



CHRIST
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
BANGALORE | DELHI NCR | PUNE

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE 2026-27

SCHOOL of LAW,
CHRIST (DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY), BANGALORE

PRESENTS

XVII

SCHOOL of LAW

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, 2026-27

on

“NAVIGATING CROSS-BORDER COMMERCIAL DISPUTES:
LEGAL CHALLENGES AND EMERGING PERSPECTIVES”



18TH - 19TH DECEMBER 2026



BANGALORE, CENTRAL CAMPUS



INSTITUTIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS



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BROCHURE

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ABOUT CHRIST

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

CHRIST (Deemed to be University) emerged from the educational vision of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara, a notable educationist and social reformer of the nineteenth century in South India. In 1831, he established the first Catholic indigenous congregation, the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI), which now administers CHRIST (Deemed to be University).

CHRIST (Deemed to be University) commenced its illustrious journey in 1969 when it was established as 'Christ College'. Pioneering transformative strides in Indian higher education, it introduced innovative and contemporary curricula, insisted on academic discipline, and imparted Holistic Education. With the unwavering support of its innovative and devoted staff, the institution embraced global higher education practices, setting new benchmarks for academic excellence.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) of India conferred Autonomy to Christ College in 2004 and identified it as an Institution with Potential for Excellence in 2006. In 2008, under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Government of India declared the institution a "Deemed to be University". One of the first institutions in India to be accredited by the NAAC in 1998 and subsequently re-accredited in 2004 and 2016 with the top grade 'A' on the 4-point scale, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) achieved an 'A+' grade in its most recent re-accreditation in 2023, reaffirming its commitment to excellence.



ABOUT

SCHOOL of LAW

CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore

School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore, celebrating a distinguished 20-year legacy of excellence, is a premier institution dedicated to transforming students into par excellence legal professionals imbued with profound social responsibility. Home to over 1,500 students from across India and abroad, SLCU offers a vibrant, diverse academic community supported by world-class infrastructure.

The campus houses one of the most resourceful law libraries in South India, state-of-the-art information centres and advanced classrooms. A dedicated, highly meritorious faculty ensures one of the finest student-teacher ratios in the country. To diversify their legal acumen, students choose from 60 wide-ranging elective subjects tailored to modern industry demands.

SLCU seamlessly bridges theory and practice through a dynamic industry-academia interface. A time-fluid internship schedule enables students to hone critical legal skills, while a rich array of co-curricular activities, including elite moot courts, conferences, ADR competitions, debates and a dedicated Legal Aid Cell, fosters holistic growth. Balancing rigorous academics with sports and cultural initiatives, SLCU continues to shape the future of legal education.



ABOUT

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore

The Conference Committee aims at promoting academic excellence and providing a platform for intellectual engagement through seminars, conferences, workshops, and panel discussions.

The Committee is committed to organising diverse academic events that encourage research, dialogue, and critical thinking on contemporary legal and interdisciplinary issues. The Committee also aspires to spread awareness and foster informed discussions on significant developments in law, policy and society. The SLCU Conference is conducted with the aim of providing the student community and legal scholars with an opportunity to exchange ideas, present research, and engage in meaningful debate on pressing legal issues. In fulfilment of such a goal, the School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore, through its Conference Committee, cordially invites law students, research scholars, academicians and professionals to participate in its XVII SLCU International Conference on “*Navigating Cross-Border Commercial Disputes: Legal Challenges and Emerging Perspectives*”, which shall be conducted from 18th-19th December 2026.

The Conference seeks to develop future members of the Indian legal fraternity and academia by equipping them with analytical, research and presentation skills essential for contributing to the dynamic Indian legal system.

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



The XVII SLCU International Conference on "Navigating Cross-Border Commercial Disputes" arrives at a pivotal moment when technological disruption, geopolitical shifts and regulatory fragmentation are reshaping global commerce. This Conference provides an essential platform to examine evolving legal frameworks governing arbitration, mediation, trade, investment and the digital economy. As international transactions become increasingly interconnected, disputes span multiple jurisdictions, demanding legal responses that are efficient, adaptable and sensitive to public interest concerns. The rise of emergency arbitration, digital hearings, and hybrid dispute resolution mechanisms further underscores the need for coherent and forward-looking legal frameworks.

At CHRIST (Deemed to be University), we remain committed to academic excellence and service-oriented research. The deliberations here will bridge law, policy and practice, contributing to a more resilient and rules-based global order. I commend the School of Law for this initiative and extend my warm welcome to all delegates. May your discussions yield lasting insights that advance justice, cooperation, and sustainable global governance.

Col. Dr. Fr. Jose C C

Vice Chancellor

CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



The global order is undergoing a significant transformation, with international commerce shaped by technological advancement, geopolitical uncertainty and regulatory fragmentation. This has fundamentally altered the nature of cross-border commercial disputes, creating complex legal challenges for States, corporations, investors and arbitral institutions. The XVII SLCU International Conference on “Navigating Cross-Border Commercial Disputes: Legal Challenges and Emerging Perspectives” comes at a crucial juncture, as global transactions become increasingly interconnected and disputes span multiple jurisdictions. Legal systems must respond with frameworks that are efficient, adaptable, commercially certain and mindful of public interest concerns.

I commend the organisers for creating a platform that bridges law, policy and practice. The deliberations at this Conference will contribute to developing forward-looking solutions for a more resilient and rules-based global order. I extend my best wishes for meaningful dialogue and lasting insights to emerge from this gathering, reinforcing our shared commitment to justice, cooperation, and sustainable global governance.

Fr. Thomas T.V.

Director

School of Law,

CHRIST (Deemed to be University)



MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN



International Commercial Arbitration continues to remain a preferred mechanism for resolving cross-border disputes, yet the field is experiencing significant procedural and institutional change. The rise of emergency arbitration, interim measures, digital hearings and online dispute resolution has raised important questions concerning procedural fairness, enforceability and party autonomy. Alongside arbitration, international commercial mediation has gained growing recognition under the UNCITRAL Model Law and Singapore Convention, with hybrid mechanisms like Arbitration-Mediation and Mediation-Arbitration underscoring the need for coherent legal frameworks.

The Conference invites us to think beyond conventional boundaries and envision resilient, adaptive legal frameworks that serve both commercial interests and public welfare. I wish for a successful and inspiring Conference that produces lasting insights for the global legal community.

Dr. Chaitra R. B.

Associate Dean

School of Law,
CHRIST (Deemed to be University)

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT



The global digital economy has expanded the scope of international commercial disputes beyond traditional boundaries. Artificial intelligence is transforming commercial transactions, data processing and enforcement of intellectual property rights across jurisdictions, raising concerns relating to cross-border data privacy, liability and algorithmic decision-making. International investment law is also transforming, with host States asserting regulatory authority in areas of public health, national security and sustainable development, intensifying debates surrounding investor-State dispute settlement reforms.

This Conference's engagement with arbitration, mediation, investment law, trade law, insolvency, taxation, maritime law and technology reflects the multidimensional nature of contemporary commercial disputes. I extend my best wishes for constructive discussions and meaningful outcomes.

Dr. Shibu Puthalath

Head of Department

School of Law,

CHRIST (Deemed to be University)



MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT



International trade law faces institutional strain with the Appellate Body crisis threatening WTO dispute settlement, while trade wars and protectionism disrupt global supply chains. UNCITRAL's role in harmonising international trade law becomes significant in this context. International insolvency and taxation have also emerged as concerns, with transfer pricing disputes and treatment of digital assets creating legal uncertainties across jurisdictions.

The Conference recognises that international commercial disputes now arise at the intersection of multiple legal domains, demanding integrated legal responses that balance commercial efficiency, environmental responsibility and transnational accountability. I commend the organisers for advancing dialogue on these vital issues and wish for meaningful solutions to emerge from this gathering.

Dr. Avishek Chakraborty

Associate Head of Department

School of Law,

CHRIST (Deemed to be University)

MESSAGE FROM THE UNESCO CHAIR (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LAW AND SUSTAINABILITY)



The UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence Law and Sustainability at the Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore, together with the International Law Association Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Technology Law, is pleased to serve as an Academic Partner for the International Conference on ‘Navigating Cross-Border Commercial Disputes: Legal Challenges and Emerging Perspectives’, organised by the School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru.

Cross-border commercial disputes are becoming increasingly complex as legal systems respond to new technologies, changing business practices and growing interaction between domestic and international regulatory frameworks. This conference provides a valuable forum for judges, practitioners, scholars, policymakers and students to examine these developments and consider practical responses to the challenges faced in international commerce and dispute resolution. We are particularly pleased that the conference seeks to connect academic discussion with the needs of legal practice and public policy. We hope that the conversations in Bengaluru will lead to further research, professional exchanges and joint academic activities. I warmly congratulate the organisers and look forward to a productive and lasting association with CHRIST University.

Dr. Jon Truby

**UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence Law and Sustainability
Chair, ILA Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Technology Law
Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore**



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD, LANCASTER UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL



Lancaster University Law School is delighted to partner with the School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru on this important international conference on cross-border dispute resolution, bringing together our shared expertise on such issues as international commercial arbitration and mediation, foreign investment disputes, international trade law, maritime disputes and corporate governance.

The conference aims not merely to advance academic knowledge but to engage with and produce outputs of real significance for policy makers and legal practitioners in these fields. This endeavour is just the beginning. It marks the commencement of a shared commitment between the two Schools to foster stronger links with a view to further collaboration in areas such as teaching and research and staff and student mobility.

Prof. Bryan Clark

Head,

Lancaster University Law School

INSTITUTIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNER



The UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence Law and Sustainability, hosted by the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore, advances responsible AI governance in support of sustainable development and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Approved under UNESCO's UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, the Chair explores the dual impact of AI as a driver of innovation and as a potential challenge to environmental, social, and legal systems.

Led by Dr Jon Mark Truby, Visiting Research Associate Professor in Artificial Intelligence and Technology Law, the Chair promotes interdisciplinary research, international cooperation, and practical, policy-oriented solutions. Its work focuses on strengthening legal and institutional frameworks for sustainable AI governance, fostering responsible technological innovation, and addressing emerging challenges at the intersection of AI, law, human rights, and sustainability.

Located in Singapore, a major regional hub for technology and policy, the Chair places particular emphasis on Asia and the Global South. Its initiatives engage policymakers, academics, researchers, industry, international organisations, and civil society, contributing to inclusive global AI governance and accessible knowledge for sustainable technological development.



INSTITUTIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNER



Lancaster University
Law School

Lancaster University Law School

Our esteemed Institutional Partner, Lancaster University Law School is a globally recognised institution, consistently ranked among the top law schools in the United Kingdom and within the top 250 worldwide for legal education. Renowned for excellence in research and teaching, the school combines rigorous academic training with a practical and career focused approach, providing students with a strong foundation for success in the legal profession.

Its distinguished faculty includes leading experts in human rights, international, corporate and environmental law, while its dynamic curriculum equips students to address contemporary global challenges. Through its Law Clinic, prestigious mooted competitions and strong links with leading domestic and international law firms, the school effectively connects academic learning with professional practice and real world legal experience.

Set within a vibrant and multicultural campus, Lancaster Law School offers excellent graduate employability and strong connections with leading employers. Its global partnerships, research initiatives and professional networks provide students with valuable opportunities to engage with diverse legal perspectives and develop practical skills. By fostering critical thinking, ethical leadership and professional excellence, the school prepares students to excel in an increasingly interconnected global legal landscape.



INSTITUTIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNER



University of the Fraser Valley

Our esteemed Institutional & International Partner, the University of the Fraser Valley is a fully accredited public university in British Columbia, Canada, recognised for its student focused education, academic excellence and strong international outlook. With a diverse range of undergraduate and graduate programmes, UFV combines rigorous academic learning with practical and experiential opportunities, equipping students with the knowledge and skills needed for professional success.

With students from more than 60 countries, UFV offers a vibrant and globally connected academic environment. Its international partnerships support student and faculty exchanges, study tours and collaborative research, creating valuable opportunities for cross cultural learning and academic engagement. The university also places strong emphasis on innovation, community engagement and student success, fostering an environment where students can develop both academically and professionally.

Located in the Fraser Valley near Vancouver, UFV provides a dynamic setting for learning while maintaining a strong focus on hands on education, interdisciplinary learning and career development. Its commitment to international collaboration, practical education and global perspectives enables students to engage with contemporary challenges and prepare for an increasingly interconnected professional world.



INSTITUTIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNER



Lanzhou University Law School

Our esteemed Institutional & International Partner, Lanzhou University Law School is a distinguished centre for legal education and research in northwestern China, with a strong academic foundation and a long history of legal education. The school offers comprehensive programmes across diverse areas of law, including international law, civil and commercial law, economic law and environmental law. Its commitment to academic excellence and legal scholarship provides a strong foundation for engaging with contemporary legal issues.

Its International Law programme covers public international law, private international law and international economic law, with research areas including human rights, international environmental law and World Trade Organization law. Through its strong faculty, research initiatives and practical legal training, the school provides a broad understanding of contemporary legal issues and international legal practice.

The school also maintains a strong focus on academic research and international engagement, with dedicated institutes and faculty specialising in international law and related fields. Its emphasis on legal scholarship, practical learning and global perspectives reflects its strong contribution to the advancement of international legal education and research.



INSTITUTIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNER



Washington & Lincoln University (WALN)

Washington & Lincoln University (WALN), headquartered in Orlando, Florida, is a private postsecondary institution licensed by the Florida Department of Education's Commission for Independent Education (CIE-4001). The University offers flexible and accessible opportunities for advanced study through hybrid and online programmes in Legal Studies, including Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) degrees. WALN's programmes are designed for professionals, researchers, and scholars seeking to develop specialised expertise in contemporary and emerging areas of law. Its academic offerings encompass fields such as Public Law, International Law, and Artificial Intelligence & Technology Law, reflecting the growing intersection of law, technology, governance, and global affairs.

The University combines live online instruction with in-person academic sessions in Orlando, providing students with opportunities for interactive learning, academic engagement, and interdisciplinary collaboration. This flexible model enables professionals and international students to pursue advanced education while accommodating diverse academic and professional commitments. With a globally oriented approach, WALN encourages students to examine complex legal and regulatory issues through comparative, interdisciplinary, and contemporary perspectives. Particular emphasis is placed on emerging areas of legal scholarship and the evolving challenges created by technological advancement and globalisation.

Through its academic programmes, WALN seeks to foster advanced scholarship, professional development, and lifelong learning. The University provides an environment where students and scholars can engage critically with evolving legal frameworks and develop knowledge relevant to modern professional practice. By combining flexible education, specialised legal studies, and interdisciplinary perspectives, Washington & Lincoln University aims to prepare professionals and scholars to contribute meaningfully to the evolving legal, technological, and regulatory landscape.

INSTITUTIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNER



UNCITRAL National Coordination Committee, India

Our esteemed Institutional Partner is a distinguished national body dedicated to promoting the work and principles of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) across India. Renowned for advancing international trade law and alternative dispute resolution, the Committee brings together academia, legal professionals, policymakers and industry to strengthen legal awareness and institutional collaboration.

Its network comprises leading experts in arbitration, mediation, insolvency, international trade and commercial law, while its initiatives equip students and professionals to address contemporary global legal challenges. Through conferences, research initiatives, capacity-building programmes, and strategic collaborations, the Committee effectively bridges academic learning with professional practice.

The Committee also plays an important role in strengthening India's engagement with global legal institutions and international commercial law. Through its academic and professional initiatives, it creates valuable opportunities for knowledge exchange, research and collaboration in the evolving field of international dispute resolution

By fostering legal scholarship, policy engagement, ethical leadership and practical legal expertise, the Committee prepares future legal professionals to excel in an increasingly interconnected global commercial legal landscape.

INSTITUTIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PARTNER



International Law Association Committee on AI & Technology Law

Our esteemed Institutional & International Partner, the International Law Association Committee on AI & Technology Law is a globally recognised organisation dedicated to the study and development of public and private international law. Founded in 1873, the ILA brings together academics, legal practitioners, policymakers and experts from around the world to promote international understanding and strengthen respect for the rule of law.

Through its international committees, study groups and biennial conferences, the ILA provides a distinguished platform for research, academic discussion and professional collaboration on contemporary issues in international law. Its work contributes to the development of legal principles, recommendations and practical approaches across diverse areas of international law.

With its extensive global network and strong academic engagement, the ILA encourages meaningful exchange between scholars and legal professionals across jurisdictions. Its continued contribution to international legal scholarship and dialogue makes it an important forum for advancing knowledge and understanding of international law.

LAW FIRM PARTNER



AZB & PARTNERS
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

AZB & Partners

Our esteemed Law Firm Partner, AZB & Partners is one of India's premier full service law firms, widely recognized for its excellence in corporate and commercial law, complex transactions and high value legal matters. Founded in 2004 by Zia Mody, Ajay Bahl and Bahram N. Vakil, the firm has grown into one of India's leading legal institutions with offices across major commercial centers in India.

Renowned for advising multinational corporations, financial institutions, private equity funds, sovereign investors and government bodies, AZB & Partners has been involved in several significant transactions and legal matters. Its expertise spans mergers and acquisitions, private equity, banking and finance, capital markets, competition law and dispute resolution, along with other specialized areas of corporate and commercial practice.

With a team of highly experienced lawyers and partners, the firm combines deep sector knowledge with a commercially focused approach to complex legal matters. Its work is consistently recognized by leading international legal directories including Chambers and Partners, The Legal 500 and IFLR1000 for its technical expertise, strategic advice and excellence across multiple practice areas.

KNOWLEDGE & MEDIA PARTNER



Manupatra

We are pleased to welcome Manupatra as our esteemed Official Media and Knowledge Partner. Established in 2000, Manupatra is one of India's leading legal research and technology platforms, recognised for transforming the way legal professionals, academics and students access and engage with legal information.

Its comprehensive legal database provides access to judgments, statutes, regulations, notifications and legal developments from courts and tribunals across India. Trusted by leading law firms, universities, government institutions and judicial bodies, Manupatra has become an important resource for legal research, case preparation and academic scholarship.

As our Official Media and Knowledge Partner, Manupatra will contribute to expanding the Conference's reach and strengthening informed legal discourse. Through its extensive professional network and digital presence, it connects the Bar, Bench, academia and industry while supporting greater awareness and exchange of contemporary legal knowledge. It also continues to promote the use of technology in making legal research more efficient and accessible.

INAUGURATION

PANEL OF DISTINGUISHED
SPEAKERS



CHIEF GUEST

**HON'BLE DR. JUSTICE
D. Y. CHANDRACHUD**

Former Chief Justice of India

GUESTS OF HONOUR



**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE
R. V. RAVEENDRAN**
Former Judge,
Supreme Court of India



DR. JON TRUBY
UNESCO Chair on AI Law &
Sustainability, Centre for
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**MR. GEORGE POTHAN
POOTHICOTE**
UNCITRAL-CLOUT Steering
Committee Member, UNCCI
Coordinator & Advocate,
Supreme Court of India



**PROFESSOR
BRYAN CLARK**
Head,
Lancaster University Law
School



DR. MUKARRUM AHMED
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MS. MANISHA SINGH
UNCITRAL-CLOUT National
Correspondent, UNCCI Member &
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DR. JAYADEVAN S NAIR
Former Dean & Professor,
School of Law, CHRIST
(Deemed to be University),
Bangalore

MODERATOR

VALEDICTORY

PANEL OF DISTINGUISHED
SPEAKERS

GUESTS OF HONOUR



PROF. DOUGLAS DE CASTRO

Professor of International Law,
School of Law, Lanzhou University,
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MR. PROMOD NAIR

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Senior Advocate, High Court of
Karnataka



DR. WADE DEISMAN

Associate Dean,
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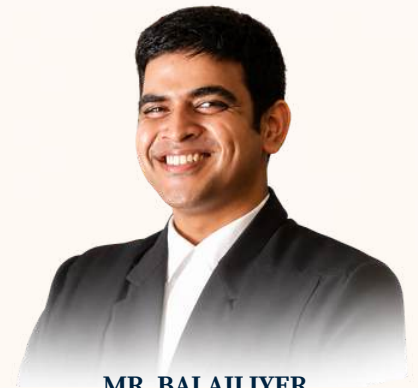
MS. SADIE WHITTAM

Senior Lecturer and CEDR-Accredited
Mediator, Lancaster University Law
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**MR. SHEIKH SULTAN AADIL
HUQUE**

Research Associate, Centre
for International Law, NUS



MR. BALAJI IYER

Commercial and Maritime Lawyer,
High Court of Karnataka



MS. SHIVANI SINGHAL

UNCCI Member & Advocate,
Transcend Law, Bangalore

— MODERATOR —

OBJECTIVES OF THE XVII SCHOOL OF LAW INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026-27

1. To examine International Commercial Arbitration ('ICA') for cross-border disputes, including institutional/ad hoc arbitration, emergency arbitration, interim measures, digitalisation and Online Dispute Resolution ('ODR').
2. To assess international commercial mediation, including the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ('UNCITRAL') Model Law, Singapore Convention, settlement enforcement and institutional and ad hoc mediation.
3. To critically analyse international investment law including Foreign Direct Investment ('FDI') in emerging economies, investor-State dispute settlement reforms, investment treaties and State autonomy vs investor protection.
4. To evaluate international trade law, including UNCITRAL's harmonisation, the World Trade Organisation ('WTO') Appellate Body and the effects of trade wars on multilateral trading.
5. To assess insolvency and taxation trends including recognition of foreign proceedings, digital economy transfer pricing and digital assets/cryptocurrencies.
6. To explore maritime law including charterparty frictions from International Maritime Organisation ('IMO') emission rules, Artificial Intelligence ('AI') driven navigation/autonomous ship liability, ship arrest and cross-border arbitration.
7. To examine technology and Intellectual Property ('IP') law, including AI, data privacy, liability, AI-driven transactions and global trademark enforcement.
8. To foster dialogue among academics, practitioners, policymakers, experts, scholars and students on economic law, commercial regulation, tech innovation and dispute resolution.
9. To identify regulatory gaps, legal developments and policy responses for legal certainty, accountability, sustainable governance and effective global dispute resolution.

INTRODUCTION TO THEME THE XVII CONFERENCE

The global order is undergoing a period of significant transformation, with international commerce operating in an environment shaped by technological advancement, geopolitical uncertainty, regulatory fragmentation, climate obligations and the increasing movement of capital, goods, services, data and intellectual assets across borders. These developments have altered the nature of international commercial disputes and created complex legal and policy challenges for States, corporations, investors, arbitral institutions, courts and regulatory bodies.

International commercial disputes are no longer confined to traditional disagreements over trade, investment or commercial contracts. They now arise at the intersection of ICA, international investment law, trade governance, insolvency, taxation, maritime commerce, AI, data privacy and IP rights. As global transactions become more interconnected and disputes increasingly involve multiple jurisdictions, legal systems must respond with frameworks that are efficient, adaptable, commercially certain and sensitive to public interest concerns.

While ICA continues to remain a preferred mechanism for resolving cross-border disputes, the field is witnessing significant procedural and institutional changes, including the rise of emergency arbitration, digital hearings and ODR. Simultaneously, international commercial mediation has gained growing recognition as an effective consensual mechanism, reinforced by the UNCITRAL Model Law and the Singapore Convention on Mediation. International investment law is also undergoing a major transformation, with host States increasingly asserting regulatory authority in areas such as public health, environmental protection and sustainable development, intensifying debates around investor-State dispute settlement reforms



International trade law faces institutional strain, with the Appellate Body crisis raising serious concerns regarding the future of WTO dispute settlement, while trade wars and economic protectionism have disrupted global supply chains. Emerging trends in international insolvency, taxation, maritime law and the digital economy further compound these challenges, raising novel questions relating to cross-border recognition of proceedings, AI-driven navigation, autonomous ships, data privacy and brand enforcement in global markets.

Against this backdrop, the **XVII SLCU International Conference** seeks to provide a platform for meaningful academic and professional dialogue on the theme “*Navigating Cross-Border Commercial Disputes: Legal Challenges and Emerging Perspectives*”. The Conference aims to bring together national and international participants to examine the changing nature of commercial disputes, evaluate emerging legal frameworks and propose forward-looking solutions for a more resilient and rules-based global order.

By engaging with the diverse sub-themes outlined below, the Conference seeks to bridge the gap between law, policy and practice, inviting critical discussion on how legal systems can respond to contemporary challenges while preserving fairness, accountability, commercial certainty, innovation and sustainable development

THEMES & SUB-THEMES OF THE XVII CONFERENCE

The **XVII SLCU International Conference** aims to bring together academicians, legal practitioners, policymakers, industry experts, research scholars and students to critically engage with the multifaceted legal challenges arising in cross-border commercial dispute resolution. Against the backdrop of an increasingly interconnected global economy, the Conference seeks to examine the evolving frameworks governing international commercial arbitration, mediation, investment, trade, insolvency, taxation, maritime commerce and technology. By focusing on the theme “*Navigating Cross-Border Commercial Disputes: Legal Challenges and Emerging Perspectives*,” the Conference endeavours to explore how traditional legal paradigms are being reshaped by technological innovation, geopolitical shifts, regulatory fragmentation and climate obligations. The objective is to identify regulatory gaps, evaluate emerging legal frameworks, and propose forward-looking solutions that balance commercial efficiency with fairness, accountability and sustainable governance. The Conference invites research papers on the following sub-themes that reflect both national and international perspectives

SUB THEME I: INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION: EVOLVING APPROACHES TO CROSS-BORDER DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- Institutional and Ad Hoc Arbitration: Emerging Trends and Procedural Challenges
- Emergency Arbitration, Interim Measures and ODR
- Jurisdictional Challenges in Cross-Border Disputes and the Evolving Role of the Seat of Arbitration

SUB THEME II: INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL MEDIATION: ADVANCING CROSS-BORDER DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- International Commercial Mediation under the UNCITRAL Model Law and the Singapore Convention
- Cross-Border Enforcement of International Mediated Settlement Agreements
- Institutional and Ad Hoc Commercial Mediation in International Trade



SUB THEME III: INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW: EMERGING DIMENSIONS OF CROSS-BORDER INVESTMENT DISPUTES

- FDI in Emerging Economies
- Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reforms
- International Investment Treaties and Contemporary Reforms

SUB THEME IV: INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW: CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES IN CROSS-BORDER TRADE DISPUTES

- UNCITRAL and the Harmonisation of International Trade Law
- The Appellate Body Crisis and the Future of WTO Dispute Settlement
- Trade Wars and Their Implications on the Multilateral Trading System

SUB THEME V: INSOLVENCY AND TAXATION: EMERGING TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

- Recognition of Foreign Insolvency Proceedings
- Transfer Pricing Disputes in the Digital Economy
- Digital Assets and Cryptocurrencies in Insolvency and Taxation

SUB THEME VI: INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW: NAVIGATING CROSS-BORDER MARITIME DISPUTES

- Contractual Friction in Charterparties over IMO Emission Compliance
- Attributing Liability for AI-Driven Navigation and Autonomous Ships
- Ship Arrest and Cross-Border Arbitration

SUB THEME VII: TECHNOLOGY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW: LEGAL CHALLENGES IN THE GLOBAL DIGITAL ECONOMY

- AI and Cross-Border Data Privacy and Liability
- AI in Cross-Border Commercial Transactions
- Trademark Protection and Brand Enforcement in Global Markets

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:

Authors must submit an abstract of no more than **250 words**, accompanied by **5–6 keywords**. The abstract should clearly indicate the research problem, central argument, approach or methodology and expected contribution of the paper. Abstracts will be evaluated based on their relevance to the conference theme and sub-themes, originality, research potential and substantive contribution.

To ensure anonymous evaluation, the abstract **must not contain any identifying information** relating to the author(s), including names, institutional affiliations or acknowledgements. Author information must be provided separately in a cover letter attached to the submission form. The cover letter should contain the following information:

- Sub-theme and Title of the Paper
- Name(s) of the author(s)
- Institutional affiliation(s)
- Contact Number and E-mail ID
- Postal Address
- ORCID ID (if applicable)
- A short biography of no more than 150 words

All submissions of the abstracts for the Conference must be electronically submitted. **[CLICK HERE](#)** to submit your abstract.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION:

Upon notification of abstract selection, authors are required to submit their full-length manuscripts for consideration. The manuscripts should be developed from the approved abstract and must reflect the research problem, argument and methodology outlined therein

MANUSCRIPT LENGTH AND FORMATTING:

Manuscripts should be of **3,000-7,000 words, inclusive of references**. To ensure anonymous evaluation, the manuscript must not contain any identifying information relating to the author(s). Author information must be provided separately in a cover letter attached to the submission form, with details as mentioned above.

Manuscripts should be prepared in **Times New Roman, 12-point font**, with **double-line spacing** and **margins of 2.5 cm (1 inch)** on all sides. Formatting should remain **consistent** throughout the manuscript.

The title should be in bold, with initial capitalisation for proper nouns.

Headings should follow a consistent hierarchy.

- **First-level headings:** Bold, with initial capitalization for proper nouns.
- **Second-level headings:** Bold italics, with initial capitalisation for proper nouns.
- **Third-level headings:** Italics, with initial capitalization for proper nouns.
- **Fourth-level headings:** Bold italics at the beginning of a paragraph, followed immediately by the text.
- **Fifth-level headings:** Italics at the beginning of a paragraph, followed immediately by the text.

All citations and references **must follow APA 7th Edition** and should be accurate and consistent throughout the manuscript.

***Note:** Submissions must be original, unpublished and not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Authors should ensure that the submission provides a substantive, original and research-oriented contribution to the relevant sub-theme. Merely descriptive submissions may not be considered for publication.*

SUBMISSION FORMAT:

Selected full-length manuscripts must be submitted in both Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) and PDF formats.

The file name should be in the below format:

“Theme<Theme No.>_<Name of Author(s)>”

Example: 1) Single Author: Theme1_Manov Bhowmick

2) Co-Authors: Theme2_Ann Patel & Manov Bhowmick

ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANT:

STUDENTS: Candidates pursuing their 5-year integrated LL.B. (Hons.) course / 3-year LL.B. course / LL.M. or equivalent law degree, from any recognised university in India or abroad.

ACADEMICIANS: Faculty members and researchers employed at recognised universities or academic institutions globally.

RESEARCH SCHOLARS: Doctoral and post-doctoral researchers enrolled in recognised universities or research institutions worldwide

MODE OF THE CONFERENCE:

The XVII SLCU International Conference shall be conducted in a **Hybrid Mode** to facilitate participation from both domestic and international delegates.

INDIAN PARTICIPANTS: All paper presentations by Indian participants shall be conducted Offline at the Conference venue.

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS: All paper presentations by international participants shall be conducted in the Virtual Mode through the online platform designated by the Organizing Committee.

Authors are requested to register under the appropriate category and ensure their availability in the prescribed mode of presentation.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

REGISTRATION FEE DETAILS:

The following registration fees are payable only upon acceptance of the abstract.

CATEGORY	INDIAN PARTICIPANTS (INR)	INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS (USD)
SINGLE AUTHOR		
Student	INR 2,800/-	USD 50
Research Scholar	INR 3,500/-	USD 60
Professionals & Academics	INR 4,000/-	USD 70
CO-AUTHOR		
Student	INR 5,000/-	USD 70
Research Scholar	INR 6,500/-	USD 90
Professionals & Academics	INR 7,500/-	USD 110

**The Registration Fee is Exclusive of GST*

Note: For co-authored papers involving different categories, the higher category of specialization/status among the co-authors shall determine the registration fee and final team category.

Example: A student co-authoring with a faculty member will be considered under "Professionals & Academics." and the corresponding registration fee shall be applicable.



PAYMENT PROCEDURE:

STEP 1: Visit the official website of **CHRIST (Deemed to be University)** and access the Online Payment Portal through the **E-Services menu**.

STEP 2: Select **Office** as “Other” and **Category** as “Other” and Select **Central Campus**.

STEP 3: Under the Select Fee Name choose “**Events**” and then in the dropdown menu and Choose “**Conference**”.

STEP 4: Under the Select Category dropdown, choose “**XVII SLCU International Conference 2026**” and proceed with the payment.

STEP 5: Complete the payment using the available online payment options and retain the payment receipt for future reference.

Note:

- *The payment link for the Conference Registration Fee will be shared along with the Abstract Acceptance Email.*
- *Registration fees are payable only in favour of CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore.*
- *Conference registration fees are non-refundable*
- *The Conference Registration Fee includes the Conference Kit, participation in all technical sessions, breakfast, lunch, tea/refreshments, a certificate of merit/presentation, and publication of the paper, upon selection, without any Article Processing Charges (APC).*

PRIZES & RECOGNITION

CASH PRIZES:

The Conference invites submissions across three distinct categories: Students, Academicians and Research Scholars.

In each category, the top two best paper presenters will be recognised with a cash prize of **₹12,000/- each**, along with a trophy.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

As a special recognition, the **student winners**, irrespective of the category, will also be offered an internship opportunity at **AZB & Partners**.

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY:

Selected papers, subject to review and editorial approval, shall be considered for publication in a **Scopus-indexed Journal** (subject to the publication guidelines and the sole discretion of the publisher). Further selected papers will be published as an **ISBN book** after rigorous, double-blind peer review and editorial processes.

CERTIFICATES

Certificate of Merit shall be awarded to the Best Paper under each sub-theme. **Certificate of Presentation** shall be awarded to every participant who duly submits and successfully presents their research paper at the Conference.

Note:

- *The net cash prize shall be disbursed after deduction of TDS and/or any other applicable statutory taxes or deductions, wherever applicable*
- *The Conference Committee shall facilitate the initial introduction between AZB & Partner and the winners. Thereafter, the selected candidates shall coordinate directly with AZB regarding the internship. The internship shall be subject to AZB's internal selection policies, procedures and eligibility criteria.*
- *In cases of co-authorship involving participants from different categories, a student co-author shall remain eligible for the internship opportunity, notwithstanding the higher category under which the team is categorised for the Conference*
- *The Conference Committee and the School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) shall not be held responsible or liable for the conduct, performance, attendance or any other matters arising during the course of the internship. All aspects of the internship shall thereafter be governed by the policies, procedures and requirements of AZB.*

VENUE, TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

CONFERENCE VENUE:

The **XVII SLCU International Conference** shall be held at the **Central Campus of CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru.**

Address: CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Central Campus
Hosur Road, Bhavani Nagar, S.G. Palya,
Bangalore - 560029, Karnataka, India.

REACHING THE CONFERENCE VENUE:

From KSR Bangalore City Railway Station (Majestic) & Kempegowda Bus Station:

- Approximate Distance: 10 km
- Estimated Travel Time: 25–35 minutes
- The University is conveniently accessible by taxi, app-based cab services (Uber/Ola), BMTC buses and auto-rickshaws.

From Kempegowda International Airport, Bangalore:

- Approximate Distance: 42 km
- Estimated Travel Time: 60–90 minutes
- Participants may avail themselves of airport taxis, app-based cab services (Uber/Ola), or the BMTC Vayu Vajra (KIA-14) Airport Bus Service, which operates between the Airport and Koramangala and stops near CHRIST (Deemed to be University).

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION:

Bangalore offers convenient connectivity through app-based cab services, BMTC buses, auto-rickshaws and the Namma Metro, ensuring easy access to the Conference venue.



ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION:

Accommodation **shall not** be provided by CHRIST (Deemed to be University) for participants attending the Conference.

However, upon request, the Organizing Committee may provide assistance participants with a list of nearby hotels and guest houses for their convenience. Such recommendations are purely indicative and are intended only to assist participants in making their own accommodation arrangements. Participants are free to choose any accommodation of their preference.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- The University and the Organising Committee shall not make accommodation bookings on behalf of participants.
- Participants shall be solely responsible for making their own accommodation reservations and settling all related payments directly with the accommodation provider.
- CHRIST (Deemed to be University) and the Organising Committee shall not be liable for any loss, damage, cancellation, inconvenience, dispute or any other issue arising out of accommodation arrangements made by participants.
- Any accommodation suggestions provided by the Organising Committee are solely for the convenience of participants and shall not be construed as an endorsement, recommendation, guarantee or affiliation with the respective accommodation providers.

IMPORTANT TIMELINE

EVENT	DATE
CALL FOR PAPERS	18 TH AUGUST 2026
SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT	25 TH SEPTEMBER 2026
SELECTION OF ABSTRACT	04 TH OCTOBER 2026
LAST DATE OF REGISTRATION	15 TH NOVEMBER 2026
SUBMISSION OF FULL PAPER	01 ST DECEMBER 2026
CONFERENCE DATES	18 TH - 19 TH DECEMBER 2026

CONTACT DETAILS

EMAIL

slcuconference@law.christuniversity.in

CHRIST, Central Campus,
Bengaluru, Karnataka

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