



## COMMUNICATION

***Ask the FICSA Expert session on:***

**19/24**

***UN System Ombudsman and Mediators***

**Geneva**

**4 September 2024**

**Monday 30 September, 15:00 -16:30 CET**

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To: All FICSA Members  
PLEASE DISTRIBUTE WIDELY TO YOUR AFFILIATED MEMBERS

From: FICSA Secretariat

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Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the next online information session “Ask the FICSA Expert” on the UN System Ombudsman and Mediators.

- Contributing to a harmonious workplace in the United Nations
- Background: [Network of UN System Ombudsman and Mediators | Ombudsman and Mediation Services](#)

### **Speaker profiles:**

***Shireen Dodson, United Nations Ombudsman, Chair of the Network of UN System Ombudsman and Mediators***

Shireen Dodson has over thirty years of diverse leadership experience in business, government and non-profit organizations. Prior to her appointment as the UN Ombudsman, she was the first full-time Ombudsman of the State Department of the United States, a position that she assumed in 2010 and in which she provided dispute resolution, coaching, change-management and leadership training for nearly 75,000 people around the world.

More: [Shireen L. Dodson, United Nations Ombudsman | Ombudsman and Mediation Services](#)

***Patrick Voigt, Ombudsman of the United Nations Funds and Programmes, Co-Chair of the Network of UN System Ombudsman and Mediators***

Patrick Voigt is the Ombudsman of the United Nations Funds and Programmes (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN-WOMEN, UNOPS). His professional career includes private and national public sector legal

professions and over 20 years of UN experience with the United Nations Secretariat, UNIDO, UNRWA, and UNICEF in strategic advisory, human resources, policy, and grievance management functions. He holds advanced common and civil law degrees, is a certified mediator, and coach. Patrick has worked in postings in Europe, South and South East Asia, the USA, and the Middle East.

***Gabriela Ourivio Assmar, Mediator, International Labour Organization, Vice-Chair of the Network of UN System Ombudsman and Mediators***

Gabriela Ourivio Assmar is the ILO Mediator. Before the ILO, her professional career includes 30 years of experience resolving complex conflicts in Brazil, the USA and Argentina. She has mediated in quite different areas such as corporate, family, criminal and community conflicts, with the Court System and in private practice. In the corporate world she has worked in prestigious Law Firms, as General Counsel, Public Affairs director, and Ombudsman. She is a recognized pioneer in the Brazilian mediation field, was a co-author of the Brazilian Mediation Law and introduced the practice of mediation in the Brazilian Bar Association.

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**Microsoft Teams meeting**