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NADJA ALEXANDER

Professor of Law (Practice) & Director of the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy (SIDRA)

School of Law, Singapore Management University

BA/LLB (Hons) *Queensland*, Dip International Studies *Vienna*, LLM (summa cum laude), Dr jur (summa cum laude) *Tübingen*
nadjaa@smu.edu.sg

Capsule Biography



Dr. Nadja Alexander is Professor of Law (Practice) and Director of the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy (SIDRA) at the Singapore Management University School of Law. She is described as a practical thinker and thinking practitioner. She is consistently recognised as a global thought leader in the field of mediation by Who's Who Legal.

Nadja Alexander is an award-winning author and educator, and a conflict intervention professional. In the course of her career, she has been engaged in dispute resolution work in more than 40 countries. Nadja holds honorary professorial appointments in Australia and the United States. Many of her books and articles have been translated into various languages including Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, French, German and Russian. In 2020 her peer reviewed article, '10 Trends in International Mediation' won an award for outstanding professional article (Institution for Conflict Prevention and Resolution, New York).

Nadja's research has been used in the preparation of arguments before the Canadian Supreme Court, international arbitral awards, and in the design and drafting of mediation legislation in more than eight jurisdictions including Singapore, Hong Kong, Mongolia and Vietnam. She joined the Singapore delegation to the UNCITRAL Working Group II for the drafting of what became the Singapore Convention on Mediation. Nadja is a foundation member of the International Advisory Board of the United Nations Global Mediation Panel. She also serves as Lead Academic for Singapore to the APEC Online Dispute Resolution Collaborative Framework.

Education

- Doctor Juris (Dr. jur. *summa cum laude*), The University of Tübingen, Germany (equivalent to Doctor of Philosophy, PhD) 1999.
- Master of Laws (LLM *summa cum laude*), The University of Tübingen, Germany 1993.
- Diploma in International Studies, The University of Vienna, Austria 1992.
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB *Hons*), The University of Queensland 1989.
- Bachelor of Arts (BA), The University of Queensland 1986.

Employment [or Appointments]

Primary

- Professor of Law (Practice), School of Law, Singapore Management University
- Director of the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy, Asia's first institution dedicated to thought leadership and capacity building in negotiation and dispute resolution

Concurrent

- Lead Academic (Singapore) for the APEC ODR Collaborative Framework (2021 - ongoing)
- Foundation member of the International Advisory Board to the United Nations Global Mediation Panel for Workplace Disputes (2020 -ongoing)
- Senior Fellow, Dispute Resolution Institute, Mitchell Hamline Law School, United States, 2015 ongoing
- Conjoint Professor, University of Newcastle, Australia 2017 ongoing.
- Director and Board Member, Singapore International Mediation Institute 2014 ongoing.
- Advisory Board member of IIAA, Indian International ADR Association, 2012 ongoing
- Accredited Mediator, SIMC (Singapore), HKMAAL (Hong Kong), MSB (Australia). Nadja has mediated the following types of disputes: commercial, professional partnership, intergovernmental, cross-cultural, building, and public interest matters.

Previous academic appointments

- Visiting Professor of Law, Singapore Management University, Jan 2017-Jun 2017
- Professor of Law and Director of the LLM (Arbitration and Dispute Resolution) Programme, City University Hong Kong: 2010-2011
- Professor of Conflict Resolution and Law, Director of Conflict Resolution & Practice, former Australian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (ACPACS), The University of Queensland (UQ) Australia: 2004-2009
- Associate Professor of Law (previously Senior Lecturer and Lecturer), Director of the Dispute Management Centre at the TC Beirne School of Law, The University of Queensland (UQ) Australia: 1994-2004

Previous policy appointments

- Hong Kong Steering Committee on Mediation, appointment by the Secretary for Justice of Hong Kong Mr Rimsky Yuen 2012-2016.
- Hong Kong Steering Committee on Mediation, appointment by the Secretary for Justice of Hong Kong Mr [Wong Yan-lung SC](#) 2011-2012.
- Mediation Accreditation Sub-committee of the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Ltd 2014-2016.
- Regulatory Framework Sub-committee of the Hong Kong Steering Committee on Mediation 2011-2016.
- Mediation Accreditation Sub-committee of the Hong Kong Steering Committee on Mediation 2011-2016.

- Appointments Committee of the Financial Dispute Resolution Centre of Hong Kong 2012-2016.
- Singapore International Commercial Mediation Working Group, 2013.
- Australian National Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Council (NADRAC) 2009-2012.
- Appointment by German Minister for Justice to National Expert Advisory Council (Berlin) to advise on the preparation of a mediation law in *Germany*, 2006-2008.
- Appointment as ADR consultant and adviser to *Papua New Guinea* judiciary 2008-2009.
- Appointment as consultant to prepare an issues and options paper for on the regulation of grass roots mediation in *Vietnam* (JUDGE project) 2009.
- Appointment by the Chief Justice of Samoa to that country's Steering Committee on Mediation 2011-2014.
- Member, Standards Commission, International Mediation Institute, The Hague (2007 – 2014)

Previous Academic Visiting Appointments

- Bond University (Australia) 2021
- Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic) 2016
- University of Cologne (Germany) 2016
- Germany: Humboldt Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute of Foreign and Comparative Law in Hamburg, Germany 2015
- Hong Kong: Visiting Professor, University of Hong Kong 2014.
- United States: Visiting Professor, Hamline University, 2015.
- Austria: Vienna University of Economics 2013-2014
- Australia: Bond University 2010-2013
- South Africa: University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg 2010- 2013
- Italy: La Sapienza University, Rome, 2005
- New Zealand: Victoria University, Wellington, 2005
- Hungary: Loyola Law School, Budapest, Summer Teaching Faculty 2003.
- United States: Hamline Law School, Minneapolis, Dispute Resolution Institute, 2002

Research areas/ Areas of specialisation

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- International Private Law of Mediation
- International and Comparative Mediation Law and Practice
- Cross-cultural Dispute Resolution
- Mediation Advocacy and Negotiation

Subjects Taught at SMU

Prof Alexander teaches the following undergraduate courses at SMU:

- Business Law (LGST101)
- Professional Mediation Skills (LAW478 SMU-X)
- International Mediation Law and Practice (LAW481 SMU-X)

At postgrad level, she teaches in the *LLM* and *Graduate Certificate in Mediation and Dispute Resolution* programs.

- Cross-border mediation skills (LAW643). This course is taught in face-to-face and hybrid modes.

In 2017/2018 Prof. Alexander designed, introduced and taught the following courses:

At undergraduate level, SMU:

1. Professional Mediation Skills (LAW478)
2. Deal-making and Dispute Resolution/Negotiation (LAW482)
3. International Mediation Law and Practice (LAW481 SMU-X course)

At postgraduate level, SMU:

4. Cross-Border Mediation: Professional Skills and Practice (LAW 643). This course include professional mediator assessment that leads to mediator accreditation in Singapore.

Nadja has also been involved in executive education teaching at SMU:

- Negotiation
- Conflict Management for Leaders

Awards/Honours (Teaching and research)

Prof. Alexander is well known for her innovation, energy and creativity in research, teaching and training in dispute resolution contexts. Her international education and experience bring a global perspective and interdisciplinary insight to her work. These qualities have been recognised through numerous awards for teaching and innovation.

2021-2018	Who's Who Legal: Named a Global Thought Leader in the field of Mediation (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)
2020	Winner of CPR Professional Article Award for Outstanding Scholarship conferred by the Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution
2018	Recipient of Dean's Teaching Award
2017	The Nadja Alexander Senior Negotiation Competition Shield: University of Queensland Law Society Senior Negotiation Competition Shield for the annual negotiation competition in recognition of contributions to the field of negotiation and ADR

- 2021- 2014 Who's Who Legal: Ranked in the top mediation professionals internationally 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014
- 2011 INTERNATIONAL WINNER, CPR (International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution) International Awards for Research (Category: Books) International and Comparative Mediation: Legal Perspectives, Kluwer Law International, Alphen aan den Rijn, 2009
- 2007 INTERNATIONAL FINALIST, CPR (International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution) International Awards for Research (Category: Books) Global Trends in Mediation, Kluwer Law International, Alphen aan den Rijn, 2006
- 1998 Primary author of Australian award winning skills series text, Negotiation: Theories and Techniques, Butterworths Sydney
- 1997 Australian Award for University Teaching
- 1996 Excellence in Teaching Award, The University of Queensland Recognition as one of the most respected law academics in Australia by a National Teaching Survey: reported in Campus Revue Special Report, November 20-26, 1996
- 1995 Excellence in Teaching Special Commendation Award, The University of Queensland, Best Lecturer Award, Law School, University of Queensland
- 1994 Best Lecturer Award, Law School, University of Queensland

Research Grants

- 2019-2024 MinLaw funding to establish SMU research centre, Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy, SIDRA
- 2019-2020 SMU Lee Kong Chian Fellowship
- 2018-2019 Research capacity funding
- 2018-2019 SMU Lee Kong Chian Fellowship
- 2017-2018 SMU Lee Kong Chian Fellowship
- 2015 Humboldt Research Fellowship, Max Planck Institute, Hamburg Germany

- 2012 Commentary on the mediation law of Hong Kong: Academic staff grant, Hong Kong
- 2011 Mediation and Globalisation in East Asia: Academic staff research grant, Hong Kong
- 2010 Hong Kong and mainland China: comparative negotiation: Academic exchange travel grant, Hong Kong
- 2008 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Dancing at the Crossroads: Using Narrative and Movement in Intercultural Conflict Resolution (Collaborator with Prof. Michelle LeBaron), Switzerland, Hong Kong
- 2006–2007 Humboldt Research Fellowship at Europe University Viadrina Germany. (16 months)

Recent Media

1. “Who’s Who Legal, Thought Leaders Global Elite - Mediation - 2021 Q&A, Interview with Nadja Alexander”
<https://whoswholegal.com/nadja-alexander>
 2. „Aktuelle Chancen und Risiken für die Mediation, INKOVEMA Roundup 2020 (#5), Interview with Nadja Alexander“
<https://inkovema.de/blog/aktuelle-chancen-und-risiken-fuer-die-mediation-roundup-post-2020/>
 3. “Mediating to Smoothen out International Commercial Disputes”, (31 August 2020)
<https://cmp.smu.edu.sg/article/mediating-smoothen-out-international-commercial-disputes>
 4. “Arbitration preferred choice for dispute resolution: Ministry of Law study” The Business Times (16 July 2020). <<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/government-economy/arbitration-preferred-choice-for-dispute-resolution-ministry-of-law-study>>
 5. “A Smoother Channel for Settling Disputes”, Interview with The Business Times, (15 January 2020)
<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/hub-projects/tackling-societal-challenges/a-smoother-channel-for-settling-disputes>
- “Who’s Who Legal, Women in the Law, Interview with Nadja Alexander”, (04 November 2019) <https://whoswholegal.com/women-in-law/women-in-law---thought-leader-qa-with-nadja-alexander>
6. “Theme: On the Business Value of the Singapore Convention for Mediation”, Radio interview with CNA938, (14 August 2019)

Selected Publications

Books [monographs and/or edited collections]

1. Nadja M. Alexander (with Sarah R. Cole, Craig A. McEwen, Nancy H. Rogers, James R. Coben) *Mediation: Law, Policy & Practice* (Thomas Reuters, 2021-2022).
<<https://store.legal.thomsonreuters.com/law-products/Treatises/Mediation-Law-Policy--Practice-2020-2021-ed-Trial-Practice-Series/p/106672311>>. Nadja Alexander has joined as the international co-author of this long-standing major US treatise on mediation.
2. Alexander, N (with Boule, L.), *Mediation Skills and Techniques 3rd edition*, Lexis Nexis, Sydney (2019). <https://store.lexisnexis.com.au/products/mediation-skills-techniques-3rd-edition-skumeditation_skills_and_techniques_3rd_edition>.
3. Alexander, N. (with Chong, S), *The Singapore Convention on Mediation: A Commentary*, Wolters Kluwer, Alpen aan den Rijn (2019)
<<https://lrus.wolterskluwer.com/store/product/the-singapore-convention-on-mediation-a-commentary/>>.
4. Alexander, N. (with Lee, J And Lum, K-W), *Singapore Mediation Handbook*, Lexis Nexis, Singapore (2019) <<https://store.lexisnexis.com.sg/products/singapore-mediation-handbook-book-ebook-skuSkusg041/details>>.
5. Nadja Alexander, *International and Comparative Mediation: Legal Perspectives* (Kluwer Law International, 2009)

Journal Articles

1. Nadja M. Alexander and Shou Yu Chong, “Leading the way for the recognition and enforcement of international mediated settlement agreements: The Singapore Convention on Mediation Act 2020“ *SACLJ* (2021)
<<https://journalonline.academyPublishing.org.sg/e-First/Singapore-Academy-of-Law-Journal/ctl/eFirstPDFPage/mid/568/ArticleId/1363/Citation/eFirstPDF>>
2. Nadja M. Alexander “The Emergence of Mediation Law in Asia: A Tale of Two Cities” *Transnational Dispute Management* 3 (2021), www.transnational-dispute-management.com
3. LeBaron, M. (with Alexander, N.), “Optimising Performance: How Jungian Alchemy Informs Organisational Transformation”, *The Art of Management and Organisational Journal* 9 (2) (2020), 62 – 82
<https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3583370>.
4. Alexander, N., “The Singapore Convention: What Happens After the Ink has Dried?”, *American Review of International Arbitration* ARIA 30 (2019), 235 – 262
<https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3583379>.
5. Alexander, N, “[Ten Trends in International Mediation](#)”, *Singapore Academy of Law Journal* 31 SACLJ (2019), 405 – 447
SSRN link <https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3583390>.
6. Alexander, N. “The Mediation Meta-Model: Understanding Practice,” *Conflict Resolution Quarterly* 26 (1) (2008), 97-123
<https://ink.library.smu.edu.sg/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3815&context=sol_research>

Book Chapters

1. Alexander, N. “Through the Looking Glass: Exploring the Regulatory-Ethical Ecosystem for Mediation” in *Comparative Dispute Resolution* (Maria Moscati, Michael Palmer & Marian Roberts eds) (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2020) 172–189.
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/346965534_Through_the_Looking_Glass_Exploring_the_Regulatory-Ethical_Ecosystem_for_Mediation>.

Other Publications [e.g. reports]

1. Nadja M. Alexander and Ong Kye Jing, *Singapore Annotated Statutes: “Mediation Act 2017”*, *Annotated Laws of Singapore* (Lexis Nexis, 2021)
2. Alexander, N. (with Giorgadze, V. & Goh, A.) Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy, *SIDRA International Dispute Resolution Survey: 2020 Final Report* (3 July 2020)
<<https://sidra.smu.edu.sg/sites/sidra.smu.edu.sg/files/survey/index.html>>.

Recent Key Presentations

1. ALEXANDER, N., “Understanding and Utilization of the Singapore Convention on Mediation – Domestic Implementation of the Singapore Convention” 2nd KIMC International Seminar (November 2021)
2. ALEXANDER, N., “A Look at the Singapore Convention on its Date of Entry into Force”, Programme Singapore Convention on Mediation, organised by the Istanbul Arbitration Centre, Ministry of Justice and Marmara University, (12 September 2020)
3. ALEXANDER, N. “Why Women, Why Asia? Connecting the Dots in International Mediation”, Mediators Beyond Borders International Annual Conference, November 2019, Den Pasar, Indonesia. Keynote speaker.
4. ALEXANDER, N. “Singapore Convention on Mediation”, Mediation: a New Era, 6 August 2019, Singapore, co-convened by SIDRA, SIMC, SMC and SIMI. Moderator and convener of panel to interview the Secretary of UNCITRAL and the former Secretary for Justice of HKSAR.
5. ALEXANDER, N., ‘The Singapore Convention on Mediation: what does it mean for the professional mediation community?’ 5th Asian Mediation Association Conference, 24 – 25 October, Jakarta, Indonesia. Keynote Speaker (Invited).
6. ALEXANDER, N., ‘The effects of mediation regulation on conflict culture – an international comparison.’, Viadrina International Mediation Conference, 4 – 7 October 2018, Frankfurt/Oder, Germany. Keynote speaker, presenter and colloquium contributor.