders and victim survivors in Kentucky. Rochelle was a Rotary Peace Fellow in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 2003 to 2005. She is originally from

Panama and currently is the Chair-Elect of the International Section of the Association for Conflict Resolution.

Lada Busevac, of Bosnia and Herzegovina, has spearheaded a new business line devoted to ADR as part of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the World Bank's joint Investment Climate Department. Leading an international team, Ms. Busevac developed a methodology to determine when countries or communities could benefit from ADR approaches, primarily with – though not limited to - commercial disputes. The methodology she helped to develop included a step-by-step analysis of how to evaluate and then implement an ADR program or center, including consultations with affected stakeholders such as ministries, legal bars, business and commercial associations, and local community members. Ms. Busevac's team led trainings for many mediators and helped to establish the business model for a number of ADR centers around the world. Ms. Busevac is the individual recipient of the 2012 ACR International Outstanding Leadership Award.

Milton Castillo-Maldonado, an Ecuadorian attorney who received a doctorate in jurisprudence from the Pontífica Universidad Católica del Ecuador, also received a master's degree in economic law from the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar and studied Constitutional Law at the graduate level at the Universidad de Salamanca in Spain. He is a judge in civil matters, and well as Judge of the Second and Fifth Criminal Law Courts of Pichincha in Ecuador. He is an international arbitrator, a newspaper editorialist, and a university professor.

MiKK (German acronym for “Mediation in International Conflicts involving Parents and Children”) is a small non-profit group located in Berlin, Germany that provides mediation training and has a roster of mediators to mediate in cross-border family conflicts, including child abduction cases, across all of Europe. The organization has been handling such cases since 2002. The distances involved in cross-border family conflicts can intensify the severity of the conflicts. Parents are saddened and confused by the breakdown of their relationship or marriage and afraid of losing their children forever. Mediation in these cases must be flexible and has to conform to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. MiKK's mediation model is unique, requiring co-mediators to come from both countries/cultures involved, to represent both genders, and to have fluency in the parties' languages. Mediation pairs must include one mediator with a psychosocial background and the other with a legal background, and both are trained to act as neutral facilitators. The mediators are trained in all mediation styles and adapt these according to the needs of the clients. MIKK's family mediation model is a reflection on how we can apply cross-border and cross-cultural dispute resolution in many different areas. MiKK is the organizational recipient of the 2012 ACR International Outstanding Leadership Award.

Remo Moomiaie-Qajar is the Founder and President of the Chantal Paydar Foundation, a nonprofit organization that promotes numerous peace, justice, and conflict resolution principles. Dr. Moomiaie-Qajar is a medical doctor, trained surgeon, inventor, and social entrepreneur. He has lead the Chantal Paydar Foundation through the nascent stages of development in establishing and executing its mission. The Chantal Paydar Foundation was established following the death of his cousin and close confidant, Chantal, a young professional peace developer who worked in Central America, South America, and Africa. His motivation to

continue her vision of a more just and peaceful world lead to the foundation's three-tiered approach towards advancing the greater peace, justice, and conflict resolution movement through education, relief, and advocacy (ERA). In the first year of operations, Dr. Moomiaie-Qajar has personally overseen the implementation of Undergraduate International Peace Grants and the “Kitchen in a Box” Gulu, Uganda project, addressing the foundation’s education and relief branches. He is currently in the production phases of directing and filming of a documentary film, “Redefining the Peacemaker,” which also addresses education and advocacy for the profession.

Marco Anibal Navas-Leiva is a productivity engineer from Ecuador who has done graduate work in political science, international relations and international commerce. A professor at Pontificia Universidad del Ecuador and Escuela Politécnica del Ejército, he is also a consultant, advisor and trainer on issues of management, integral leadership, human capital, productivity, competitiveness, and development. He teaches ADR courses, among others, and he often speaks at conferences throughout Latin America. In addition to Spanish, he speaks, English, Portuguese and Italian.

Catherine Potvin received a Ph.D. from Duke University in North Carolina. Since then, she has worked on issues related to global climate change . She is a Professor in the Department of Biology at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, where she is also the Director of the Panama Field Study Semester, an undergraduate program in environment and development. In recent years, she has developed expertise in tropical forest ecology and carbon storage. She has also worked with the indigenous Embera people of Panama since 1994, which helped her develop participatory approaches to integrate the human dimension into biological analysis. Beginning in 2002, she worked closely with Panama’s National Authority for the Environment (ANAM) on forest carbon stocks, and she served as Panama’s negotiator of REDD in the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (2005-2009). She is currently part of the Technical Assessment Panel of the Forest Carbon partnership Facility of the World Bank. Her current research in Panama spans a broad range of issues from remote sensing to capacity building and conflict resolution, the unifying themes being forest conservation and climate change. During the course of her career, she has edited two books and published approximately 85 scientific journal articles or book chapters.

Jamie Walker is originally from Atlanta and has lived in Germany since 1977. She has degrees in psychology and adult education, and she has been working as a conflict resolution trainer since 1981 and as a mediator since 1991. She is a certified mediator and mediation trainer with the Bundesverband Mediation e.V. [Federal Association of Mediation] in Germany. She has conducted numerous projects and published widely in the fields of violence prevention in schools and communities and peace education. From 1999 to 2008, she was head of the Central Mediation Bureau in Berlin. She has worked as a development consultant in countries such as Afghanistan and Sri Lanka. Currently, she focuses on mediation and mediation training in cross-border family conflicts (including child abduction cases) and is vice president of the German association MiKK e.V. / Mediation in international Conflicts involving Parents and Children. Most recently, she was involved in the EU-funded project *Training in International Family Mediation*; besides training 70 mediators and mediation trainers from 28 European countries, she also co-conducted a MiKK training in international family mediation for 30 Australian family mediators. She will represent MiKK at International Day.

Walter A. Wright is an associate professor in the Legal Studies Program of the Department of Political Science at Texas State University, where he teaches courses in law and Alternative Dispute Resolution. An attorney, mediator, and arbitrator, he received B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Houston and an LL.M. in International Legal Studies from New York University. He is former president of the Texas Association of Mediators and the Association of Attorney-Mediators. His current activities include service as co-director and editor of *El Acuerdo*, an ADR newsletter published in Buenos Aires, Argentina; as Chair of the International Section of the Association for Conflict Resolution; and as a member of the board of directors of the Hays County (Texas) Dispute Resolution Center. He has published extensively in the United States and Latin America. During the past seventeen years, he has enjoyed teaching ADR courses and conducting facilitated dialogues in foreign countries such as Argentina, Uruguay, Mexico, Ecuador, Panama, and Nicaragua.