

Birgitte Beelen started her professional career as a lecturer in Dutch language and trainer in communication skills, graduated subsequently in organisation psychology and special education theory and completed a post-graduate course in clinical psychology at the Groningen University and in Child Psychology. Birgitte is managing director of SYNTAGMA, a practice for therapy, mediation, coaching, training and consultancy. After having worked at the Child Protection Agency of the Dutch Ministry of Justice and having been Head Treatment & Education of a Penitentiary Institution for children and adolescents, she worked as a manager in the public mental healthcare domain. She is court expert in psychology for the International Criminal Court. Having gained in-depth experience in diagnosing and treating children, adolescents and adults as well as considerable experience in high conflict cases and specialized in treatment of psychotrauma (EMDR Practitioner Europe), Birgitte became Cross Border Mediator at the IKO – International Child Abduction Centre and the NIM- European Network for Child Abduction. She works as a trainer to teach psychology subjects for psychologists, psychiatrists, medical doctors, lawyers, mediators, social worker. She is frequently asked to give lectures and trainings all over Europe. Birgitte is an active member of the NIP – Dutch Institute of Psychologists, the NVRG – Dutch Institute for Relationship & Family Therapy, the APMF – French Family Mediation Association and the MfN Dutch Mediation Federation. Mindfulness and Compassionate Living are part of her approach. She speaks English, French and Dutch.