About
- Established in 2006
- UN system-wide focal point for mediation expertise and support
- Provides support to good offices and mediation in conflict prevention and resolution contexts

Core competencies
- Strategic and technical support
- Capacity building
- Mediation guidance, lessons learned, and best practices

Support capacity
- MSU staff, including in-house experts on ceasefires and constitution-making
- Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers (SBT)
- Secretary-General’s High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation
- Roster of Mediation Support Experts

MSU’s Mediation Guidance documents cover a range of mediation topics, including the principles of mediation; gender and inclusion; natural resource conflicts; conflict-related sexual violence; and mediation start-up guidelines.

The Digital Technologies and Mediation Toolkit explores how mediators can apply information technology to different areas of their work, including conflict analysis; engagement with mediation parties; inclusivity; and strategic communications.

MSU is a member of several mediation networks, including the Group of Friends on Mediation; the Mediation Support Network; and the meetings of various regional organizations.

Members of the Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers are deployable within 72 hours. SBT members carried out over 110 activities in 2018 to locations around the world.

SBT Clients
- UN Secretariat, PKOs, and SPMs: 49%
- UN Agencies and Country Teams: 16%
- Regional Organizations: 15%
- Civil Society: 14%
- Member States: 6%

SBT Areas of Expertise
- Process Design
- Gender and Inclusion
- Constitutions
- Local Mediation
- Natural Resources
- Transitional Justice
- Security Arrangements
- Power Sharing
- National Dialogues
- Capacity Building

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