

## The Art of Negotiation

Virtual Workshop, 8 July 2021

**TaylorWessing** 

# Overview

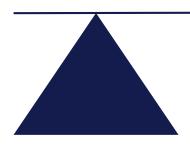
- Three principles that underlie successful negotiations:
  - The right mindset
     The right process
     The right execution
- Key principles in M&A negotiations

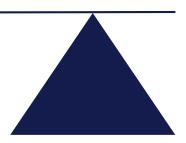


# The Right Mindset

## **Two Key Beliefs**

- Everything is negotiable
- A better deal can be found if you ask





# The Right Mindset

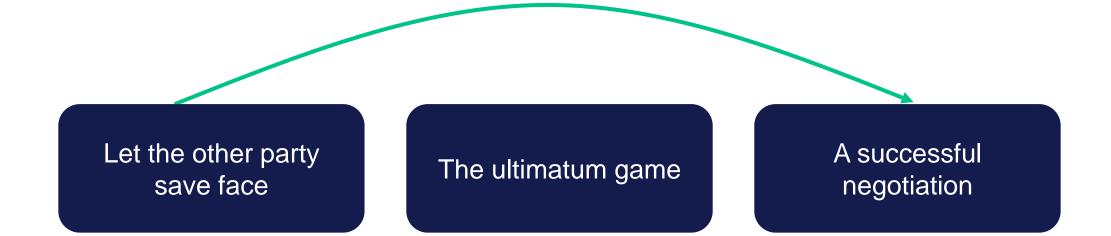
## Negotiation is a process of convergence

- Types of negotiation
- Interests vs. Positions
- The factors Time/Information/Power



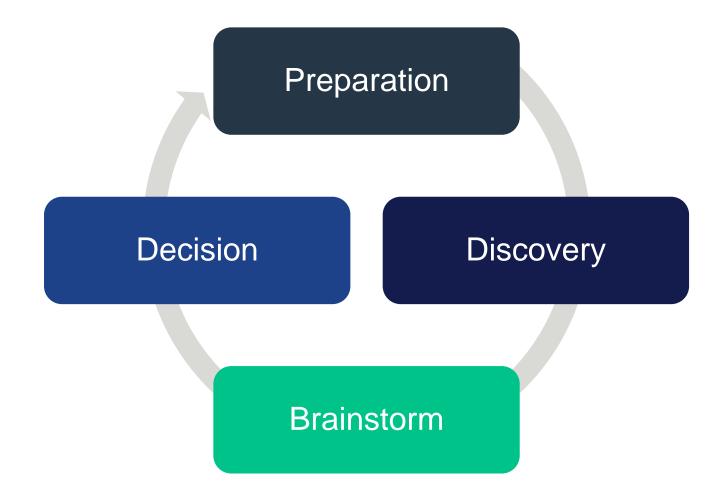
# The Right Mindset

Technique is important, BUT honesty, integrity and fairness trump technique



# **The Right Process**

## Negotiation is a process, not an event



# **The Right Process**

# Preparation is the single most important element to a successful outcome

- 1. Core Interests
- 2. Alternatives (BATNA)
  3. Walk-Away Price
  4. Zone of Possible Agreeme

  a. Milestones
  b. Options
  c. Standards

  5. Messages

# **The Right Execution**

## **6 Principles of Influence**

- Avoid Confirmation Bias
- Avoid Anchoring Effect
- Avoid Loss Aversion

Play Addictive "No"

- Play Tactical Empathy
- Play Flexibility

## Key Principles in M&A Negotiations

## **Preparation Rule**

**Sell-Side Considerations** 

✓Buyer motives

✓Buyer resources

✓Buyer plans

**Buy-Side Considerations** 

✓ Reasons for selling

✓ Price rationale

✓Alternative to no sale

# Key Principles in M&A Negotiations

## **Key Takeaways**

- The best offer in M&A is a combination of price, term and conditions.
- Negotiation is based on two key beliefs and it is a process of convergence, not a battle of positions.
- Important to take the lead and beware of deal heat.
- Flexibility:
  - give the other side more than one way to improve their offer.
- Never make a concession without getting something in return.

# In Conclusion

The best attitude by far of an excellent negotiator... I care... But not that much!

#### Europe > Middle East > Asia

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