



Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell, HPNLU Shimla

# 3<sup>rd</sup> SAMANVAY INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION COMPETITION, 2025

18<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> September | 13<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> October

## BROCHURE



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HARVA LEGAL LLP



The Peacekeeping and  
Conflict Resolution Team



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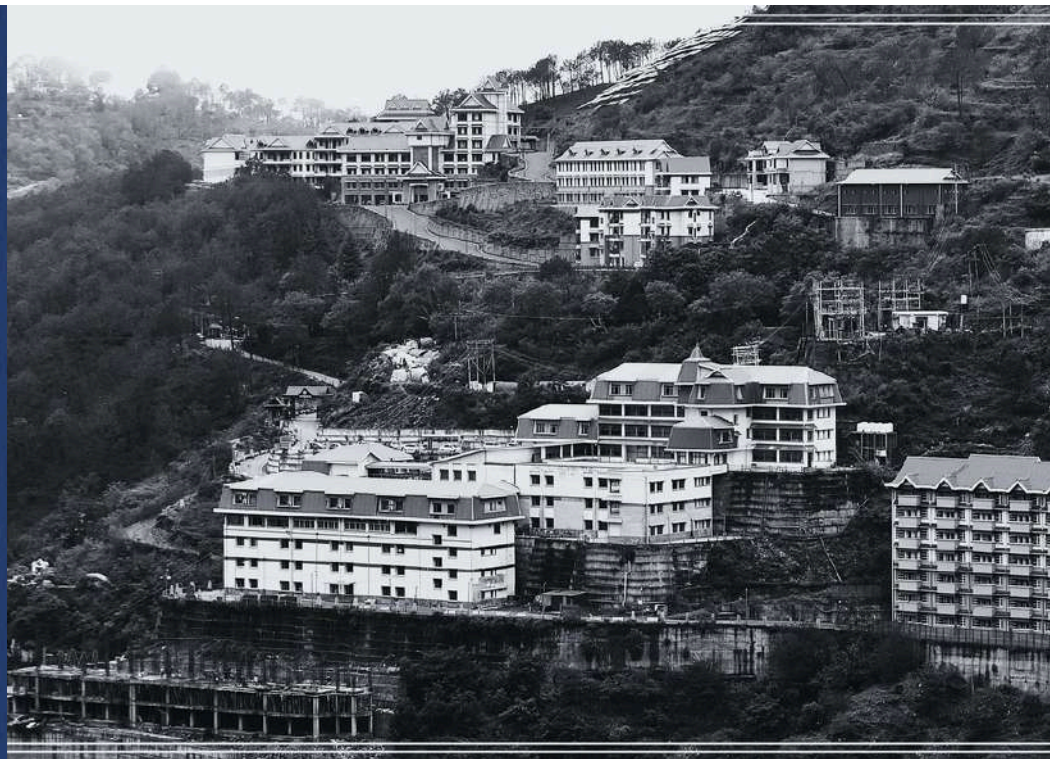
# About us

Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU), Shimla is a renowned legal institution nestled in the serene and picturesque city of Shimla, India. Established by the Himachal Pradesh National Law University Act (Act 16 of 2016), HPNLU Shimla has quickly gained prominence as a leading centre for legal education and research in the region with the visionary scholar of law, and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Priti Saxena at its helm.

## ABOUT HPNLU SHIMLA

In the nine years of its foundation, HPNLU, Shimla has seen tremendous growth and has undertaken a good number of innovative measures to enhance its academic potential. Despite the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic and the ensuing lockdown, the university didn't waver in its mission of guiding students towards knowledge, by being at the forefront of platforms using digital to conduct competitions virtually.

The university's serene location amidst the breathtaking Himalayan ranges offers a tranquil and conducive environment for learning. The natural beauty and cultural heritage of Shimla adds to the overall experience, providing students with a well rounded and enriching educational journey.



Additionally, the university's infrastructure, well-stocked library, and modern research facilities create an optimal learning environment for students. With its unwavering commitment to academic rigour and practical training, HPNLU, Shimla contributes to nurture and shape the legal minds of tomorrow, leaving an indelible mark on the legal landscape of India



# About ADRC

Established in the year 2020 with the aim of promoting alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and enhancing professional legal skills among law students, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell (erstwhile, CADR & PS), Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, plays a crucial role in bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application in the field of ADR. The Cell firmly believes in holistic growth and recognises that a comprehensive understanding of law goes beyond the confines of a classroom. Rooted in the principles of efficiency, accessibility, and adaptability, ADRC offers a comprehensive array of resources, education, and training in various alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, including mediation, arbitration, negotiation, and conciliation.






# About Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2025

## THE COMPETITION

After witnessing a great response and appreciation from the participants across premier law colleges and assessors across the globe in its maiden and second edition, we present yet another edition the Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2025 as a step taken by the ADRC HPNLU, Shimla towards acting as facilitator in increasing the zeal for Mediation among aspiring students. The competition seeks to provide a prodigious experience that will amplify the interests of young minds in this niche practice of law. The competition will help students brainstorm probable solutions for realistic challenges while providing them with the comfort of choosing their roles as per their preferences.

This competition will also provide an opportunity for the participants to develop the requisite negotiating and communication skills through training sessions conducted by industry professionals. The appealing and ever-growing fields of the law will be selected for this competition to expose the participants to a situation where the interests of clients are multifold, often going beyond mere commercial interests. The participants are expected to take a multi-dimensional approach to reach a settlement, showcasing the variety of skills that can be useful in effective mediation

The cell is committed to the advancement of best practices and the development of innovative approaches to resolving conflicts. In pursuance of its goal of conditioning law students to efficiently resolve disputes and after witnessing tremendous success in the first two editions of our National Mediation Competition and the first and second Samanvay international Mediation Competition, the Cell is keen to conduct the third edition of its flagship event.



# Meet Our Collaborators

## Title Sponsor



**JurisGyan**

We're proud to have JurisGyan as the Title Sponsor for SIMC 2025. JurisGyan is a pioneering legal education platform committed to transforming how law students and young professionals engage with the law. With a rapidly growing presence across India's academic landscape, JurisGyan has become a trusted name for accessible, high-quality legal learning, offering curated resources, expert mentorship, and career guidance tailored to the evolving needs of the legal profession. Recognised for its student-centric approach and innovative pedagogy, JurisGyan bridges the gap between classroom theory and real-world legal practice. Its initiatives span across legal writing, research, internships, and skill development programs, empowering thousands of learners to build meaningful careers in law. As a thought leader in legal education, JurisGyan continues to push boundaries, fostering a culture of clarity, curiosity, and excellence.

## Associate Sponsor



**HARVA LEGAL LLP**

We're proud to have Harva Legal LLP as the Associate Sponsor for SIMC 2025. Harva Legal LLP is a dynamic full-service law firm with a strong presence in Hyderabad and New Delhi, offering expert counsel across a wide spectrum of legal domains. From corporate and real estate law to criminal litigation, family disputes, and intellectual property, Harva Legal combines technical precision with a deep commitment to justice and community impact. Led by Founder and Managing Director Vennela Shankar, the firm is distinguished by its ethical rigour, client-centric approach, and proven track record of success. The firm pursues excellence in every aspect of its practice, striving to achieve the best possible outcomes and fostering a collaborative environment. Harva Legal brings its multifaceted expertise and values-driven practice to our shared mission of promoting legal excellence and access to justice.

# Meet Our Collaborators

## Expert Partner



Nishith Desai Associates (NDA) is a globally renowned, research-driven international law firm with offices across India and in major international hubs, including Palo Alto, Singapore, and New York. NDA is one of Asia's most innovative law firms, ranked by The Financial Times, and is the trusted choice for multinational corporations looking to establish themselves in India or abroad. Recipient of the FT-RSG Innovation Award four years in a row, the firm sets a benchmark for its diverse and integrated approach, combining legal, regulatory, and tax expertise with deep industry insights to deliver strategic and future-ready solutions. With ImaginariumAliGunjan, NDA's pioneering Blue Sky Thinking and Research Campus, it is determined to explore the future of law and society, developing visionary research and strategic foresight in emerging domains such as blockchain, AI, robotics, drones, aviation, space law, med-tech, and legal excellence. We're honoured to have NDA on board as an Expert Partner for SIMC 2025.

## Expert Partner



PSL Advocates & Solicitors ('PSL') is a new-age boutique law firm widely acclaimed for its expertise in commercial dispute resolution including Domestic & International Arbitration, Insolvency & Bankruptcy, White Collar Crimes, Commercial Litigation, Tax and Corporate Advisory. PSL's thought leadership is reflected in its strategic advocacy and niche research initiatives to assist its clients effectively. PSL has also pioneered and forged unique knowledge associations with reputed and upcoming law schools to effectively assist the student bodies in successfully organising innovative ADR events and workshops. PSL's clientele comprises Sovereign States, Financial Institutions, Government Instrumentalities and Public Sector Undertakings, Royal Families, and leading Indian and global corporations. Lawyers at PSL are consistently engaged to represent clients in complex high-stakes disputes before major international forums and arbitration tribunals constituted under the ICC, SIAC, LCIA, and DIAC Rules. The team at PSL comprises of a group of dynamic counsels with rich experience, who are relentlessly committed to the cause of providing bespoke and highly efficient legal solutions to their clients in a short turnaround time.

# Meet Our Collaborators

## Proposition Partner



A5 Legal LLP is a boutique law firm based in New Delhi, anchored by a dynamic team of young professionals, bringing assiduous expertise across company law, commercial litigation, arbitration, insolvency, labour and employment disputes, regulatory frameworks, and intellectual property. With a reputation for sharp strategies, precise drafting, and impactful advocacy, the firm consistently delivers effective resolutions to complex and high-stakes legal challenges. With its record of sharp strategies, cogent drafting, and persuasive advocacy, the firm invariably produces successful solutions to tough and high-stakes legal predicaments.

A5 Legal LLP is more than a mere adviser, presenting itself as a strategic partner. Every case is handled with painstaking research, compelling drafting, and meticulous advocacy, ensuring that solutions are not just legally viable but also business-savvy and sustainable. We are proud to collaborate with A5 Legal LLP for this year's Samanvay International Mediation Competition.

## Knowledge Partner



We're delighted to have SCC Online as our exclusive Knowledge Partner. SCC Online is India's most trusted legal research platform, renowned for its precision, depth, and technological innovation. Published by Eastern Book Company, SCC (Supreme Court Cases) has been the authoritative source of Indian case law for over five decades, cited more frequently than any other law report in the country. SCC Online brings this legacy into the digital age, offering seamless access to over 400 databases and millions of documents, including judgments, statutes, commentaries, and international legal materials, all curated with editorial rigour and updated daily. With its intuitive interface, advanced search capabilities, and expertly crafted headnotes, SCC Online empowers legal professionals, students, and academics to conduct faster, smarter, and more effective research. We are proud to collaborate with SCC Online for this year's Samanvay International Mediation Competition.



# Meet Our Collaborators

## Media Partner



SCC Times is a premier legal media and research platform, widely recognized for its comprehensive coverage of developments in law, policy, and justice. Renowned for its timely reporting and in-depth analysis, SCC Times offers insights across diverse practice areas including Corporate, Criminal, Constitutional, Taxation, Arbitration, and Intellectual Property. Its thought leadership is demonstrated through high-quality commentary, expert interviews, and case law updates that effectively assist practitioners, academics, and students alike. SCC Times has also built strong collaborations with reputed law schools, institutions, and organizations to advance knowledge sharing, legal education, and skill-building initiatives. Its readership spans judges, senior advocates, corporate leaders, government bodies, and aspiring lawyers, making it a trusted resource in the Indian legal landscape. We're honoured to have SCC Times as our exclusive Media Partner.

## Training Partner



The PACT is an International Mediation and Conflict Resolution organisation headquartered in New Delhi and is India's leading mediation training and education firm. Founded in 2015, The PACT is established as a fully-functional institute and service provider. As a mediation service provider, The PACT offers top-grade Mediation, Conflict Coaching and Mediation Advocacy services. Founded by Nisshant Laroia and Jonathan Rodrigues, The Pact is en route its #MissionMediation, aiming to create an ecosystem for Mediation to thrive in India. The Pact has Curated Trainings, Workshops, Boot Camps, Masterclasses and Accredited Programmes, cofounded ADR Cells, Mediation Competitions at various universities across India and has coached and counselled clients in conflict management and dispute negotiations as well as mediated disputes at various institutes. We're honoured to have The PACT as our Training Partner for the SIMC 2025.



# Meet Our Collaborators

## Training Partner



Born in 1999, Asian School of Cyber Laws is a global pioneer in cyber law & cyber crime investigation. It works with Governments, Corporates, and Enforcement & Military agencies across the world. It has assisted the Government of India in framing draft rules and regulations under the Information Technology Act and has conducted training programs for various national level Government bodies including National Academy of Direct Taxes, National Police Academy, National Institute of Bank Management, National Insurance Academy, Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management and Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Asian School of Cyber Laws has partnered with Industry Experts to offer courses on Arbitration, Intellectual Property, and Mediation, covering the basics and practical aspects of dispute resolution, including mock sessions and ethical considerations. We're honoured to have ASCL as our Training Partner for the SIMC 2025.

## Dispute Resolution Partner



The Indian Dispute Resolution Centre (IDRC) is a pioneering institution dedicated to advancing the practice and accessibility of alternative dispute resolution in India. Established as a not-for-profit initiative and supported by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Law & Justice, IDRC offers a comprehensive suite of services, including arbitration, mediation, conciliation, and expert determination, both offline and through its state-of-the-art eADR platform.

With its proprietary digital infrastructure and Virtual ADR Hearing (VAH) portal, IDRC has redefined how disputes are managed in the modern era, enabling seamless, paperless proceedings across jurisdictions. Its commitment to innovation, procedural integrity, and capacity-building makes it a natural fit for a competition like SIMC. We are proud to collaborate with IDRC in fostering a deeper understanding of dispute resolution and promoting best practices among the next generation of legal professionals.

# Meet Our Collaborators

## Dispute Resolution Partner



Outofcourt.in is an innovative legal-tech platform with a growing presence across India, offering accessible solutions for dispute resolution and legal support beyond traditional court processes. From mediation and arbitration to negotiation and online dispute settlement, Outofcourt.in combines technological efficiency with a deep commitment to fairness, convenience, and community empowerment. Founded with a vision to simplify justice delivery, the platform is distinguished by its user-centric design, ethical approach, and proven ability to resolve conflicts effectively. Founded by Meena Waghay, Advocate and Mediator, OutofCourt provides the cutting edge Mediation Trainings and Personal Mediation services. With over two decades of experience, Meena has successfully facilitated the resolution of complex matters for over 300+ individuals, helping them avoid prolonged courtroom battles. We're honoured to have Outofcourt.in on board with us.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## ELIGIBILITY

1. The competition is open to every student pursuing a five-year or three-year course in law from any recognized Schools/Colleges/Universities.\*
2. For eligibility, it is hereby clarified that all the participants in one team shall belong to one institution only.
3. No cross-institutional composition of teams is allowed.
4. The provisional registration is to be done by the respective institutions officially.
5. Each institution can reserve a **maximum** of **three slots** in the provisional registration.

## TEAM COMPOSITION

1. Each team shall comprise 3 participants- one mediator, one client, and one counsel.
2. The roles of the participants must remain the same throughout the rounds.

## FORMAT

1. The 3rd Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2025, will be held in a hybrid mode, that is, partly online, and partly in the campus of Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, surrounded by the serene Himalayas.
2. There will be a total of 6 rounds - 2 Preliminary Rounds, one Octa-Final, one Quarter-Finals, one Semi-Finals, and the Final Round.
3. The allocation of the slot is contingent on the availability of the total number of slots available with the Cell.
4. Post Preliminary rounds, ballots will be scored for each team, and the top 16 Negotiating pairs and Mediators will qualify for the Octa-Finals.
5. Post Octas, ballots will be scored for each team, and the top 8 Negotiating pairs and Mediators will qualify for the Quarter-Finals.
6. The Teams that qualify for the Quarter Final rounds shall be invited to the HPNLU, Shimla Campus for competing in the Advanced Rounds.

\*Participation of teams from foreign universities is subject to political clearance given by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.



7. Post Quarters, the top 4 Negotiating pairs and Mediators shall qualify for the Semi-final Rounds on a knockout basis.

8. Post the Semi-Finals, the top two performers from each category of roles, i.e., Negotiating pair and Mediator, played by the participants, will qualify for the Final round, on a knockout basis.

## MODE

1. The Competition shall be held in Hybrid mode, whereby the Training, Workshop, Inaugural Ceremony, Preliminary Rounds and Octa Final Round shall be conducted virtually via Google Meet, while the Quarter Finals, Semi Final and Final rounds of the competition shall take place physically at the university campus.
2. Kindly note that the Offline conduction of the advanced rounds shall be contingent on the weather conditions of Himachal Pradesh and may be shifted to the Online mode in case the same is not favorable.

## REGISTRATION

1. Provisional registration shall be opened for all eligible institutes from which thirty two (32) teams will be selected for the competition.
2. Institutes interested in sending across a team must fill the following **Provisional Registration form** latest by **8th August 2025**.
3. Upon selection by the Organizing Committee, an email confirming the slot of the institute along with the final registration form and payment link will be sent on the concerned email ID (either of the registered ADR Cell or of the point of contact).
4. The Registration fee for the competition is **INR 15,000/-** per team (for Indian teams only), and **USD 200** (for international teams only), which is inclusive of the cost of food, accommodation, registration and other logistical charges. However, the fee does not include Transportation costs.
5. Please note that this fee is non-refundable.
6. Final Registration of the team is subject to the successful payment of the registration fee within the stipulated time.
7. The Final Registration shall be completed only when the participants pay the registration fees, which shall be done on or before **20th August, 2025**.
8. Any clarifications with respect to the competition or the propositions can be sought via mail at [adrc@hpnlu.ac.in](mailto:adrc@hpnlu.ac.in).

# AWARDS

AWARD	AMOUNT
Best Negotiating Pair	45,000
Best Mediator	25,000
Runner-Up Negotiating Pair	20,000
Runner-Up Mediator	10,000
Best Negotiating Pair in Preliminary Rounds	10,000
Best Mediator in Preliminary Rounds	5000
Best Mediation Plan	5000

*\*Internship and other benefits will also be provided .*

*\*\*Amount in INR.*

# SCHEDULE

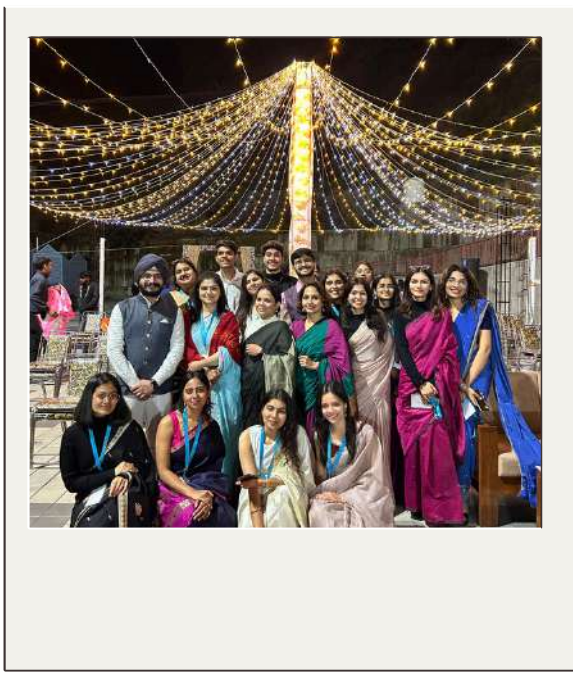
Opening of Provisional Registration	18 <sup>th</sup> July, 2025
Closing of Provisional Registration	8 <sup>th</sup> August, 2025* (*Subject to Extension)
Closing of Final Registration	20 <sup>th</sup> August, 2025
Training Workshop	18 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025
Inaugural Ceremony	18 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025
Preliminary Round-I	19 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025
Preliminary Round-II	19 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025
Octa-Final Round	20 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025
Mediation Plan Deadline	10 <sup>th</sup> October, 2025** (**only for Teams qualifying for the Advanced Rounds)
Training Session Offline	13 <sup>th</sup> October, 2025
Quarter Final Rounds	14 <sup>th</sup> October, 2025
Semi-Final Rounds	14 <sup>th</sup> October, 2025
Networking Event	14 <sup>th</sup> October, 2025
Final Rounds	15 <sup>th</sup> October, 2025
Valedictory Ceremony	15 <sup>th</sup> October, 2025

Note: The dates, schedules and details pertaining to the competition are tentative in nature and subject to modification based on prevailing weather conditions in Himachal Pradesh. In the event of any changes, the particulars shall be communicated by the organizing committee at the earliest. Kindly follow our official social media for timely updates and notifications.



# PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE COMPETITION







# Contact Us

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**Dr. Bharat Barowalia**  
(Member-Convenor, ADRC)

**Dr. Arun Klair**  
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