



Oscar J. Franco is a Venezuelan attorney who litigated commercial, international business as well as family law for 20 years in his native country, until he decided to shift gears and use ADR as his way to resolve conflicts. He was trained as a mediator in Florida in 1998 and returned to Venezuela to teach and practice civil and family mediation. The impact of cultural diversity in the mediation process has been of the utmost interest to Oscar.

Oscar relocated to Florida in 2003 to be a full-time mediator and later became an American citizen. He is a Florida Supreme Court Certified County, Circuit Civil and Family Mediator, as well as a Florida Supreme Court County Primary Mediation Trainer, and a Qualified Arbitrator.

Oscar was a County and Family contract Mediator for the Mediation and Arbitration Program of the 17th Judicial Circuit (2004-2012), as well as an Independent Associate mediator with the Upchurch, Watson, White and Max Mediation Group (2003-2004), Divorce without War (2012-2018), and Mediar Inc. (2018 to date).

Oscar has participated as lecturer and speaker in many national and international ADR Conferences (Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay, Panama, Colombia, and Spain). He is an Adjunct Professor at Florida International University and taught a Strategic Negotiation and Mediation Course at the Koubek Center, University of Miami. He is frequently invited to lecture on cultural diversity and other mediation topics to the law students at Nova University.

Oscar has been a member of the Florida Supreme Court Advisory Committee on ADR Rules and Policy since 2014 (recently reappointed for 4 years term). He is also a member of the Mediator Qualifications & Discipline Review Board, and a former member of the Board of Directors of the Association of South Florida Mediators and Arbitrators, the Florida Academy of Professional Mediators, and Executive Director of the Venezuelan American Chamber of Commerce of Miami, Florida.