

Study on Future of Dispute Resolution

This conversation will ask some questions about the broad field of dispute resolution including litigation and administrative processes as well as mediation, arbitration and other procedures traditionally considered as ADR. Moreover, it can include conflict resolution or conflict management of broader conflicts that are not defined in terms of discrete cases (e.g., community, organizational, ethnic, international conflicts). You might focus exclusively on the US or focus on other parts of the world in addition.

When I refer to “the field,” please define it however it makes most sense to you. Your responses may be limited to certain parts of the field due to your own experience or views.

In discussing these questions, you may focus on businesses, government, courts, communities, or other important institutions. Your responses may address disputing processes, knowledge, professional or organizational structures, professional or popular culture, among other things. If there are publications, websites, or other resources that illustrate your points, I would be interested to hear about them.

You may have a lot to say in response to some questions and little or nothing about other questions. That’s fine.

1. Imagine the field 10-20 years from now. What do you think it might look like then?
2. Would that be different from the kind of ideal-but-plausible field world you want to see? If so, what would be different?
3. What kinds of things would need to happen to make the field more like your ideal?
4. Are there current trends in the field that you think are moving the field in the wrong direction? If so, how would you describe those trends?
5. What major issues do you expect the field may need to grapple with in the next 10-20 years?
6. What kinds of knowledge and skills might be needed to move the field in a good direction?
7. What should I have asked on this subject that we haven’t discussed already?
8. Are there other thoughtful people you think would be good for me to talk with about the future of the field? Any up-and-coming leaders of the field?