

Contributions to Consensual Dispute Resolution by Marie-Claire Belleau, lawyer

Marie-Claire Belleau is a full professor at the Faculty of Law of Université Laval. She offers professional development training and teaches in graduate programs in Europe. She holds a doctorate and a master's degree from Harvard Law School, as well as a D.E.A. (doctoral courses) from the University of Paris II.

Since 1986, she has been a member of the Quebec Bar, where she received the distinction of emeritus lawyer in 2010. In 2016, she was inducted into the Royal Society of Canada.

In the field of consensual dispute resolution:

- She has practised mediation since 2001 in small claims cases, family, civil, and commercial matters, as well as in psychological harassment cases. She is also accredited by Équijustice to intervene in restorative justice in cases of harassment, abuse, or sexual crimes. She has handled approximately 200 cases.
- She acted as a consultant expert for the Quebec Ministry of Justice in the research and drafting of legislative provisions regarding methods of dispute prevention and resolution provided for in the Act instituting a new Code of Civil Procedure, adopted in February 2014 and effective January 1, 2016. She remains a strategic advisor on dispute prevention and resolution to the Deputy Minister responsible for access to justice in the Quebec government.
- She leads research projects on methods of intervention in situations of conflict (MISC) in civil, state-related, and criminal matters, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Her work is freely available in an open educational resource (OER) at: <https://www.modes-intervention-situation-conflits.ca/>
- She teaches the courses DRT-2451: Clinical Activities on Modes of Dispute Prevention and Resolution and DRT-2452: Modes of Dispute Prevention and Resolution, as well as negotiation courses at the Faculty of Law of Université Laval.
- She regularly provides training to mediators and individuals interested in dispute prevention and resolution methods in Quebec, Canada, and abroad, notably in Belgium, Brazil, Greece, and Russia. She had the privilege of providing training on civil and commercial mediation in Burkina Faso as part of a team of four teachers and practitioners. She has also offered family mediation training in Mali.
- She participated in teaching advanced training on judicial settlement conferences (judicial conciliation) at the National Institute of Magistracy. She trains magistrates and administrators in judicial conciliation in France.
- She practises mediation for research and teaching purposes. She has published articles to raise awareness of this conflict resolution method not only among legal professionals but also among practitioners from various disciplines.
- **Her writings, trainings, and practical interventions are guided by a constant concern: improving access to justice.**