SVKM'S NMIMS
Deemed-to-be UNIVERSITY
NAVI MUMBAI

Athena 5.0

A NATIONAL CONFERENCE

By the Publication and Seminar Committee

THEME:

Media, Communication, Technology and the Regulation of Public Discourse — National and International Perspectives

DATE:
23rd January, 2027 (Saturday)

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About

SVKM's NMIMS SCHOOL OF LAW



Established in the year 2018, SVKM's NMIMS, School of Law, Navi Mumbai offers two courses, B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) and B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), catering to the growing needs of the legal field. By providing such choice, it aims to create diversity in learning. The courses are designed in a manner that in addition to imbibing theoretical knowledge of law, the students are exposed to the practical facets of the law. It prepares the students for the real world by honing one's soft skills such as framing and drafting of arguments, interpretation of statutes; whilst keeping in touch with our political and historical heritage, and flexibility in work environment. The school also enables students to explore opportunities for international exposure and global experience, which is imperative in a globalised world. Alongside the same, the school prioritizes co-curricular and extra-curricular activities such as Moot Court Competitions, Alternate Dispute Resolution Competitions and conferences. In pursuit of the same, School of Law works through committees, each specialized in a certain function and co-curricular activity.

About THE CONFERENCE









Athena 5.0, the fifth edition of our national conference, seeks to provide an academic platform for scholars, researchers, academicians, legal practitioners, students and industry professionals to examine the evolving relationship between media, communication, technology and the regulation of public discourse. In an era characterised by rapid technological advancements, digital interconnectedness and the growing influence of online platforms, the boundaries between free expression, public accountability and regulatory oversight continue to evolve.

The conference aims to facilitate critical engagement with contemporary challenges concerning freedom of speech and expression, media ethics, platform accountability, misinformation, privacy, artificial intelligence, digital creativity and political communication. It also seeks to encourage comparative and international perspectives on the legal frameworks governing media and communication, recognising that the circulation of information increasingly transcends national borders.

Through Athena 5.0, we aspire to foster meaningful academic dialogue on balancing the freedom to communicate with the need to protect individual rights, democratic institutions and the integrity of public discourse. The conference endeavours to contribute to a more informed, responsible and inclusive media environment through interdisciplinary research and the exchange of diverse perspectives.

About the organising committee

THE PUBLICATION AND SEMINAR COMMITTEE

The Publication and Seminar Committee is a committee committed to enabling aspiring "legal eagles" to develop mastery in research, analysis, and the expression of legal knowledge. The committee is structured into two specialized departments: Content Research & Reporting, and Public Relations & Design, each entrusted with distinct responsibilities to ensure the success of academic initiatives.

Historically, the committee has managed prestigious publications, including the bi-annual magazine SOLstice and the monthly legal newsletter. Recently, these efforts have expanded to include a forthcoming legal blog, providing a dynamic platform for the legal fraternity to share opinions on contemporary issues. Athena 5.0 represents the committee's continued aspiration to bridge the gap between technological or economic advancement and societal well-being.



OUR PARTNERS

MEDIA PARTNERS

THE LAW COMMUNICANTS

LawBhoomi®

LexaUpdate
LawUpdate @ your fingertips

OUR PARTNERS

COMMUNITY AND KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

Lawctopus
The Home of Legal Careers

Lawctopus LAW SCHOOL
The Home of Legal Careers

Lawctopus, started in 2010, is India's leading online media and education portal for law students and young lawyers. The media vertical, Lawctopus.com, reaches to nearly 4 lakh readers every month. The ed-tech vertical, Lawctopus Law School (LLS), teaches more than 2000 learners every year. With a rating of 93.2/100, LLS' practical, online courses teach skills such as legal research, contract drafting, IP law, and more. On the media site, content such as law-related conferences, workshops, internships, jobs, and career advisory pieces and blogs make Lawctopus the young lawyer's go-to friend and guide!

CALL *for* PAPERS

Athena 5.0 invites original, unpublished and high-quality research contributions in the form of research articles, review papers and empirical studies. Submissions are welcomed from students, research scholars, academicians, legal practitioners, industry professionals and other interested participants from across India.

Contributions may examine contemporary legal developments, regulatory challenges, emerging technologies, comparative legal frameworks and interdisciplinary perspectives concerning media, communication and public discourse. Particular emphasis will be placed on critical analyses of the relationship between freedom of expression, technological innovation, individual rights, democratic values and institutional accountability.

The conference seeks to encourage scholarly engagement with both national and international perspectives, providing a platform for innovative research and constructive dialogue on the future of media regulation in an increasingly digital and interconnected society.

Detailed Theme AND SUB THEME

THEME

Media, Communication, Technology and the Regulation of Public Discourse — National and International Perspectives

SUB-THEMES

1. Freedom of Speech, Expression and the Limits of Public Discourse
2. Media Ethics, Journalism and Accountability in the Digital Age
3. Social Media Governance, Platform Liability and Digital Content Regulation
4. Misinformation, Disinformation and the Integrity of Public Discourse
5. Privacy, Surveillance, Reputation and Personality Rights in Media
6. Artificial Intelligence, Deepfakes and the Future of Media Regulation
7. Advertising, Influencer Culture and Consumer Protection in Digital Media
8. Intellectual Property, Digital Creativity and the Global Media Economy
9. Political Communication, Electoral Discourse and Media in Democracy
10. Film, Creative Expression and Comparative Media Regulation

The above sub-themes are indicative and not exhaustive. Authors are encouraged to submit papers exploring these or related topics within the broader theme of media, communication, technology and the regulation of public discourse, including relevant national, international and comparative perspectives.

Guidelines
FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

1. **Word Limit:** The abstract must not exceed 350-400 words, excluding the title and keywords.
2. **Abstract Content:** The abstract should provide a concise yet comprehensive overview of the proposed paper, clearly outlining the research theme, specific topic, objectives, methodology, scope and key arguments.
3. **Formatting Requirements:**
   - **Font**: Times New Roman
   - **Heading** Font Size: 14 pt
   - **Body Font Size**: 12 pt
   - **Line Spacing**: 1.5
   - **Alignment**: Justified
   - **File Format**: Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) only
4. **Title**: The title should be concise, descriptive and limited to 15 words. It must be bold and centre-aligned.
5. **Intimation of Acceptance or Rejection:** The decision regarding acceptance or rejection will be communicated to the authors within 72 hours of receipt of the abstract. Upon acceptance, the detailed paper submission guidelines, and code of conduct will be provided in the acceptance email.
6. **Submission Process:** Authors must submit their abstracts through the designated submission link.

Guidelines

FOR SUBMISSION OF FULL RESEARCH PAPER (SELECTED PAPERS)

- **File Format & Author Details:** Submissions must be original, unpublished, high-quality research papers submitted in Microsoft Word format (.doc/.docx), along with the names, email addresses, and institutional affiliations of all authors.
- **Theme & Topic:** Each submission must clearly state its overarching theme and specific topic.
- **Word Count:** Papers should range from 3,000 to 5,000 words, excluding footnotes.
- **Citation Style**: Bluebook (21st Edition) system of citation must be strictly adhered to.
- **Font Style & Size:** The body of the manuscript must be in Times New Roman, size 14 for headings, and size 12 for content.
- **Spacing & Alignment:** Line spacing must be 1.5, with 'Justified' alignment.
- **Footnotes Formatting**: All footnotes must be single-spaced in Times New Roman, font size 10.
- **Review Process:** Submissions will be evaluated by the designated review panel. Authors will be informed of the review outcome alongside further instructions for final submission and presentation.
- **Publication Opportunities:** Selected papers will have publication opportunities, with eligibility criteria and publication terms communicated separately by the Organising Committee.
- **Submission Deadline:** Selected full research papers must be submitted by 10:00 PM, 15th January 2027.

Guidelines

FOR SUBMISSION OF FULL RESEARCH PAPER (SELECTED PAPERS)

Structure of the Paper: Papers should ordinarily be structured to include the following sections, as appropriate to the nature of the research:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Research Objectives and Methodology
- Analysis and Discussion
- Conclusion
- References

Authors should ensure that their submissions are logically organised, properly referenced and consistent with the academic standards applicable to legal research

- **Author Details:** The submission must include the full name, designation, institutional affiliation and contact details (email address and phone number) of all authors.
- **Co-authorship**: Co-authorship is permitted, with a maximum of three authors per submission.
- **Originality:** Submissions must constitute original, unpublished work and must not have been submitted, published or presented elsewhere in any form.
- **Plagiarism & Academic Integrity:** All submissions must comply with prescribed plagiarism policy and academic integrity standards. The applicable similarity limit and policy regarding AI-generated content will be communicated by the Organising Committee.
- **Presentation:** Accepted papers will be presented at the conference in hybrid mode as per the schedule and modalities prescribed by the Organising Committee.

IMPORTANT DATES

Form and Brochure Release	1st November 2026
Last Date for Abstract Submission	7th December 2026
Last Date for Intimation of Abstract Acceptance	8th December 2026
Last Date for Research Paper Submission	15th January 2027
Last Date for PPT Submission	20th January 2027
Paper Presentation	23rd January 2027

Conference Date

23rd January 2027

Mode

Hybrid

Note: Authors whose abstracts are accepted must complete the registration process within the prescribed timeline. Failure to register may result in the paper being excluded from presentation and any applicable conference publication.

Registration & FEES

REGISTRATION FEES [Inclusive of GST]

1. Students

- Single Author: ₹1,000 per person
- Co-authorship: ₹900 per person

2. Professionals

- Single Author: ₹1,800 per person
- Co-authorship: ₹1,700 per person

The conference will be conducted in hybrid mode, with details regarding online participation and physical attendance communicated to registered participants.

For offline participation, an extra **Rs. 500** will be applicable for food and other essentials.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Registration fees are to be paid only after intimation of abstract acceptance.
- No TA/DA or accommodation will be provided by the Organising Committee.
- Accepted authors must complete the registration process within the prescribed timeline to be eligible for paper presentation.

For registration-related queries, participants may contact the Organising Committee through the official conference communication channels.

Registration LINKS:

FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: Paper presenters are required to submit their abstract in Word document format and attach it to the google form provided:

https://forms.gle/Ltfq71j1nvE3umuVA

FOR AUTHOR'S REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT CONFIRMATION: After acceptance of the abstract, selected authors must register for the event after making the required payment, using the form below:

https://forms.gle/PsNZ1kypvajs8ohU6

FOR FULL PAPER SUBMISSION: Paper presenters must submit their full paper in Word document format using the Google Form below:

https://forms.gle/k5oqqeoRn3Q3vVDR8

PPT SUBMISSION: Paper presenters must submit their presentation using the form below:

https://forms.gle/xxMk89ukwgevJgPU7

On registration, each participant will receive a code (e.g., T01, T02) to be used by the participants throughout the conference.

Awards

Athena 5.0 seeks to recognise outstanding academic contributions and encourage excellence in legal research and scholarly writing.

PRIZE POOL: ₹15,000

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Best Paper

Second Best Paper

Best Presenter

- The Top 10 papers will be selected for publication in a peer-reviewed, ISBN-numbered journal, subject to the applicable editorial review, selection criteria and publication guidelines.
- All registered participants will receive an e-certificate of participation, subject to compliance with the conference requirements.
- 10% scholarship code from Lawctopus to all event participants for all our courses.

OUR DISTINGUISHED *Leadership*

Dr. Arun Sharma
Campus Director
NMIMS, Navi Mumbai

Prof. Manisha Band
Programme Chairperson
Convenor

Dr. Deblina Majumder
Faculty Mentor
Co-Convenor

OUR STUDENT *Heads*

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For queries regarding abstract submissions, research papers, registration and participation, please contact the Organising Committee through the official email address or the contact details provided above.