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SYMROLIC 2026

**14th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
CONFERENCE ON RULE OF LAW IN CONTEXT**
*NATURAL RESOURCE CONFLICTS, INSTITUTIONAL
UNCERTAINTY, AND THE FUTURE OF MULTILATERAL
GLOBAL GOVERNANCE*

Date: 18th - 19th September, 2026
Venue: *Symbiosis Law School, Pune*
*(Hybrid for International & Remote
Participants)*

Abstract submission: [**SUBMIT HERE**](#)

SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)

(Established under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956) | Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A++' grade | Awarded Category- I by UGC



ABOUT SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED) UNIVERSITY

Symbiosis International (Deemed) University SIU is a multi-disciplinary university that offers its students and faculty a vibrant learning ecosystem designed around its multi-cultural and innovative ethos. Symbiosis was established in 1971 by Prof. Dr. S. B. Mujumdar. It is a 'home away from home' for International Students. The institution is based on the principle of the Vedic thought of "World as One Family". The University's name fittingly captures the quintessence of the relationship with International students; a mutually beneficial bond between India and the International Student community. Campuses of Symbiosis spread across 4 states and 6 cities in India and in Dubai, are resplendent with activities and students from more than 85 countries. All campuses epitomise the Symbiosis vision of "Promoting International Understanding through Quality Education" and are a beehive of International students from all across the globe, being privy to Indian culture and hospitality. Symbiosis International (Deemed University) offers programmes across 8 faculties, viz. Law, Management, Computer Studies, Medical and Health Sciences, Media and Communication, Humanities and Social Sciences, Engineering and Architecture and Design. SIU has 46 institutes, 13 research centres, and 13 support Departments of Skills and Continuing Education.

The University has been awarded Category-I status by UGC, and an 'A++' grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). It has been ranked 10th by the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievement (ARIIA) 2021 and 24th in 2025 in India by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). The Times Higher Education Asia University Ranking 2025 has placed it in the 251-300 band. Internationally, the QS World University Rankings 2026 has ranked SIU 655-696 band and 5th in India for Employee Reputation.



ABOUT SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, PUNE

Symbiosis Law School, Pune (SLS, Pune) stands for excellence in legal education and is nestled in the city of Pune. Symbiosis Law School, Pune, piloted and enriched by the vision of Dr. S. B. Mujumdar, was established in 1977 under the illustrious banner of Symbiosis Society. SLS, Pune, endeavours to secure all-around contribution for the betterment of the field of law, to create world-class professionals, to produce committed academicians and law reformers, to train justice dispensers and invigorate community crusaders and to create a strong watershed of new and upcoming expertise in law relating to business and corporate matters. It has been ranked 7th in 2025 by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. SLS, Pune, has been ranked 1 by GHRDC and IIRF in 2025. Since 2007, SLS, Pune has consistently been ranked in the top 10 amongst more than 1000 law schools in India by the India Today Nielsen Survey. Furthermore, SLS, Pune, has secured a position in the 301–350 band in the QS World University Rankings. This stature is attained through various programmes such as the 5-year integrated B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) / B.B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), 3-year LL.B. and one-year LL.M. with 12 specialisations. Additionally, SLS, Pune, has commenced the B.Com. LL.B. (Hons.) course from the academic year of 2026-27. SLS, Pune, has an impressive track record in internationalisation, comprising research and student achievements, international project grants, collaborations with leading universities overseas, international summer schools and semester-abroad opportunities, to name a few. It is a recipient of the Jean Monnet (JM) Chair & JM Module. As of now, SLS Pune has received a total of 4,82,379 Euros as grant money for international projects and Rs 97,32,315 for national projects. In 2026, the institute has received a Rs. 3.79 Crore grant for prison advocacy, along with an ongoing grant of Rs. 37 Lacs under the DAAD-SDG Initiatives.

ABOUT SCALSAR- FACULTY OF LAW



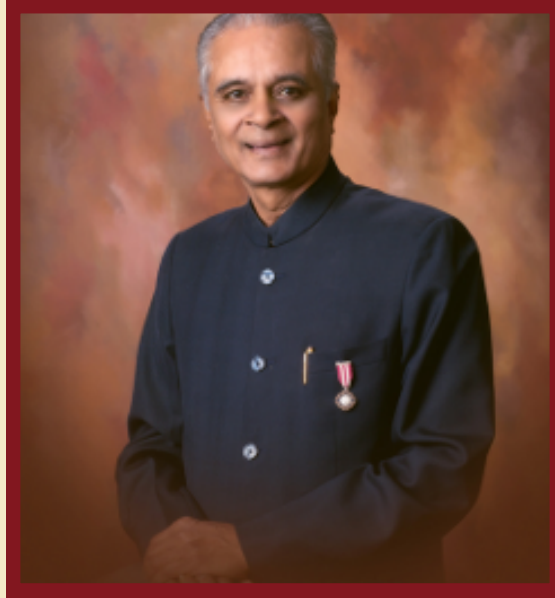
Symbiosis Centre for Advanced Legal Studies and Research (SCALSAR) was informally organised in 2007 and formalised in February 2013 by the Board of Management, SIU. It is the centre-stage for research, quality publications, government interface, for hosting scholars-in-residence and acts as a think tank while undertaking interdisciplinary studies, research, projects, training teachers and designing training modules. It has 3 research clusters: Science, Technology, Innovation Law; Law and Justice Reform and International Comparative Law. Every year, SCALSAR organises a flagship International Research Conference, SYMROLIC, representing the Rule of Law with Indian and Global perspectives, aligning it with the SIU's vision of an interdisciplinary conference and connecting to different fields such as Innovation Technology, Human Behaviour, Global Policy and Governance.

Under its affiliation, SCALSAR accommodates and facilitates centres like the Centre for ADR and Legal Skills, Centre for International Comparative Child Rights and Centre for Climate Change, Policy and Law, established in 2019, 2022, and 2023, respectively. It also maintains a synergy with SIU centres of excellence, like the Symbiosis Centre for Urban Studies (SCUS), Symbiosis Centre for Waste Resource Management (SCWRM) and Symbiosis Centre for Research on International Higher Education (SCRIHE), amongst others. It has received various prestigious EU Project Grants such as EURASIA+, 21st Century Teach Skills, Climate Change Policy, Law and the SPARC Project. The Centre for Climate Change Lab and the 21st Century Teach Skills Lab were recently established under the respective projects.

The thrust areas of research at SCALSAR is interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary in nature. The centre promotes innovative topics like Artificial Intelligence, Legality of Weapons of Mass Destruction, Social Media and Law, Nanotechnology, Biotechnology and Law, Living Wills and Right to Health to list a few. The empirical research is ensured in all spheres of research. The following list of focus areas is merely illustrative and not exhaustive in nature as we are always open to explore evolving horizons of law such as: Biotechnology and IPR, Human Rights, Environmental Law, Information Technology and Intellectual Property, Corporate Law, Labour Law and, Administrative Law, Cyber Law, Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Law & Gender, Law, Development and Economics, Comparative Constitutional Law, International Trade Laws, International Law, Public Law, Competition Law, Artificial Intelligence and Law, Rule of Law in Context, Science, Innovation and Technology, International Comparative Law, Migration and Law, Mental Health Law, Law Justice Reform, Climate Change Policy and Law, Cyber Security and Data Sciences, SDGs and Law.

SLS, Pune is also the recipient of the Jean Monnet Module on the “Legal Environment of Doing Business in the EU” amounting to 11,500 Euros. Faculty members and students have participated in exchange programs under the DAAD project which has provided scholarships worth 8275 Euros. The key performance areas for SCALSAR continue to be publication in interdisciplinary and transnational areas, consultation with Governments and policymakers and building legal andragogy in various domains of law. Each year, SCALSAR facilitates various quality publications that feature and get indexed under SCOPUS and WOS. These publications contributed to a 26.48% increase in Scopus-indexed publication output in 2025–26 compared to 2024–25, reflecting SCALSAR's continued commitment to advancing high-quality legal scholarship and research dissemination. Under SCALSAR, 106 journal articles/conference proceedings/book chapters have been published and indexed in SCOPUS/Web of Science. Additionally, a total of 100 journal articles/book chapters are expected to be published in the forthcoming year.

LEADERSHIP



PROF. (DR.) S. B. MUJUMDAR
Patron
Founder and President,
Symbiosis



DR. VIDYA YERAVDEKAR
Pro-Chancellor, SIU
Principal Director, Symbiosis

LEADERSHIP



PROF. (DR.) RAMAKRISHNAN RAMAN
Vice-Chancellor, SIU



PROF. (DR.) SHASHIKALA GURPUR, *Fulbright Scholar*
Head-SCALSAR
Director, Symbiosis Law School, Pune
Dean, Faculty of Law, SIU
Jean Monnet Chair Professor (*EUC-LAMP co-funded by EU*)
CONFERENCE CHAIR

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The Symbiosis Conference on Rule of Law in Context (SYMROLIC) is the flagship annual international interdisciplinary research conference organised by Symbiosis Law School, Pune in collaboration with Symbiosis Law School, Noida, Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad and Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur.

Now celebrating its 14th year, SYMROLIC began in 2012 as a national conference for students and researchers, showcasing in-house research and ideas. It has since grown into an international forum, drawing on Symbiosis International (Deemed University)'s impetus to thrust excellence centres and innovation beyond national borders.

The conference is held over two days, being specifically designed to discuss and deliberate on interdisciplinary perspectives, forthcoming issues and diverse visions of the Rule of Law. SYMROLIC embodies the institute's rich tradition of curiosity, research, critical thinking and a continuous pursuit of academic excellence.

The 2026 edition is themed around "Natural Resource Conflicts, Institutional Uncertainty and Future of the Multilateral Global Governance", aiming to address three interconnected challenges shaping the contemporary international legal order: the growing contestation over natural resources, the challenges posed to institutional efficacy and legitimacy and the shaping of a multilaterally governed future global order. Together, these themes provide a platform for exploring how legal institutions can respond to emerging geopolitical, environmental, technological and governance challenges in an increasingly complex global landscape.

Alongside an array of multidisciplinary tracks, the conference will specially feature a Plenary Session, conceived as a forum for expert deliberation on "Revisiting India's Research and Innovation Landscape in Emerging Areas". As technological advancement and strategic autonomy are becoming increasingly central to the nation's priorities in a tumultuous world order, the session seeks to critically examine India's evolving research ecosystem, while identifying emerging opportunities and challenges. This sets the tone for SYMROLIC to be a rich confluence of interdisciplinary views and pragmatic solutions to pressing global issues in an increasingly connected, yet turbulent world of legal and governance systems.

ABOUT THE THEME

RULE OF LAW IN CONTEXT: NATURAL RESOURCE CONFLICTS, INSTITUTIONAL UNCERTAINTY AND THE FUTURE OF MULTILATERAL GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

The Rule of Law is a foundational principle of just, democratic and transparent governance. The rising geopolitical competition for access to resources poses one of the most critical challenges to this principle in the 21st century, having rattled established institutional structures (Patrick, 2023). The cracks in multilateral arrangements have been laid bare to the world and legal systems are left to deal with an atmosphere of uncertainty and eroding institutional trust (Liu et al., 2025).

The limits to natural resources constitute an unchanging global material reality. Modern times have witnessed varied challenges arising therefrom, including fierce international conflicts (Parlar Dal, 2018) and dwindling reservoirs (Turley et al., 2021), while their extraction and exploitation remain plagued by human rights concerns (Shiquan et al., 2022), cross-border disputes (Shchetinin & Avdeev, 2026) and unfair market practices (Russo et al., 2023). Traditional institutions have come to a standstill in dealing with them in the face of eroding compliance.

It has become increasingly evident that the rule of law is frequently invoked in times of conflict and proclaimed as a guiding principle, employed to justify actions, or selectively cited to critique perceived violations. Yet, despite its pervasive rhetorical presence, its substantive and impartial application remains elusive. The outcome is therefore a world riddled with concerns that transcend borders without effective legal frameworks in place to address them and an increasingly distant dream of just multilateral governance.

Against this backdrop, the 2026 edition of SYMROLIC invites scholars, experts, policymakers, researchers and students to evaluate how legal systems do and should respond in a fractured world order. The conference further encourages participants to evaluate the future of the rule of law and multilateral global governance in light of evolving geopolitical realities and emerging global challenges.

Through deliberations rooted in research of the highest caliber, the conference seeks to contribute to the ongoing recalibration of the legal frameworks across sectors and borders while upholding the rule of law. Complementing these overarching themes, the conference will also feature a special track, 'Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Global Knowledge Creation, Policy, Intellectual Property and Law', designed to foster dialogue and scholarly engagement on these critical intersections.

References

- Liu, X., Khan, M., & Bibi, A. (2025). *The Crisis of Multilateral Legal Order: Causes, Dynamics and Implications* by Lukasz Gruszczynski, Marcin J Menkes, Veronika Bílková and Paolo Davide Farah (eds), Routledge, 2022, 310pp, ISBN 978-1-032-11663-1, £135 (h/bk). *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, 74(2), 513–515. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0020589325100730>
- Parlar Dal, E. (2018). Rising powers in international conflict management: An introduction. *Third World Quarterly*, 39(12), 2207–2221. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2018.1503048>
- Patrick, S. (2023). *Rules of Order: Assessing the State of Global Governance*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2023/09/rules-of-order-assessing-the-state-of-global-governance>
- Russo, C., Federica Di Marcantonio, Luca Cacchiarelli, Menapace, L., & Sorrentino, A. (2023). Unfair trading practices and countervailing power [Review of Unfair trading practices and countervailing power]. *Food Policy*, 119, 102521–102521. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodpol.2023.102521>
- Shchetinin, D., & Avdeev, S. (2026). The impact of international conflict on cross-border commercial dispute resolution [Review of The impact of international conflict on cross-border commercial dispute resolution]. *Journal of Public Economics*, 260, 105708. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpubeco.2026.105708>
- Shiquan, D., Amuakwa-Mensah, F., Deyi, X., Yue, C., & Yue, C. (2022). The impact of mineral resource extraction on communities: How the vulnerable are harmed [Review of The impact of mineral resource extraction on communities: How the vulnerable are harmed]. *The Extractive Industries and Society*, 10, 101090. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.exis.2022.101090>
- Turley, L., Bréthaut, C., & Pflieger, G. (2021). Institutions for reoperating reservoirs in semi-arid regions facing climate change and competing societal water demands: Insights from Colorado. *Water International*, 47(1), 30–54. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02508060.2021.1981636>

TRACKS

PLENARY SESSION: "REVISITING INDIA'S RESEARCH AND INNOVATION LANDSCAPE IN EMERGING AREAS"

1

LAW AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR- NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

- Behavioural Frameworks of Rule of Law, Global Governance and Social Psychology
- Conflict-Induced Displacement, Human Rights and Transitional Justice Mechanisms
- Law, Institutional Efficiency & Legitimacy and Multilateral Global Governance
- Media, Public Opinion and Legal Consciousness
- Gender, Indigenous Communities, Identity and Legal Pluralism

2

BUSINESS, TRADE, COMMERCE, MANAGEMENT AND LAW

- Resource Nationalism, Sovereign Interests and Global Trade Regimes
- ESG Frameworks, Corporate Accountability, Institutional Uncertainty and Rule of Law
- Global Supply Chains, Human Rights Protection and Conflict Economies
- Finance, Trade Wars, Sanctions and Global Economic Governance
- Competition Law, Antitrust, Market Concentration of Critical Minerals, Energy Resources and Energy Security: Extraction, Production and Processing
- Business Ethics and Responsible, Sustainable Investment Frameworks
- Commercial Disputes, Arbitration and Cross-Border Dispute Settlement

3

INTERNATIONAL LAW, POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

- Crisis of Multilateralism and Global Governance, International Environmental Law and Sovereignty
- Blue Economy/Maritime Conflicts, Critical Minerals; Modern Cyber Warfare
- Global Commons, Arctic Governance, Extraterrestrial Resources

BIMSTEC, ASEAN & Indo-Pacific

- Reform, Indo-Pacific Governance, Transboundary Rivers and Hydro-Politics
- Maritime Claims and Resource Cooperation, Critical Minerals and Resource Equity
- Indo-Pacific Maritime Security, State Responsibility and Sustainable Regional Development.

4

INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM AND SDG

- Indigenous Ecological Knowledge, Biodiversity, Sustainable Development and Legal Protection
- Dharma, Justice and Environmental Justice
- Gandhian Perspectives Sustainability and Governance
- Community Resource Management and Traditional Practices, Tribal Knowledge Systems and Climate Resilience
- Water Governance in Ancient Indian Traditions
- Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and Indian Philosophical Traditions for Global Resource Cooperation and Conflict Resolution
- Indigenous Jurisprudence on Just Warfare, Resource Dependencies, and Human Rights, SDGs, Social Equity and Grassroots Governance

5

INNOVATION SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND LAW

- AI Governance in Extractive Industries: Innovation, Sustainability, and Accountability
- Digital Sovereignty, Cross-Border Data Flows and Regulatory Fragmentation
- Cybersecurity, Data Colonialism, Conflict and International Stability, Technology, Surveillance, and Civil Liberties
- Climate Technologies and Regulation
- Biotechnology, Genetic Engineering, and Bio-Law Governance
- Platform Economies and Democratic Accountability
- Digital Commons, Resource Access and Open Knowledge, Technology Transfer, IPR and Global Inequalities
- Linguistic Disparities, Low-Resource AI Datasets and Equitable AI

6

PUBLIC LAW, SOCIETY AND GOVERNANCE

- International, Regional, and Domestic Institutions Protecting Natural Resources During Conflict
- Satellite Surveillance, Geospatial Data, and Resource Monitoring, Constitutionalism in Times of Crisis
- Rule of Law and Democratic Backsliding During Conflict
- Public Institutions and Governance Deficits
- Press Freedom, Information Regulation, and Conflict Reporting; Institutional Fragility and Child Protection in Conflict-Affected States
- Ecocide, Resource Destruction, Gender-Based Harm, and International Legal Protection
- Natural Resource Access, Vulnerability, Conflict, and Global Governance

7

SPECIAL TRACK: INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE CREATION, POLICY, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND LAW

CONFERENCE DETAILS

We welcome and encourage faculty members, researchers, policymakers, doctoral scholars and students to submit abstracts/research papers for participation in the conference.

All abstract submissions must be made at:

[SUBMIT HERE](#)

VENUE

- *In Person: Symbiosis Law School, Pune*
- *Hybrid (For International and Remote Delegates): [Zoom Link](#)*

IMPORTANT DATES

<i>Last Date for Abstract Submission</i>	<i>6th August, 2026 (Thursday, 11:59 P.M. IST)</i>
<i>Communication of Acceptance of Abstract</i>	<i>12th August, 2026</i>
<i>Last Date for Full Paper Submission</i>	<i>5th September, 2026 (Saturday, 11:59 P.M. IST)</i>
<i>Last Date for Payment of Registration Fees</i>	<i>10th September, 2026 (Thursday, 11:59 P.M. IST)</i>
<i>Dates of the Conference</i>	<i>18th & 19th September, 2026 (Friday-Saturday)</i>

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Abstract should be divided into various headings as mentioned in List 1. However, the mentioned headings are merely indicative. Authors can choose any suitable headings of their choice. Other technical instructions for writing abstracts are given in List 2.

List 1: Indicative headings for writing abstract

- Title, Introduction / Background: Introduce the subject area of your work along with existing research gaps.
- Objectives: What is the purpose / aim / objectives of the research paper?
- Design/Methodology / Approach / Materials and Methods: Is it Experimental or Non-Experimental? How are the objectives attained? Include main methodology / approaches used for the research. What is the theoretical or subject scope of the paper?
- Results and Discussion / Findings and Interpretation: What is the likely outcome of your research
- Research Implications / Limitations (If applicable): How is the current research work applicable to society, businesses or any other entity? How will the work impact society? Identify limitations in the research process, if any.
- Originality/Value (Mandatory): What is new in the paper? And whom will it benefit?
- Keywords

List 2: Technical instructions for writing abstract

- Abstract Language: English.
- Paper size: A4.
- Length: 300 words excluding title of paper, author(s) name, affiliation and address.
- Margins 1 inch (2.54 cm) on all four sides.
- Title of paper 14 point, bold.
- Author(s) name(s) 12 point; Put asterisk (*) to corresponding author.
- Affiliation & address 10 point (mention address clearly indicating place, pin code, state, country, email id and cell no.).
- Font of text matter: Times New Roman, 12 point.
- Headings: All headings in 12 point, bold.
- Line Spacing: Single (Give one line space between title of paper, author's name, address and text matter).
- Title page: Title, author(s), affiliation(s), contact details.
- Keywords: 4- 5 in alphabetical order.

FINAL PAPER SUBMISSION

GUIDELINES

Deadline for submission of Full Papers: 1st September, 2026 till 11:59 PM

- Title of Paper – Times New Roman – 14-point font – Capital letter
- Level 1 Heading – Times New Roman, 12-point font, Bold.
Level 2 Heading - Times New Roman, 12-point font, Italics.
Level 3 Headings - Times New Roman, 12-point font.
- Text of the paper - Times New Roman, 12-point font.
- 1.5 line spacing & Text Justified.
- Page numbers to be inserted. No paragraph indentation.
- No identifying headers and footers. Double spacing between paragraphs.
- Citation/ Reference Style - APA style.
- One inch margin on all sides in all pages.
- Correct punctuation, spelling and grammar.
- Maximum 20 pages (5000-8000 words including references) (A4 size).

While submitting the full paper, the participants must submit an AI Usage and Plagiarism Report (upto 10% permitted).

- Co-authorship of up to three authors is permitted. However, each co- author has to individually register himself/herself for the Conference and at least one of the co-authors should be physically available to present the paper.

- *Select papers will be published in conference proceedings which will be Scopus or Web of Science (WoS) indexed.*
- *Registration and Payment details will be communicated soon.*

PAYMENT DETAILS

For National Delegates (Maximum three authors):

- Single author: Rs. 1180/-
- More than one author: Rs. 1770/-

Registration Form:

[SUBMIT HERE](#)

Details of Bank Accounts for payment of Registration Fee

Name of the A/c Holder :SS SIU SLS RECEIPT AC

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ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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Head-SCALSAR

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Dean, Faculty of Law, SIU

Jean Monnet Chair Professor (*EUC-LAMP co-funded by EU*)

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Symbiosis Law School, Pune



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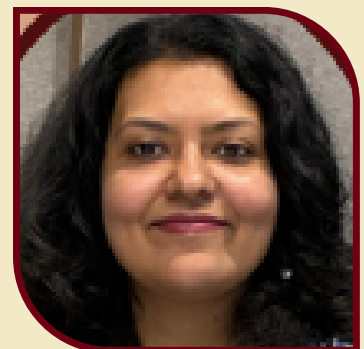
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