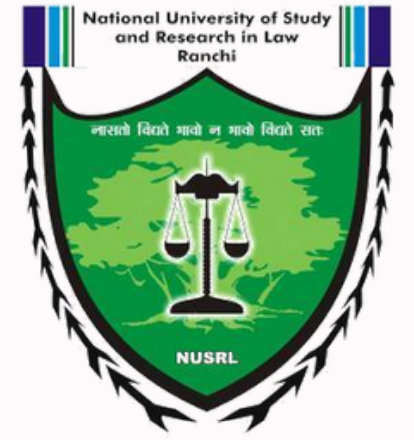




KAUTILYA SOCIETY

*National University of Study and
Research in Law, Ranchi*



CALL FOR ESSAY SUBMISSIONS

Essay Writing Competition (First Edition)

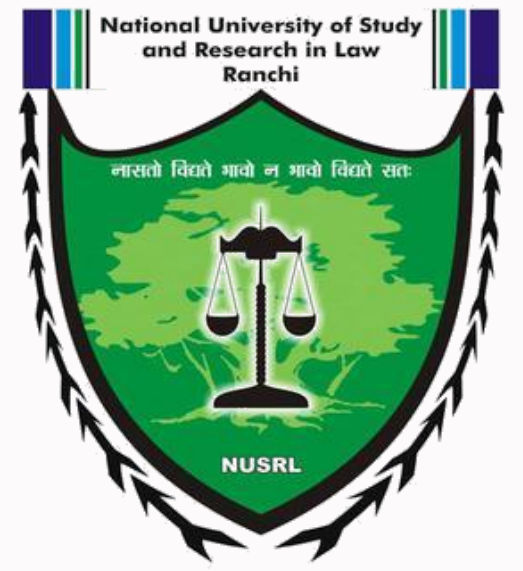
Organised by
Kautilya Society NUSRL
in collaboration with
Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)



**Theme: Governance, Democracy & Constitutional
Vision – India @2047**



Kautilya Society, NUSRL
invites



CALL FOR ESSAY SUBMISSIONS

ABOUT KAUTILYA SOCIETY, NUSRL

The Kautilya Society is a student-led initiative established through a collaborative partnership between NUSRL Ranchi and the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi. The Society seeks to bridge the divide between legal academia and realworld policy development. It provides students with opportunities to engage in research, participate in dialogue, and contribute to reform-oriented public discourse.

ABOUT NUSRL

National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi (NUSRL) has been established by an Act of the State Legislature prompted by the vision of the constitutional forefathers that the law, legal system and legal institutions have an overarching role for human, social, political and economic development of the nation. Law is one of the social processes having the maximum filtering capacity of societal processes is sinew for healthier growth of democracy and constitutional rule of law. India in the 21st century and beyond having a rich heritage of legal culture, thoughts and traditions needs to tread the path where the law has to act as catalyst in achieving the goals enshrined in the Constitution as well as see India amid one in the galaxy of developed nation. Encapsulated in its objectives, the NUSRL is established to develop a holistic perspective of legal education in all its ramifications particularly advocacy, judicial and legal institutional services, legislation, law reforms and all the research in these areas .



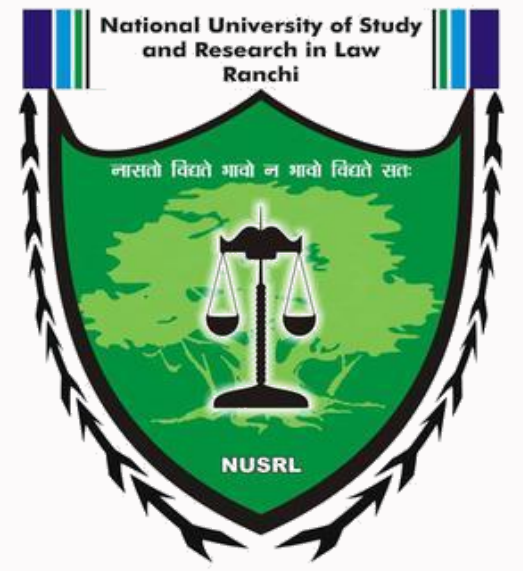
[kautilyasociety.nusrl](https://www.kautilyasociety.nusrl.in)



[kautilyasocietynusrl.in](https://www.kautilyasocietynusrl.in)



Kautilya Society, NUSRL



ABOUT ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS (ADR)

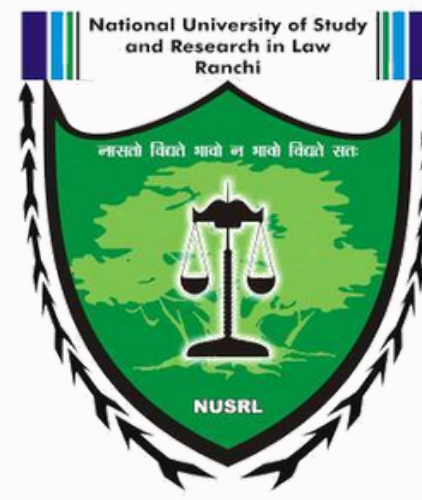
The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) was established in 1999 by a group of professors from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad. In 1999, Public Interest Litigation (PIL) was filed by them with Delhi High Court asking for [or requesting] the disclosure of the criminal, financial and educational background of the candidates contesting elections. Based on this, the Supreme Court in 2002, and subsequently in 2003, made it mandatory for all candidates contesting elections to disclose criminal, financial and educational background prior to the polls by filing an affidavit with the Election Commission.

The first election watch was conducted by ADR in 2002 for Gujarat Assembly Elections whereby detailed analysis of the backgrounds of candidates contesting elections was provided to the electorate in order to help the electorate make an informed choice during polls. Since then ADR has conducted Election Watches for almost all state and parliament elections in collaboration with the National Election Watch. It conducts multiple projects aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in the political and electoral system of the country.





Kautilya Society NUSRL



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ABOUT ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

Kautilya Society NUSRL, in collaboration with **Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)**, are pleased to announce the Essay Writing Competition (First Edition) on the theme “**Governance, Democracy & Constitutional Vision – India @2047.**”

The competition seeks to nurture rigorous legal and policy scholarship that critically engages with questions of democratic governance, constitutional vision, and India’s rise as a globally significant democratic polity. Participants are encouraged to explore emerging sub-themes at the intersection of democratic theory, electoral reform, constitutional governance, regulatory accountability, and India’s trajectory in the international order.

The competition aims to provide a vibrant platform for students to present fresh perspectives and contribute meaningfully to academic and policy discourse at this defining moment in India’s democratic journey.



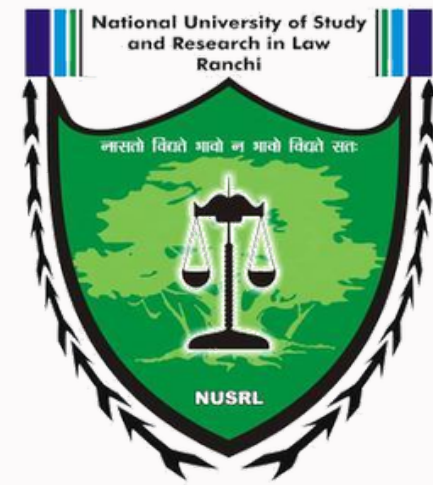
[kautilyasociety.nusrl](https://www.kautilyasociety.nusrl.in)



[kautilyasocietynusrl.in](https://www.kautilyasocietynusrl.in)



Kautilya Society NUSRL



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Eligibility

- The competition is open to students enrolled in undergraduate or postgraduate law courses in any recognised university in India.
- Only individual submissions are accepted. Co-authorship is not permitted.
- Only one submission per participant shall be entertained.
- Submissions must be in English only.

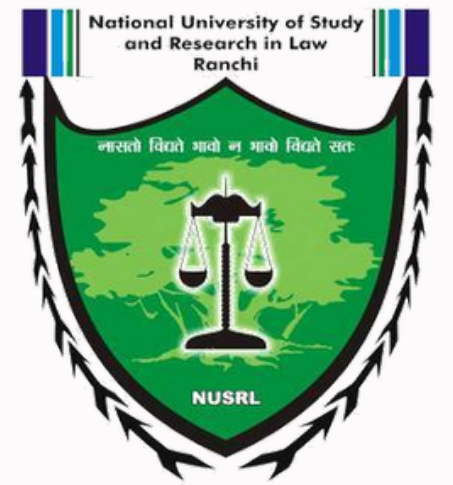
Format & Content

1. Word Limit: 3,000-5,000 words, inclusive of references.
2. The title should not exceed 12 words.
3. Font: Times New Roman | Font Size: 12 | Line Spacing: 1.5 | Alignment: Justified | Margins: 1 inch on all sides.
4. The submission must be original and unpublished work not submitted or accepted for publication elsewhere.
5. The name(s) of the author(s) must not appear anywhere in the essay to ensure blind review.
6. Similarity (Plagiarism) Index must be below 15%. Submissions exceeding this limit shall be summarily rejected.
7. AI-generated content must not exceed 10% of the submission. Submissions exceeding this threshold shall be disqualified.
8. Referencing Style: Endnotes as per OSCOLA 5th Edition (Font: Times New Roman | Size: 10 | Line Spacing: 1.0). Endnotes should be used only where necessary.





Kautilya Society NUSRL



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

9. The file must be submitted in MS Word format (.docx).
10. Essays violating any of the submission guidelines shall be summarily rejected.

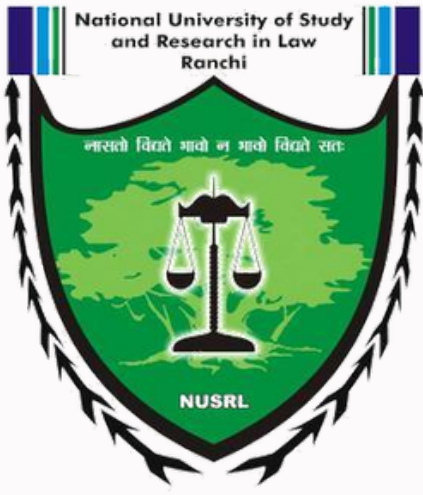
REGISTRATION

- Registration must be completed through the ([Google form link for Registration](#)), with the detailed screenshot of the payment attached to the form and the essay must be submitted separately through the ([Essay submission Form](#)). Both the registration and essay submission must be completed on or before **25th July 2026**.
- The bank account details for payment are as follows –
 - Name of Account: NUSRL RANCHI
 - Name of the Bank: Bank of India
 - A/C Number: 490710110003104
 - Type of Account: Savings Account
 - IFSC Code: BKID0005900
 - Branch: NUSRL Campus
- The registration fee is Rs. 200/- per participant (non-refundable).
- Late or incomplete submissions shall not be considered under any circumstances.

For clarification or further inquiries, please contact:

Email: kautilyasociety@nusrlranchi.ac.in

We are happy to assist with any questions regarding submission guidelines, themes, or the submission process.



TIMELINE

Event	Date
Announcement of Competition	12th July 2026
Deadline for Registration and submission	25th July 2026
Declaration of Results	31st August 2026

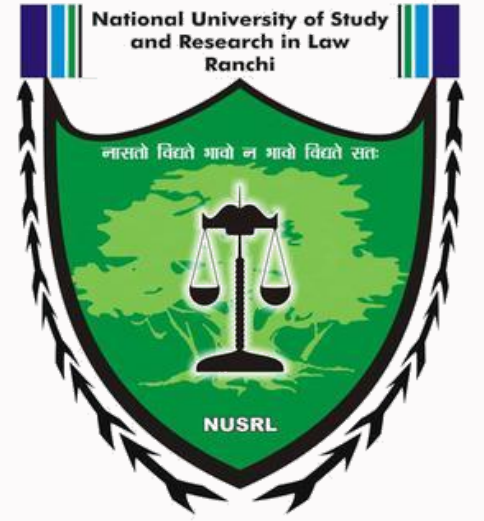
MARKING SCHEME

Criteria	Marks
Relevance & Originality	10
Legal & Policy Analysis	10
Depth of Research	10
Language & Structure	10
Style & Clarity	10
Total	50

**The decision of the Panel of Judges shall be final and binding.*



Kautilya Society NUSRL



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Category	Prize / Recognition
Winner	Rs. 5,000 + Certificate of Merit
First Runner-Up	Rs. 3,000 + Certificate of Merit
Meritorious Entries	Rs. 2,000 + Certificate of Merit
Top 10 Entries	Publication in Edited Book (ISBN) + Certificate of Merit
Special Articles – ADR Blog	Publication on Association for Democratic Reforms Blog

Publication Opportunities

- Selected top ten essays may be considered for publication in an edited book carrying an ISBN number, subject to editorial review, quality standards, and publication feasibility.
- Two special article will be published on the ADR Blog.



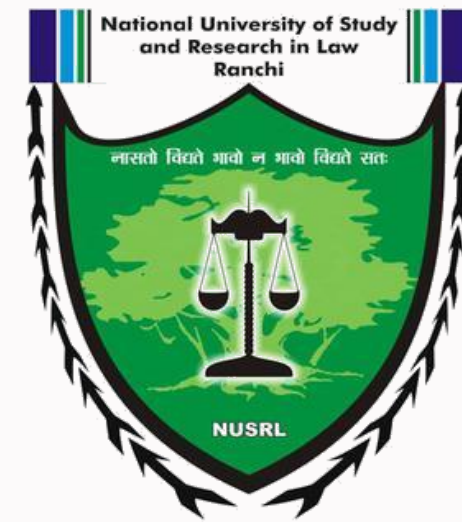
[kautilyasociety.nusrl](https://www.kautilyasociety.nusrl.in)



[kautilyasocietynusrl.in](https://www.kautilyasocietynusrl.in)



Kautilya Society NUSRL



CENTRAL THEME

Governance, Democracy & Constitutional Vision – India @2047

Indicative Sub-Themes

- Constitutional Governance and the Democratic Rule of Law
- Electoral Reforms: Towards Greater Transparency and Accountability
- Federalism and Inter-Governmental Relations in a Changing India
- Regulatory Quality and Evidence-Based Policy Making
- India's Democratic Rise: Geopolitics, Soft Power, and Global Governance
- Criminalisation of Politics: Challenges and Legal Remedies
- Political Finance and Campaign Finance Reforms
- Digital Democracy: Technology, Misinformation, and Electoral Integrity
- Social Justice, Representation, and Inclusive Governance
- Judicial Independence and the Quality of Constitutional Adjudication

Note: Participants may explore any other topic within the broader domain of the theme “Governance, Democracy & Constitutional Vision – India @2047,” subject to its relevance and originality.



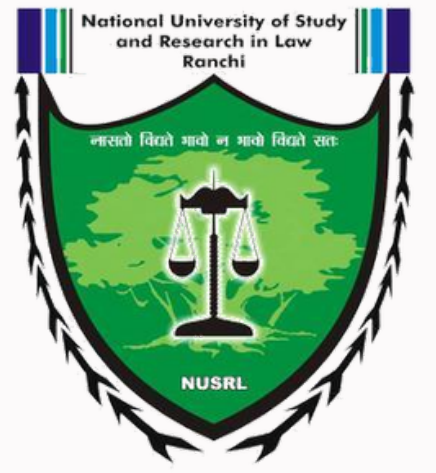
[kautilyasociety.nusrl](https://www.instagram.com/kautilyasociety.nusrl)



kautilyasocietynusrl.in



Kautilya Society NUSRL



CONTACT US

For any queries related to the Essay Writing Competition, please write to:

[kautilyasociety@nusrlranchi.ac.in]

(Subject Line: Essay Competition – Query)

Kautilya Society & NUSRL, Ranchi | In Collaboration with ADR

**FEEL FREE TO CHECK OUR WORK
OVER AT**



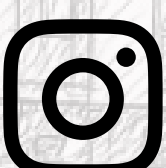
[Kautilya Society, Nusrl](#)



[Kautilya Society, Nusrl](#)



[NITI SamVaad](#)



[Kautilya Society, Nusrl](#)