

Iain Christie

Year of Call: 1989



Practice Summary

Iain has been a full-time mediator since 2014 (first accredited in 2004) and successfully resolved hundreds of disputes drawing on his expertise as barrister, diplomat, certified coach and qualified facilitator. Comfortable with handling conflict at all levels of complexity, Iain brings developed skills in negotiation, communication and relationship-building to the mediation room. His complementary practices in civil and commercial, family and workplace mediation allows him to be flexible with the process and creative in generating solutions to seemingly intractable problems. He is a Fellow of the Civil Mediation Council in recognition of his long-standing contribution to mediation.

Professional experience

Iain was called to the bar by the Inner Temple in 1989 and has been a Bencher since 2008. Between 1992 and 2000 he was employed as a legal adviser at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. This role included conducting treaty negotiations on behalf of the United Kingdom at the United Nations and Council of Europe as well as handling cases before the European Commission and Court of Human Rights.

He returned to private practice at the media and information law chambers 5RB where he co-founded the leading textbook on Privacy and the Media and was instructed in both private and public law cases across a broad range of subject matters. He spent ten years on the Attorney General's Panel of Crown Counsel dealing with data protection and freedom of information matters. In 2020 Iain returned to Government service for a two-year appointment as the Lord Chancellor's Policy Fellow in which capacity he set up the MOJ Dispute Resolution Team and devised a 10-point strategy to integrate mediation into the civil justice system in England and Wales, for which he was nominated for a Significant Achievement Award at the 2022 National Mediation Awards.

Iain holds a number of quasi-judicial and regulatory roles as an Independent Member on Police Misconduct Panels, Independent Member of the Standards Committee of the Public Relations and Communications Association, Independent Complaints Reviewer for the UK Endorsement Board, Former Chair of the Bar Standards Board's Independent Decision-making Body, Former Director of IMPRESS, The Independent Monitor for the Press and former Secretary of the Civil Mediation Council and Chair of its Complaints and Disciplinary Committee. He sits as a specialist independent member of the Parole Board of England and Wales.

Professional Positions

- Independent Panel Member on Police Misconduct Panels
 - Independent Member on the Standards Committee of the Public Relations and Communications Association.
 - Bencher, Honourable Society of the Inner Temple
 - Former Chair, BSB Independent-Decision-making Body
 - Member, Parole Board of England & Wales
 - Independent Complaints Reviewer, UK Endorsement Board
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Memberships

- Fellow, Civil Mediation Council
 - Family Mediators Association
 - Standing Conference of Mediation Advocates
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Qualifications

- Accredited Civil and Commercial Mediator, Regent's University, 2004
- Accredited Family Mediator, ADR Group, 2009
- Accredited Workplace and Employment Mediator, Globis Ltd, 2010
- Diploma training in Conflict Resolution, Group Facilitation and Counselling Skills, The Forgiveness Project, 2012
- Professional Imago Facilitator, 2013
- Certified Daring Way and Dare to Lead Facilitator, 2015
- NLP certified coach, 2017
- Accredited Civil and Commercial Mediator, CEDR, 2019