



CEDR Accreditation: 2004

CEDR Panel Admission: 2006

Languages: English • Hindi • Urdu

Location: London, United Kingdom

“Calm and constructive approach which oiled the wheels for the deal.”

“Her assistance was invaluable.”

Mediation Feedback

Baria Ahmed

Overview

A UK qualified barrister, mediator, arbitrator and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) consultant, Baria has worked in the field internationally since 2003. Previously the Head of CEDR Solve, the leading ADR services provider in Europe, and latterly having established her own consultancy firm in London, she has delivered high profile international projects for clients including the World Bank, the United Nations and the European Union. Most recently, following completion of her remit to establish and launch the Arbitration and Mediation Court of the Caribbean (AMCC) in Barbados, Baria stepped down as the institution’s founding Director General in December 2018.

As a full-time mediator, Baria’s mediation experience is highly varied and she is attuned to the commercial and personal issues that can be present when businesses and individuals find themselves in conflict. From employment and workplace disagreements to construction and engineering disputes, and intellectual property claims to banking and finance matters, Baria has demonstrated experience and expertise across the board.

Expertise

- Banking & Finance
- Commercial Contract
- Construction & Engineering
- Employment & Workplace
- Insurance
- Internet, Computer & Telecoms
- Intellectual Property
- Matrimonial Finance
- Partnership/Shareholder
- Probate
- Professional Negligence
- Property

Dispute Experience

Banking & Finance

- Corporate finance and commercial debt
- Insolvency
- Mis-selling, derivatives and trading
- Pensions, employer funds and professional negligence

Commercial Contract

- Sale and purchase of goods and services
- Ownership, rights to exercise liens, payments and unpaid invoices
- Trademark infringement and passing off

Construction & Engineering

- Multinational public private partnership (PPP)
- Defects, delays, loss, profits and payments
- Engineering - factory plant and machinery, pricing, trading and offshore and onshore technical issues
- Private buildings, breach of contract, unpaid invoices and/or overpayments
- Planning
- Professional liability – architects, engineers and surveyors

Employment & Workplace

- Discrimination, including age, sex, race and sexual-orientation claims
- Unfair dismissal and restrictive covenants
- Inter-team conflict, bullying, harassment and grievances

Insurance

- Policies and underwriting, including nature and extent of cover



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- Professional negligence
- Recovery of lost goods

Internet, Computer & Telecoms

- Telecoms and utilities contracts
- Installation of IT equipment
- Delivery of online services

Matrimonial Finance

- Acrimonious divorce, matrimonial assets and ancillary relief
- Common law partnerships and associated issues

Partnership/Shareholder

- Corporate dissolution
- Shareholder rights and partnership breakdown

Probate

- International trusts
- Wills and probate
- Family relationships

Professional Negligence

- Claims against lawyers, accountants, financial and medical professionals

Property

- Joint venture
- Sale and purchase of property
- Commercial landlord and tenant



Personal Style

Baria is a firm believer in thorough preparation and places great emphasis on pre-mediation contact with the parties and their representatives. Able to build rapport easily during this time and the early stages of the mediation, she works actively to assist the parties in viewing their dispute as a shared obstacle, one that can be overcome by effective communication between them. Baria is not afraid to test the parties if needed and is highly pragmatic in helping consider options for settlement.

Feedback

- *“Best mediator CEDR has!” “Superb!” “Energetic throughout.”*
- *“Calm and constructive approach which oiled the wheels for the deal.”*
- *“She was engaged with the people and events ... supportive and confident.”*
- *“She was plainly very well prepared ... rapidly developed an excellent working relationship with both parties.”*
- *“We admired the way she went about her work; she showed a good grasp of the issues and we felt she was being fair and impartial at all times.”*
- *“Her patience was to be admired throughout what was a very long day for us all.”*
- *“Her assistance at the mediation was invaluable.”*
- *“Good support on such a complicated and highly contentious case.”*

Other Dispute Resolution Experience

Baria spends a substantial amount of time working to deliver international projects focussing either wholly or in part on mediation and ADR. In this capacity, she has worked as an Expert Consultant for large international donors including the World Bank Group (WBG), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN), the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the UK Department for International Development (DfID), as well as private commercial organisations. With projects delivered across Europe, Central America, Middle East, South and East Asia, Baria has expertise in working with stakeholders from myriad cultural backgrounds.

In particular, she delivered a project to institutionalise mediation and ADR across Turkey, following the enactment of the Mediation Law, in partnership with the Turkish Ministry of Law and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in 2014/15. She continues to be involved in institutional capacity building and support projects across the globe.

In 2014, Baria undertook a feasibility review for the establishment of an ADR Centre to be established in Barbados to service the Eastern Caribbean region, in conjunction with the Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Compete Caribbean, an IADB



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fund. Following the completion of this study, Baria was based in Barbados from January 2016 to December 2018 in the role of the Founding Director General of the newly established Arbitration and Mediation Court of the Caribbean (AMCC), a regional ADR Centre launched to serve the dispute resolution needs of domestic, regional and international parties.

As a trainer, Baria continues to deliver mediation, negotiation and communication skills training worldwide, both as a member of the leading international CEDR faculty and independently. Together with these formal training programs, Baria has spoken about ADR and its development at various international conferences and events, as well as designing seminars for law firms and private clients.

