

Invitation to participate in ILERA Study Group on Third Party Neutrals in Dispute Resolution

We would like to invite your participation in the newly-established Third Party Neutral in Dispute Resolution Study Group of the International Labor and Employment Relations Association (ILERA). In particular, **we would like to invite you to join us in our first session together at the ILERA World Congress in Seoul in July.**

PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY GROUP

The **Third Party Neutrals in Dispute Resolution Study Group** is open to **everyone interested and involved in** labour and employment dispute prevention, resolution, adjudication, arbitration, mediation-arbitration, conciliation and mediation. **That includes third party neutrals, practitioners, policy makers and regulators as well as academics.** Co-Chairs are Chris Albertyn, mediator and arbitrator, (see www.albertyn.ca) and Deputy President Anna Booth of Australia's federal industrial tribunal, the Fair Work Commission (see www.fwc.gov.au).

A small, provisional Study Group Committee of academics and practitioners has been established, before its expansion and formal confirmation at the Seoul ILERA World Congress, 23-27 July 2018.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY GROUP

The Third Party Neutrals in Dispute Resolution Study Group invites everyone interested in how third parties are involved in the prevention and settlement of disputes in the labour and employment field to join us.

Participants in the Study Group may be interested in any or all of the following:

- the study of labour and employment issues and disputes arising at **different levels**:
 - at international level (over employment standards, over labour agreements as part of trade agreements);
 - at a national level (between confederations of trade unions and employers);
 - at a regional or sectoral level (between trades, trade union federations and employer associations);
 - at an enterprise or plant level (between trade unions and particular employers); or
 - between individual employees and individual employers;
- **all methods** used to prevent or resolve those disputes which involve assistance or intervention by a third party, either a court, a state agency or an agreed private resolution mechanism;
- all types of **resolution**, that is, either binding and determinative, or advisory, or facilitative, including what are deemed alternative forms of dispute resolution (ADR);
- **remedies** available across jurisdictions, and under what forms of labour law, especially when considered in comparative perspective;
- all types of **outcomes** sought or achieved which, along with the resolution of a dispute, may include effects on relationships, individual, group, organisational, industry, or societal measures;
- **comparative** study, looking at differences in the methods of dispute resolution, and in the varieties of institutions in different jurisdictions and countries used to prevent or settle labour and employment disputes; or
- **any other new or emerging issues in relation to the work of third parties in the labour and employment field.**

ILERA WORLD CONGRESS

The initial opportunity to pursue these studies and discussions will be at the ILERA World Congress in **Seoul July 23-27, 2018** (see <http://www.iler2018.org/congress/welcome.html>).

Session in the formal program, 24-27 July

We will have a session allocated in Seoul during the formal program, at which some papers will be presented on the role of the third party neutral. **If you would like to present a paper in our organised session, please send an abstract, consistent with the guidelines on the conference website, by NO LATER than 25 January 2018, to our academic co-ordinator Professor Johanna Macneil at Johanna.macneil@newcastle.edu.au, copied to the co-ordinator of the study group, Chris Albertyn at chrisalbertyn@icloud.com.**

Meeting of the Third Party Neutrals in Dispute Resolution Study Group, 23 July

We will also arrange an opportunity to discuss plans for future meetings of the Study Group, for continued interaction between practitioners and academics on areas of common comparative interest. **Even if you don't have a paper for this conference, we would warmly welcome your ideas about participation in the future.** (Please note, this will on the same day as other study group meetings.)

More information

More information about the Seoul conference is provided via the ILERA 2018 website. If you have any questions about the study group activities, please email Chris Albertyn or Johanna Macneil.

Regards

ILERA Third Party Neutrals in Dispute Resolution Study Group

(updated 17 January 2018)