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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE

Directorate A: Civil justice  
Unit A.1 : Civil justice policy

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Mr. Zeno Șuștac  
Vice-president  
Romanian Mediation Council  
Email: [zen\\_san55@yahoo.com](mailto:zen_san55@yahoo.com)

Dear Mr. Șuștac,

Thank you for your email of 14 September 2016 concerning mediation in the EU, addressed to Commissioner Jourova who has asked me to reply to you on her behalf.

In this regard, I can inform you that the Commission has recently adopted a report on the application of Directive 2008/52/EC on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1472658293423&uri=COM%3A2016%3A542%3AFIN>

The evaluation shows that overall, the Directive has provided EU added value. By raising awareness amongst national legislators of the advantages of mediation, the implementation of the Mediation Directive has had a significant impact on the legislation of several Member States. The extent of the Directive's impact on Member States varies according to the pre-existing level of their national mediation systems.

The report concludes that the policy objective of the Mediation Directive, namely to facilitate access to alternative dispute resolution, promote the amicable settlement of disputes and ensure that parties having recourse to mediation can rely on a predictable legal framework, remains valid today and for the future: mediation can help to avoid unnecessary litigation at the taxpayers' expense and reduce the time and cost associated with court-based litigation. It can in the longer term create a non-litigious culture in which there are no winners and losers, but partners.

Please note in particular that the Commission will continue to co-finance mediation-related projects through its "Justice Programme". You can find more information in this regard at: [http://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants1/programmes-2014-2020/justice/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants1/programmes-2014-2020/justice/index_en.htm)

Yours sincerely,

Karen Vandekerckhove  
Acting Head of Unit