

# Kluwer Mediation Blog - October Digest

## Kluwer Arbitration Blog

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With reviews of new mediation laws in Ireland and Vietnam, an assessment of how well Barnier and Davis are performing as negotiators in the crucial and complex Brexit negotiations, and highlights from Collaborative Scotland's bus tour which took the message of mediation across Scotland, October has offered an engaging variety of posts on the Kluwer Mediation Blog. A brief summary of each post is provided below. Very many thanks to all our writers and readers.

In *Better Conversations and Respectful Dialogue*, John shares the latest news from Collaborative Scotland. John also identifies some of the highlights from Collaborative Scotland's Better Conversations Bus Tour, which took the message of mediation and respectful dialogue to the more peripheral areas of Scotland.

In *On Negotiating in Interesting Times*, Ian Macduff identifies the "natural experiment" afforded by New Zealand's new coalition government which, as Ian notes, will govern only through constant negotiation and collaboration. Ian also considers some of the imminent pressing negotiations which the new government faces.

In *Peer Coaching: On the loneliness of the mediator and what to do about it*, Greg Bond discusses the lonely business of being a mediator and, in particular, the lack of feedback and shared reflection. Greg suggests ways in which to gain an outside

perspective on our work as mediators.

In *All Mediators are liars – Part 1*, Martin Svatos draws on the liar's paradox to show that common beliefs about truth and falsity might lead to contradictions and complications. As Martin adds, nothing is black or white, which is of particular relevance in mediation. Martin then explores what might constitute a desirable lie and an undesirable truth.

In *Qualifications of a Commercial Mediator Under Vietnamese Law*, Nguyen Gia Thien Le provides an overview of Vietnam's recent law on commercial mediation. In particular, Thien considers the qualifications and training required to be a commercial mediator in Vietnam.

In *Personality Preferences and Conflict*, Joel Lee explores how personality preferences can contribute to conflict. Joel provides a comprehensive overview of the various personality preferences and considers how these can lead to conflict.

In *Brexit Irritators – Davis and Barnier on negotiation*, Charlie Irvine draws on research on the behaviour of successful negotiators to examine how Barnier and Davis are measuring up in their negotiations on Brexit.

In *The Elephant in the Room – Part 2*, Sabine Walsh explores how the new Mediation Act in Ireland can help mediators to market their services. Sabine also shares her own successful marketing strategies.

In *Your Truth, My Truth And The Truth*, Charlie Woods draws on a recent CI Arb Mediation Symposium in London at which Kenneth Cloke, John Sturrock and Charlie discussed some of the biases that can influence conflict and its resolution. Charlie then identifies tools which mediators can use to address these biases.