



# INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CONFLUENCE 2026

LAW, TECHNOLOGY & THE CHANGING WORLD ORDER

1 - 3 May 2026

Venue: APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium, Mahindra University, Hyderabad

Hosted by

Seeding Centre for Peace & Justice, MU-ADR

Sponsor

Knowledge Partner



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

<b>Inauguration</b>	<b>Mahindra Seeding Centre for Peace and Justice, MU-ADR</b>
<b>Panel Discussion</b>	<b>Panel I: Emerging Trends in ADR (Energy, Climate, Infrastructure, New Sectors)</b> <b>Panel II: Digital Transformation of ADR</b> <b>Panel III: The Bias Paradox &amp; Institutional Arbitration: Revisiting Financial Sector Dispute Resolution</b> <b>Panel IV: The Future of ADR—Policy, Practice &amp; Youth Engagement</b>
<b>Expert Dialogue</b>	<b>Legal Education and Justice Delivery</b>
<b>Tech-Law Conference</b>	<b>Research Paper Presentations</b>
<b>Participants</b>	<b>Lawyers, Arbitrators, Judges, Arbitration practitioners, Business clients, NBFCs, Banks, Technical Experts, Academicians, Researchers, Students</b>
<b>Paper Presentations</b>	<b>Open to Students, Academicians, Practitioners, and Domain Experts</b>

# ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The International Arbitration Confluence 2026 is a three-day international platform dedicated to examining the dynamic intersection of law, technology, and global dispute resolution in a rapidly transforming world order. The Confluence is organised by the School of Law, Mahindra University (MU SOL), and is held under the aegis of the Seeding Centre for Peace and Justice, MU-ADR in collaboration with IIAM-APCAM and HNLU, Raipur.

The Confluence is structured around three core components: High-Level Panel Discussions, One-on-One Expert Dialogues & Tech-Law Conference Paper Presentations.

Together, these segments aim to foster meaningful engagement between the judiciary, arbitral institutions, legal practitioners, corporate stakeholders, technologists, and academia. The Confluence seeks not only to analyse contemporary developments in international arbitration but also to anticipate the future of dispute resolution in an increasingly digital and interconnected global landscape.

The Confluence also offers a valuable opportunity to network and engage with leading arbitrators, practitioners, academicians and industry experts from across jurisdictions.

In an era defined by digital disruption, geopolitical shifts, and rapid technological transformation, international arbitration stands at the crossroads of innovation and global governance. The Confluence seeks to critically examine how artificial intelligence, digital infrastructure, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG), and regulatory convergence are reshaping dispute resolution across jurisdictions

As cross-border commerce becomes increasingly digital and decentralised, arbitration must adapt to complex challenges involving digital evidence, smart contracts, AI-assisted decision-making, cybersecurity, and transnational enforcement mechanisms.

By bringing together national and international experts, the Confluence aims not only to analyse contemporary doctrinal and procedural developments but also to envision the next generation of arbitral systems—digital, hybrid, data-driven and globally interconnected.

## OBJECTIVES

- To examine the impact of digital transformation on arbitration practice & procedure.
- To foster dialogue between legal and technical communities on emerging dispute ecosystems.
- To explore AI, blockchain, and digital infrastructure in arbitral proceedings.
- To critically assess ESG, investor-state, and cross-border regulatory challenges.
- To provide a platform for scholars, practitioners, and students to present cutting-edge research.
- To strengthen India's position in the global arbitration landscape.

# THEMES

Paper presentations will be conducted under carefully curated thematic tracks that reflect the evolving intersection of law, technology, governance, and global dispute resolution.

Authors are required to strictly adhere to the designated panel themes and sub-themes while preparing and submitting their abstracts and papers. Submissions falling outside the specified thematic scope will not be considered.

Theme	Sub-Themes
<b>Theme 1:</b> Digital Infrastructure for Arbitration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Migration from traditional to digital arbitration</li><li>2. Institutional approaches to digital arbitration</li><li>3. Virtual hearings and nuances of cloud-based case management</li><li>4. Data privacy and cybersecurity in arbitration</li></ol>
<b>Theme 2:</b> Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning in Arbitration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. AI and admissibility of AI-generated material in the arbitration record</li><li>2. Arbitrating Decentralised Autonomous Organisation (DAO) disputes</li><li>3. Smart contract and blockchain arbitration</li><li>4. Arbitration of digital asset disputes</li><li>5. Navigating disputes in the metaverse and beyond</li></ol>
<b>Theme 3:</b> Evidence in Digital Arbitration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Ensuring authenticity and confidentiality of documentary evidence in digital arbitration</li><li>2. AI-generated evidence and its admissibility in digital arbitration</li><li>3. Ensuring the integrity of AI-assisted document review</li><li>4. Admissibility of hacked evidence</li><li>5. Digital forensics in arbitration</li></ol>

# THEMES

Theme	Sub-Themes
<p><b>Theme 4:</b> ESG and Digital Arbitration</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Investor-State arbitration and environmental obligations</li><li>2. Business and human rights in international commercial arbitration</li><li>3. Arbitrating greenwashing and misrepresentation claims</li><li>4. Corporate governance failures as arbitral claims</li><li>5. Arbitration of sector-driven ESG disputes: Challenges</li></ol>
<p><b>Theme 5:</b> Hybrid Digital Dispute Systems and the Evolution of Arb-Med-Arb in Digital Ecosystems</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Online mediation ethics and algorithmic neutrality in hybrid Arb-Med-Arb platforms</li><li>2. Sector-specific Arb-Med-Arb in the digital era: FinTech, digital assets, construction tech, smart contracts and IP disputes</li><li>3. Digital Arb-Med-Arb protocols and designing modules for digital ecosystems</li><li>4. AI-enhanced Arb-Med-Arb processes: AI mediators and decision-support tools</li><li>5. Enforceability of digital Arb-Med-Arb settlement awards and digital execution: Model Law, New York Convention, and regulatory frameworks</li></ol>
<p><b>Theme 6:</b> The Future of Arbitration</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Autonomous arbitration agents: Regulatory and sector-driven opportunities and challenges</li><li>2. Data governance in arbitral practice: Arbitration in the age of Big Data</li><li>3. Resolving intellectual property disputes in the digital age</li><li>4. Global digital arbitration platforms and cross-border technical and regulatory challenges</li><li>5. Next generation of arbitration in a digital world</li></ol>

# PRESENTATION FORMAT

- 15-minute presentation of each paper
- 5-minute Q&A discussion
- Thematic grouping of papers under expert moderators
- A maximum of 8 papers per panel will be selected for presentation

## PUBLICATION

Selected papers will be considered for publication, subject to final confirmation and editorial review. In case the paper is selected for publication, the authors will have to bear the publication charges.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Prospective authors are requested to take note of the deadlines.

- **Abstract Submission Deadline: 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026**
- **Notification of Acceptance: 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

## CONTACT

**For all queries relating to submissions, registration, and conference participation, please contact:**

✉ [conferences.sol@mahindrauniversity.edu.in](mailto:conferences.sol@mahindrauniversity.edu.in)

☎ Dr. Malti Suri, MUSOL, +91 9573095904

☎ Adv. Iram Majid, IIAM, +91 9873811531

☎ Dr. Anita Singh, HNLU, +91 7032861152

All official communication regarding abstract selection, registration, and working paper submission will be sent via email.



**SCAN TO SUBMIT  
YOUR ABSTRACT**

# REGISTRATION

## 1. For Indian Nationals

- Students / Research Scholar: **INR 1500**
- Others (Academicians / Practitioners / Professionals): **INR 3500**

## 2. For Foreign Nationals

- Students / Research Scholar: **\$50**
- Others (Academicians / Practitioners / Professionals): **\$100**

**For Registration** [Click here](#)

# ACCOMMODATION

**For Accommodation** [Click here](#)

# SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

**Abstract:** 250–300 words

**Full Paper Length:** 5,000–8,000 words (including footnotes)

**Citation Style:** OSCOLA 4th ed. (or a uniform legal citation style)

**Format:** Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.5 line spacing

**Originality:** Submissions must be original and unpublished

**Review Process:** Double-blind peer review

## A. Selection & Registration

- Authors of selected abstracts will receive a communication on their registered email IDs (from which the abstract is submitted)
- Co-Authorship: A maximum of two authors per submission is permitted.
- In case of co-authorship, BOTH authors are required to complete the Registration.

## B. Working Paper & Revision

Selected authors must submit a working paper prior to the Confluence. The working paper shall subsequently be revised in accordance with the feedback received from the panellists during the presentation.

## C. Academic Integrity

Submissions must reflect original scholarly work. AI-generated text or content lacking substantive academic engagement will be rejected.

A similarity index exceeding 10% plagiarism (excluding footnotes and citations) will result in disqualification.

## D. Presentation Requirement

Selected authors are required to present their papers in person during the Confluence.

**AWARD FOR BEST PAPERS**

**Rs. 10,000/- for each track**

# **SCHOOL OF LAW, MU**

The School of Law at Mahindra University (MU SOL) was founded on the timeless legacy of the Mahindra Group, synonymous with innovation, technological leadership, and nation building. Situated within the interdisciplinary ecosystem of Mahindra University, the School of Law, integrates emerging technology and emerging jurisprudence in legal education to nurture lawyers who understand both regulatory frameworks and technological architectures. Our learner-centric curriculum emphasises research-driven inquiry, experiential learning and professional practice. With a strong focus on emerging jurisprudence, MU SOL is reimagining legal education to prepare future-ready professionals who will shape the society.

# **HNLU, RAIPUR**

Established in 2003, Hidayatullah National Law University has completed the journey of more than one and a half decades. In such a short span of time, HNLU has carved out a niche in the realm of legal education across India and the legacy is soaring towards new heights day by day.

Named after the great legal luminary Justice Mohammed Hidayatullah, the University was established by the Government of Chhattisgarh under the Hidayatullah National University of Law, Chhattisgarh, Act (Act No. 10 of 2003).

HNLU is the sixth in the series of National Law Schools across India. HNLU has been included in the list of the Universities maintained by the University Grants Commission under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956 & has been declared fit to receive central assistance in terms of the rules framed under Section 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956. The university is recognised by the Bar Council of India under Section 7 of the Advocates Act, 1961.

# **SEEDING CENTRE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, MU-ADR**

The Seeding Centre for Peace and Justice at School of Law, Mahindra University is a first of its kind, dispute resolution centre ever to be hosted in a university setting, that integrates professional practice with legal education. The Centre facilitates institutional arbitration, mediation, and technology enabled dispute resolution, aligned with international standards. By embedding live dispute resolution, training, and research within the academic ecosystem, the Centre redefines legal education, transforming the law school into an active hub for the dispensation of justice.

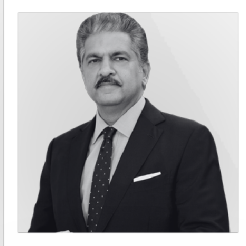
## **IIAM-APCAM**

The Indian Institute of Arbitration & Mediation (IIAM), a non-profit ADR institution established in 2001, is a founding member of APCAM and serves as its Centre in India, also acting as the first Secretariat of APCAM.

Asia Pacific Centre for Arbitration & Mediation (APCAM) is an international ADR institution formed through a collaboration of centres across the Asia-Pacific region. It provides a unified framework for resolving international and cross-border commercial disputes under a single set of Mediation and Arbitration Rules with a uniform fee structure across member countries. APCAM maintains a common panel of accredited international mediators and arbitrators, ensuring consistent, high-quality standards of practice and professionalism. The institution is governed by an independent Board comprising leading ADR professionals from member jurisdictions and supported by expert committees and an international Advisory Board.

# ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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Mahindra University

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Vice Chancellor  
Mahindra University

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**Prof. (Dr.) V.C. Vivekanandan**  
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IIAM



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HNLU

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**Dr. Rishi Raj Bharadwaj**  
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**Dr. Paromita Das Gupta**  
MUSOL



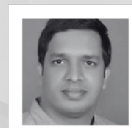
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MUSOL



**Ms. Neha Tripathi**  
MUSOL



**Mr. Parth Sharma**  
MUSOL

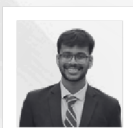


**Mr. Albin Anto**  
MUSOL

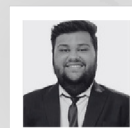


**Dr. Prabhpreet Singh**  
MUSOL

**STUDENT COORDINATORS**

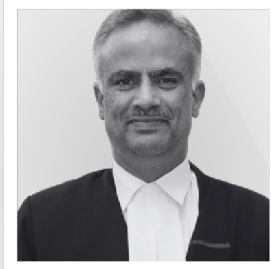


**Mr. Velmury Nihar**



**Mr. Yatharth Soni**

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Judge  
High Court of Delhi

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Vice Chancellor  
Mahindra University



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Judge  
High Court of Delhi

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Senior Advocate  
Member of Parliament



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Advait Sethna**

Judge  
High Court of Mumbai



**Mr. Gourab Banerji**

Senior Advocate



**Mr. Anil Xavier**

Senior Advocate  
President IIAM



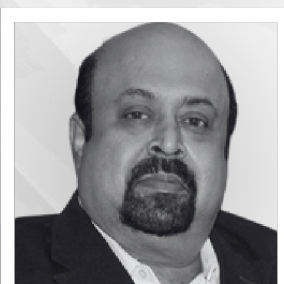
**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Bhat**

Former Judge  
Supreme Court of India



**Dr. Pinky Anand**

Senior Advocate



**Prof. V.C. Vivekanadan**

Vice Chancellor  
HNLU



**Mr. Justice G. Raghuram**

Former Director,  
National Judicial Academy

**DAY 2 | CONFLUENCE OF IDEAS | 10:00AM ONWARDS**

**PANEL I**

**Emerging Trends in ADR  
(Energy, Climate, Infrastructure, New Sectors)**

**CHAIR**



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Bhat**

**Former Judge**  
Supreme Court of India



**Mr. Chandar Uday Singh**

**Senior Advocate**  
Supreme Court of India



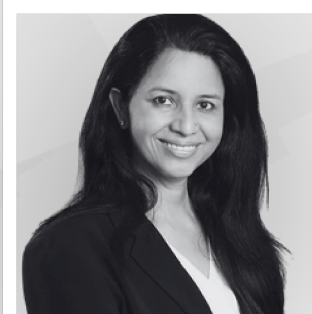
**Prof V.C. Vivekanandan**

**Vice Chancellor**  
HNLU



**Dr. Pinky Anand**

**Senior Advocate**  
Supreme Court of India



**Adv. Purnima Kambalay**

**Senior Partner**  
Fox Mandal



**Mr. Henning Glaser**

**International Arbitrator**  
Thailand

**MODERATOR**



**Dr. Malti Suri**

**Assistant Professor**  
Mahindra University

**DAY 2 | CONFLUENCE OF IDEAS | 11:45AM - 1:45PM**

**PANEL II**  
**Digital Transformation of ADR**

**CHAIR**



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jasmeet Singh**

**Judge**  
High Court of Delhi



**Mr. Anil Xavier**  
Senior Advocate & President  
IIAM



**Mr. Gourab Banerji**  
Senior Advocate



**Mr. Sidharth Sethi**  
Partner, J Sagar Associates &  
Advocate-on-Record  
Supreme Court of India



**Mr. Foo Joon Liang**  
Director  
ICC Malaysia



**Mr. Vineet Vij**  
General Counsel  
Tech Mahindra

**MODERATOR**



**Ms. Iram Majid**  
Central Govt Standing Counsel & Director  
IIAM

**DAY 2 | CONFLUENCE OF IDEAS | 2:00PM - 3:30PM**

**PANEL III**

**The Bias Paradox & Institutional Arbitration:  
Revisiting Financial Sector Dispute Resolution**

**CHAIR**



**Mr. Anil Xavier**  
Senior Advocate & President  
IIAM



**Ms. Ketaki Suklikar**  
Chief Legal Officer  
MMFSL



**Mr. Avnit Singh Arora**  
Director  
Department of Legal Affairs, MoL & J



**Mr. Sajan Philip Mathew**  
Senior Vice President & Head Legal  
Federal Bank



**Mr. Rajeev Rambhatla**  
Partner  
Luthra *and* Luthra



**Mr. Nilanjan Sinha**  
General Counsel  
ICICI Bank

**MODERATOR**



**Dr. Chirag Balyan**  
Associate Professor  
DY Patil Law School

**DAY 2 | CONFLUENCE OF IDEAS | 4:00PM - 5:30PM**

**PANEL IV**

**The Future of ADR — Policy, Practice & Youth Engagement**

**CHAIR**



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Advait Sethna**

**Judge**

High Court of Bombay



**Mr. Sriram Panchu**

**Senior Advocate, Mediator and Arbitrator**

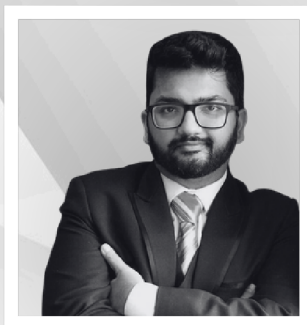
Chennai, Tamil Nadu



**Mr. Onur Yuksel**

**Founder and Chairman - ONJA Consulting**

Turkey



**Mr. Zafar Khurshid**

**Founding Partner**

TKC Partners



**Ms. Iram Majid**

**Central Govt Standing Counsel & Director**

IIAM



**Prof. (Dr.) K.V.S. Sarma**

**Vice Chancellor**

NLUJA Assam

**MODERATOR**



**Prof. Akash Gupta**

**Associate Professor**

Jindal Global Law School, Sonipat, Haryana

**THEMES**

**CHAIR**



**Prof. Tabrez Ahmad**  
Dean  
MANUU Law School

**DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ARBITRATION**

**CO-CHAIR**



**Dr. Priti Ramani**  
Assistant Professor  
Delhi University

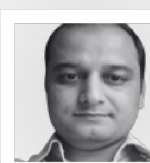
**CHAIR**



**Prof. Shyam Kishore**  
Dean, School Of Law  
Alliance University

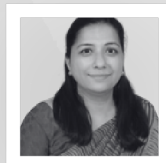
**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND  
MACHINE LEARNING IN ARBITRATION**

**CO-CHAIR**



**Dr. Rajesh Kapoor**  
Associate Professor  
NALSAR University

**CHAIR**



**Prof. Aneesha PR**  
Dean, School Of Law  
GD Goenka University

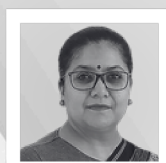
**EVIDENCE IN DIGITAL ARBITRATION**

**CO-CHAIR**



**Mr. Sunil Jose**  
Professor Of Practice  
Alliance University

**CHAIR**



**Ms. Ekta Bahl**  
Partner  
Samvad, Hyderabad

**ESG AND DIGITAL ARBITRATION**

**CO-CHAIR**



**Dr. Apoorva Dixit**  
Associate Professor  
G D Goenka University

**CHAIR**



**Prof. Rajendra Prasad**  
Dean, School of Law  
Citam University

**HYBRID DIGITAL DISPUTE SYSTEMS AND THE  
EVOLUTION OF ARB-MED-ARB IN DIGITAL  
ECOSYSTEMS**

**CO-CHAIR**



**Dr. Amitesh Deshmukh**  
Assistant Professor  
HNLU

**CHAIR**



**Dr. Deepak Kumar Srivastava**  
Associate Professor  
HNLU

**THE FUTURE OF ARBITRATION**

**CO-CHAIR**



**Dr. Anita Singh**  
Assistant Professor  
HNLU

**DAY 3 | EXPERT DIALOGUE | 10:00AM - 11:30AM**

**Legal Education and Justice Delivery**



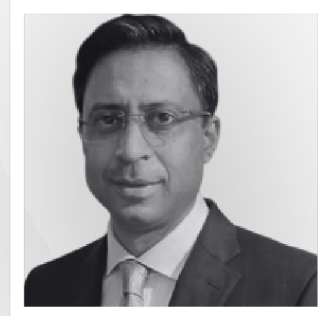
**Hon'ble Mr. Justice  
Tejas Karia**

**Judge**  
High Court of Delhi



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice  
Advait Sethna**

**Judge**  
High Court of Bombay

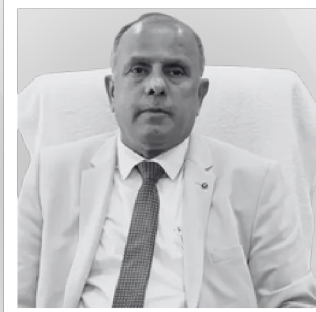


**Mr. Prashanto Chandra Sen**  
Senior Advocate



**Mr. Henning Glaser**

**International Arbitrator**  
Thailand



**Prof. (Dr.) K.V.S. Sarma**

**Vice Chancellor**  
NLUJA Assam



**Mr. Anil Xavier**

**Senior Advocate & President**  
IIAM



**Ms. Iram Majid**

**Central Government Standing Counsel & Director**  
IIAM

**DAY 3 | VALEDICTORY SESSION AND AWARD  
DISTRIBUTION | 12:00PM ONWARDS**

**CHIEF GUEST**



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Lakshman**

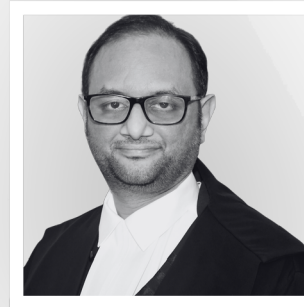
**Judge**  
High Court of Telangana

**GUESTS OF HONOUR**



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tejas Karia**

**Judge**  
High Court of Delhi



**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Advait Sethna**

**Judge**  
High Court of Bombay



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**Vice Chancellor**  
HNLU



**Dr. Yajulu Medury**

**Vice Chancellor**  
Mahindra University



**Mr. Anil Xavier**

**Senior Advocate & President**  
IIAM