



# Mediation in Criminal and Civil Cases 2021

## Steady demand for mediation in criminal and civil cases

### MAIN FINDINGS

- In 2021, 12,660 criminal cases and 679 civil cases were referred to mediation in criminal and civil cases.
- A total of 51.4% of all cases referred to mediation were violent crimes.
- An agreement was reached in 69% of mediation processes concerning criminal cases and in 62% of mediation processes concerning civil cases.
- In 2021, the monetary value of the agreements made in mediation in criminal and civil cases was EUR 1.9 million.
- A total of 1,417 voluntary mediators with the required training mediated criminal and civil cases during 2021.

In 2021, a total of 9,780 mediation requests including a total of 13,339 cases (12,660 criminal offences and 679 civil cases) were referred to mediation provided by mediation offices in accordance with [the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases](#). The number of criminal and civil cases referred to mediation fell by 3.1% (422) compared to the previous year.

Just over half (51.4 %) of all criminal and civil cases referred to mediation were violent crimes. A total of 2,476 cases concerning domestic violence were referred to mediation, equivalent to 18.6% of all the violent crimes referred.

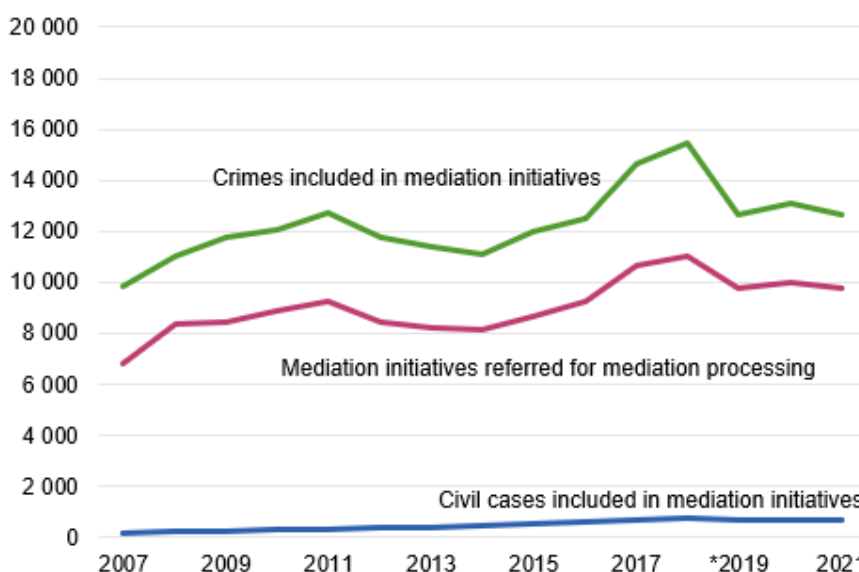
A mediation process was launched for 55% (6,951) of all criminal offences referred to mediation in 2021. Of all the criminal mediations launched in 2021, 69% (4,774) ended in a settlement. For civil cases, a mediation process was launched in 42% of cases (282), and an agreement was reached in 62% (176) of these. The financial value of the mediated agreements was approximately EUR 1.9 million.

In 2021, the average duration of the mediation process was 76 days, of which half (38 days) went into confirming the requirements for mediation and half went into the actual mediation.

In 2021, a total of EUR 6.6 million was allocated to the mediation offices of the Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare, which are used to provide mediation services for criminal and civil cases. The average cost of mediating one criminal or civil case was EUR 498. The mediation service is free of charge for the parties involved.

From 2019 onwards, the statistical data has been extracted from the joint information system (Sopu); up until 2018, the summary data for different spheres of activity was collected in a separate form. These two different ways of collecting the data produce statistics that are not fully comparable.

**Figure 1. Initiatives referred to mediation, and the criminal offenses and civil cases extracted from the 2007-2021.**



\* A change in the collection of statistical data; the national information system Sopu was introduced.

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