

## **“Migration of Families, Mediation and MiKK”. – Michael Ford**

### **Bio:**

### **MiKK e.V. International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction**

MiKK e.V. International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction is a Berlin-based non-profit organization that specializes in mediation in cases of cross-border child abduction, as well as contact, custody and relocation conflicts. MiKK has been active in this field for over 10 years.

MiKK provides a free-of-charge multilingual information and advisory service to parents about the possibilities for mediation as well as important practical steps that parents can take in the best interest of the child. MiKK currently provides this service in five languages – English, French, German, Italian and Polish.

MiKK organizes international co-mediations around the world utilizing its network of over 150 specialist MiKK-trained cross-border family mediators. Mediations may be conducted face-to-face or online and parents have the opportunity to speak in their mother tongue as well as in the common language of the relationship.

MiKK delivers advanced training in cross-border family mediation (CBFM), which is formally recognized by the German Central Authority. MiKK trainers have conducted similar training in Australia, Belgium, Japan, Kosovo and Russia and are due to deliver training in Singapore in November 2017. MiKK also offers on-going training and supervision to mediators.

MiKK refers parents to both its register of international MiKK-trained cross-border family mediators and register of international family lawyers. These registers are available on MiKK's website ([www.mikk-ev.de](http://www.mikk-ev.de)).

MiKK is often called upon for its experience and expertise. In November 2016, Christoph C. Paul, Chair of the MiKK Board, presented to the European Parliament on “the role of mediation in parental responsibility matters” in the context of recasting the Brussels IIa Regulation. In 2017, MiKK has conducted seminars for judges, lawyers and mediators in Belgium, England, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Turkey on a range of topics including mediation in international parental child abduction cases, the voice of the child in mediation proceedings and domestic violence in mediation.