



ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CELL,
HIMACHAL PRADESH NATIONAL LAW
UNIVERSITY, SHIMLA.

PRESENTS

**4TH SAMANVAY
INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION
COMPETITION,
2026.**

BROCHURE

ONLINE ROUNDS | 27TH, 28TH AND 29TH
SEPTEMBER, 2026

OFFLINE ROUNDS | 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD NOVEMBER,
2026.



PSL

Advocates
& Solicitors



TIMES

Bars
Across



INDEX

S.NO	CONTENT	PAGE NO.
1.	ABOUT HPNLU	1
2.	ABOUT ADRC	2
3.	ABOUT THE COMPETITION	4
4.	MEET OUR COLLABORATORS	5 - 10
5.	GENERAL INFORMATION • MODE • LANGUAGE • FORMAT • ELIGIBILITY • TEAM COMPOSITION • REGISTRATION	11 - 14
6.	AWARDS	15
7.	SCHEDULE	16
8.	GLIMPSES OF THE PREVIOUS EDITION	17
9.	CONTACT DETAILS	18

ABOUT HPNLU SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU) is a renowned legal institution nestled in the serene and picturesque city of Shimla, India. Established by an Act of the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha (Act 16 of 2016), HPNLU has quickly gained prominence as a leading centre for legal education and research in the region with the visionary scholar of law and Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Priti Saxena at its helm.

In the ten years since its establishment, HPNLU, Shimla has witnessed remarkable growth and has undertaken numerous innovative initiatives to strengthen its academic excellence. The University has consistently remained committed to fostering knowledge, innovation, and holistic development through a dynamic academic environment and a culture of intellectual engagement. Nestled amidst the breathtaking Himalayan ranges, HPNLU offers a serene and conducive setting for learning. The natural beauty and rich cultural heritage of Shimla further enrich the student experience, providing a well-rounded and immersive educational journey. Additionally, the University's modern infrastructure, well-stocked library, and advanced research facilities create an ideal environment for academic and professional growth. With its unwavering commitment to academic rigour and practical training, HPNLU continues to nurture and shape the legal minds of tomorrow, leaving an indelible mark on the legal landscape of India.

ABOUT ADRC

Established in 2020 with the objective of promoting alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and enhancing the professional legal skills of law students, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell (erstwhile CADR & PS), Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, serves as a vital platform for bridging the gap between theoretical legal education and practical application in the field of ADR. Since its inception, the Cell has been dedicated to fostering a culture of dialogue, collaboration, and effective dispute resolution by equipping students with the knowledge and practical expertise required to excel in an evolving legal landscape.

The Cell firmly believes in the holistic development of aspiring legal professionals and recognises that a comprehensive understanding of law extends far beyond the confines of a classroom. Guided by the principles of efficiency, accessibility, adaptability, and innovation, ADRC strives to cultivate critical thinking, advocacy, and problem-solving skills through a wide range of academic and experiential initiatives. It offers comprehensive education, training, and exposure to various alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, including mediation, arbitration, negotiation, and conciliation, enabling students to develop the competence and confidence necessary to navigate complex legal disputes with professionalism and integrity.



SAMANVAY INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION COMPETITION





About Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2026

The Cell's commitment to research, scholarship, and innovation in the field of dispute resolution has significantly contributed to the advancement of best practices and the promotion of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. Building upon the remarkable success of the first two editions of the National Mediation Competition and the first, second, and third editions of the Samanvay International Mediation Competition, the Cell is proud to present the fourth edition of its flagship event, the Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2026.

The overwhelming response and appreciation received from participants representing premier law schools, as well as distinguished mediators, practitioners, and assessors from across the globe, have inspired the ADR Cell, HPNLU, Shimla, to continue this initiative. Through this edition, the Cell seeks to further its commitment to promoting mediation as an effective dispute resolution mechanism while fostering interest and excellence in the field among aspiring legal professionals.

The Competition is designed to provide participants with an immersive and intellectually stimulating experience that nurtures practical skills and deepens their understanding of mediation. By engaging with realistic and contemporary disputes, participants will be encouraged to analyse complex issues, devise creative solutions, and assume roles aligned with their strengths and preferences.

Further, the Competition offers participants the opportunity to refine their negotiation, communication, and problem-solving abilities through interactions and training sessions led by renowned professionals and experts in the field. The problem sets will draw upon dynamic and evolving areas of law, presenting multifaceted disputes in which clients' interests extend beyond purely commercial considerations. Participants will be expected to adopt a holistic and interest-based approach to settlement, demonstrating the analytical, interpersonal, and strategic skills that are indispensable to effective mediation.

MEET OUR COLLABORATORS



TITLE SPONSOR



We're proud to have JurisGyan as the Title Sponsor for SIMC 2026. JurisGyan is a pioneering legal education platform committed to transforming how law students and young professionals engage with the law. With a rapidly growing presence across India's academic landscape, JurisGyan has become a trusted name for accessible, high-quality legal learning, offering curated resources, expert mentorship, and career guidance tailored to the evolving needs of the legal profession. Recognised for its student-centric approach and innovative pedagogy, JurisGyan bridges the gap between classroom theory and real-world legal practice. Its initiatives span across legal writing, research, internships, and skill development programs, empowering thousands of learners to build meaningful careers in law. As a thought leader in legal education, JurisGyan continues to push boundaries, fostering a culture of clarity, curiosity, and excellence.

TITLE SPONSOR



We are delighted to welcome The Law Desk as the Title Sponsor of the 4th Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2026. The Law Desk is a distinguished law firm committed to delivering trusted, efficient, and client-centric legal services while upholding the highest standards of professionalism and legal ethics. With a team of accomplished professionals, extensive legal experience, and expertise across diverse practice areas, the firm provides comprehensive legal advisory and solutions to both corporate and individual clients. Driven by a commitment to client satisfaction, practical solutions, and commercially pragmatic legal assistance, The Law Desk has established itself as a trusted one-stop destination for legal services. Its emphasis on quality guidance, responsiveness, and professional excellence reflects values that closely resonate with the spirit of Samanvay: collaboration, dialogue, and effective resolution.



EXPERT PARTNER



Advocates
& Solicitors

PSL Advocates & Solicitors (PSL) is a new-age boutique law firm widely acclaimed for its expertise in commercial dispute resolution including Domestic & International Arbitration, Insolvency & Bankruptcy, White Collar Crimes, Commercial Litigation, Tax and Corporate Advisory. PSL's thought leadership is reflected in its strategic advocacy and niche research initiatives to assist its clients effectively. PSL has also pioneered and forged unique knowledge associations with reputed and upcoming law schools to effectively assist the student bodies in successfully organising innovative ADR events and workshops. PSL's clientele comprises Sovereign States, Financial Institutions, Government Instrumentalities and Public Sector Undertakings, Royal Families, and leading Indian and global corporations. Lawyers at PSL are consistently engaged to represent clients in complex high-stakes disputes before major international forums and arbitration tribunals constituted under the ICC, SIAC, LCIA, and DIAC Rules. PSL has been regularly recognized and awarded by various coveted international and national publications in the domain of commercial dispute resolution. The team at PSL comprises a group of dynamic counsels with rich experience, who are relentlessly committed to the cause of providing bespoke and highly efficient legal solutions to their clients in a short turnaround time.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH PARTNER

Bars
Across

Bars Across is a UK-based global legal news and discovery platform, headquartered in London. The platform brings legal developments from across jurisdictions into one accessible destination, covering significant court decisions, regulatory developments, law firms, the legal profession and issues shaping the global legal landscape. Beyond legal news, Bars Across uses AI-assisted technology to make legal information and professional discovery easier and more accessible. The platform helps individuals and businesses navigate the legal ecosystem and discover the right lawyers and law firms based on their requirements, while enabling legal professionals and firms to build visibility with a wider global audience. Through global legal news, expert insights, interviews, Q&As, podcasts and intelligent legal discovery, Bars Across is working towards a more connected, accessible and discoverable global legal ecosystem.



KNOWLEDGE PARTNER



We're delighted to have SCC Online as our exclusive Knowledge Partner. SCC Online is India's most trusted legal research platform, renowned for its precision, depth, and technological innovation. Published by Eastern Book Company, SCC (Supreme Court Cases) has been the authoritative source of Indian case law for over five decades, cited more frequently than any other law report in the country. SCC Online brings this legacy into the digital age, offering seamless access to over 400 databases and millions of documents, including judgments, statutes, commentaries, and international legal materials, all curated with editorial rigour and updated daily. With its intuitive interface, advanced search capabilities, and expertly crafted headnotes, SCC Online empowers legal professionals, students, and academics to conduct faster, smarter, and more effective research. We are proud to collaborate with SCC Online for the fourth edition of Samanvay International Mediation Competition.

MEDIA PARTNER



SCC Times is a premier legal media and research platform, widely recognized for its comprehensive coverage of developments in law, policy, and justice. Renowned for its timely reporting and in-depth analysis, SCC Times offers insights across diverse practice areas including Corporate, Criminal, Constitutional, Taxation, Arbitration, and Intellectual Property. Its thought leadership is demonstrated through high-quality commentary, expert interviews, and case law updates that effectively assist practitioners, academics, and students alike. SCC Times has also built strong collaborations with reputed law schools, institutions, and organizations to advance knowledge sharing, legal education, and skill-building initiatives. Its readership spans judges, senior advocates, corporate leaders, government bodies, and aspiring lawyers, making it a trusted resource in the Indian legal landscape. We're honoured to have SCC Times as our exclusive Media Partner.



PROPOSITION PARTNER



A5 Legal: Advocates and Consultants is a boutique law firm based in New Delhi, founded and led by distinguished alumni of HPNLU, Shimla. Driven by a dynamic team of practitioners, the firm offers comprehensive expertise across commercial litigation, arbitration and alternative dispute resolution, corporate advisory, insolvency, and intellectual property. Returning to its alma mater as the Proposition Partner for the 4th Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2026, A5 Legal brings its practical insights into commercial disputes and negotiation dynamics to curate a realistic, challenging, and legally nuanced problem for participating teams. The ADR Cell, HPNLU Shimla, is proud to collaborate with its esteemed alumni and A5 Legal.

MEDIATION ADVOCACY PARTNER



The PACT is a leading mediation institute and institutional mediation service provider, established in 2015 with a mission to advance mediation and collaborative dispute resolution in India and beyond. Founded by Nisshant Laroia and Jonathan Rodrigues, PACT works across mediation practice, professional training, academic engagement and institutional capacity-building. At the heart of PACT's work is its commitment to building a strong and sustainable mediation ecosystem. Through collaborations with law schools, universities, professional organisations, law firms and international mediation institutions, PACT works to make mediation more accessible, practical and effective. Its initiatives include mediation services, professional training, workshops, boot camps, masterclasses, certificate programmes, mediation competitions, and customised programmes in negotiation, mediation, and conflict resolution.



The Global Academy for Advocacy in Dispute Resolution (GAADR) is the academic wing of The PACT, dedicated to advancing education, training and professional development in dispute resolution. GAADR brings together experienced practitioners, educators and institutions to develop practical and academically rigorous programmes that bridge the gap between classroom learning and dispute resolution practice.

Together, The PACT and GAADR have trained thousands of students and professionals and have worked with institutions across India to strengthen mediation and dispute resolution education. Their work spans mediation practice, advocacy, academic initiatives, institutional collaborations and capacity-building, with a continued focus on developing the next generation of dispute resolution professionals. Through #MissionMediation, The PACT and GAADR continue to work towards a culture where mediation is recognised not merely as an alternative to litigation, but as an effective and principled method of resolving conflict through dialogue, collaboration and informed choice."

We are proud to have The PACT and GAADR as the Mediation Advocacy Partners for SIMC 2026.



GENERAL INFORMATION

MODE OF COMPETITION

The 4th Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2026 shall be conducted in a hybrid mode. The Training Session, Workshop, Inaugural Ceremony, Preliminary Rounds, and Octa-Final Round shall be held virtually via Google Meet. The Quarter-Final, Semi-Final, and Final Rounds, along with the Valedictory Ceremony, shall be conducted physically at the campus of Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla.

Kindly note that the offline conduct of the Advanced Rounds shall be subject to the prevailing weather conditions in Himachal Pradesh. In the event of adverse weather or any unforeseen circumstances, the Organising Committee reserves the right to shift these rounds to the online mode, with due notice to all participating teams.

LANGUAGE

The official language of the 4th Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2026 shall be English. All proceedings, submissions, and communications during the Competition shall be conducted exclusively in English.

FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

The 4th Samanvay International Mediation Competition, 2026 shall comprise six competitive rounds, conducted in a hybrid format:

- Two Preliminary Rounds
- One Octa-Final Round
- One Quarter-Final Round
- One Semi-Final Round
- One Final Round

The allocation of participation slots shall be subject to the availability of slots and discretion of the Organising Committee.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Following the Preliminary Rounds, the ballots of all participating teams shall be evaluated, and the **top 16 Negotiating Pairs** and **top 16 Mediators** shall qualify for the **Octa-Final Round**.

Upon the conclusion of the Octa-Final Round, ballots shall again be evaluated, and the **top 8 Negotiating Pairs** and **top 8 Mediators** shall advance to the **Quarter-Final Round**.

Teams qualifying for the Quarter-Final Round shall be invited to the campus of Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, to participate in the Advanced Rounds, subject to the provisions relating to the mode of conduct.

The **Quarter-Final** and **Semi-Final Rounds** shall be conducted on a **knockout** basis. At the conclusion of the Quarter-Final Round, the **top 4 Negotiating Pairs** and **top 4 Mediators** shall advance to the **Semi-Finals**.

Following the Semi-Final Round, the **top two Negotiating Pairs** and the **top two Mediators** shall qualify for the **Final Round**. The Final Round shall determine the winners in each category based on their overall performance.



GENERAL INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to students enrolled in a three-year or five-year LL.B. programme at any School, College, or University recognised by BCI. For the purposes of eligibility, all participants constituting a team must belong to the same institution. Cross-institutional teams shall **not** be permitted under any circumstances.

Provisional registration must be completed through the respective institution. Each institution may provisionally register up to three teams, **subject to the availability of slots** and the discretion of the Organising Committee.

TEAM COMPOSITION

Each team shall consist of three participants, comprising:

- One Mediator
- One Client
- One Counsel

The roles assigned to the participants at the time of registration shall remain unchanged throughout the Competition.

REGISTRATION

Provisional Registration shall be open to all eligible institutions. A maximum of **thirty-two (32) teams** shall be selected to participate in the Competition. Institutions interested in participating are required to complete the Provisional Registration Form on or before **12th August 2026**.

Upon selection by the Organising Committee, the concerned institution shall receive a confirmation email on its registered email address (either that of the ADR Cell or the designated Point of Contact). The email shall contain the Final Registration Form, payment details, and further instructions for completing the registration process.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The **registration fee** for the Competition shall be:

- **INR 15,000 per team** (for Indian teams); and
- **USD 200 per team** (for international teams).

The registration fee is inclusive of accommodation, meals, registration, and other logistical arrangements during the Competition. However, travel and transportation expenses shall be borne by the participating teams.

The accommodation shall be provided only to teams qualifying for the advanced rounds.

Kindly note that the registration fee is **non-refundable** under all circumstances.

Final Registration shall be deemed complete only upon the successful payment of the registration fee within the stipulated timeline. The registration fee must be paid **on or before 22nd August 2026**, failing which the allotted slot may be offered to another institution at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

For any queries or clarifications regarding the Competition, the Rules, or the Proposition, participants may write to adrc@hpnlu.ac.in.

AWARDS

AWARD	AMOUNT
BEST NEGOTIATING PAIR	50,000
BEST MEDIATOR	30,000
RUNNER-UP NEGOTIATING PAIR	25,000
RUNNER-UP MEDIATOR	15,000
BEST NEGOTIATING PAIR IN PRELIMINARY ROUNDS	10,000
BEST MEDIATOR IN PRELIMINARY ROUNDS	7000
BEST MEDIATION PLAN	8000

NOTE: INTERNSHIPS AND OTHER BENEFITS WILL
ALSO BE PROVIDED

*AMOUNTS ARE IN INR

SCHEDULE

OPENING OF PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION	30TH JULY 2026
CLOSING OF PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION	12TH AUGUST 2026
CLOSING OF FINAL REGISTRATION	22ND AUGUST 2026
TRAINING WORKSHOP	27TH SEPTEMBER 2026
INAUGURAL CEREMONY	27TH SEPTEMBER 2026
PRELIMINARY ROUND I	28TH SEPTEMBER 2026
PRELIMINARY ROUND II	28TH SEPTEMBER 2026
OCTA FINAL ROUND	29TH SEPTEMBER 2026
MEDIATION PLAN DEADLINE	10TH OCTOBER, 2026 (*ONLY FOR TEAMS QUALIFYING FOR THE ADVANCED ROUNDS)
TRAINING SESSION OFFLINE	1ST NOVEMBER 2026
QUARTER FINAL ROUNDS	2ND NOVEMBER 2026
SEMI FINAL ROUNDS	2ND NOVEMBER 2026
NETWORKING EVENT	2ND NOVEMBER 2026
FINAL ROUND	3RD NOVEMBER 2026
VALEDICTORY CEREMONY	3RD NOVEMBER 2026

*NOTE: THE DATES, SCHEDULES AND DETAILS PERTAINING TO THE COMPETITION ARE TENTATIVE IN NATURE AND SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION BASED ON PREVAILING WEATHER CONDITIONS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH. IN THE EVENT OF ANY CHANGES, THE PARTICULARS SHALL BE COMMUNICATED BY THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE AT THE EARLIEST. KINDLY FOLLOW OUR OFFICIAL SOCIAL MEDIA FOR TIMELY UPDATES AND NOTIFICATIONS.

GLIMPSES OF 3RD SAMANVAY INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION COMPETITION, 2025



Contact Us

Address

Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, 16 Miles, Shimla-Mandi
National Highway, Ghandal, District Shimla - 171014, Himachal Pradesh,
India .

E-Mail: adrc@hpnlu.ac.in

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

DR. RUCHI GUPTA
(FACULTY CHAIRPERSON, ADRC)

DR. BHARAT BAROWALIA
(FACULTY CONVENOR, ADRC)

DR. ARUN KLAIR
(FACULTY MEMBER, ADRC)

MS. SUNAYANA GARG
(MEMBER, ADRC)

MS. ADUTIYA S.SENGAR
CONVENOR, ADRC
+91 8287181610

MS. LAXITA CHANDOLIA
CO-CONVENOR, ADRC
+91 7073294579

MS. SHAGUN BHATOA
CO-CONVENOR, ADRC
+91 99853 91529

MS. NANDINI SINGH
THAKUR
SECRETARY, ADRC
+91 70092 10473

MS. ESHA MATHUR
TREASURER, ADRC
+91 94141 37758