



Centre for  
Judicial Education and Research  
司法教育與研究中心

Professor Walter H. Rechberger

# Mediation in Austria: an overview and some updates

Tuesday, March 18, 2014, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Video Seminar Room G5353 / Academic Building 1 / 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
City University of Hong Kong

This lecture seeks to provide an overview and some updates of the current mediation law and practice in Austria. Almost twenty years have elapsed since mediation was introduced into the Austrian judicial system. The Austrian legislature encourages mediation by enacting the ACM and other supplementary laws. Mediation has become a valid option in the field of ADR, along with conciliation and arbitration. Since there is no legal obligation to use mediation, the use of mediation depends on the individual attitude of the disputing parties.

Traditionally, disputing parties in Austria are used to seeing third parties, such as judges and arbitrators, decide their disputes. Since the level of satisfaction with the judicial system has been reasonably high, there has been no demand for changes. In addition to a concise introduction of the major legal bases for mediation and the mediation procedures under Austrian law, this lecture also discusses mediation's impact on: i) the dispute resolution culture in Austria; ii) practising lawyers; iii) courts; and iv) arbitration.

**R.S.V.P. via [polly.kwok@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:polly.kwok@cityu.edu.hk)  
[www6.cityu.edu.hk/cjer/](http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/cjer/)**