

Derek Minus

Accredited Mediator • Barrister-at-Law • Chartered Arbitrator • FDRP



Derek Minus is a barrister-at-law with a specialist practice as a dispute resolver at Mediation & Arbitration Chambers. He holds accreditation as variously: a Nationally Accredited Mediator, Chartered Arbitrator, Expert Determiner and Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner (FDRP). Called to the Bar in 1992, he was an early adopter of mediation and has conducted over 3,000 mediations and conciliations across all types of disputes. He specialises in hybrid dispute resolution.

He mediates matters as diverse as commercial contract disputes, family law disputes, partnership problems and bullying and harassment complaints for governments and organisations. He has been appointed by the federal Minister for Agriculture to assist with the development of a national farm debt mediation scheme as a member of the “farm debt roundtable”.

Derek is graded a Chartered Arbitrator and was trained in International Commercial Arbitration by The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) for which he served as the President of the Australian Branch. For a period of 10 years since 2000, he acted as a part-time arbitration member of the NCAT and Workers Compensation Commission. He is currently appointed as an Arbitrator to the NSW Local Court and District Court. Most recently, he has been appointed by the NSW Minister for Industry as one of only ten Australian arbitrators recruited for their legal qualifications, knowledge and practical experience of the process of arbitration, to deal with land access disputes under the *Mining Act 1992* and *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*.

A member of the *Australian Institute of Family Law Arbitrators and Mediators* (AIFLAM) Derek is qualified as both a mediator and arbitrator of family and relationship disputes. From 1993 to 1999 he was a member of the Relationships Australia mediation panel conducting family law dispute resolution. He is now accredited by the Federal Attorney-General as a Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner (FDRP) authorised to conduct Family dispute resolution and issue a certificate under Section 60I of the *Family Law Act 1975*. He is also qualified as a Family Law Arbitrator able to determine family property matters under the new *Family Law Amendment (Arbitration and Other Measures) Rules 2015*.

As a transformative practitioner Derek aims to do more than just 'settle' a dispute. He works with the factual framework, legal regime as well as the party's emotional expression. His aim is to achieve shared understanding between the parties involved, in order to transform their relationship.

Derek is the lecturer for the *Commercial Dispute Resolution* course at the University of Sydney Law School teaching practical resolution skills to final year law students. He also provides negotiation training and dispute management advice to organisations and governments and conducts the "*Minus on Mediation*" negotiation programme for Legalwise, which provides transformative processes for handling conflict, based on his unique martial arts practice of Aikido. See Conflict Connexus at www.conflictconnexus.com

Derek is also the publisher of the largest database of accredited Australian Dispute Resolvers at www.adr.org.au
His full profile and *Curriculum Vitae* can be found at:
http://www.medarb.com/members/derek_minus-barrister-mediator-arbitrator