



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

Knowledge Partner



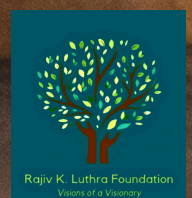
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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

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

ABOUT MAHINDRA UNIVERSITY

Mahindra University, established in May 2020, is a multi-disciplinary global education and knowledge campus which offers industry-aligned curricula, a student-centered learning environment, and opportunities for international exposure. A university with a significant role in the global dynamics of R&D and higher learning, where students are motivated to attain their true potential. The faculty and staff aim to achieve excellence in pedagogy and contemporary frontiers of research and in providing services respectively, while alumni strive to achieve global leadership. The University offers Undergraduate, Post Graduate and Ph.D. programs in its five Schools namely École Centrale School of Engineering, School of Management, School of Law, Indira Mahindra School of Education and School of Media and Liberal Arts.

The University has world class collaborations with Cornell Universities SC Johnson College of Business, Virginia Tech, University of Frankfurt, Centrale Supélec, BABSON and University of Florida which serves inter-disciplinary learning through live industry projects and in-built flexibility of course choices, making the education very practical.

Mahindra University signifies Global Thinkers and Engaged Leaders. The professionals who think how the world is for them and others and how to make it a better place through positive engagement. Further who embodies the Mahindra Rise spirit of Accepting No Limits, Driving Positive Change and Alternative thinking. Research and innovation thrive at the heart of our academic pursuits at Mahindra University. Our world-class faculty and cutting-edge facilities foster ground-breaking discoveries across diverse fields. We foster a culture of curiosity, creativity, and collaboration, resulting in discoveries and solutions that address real-world challenges. Our commitment to excellence drives us to be at the forefront of research-driven innovation, making a meaningful impact on society and the world at large.

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
Theme 1: Digital Infrastructure for Arbitration	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Migration from traditional to digital arbitration2. Institutional approaches to digital arbitration3. Virtual hearings and nuances of cloud-based case management4. Data privacy and cybersecurity in arbitration
Theme 2: Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning in Arbitration	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. AI and admissibility of AI-generated material in the arbitration record2. Arbitrating Decentralised Autonomous Organisation (DAO) disputes3. Smart contract and blockchain arbitration4. Arbitration of digital asset disputes5. Navigating disputes in the metaverse and beyond
Theme 3: Evidence in Digital Arbitration	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensuring authenticity and confidentiality of documentary evidence in digital arbitration2. AI-generated evidence and its admissibility in digital arbitration3. Ensuring the integrity of AI-assisted document review4. Admissibility of hacked evidence5. Digital forensics in arbitration

THEMES

Theme	Sub-Themes
<p>Theme 4: ESG and Digital Arbitration</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Investor-State arbitration and environmental obligations2. Business and human rights in international commercial arbitration3. Arbitrating greenwashing and misrepresentation claims4. Corporate governance failures as arbitral claims5. Arbitration of sector-driven ESG disputes: Challenges
<p>Theme 5: Hybrid Digital Dispute Systems and the Evolution of Arb-Med-Arb in Digital Ecosystems</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Online mediation ethics and algorithmic neutrality in hybrid Arb-Med-Arb platforms2. Sector-specific Arb-Med-Arb in the digital era: FinTech, digital assets, construction tech, smart contracts and IP disputes3. Digital Arb-Med-Arb protocols and designing modules for digital ecosystems4. AI-enhanced Arb-Med-Arb processes: AI mediators and decision-support tools5. Enforceability of digital Arb-Med-Arb settlement awards and digital execution: Model Law, New York Convention, and regulatory frameworks
<p>Theme 6: The Future of Arbitration</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Autonomous arbitration agents: Regulatory and sector-driven opportunities and challenges2. Data governance in arbitral practice: Arbitration in the age of Big Data3. Resolving intellectual property disputes in the digital age4. Global digital arbitration platforms and cross-border technical and regulatory challenges5. Next generation of arbitration in a digital world

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: 28th April 2026**
- **Notification of Acceptance: 29th April 2026**

CONTACT

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

✉ 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 Mohammad 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

PATRON-IN-CHIEF



Shri Anand Mahindra

Chancellor
Mahindra University

PATRON



Prof. (Dr.) Yajulu Medury

Vice Chancellor
Mahindra University

CONFERENCE CHAIRS



Prof. (Dr.) E.R. Jayaram
MUSOL



Prof. (Dr.) V.C. Vivekanandan
HNLU

CONVENOR(S)



Sr. Adv. Anil Xavier
IIAM-APCAM



Adv. Iram Majid
IIAM



Dr. Malti Suri
MUSOL



Dr. Anita Singh
HNLU

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MUSOL



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MUSOL



Ms. Neha Tripathi
MUSOL



Mr. Parth Sharma
MUSOL

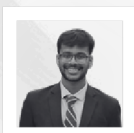


Mr. Albin Anto
MUSOL

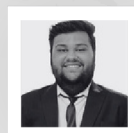


Dr. Prabhpreet Singh
MUSOL

STUDENT COORDINATORS

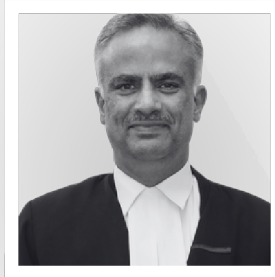


Mr. Velmury Nihar



Mr. Yatharth Soni

CHIEF GUEST



Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Kameswar Rao

Judge

High Court of Delhi

GUESTS OF HONOUR

HOSTS



Dr. Yajulu Medury

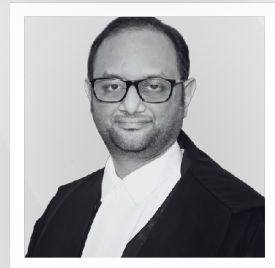
Vice Chancellor
Mahindra University



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jasmeet Singh

Judge

High Court of Delhi



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Advait Sethna

Judge

High Court of Mumbai



Mr. Anil Xavier

Senior Advocate
President IIAM



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Bhat

Former Judge

Supreme Court of India



Prof. V.C. Vivekanandan

Vice Chancellor
HNLU



Mr. Justice G. Raghuram

Former Director
National Judicial Academy

SPECIAL INVITEES



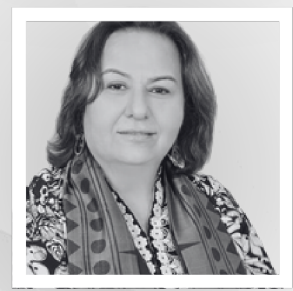
Mr. Niranjan Reddy

Senior Advocate
Member of Parliament



Mr. Gourab Banerji

Senior Advocate
Supreme Court of India



Dr. Pinky Anand

Senior Advocate

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



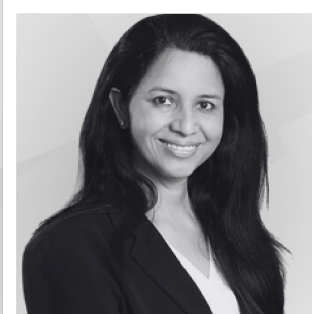
Mr. Chander Uday Singh
Senior Advocate
Supreme Court of India



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 Mediator
Germany

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
Supreme Court of India



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
Mahindra Finance



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. V. Vijayadheer
Chief General Manager (Legal)
IDBI Bank Ltd

MODERATOR



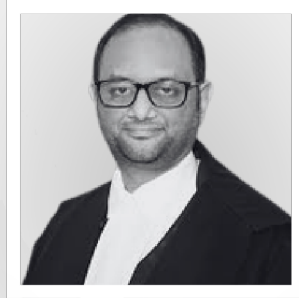
Dr. Chirag Balyan
Associate Professor
DY Patil Law School

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

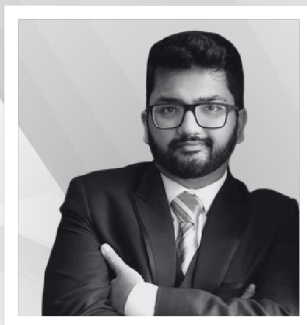
Chennai, Tamil Nadu



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. (Dr.) Akash Gupta

Associate Professor

Jindal Global Law School, Sonipat, Haryana

THEMES

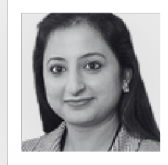
CHAIR



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

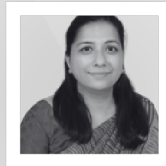
**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND
MACHINE LEARNING IN ARBITRATION**

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



Prof. Rajendra Prasad
Dean, School of Law
Gitam University

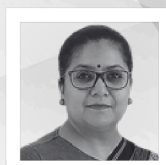
ESG AND DIGITAL ARBITRATION

CO-CHAIR



Dr. Apoorva Dixit
Associate Professor
G D Goenka University

CHAIR



Ms. Ekta Bahl
Partner
Samvad, Hyderabad

**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



Mr. Henning Glaser
International Mediator
Germany



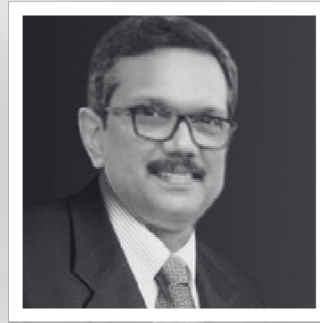
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Mr. Prashanto Chandra Sen
Senior Advocate
Supreme Court of India



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 | 12:00 PM ONWARDS**

CHIEF GUEST



Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Lakshman
Judge
High Court of Telangana

GUESTS OF HONOUR



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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