

## GEMME Ireland Report 2022

### 1. Membership

GEMME Ireland has 32 members made up of 19 serving judges, 4 retired judges and 9 associate members.

### 2. Events held in 2022

Three events were held, two online due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and one hybrid.

#### i) 2 March 2022 – Bringing Restorative Justice Home



**Keynote Speakers: (l to r) Judge Patricia McNamara, Dr Ian Marder, Prof Helena Soletto**

GEMME Ireland hosted an online panel discussion on European developments in Restorative Justice and their implementation in Spain and Ireland on Wednesday, 2 March 2022. The theme: 'Bringing Restorative Justice Home' was explored by three eminent speakers: **Judge Patricia McNamara**, Judge of the District Court, Dublin and EJTN-appointed expert on Restorative Justice in the KUL RE-JUSTICE project, **Dr Ian Marder**, Assistant Professor in Criminology, Maynooth University, Ireland, and **Professor Helena Soletto**, Dir. Master de Mediación, Negociación y Resolución de Conflictos, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. The Moderator for the event was **Ms. Justice Mary Rose Gearty**, Judge of the High Court, inaugural Director of Judicial Studies of Ireland, Head of European Affairs for GEMME and Chair of the Irish Branch of GEMME. Attendees included members of the judiciary, practising mediators, GEMME members, academics, legal experts and administrators. The event was live-streamed in the late afternoon enabling interested parties (national, and international) to attend.

#### ii) 30 March 2022 - Settling Commercial Disputes: The Role of the Judge and the Role of the Mediator

Speakers: **Helen Kilroy** (Event Moderator), **Judge (retired) Paul Gilligan** (Speaker), **Mr Justice David Barniville** (Speaker). Chair of GEMME Ireland: **Ms Justice Mary Rose Gearty**



#### **Keynote Speakers**

**L to R: Helen Kilroy, Partner, McCann Fitzgerald, Judge Paul Gilligan, Mr Justice David Barniville.**

GEMME Ireland hosted a commercial mediation event at the Gaffney Room, Bar of Ireland, Dublin on Wednesday, 30 March 2022. Keynote speakers were Mr. Justice David Barniville, Judge of the Court of Appeal, and retired Judge of the Court of Appeal, Paul Gilligan. The event was moderated expertly by Ms. Helen Kilroy, Partner in Litigation and Dispute Resolution Department in McCann FitzGerald LLP. Ms Justice Mary Rose Gearty (Chairwoman, GEMME Ireland) opened proceedings by welcoming those in the room. The event was livestreamed and drew one of the largest virtual attendee lists for GEMME Ireland events.

**iii) 7 July 2022 – Putting the Child at the Centre of Family Law Mediation**

This was an interactive event designed to show how children can and should be put at the centre of family mediation. The event was live-streamed and also had in person attendance. Speakers: **Ms Justice Mary Rose Gearty and Ms Fiona Mc Auslan**, Director of Family Mediation Services at the Legal Aid Board. Actors facilitated the role play scenarios presented as part of the event which gave an excellent demonstration of how skilful mediation can de-escalate rising conflict between estranged parties to move them to focus on the needs and interests of their children.



**L to R: Ms Justice Mary Rose Gearty, Fiona McAuslan, with role play actors seated (Family Mediation Service)**



**Attendees included  
Ms Justice Marguerite  
Bolger (2<sup>nd</sup> from left)  
and Judge David  
McHugh**