

COMMONWEALTH LEGAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (CLEA)

In Association with

M.K.E.S. COLLEGE OF LAW, MUMBAI

AMITY LAW SCHOOL, AMITY UNIVERSITY MUMBAI

&

SMES SMT. KAMALABEN GAMBHIRCHAND SHAH LAW SCHOOL, MUMBAI

International Conference on

LAW AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE COMMONWEALTH: NAVIGATING INNOVATION, CHALLENGES, AND ETHICAL FRONTIERS

on

22-23 March 2025

At Hotel Courtyard by Marriot, Mumbai

The intersection of law and technology presents both unprecedented opportunities and complex challenges. The International Conference on “**Law and Technology in the Commonwealth: Navigating Innovation, Challenges, and Ethical Frontiers**” seeks to address these dynamic intersections comprehensively. This conference will serve as a platform for legal scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and technologists to engage in meaningful discourse on how technology is transforming legal practices, academic standards, and regulatory frameworks within the Commonwealth and beyond.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing the legal profession by automating routine tasks, enhancing research capabilities, and providing predictive analytics. However, these advancements come with significant ethical and practical challenges, such as ensuring the fairness and transparency of AI algorithms and mitigating potential biases. This conference will delve into the implications of AI in legal practice, discussing how the legal profession can balance technological innovation with ethical standards and human oversight.

Due to the development of technology, data protection and privacy have become paramount, where personal information is constantly at risk. The conference will explore the evolving legal frameworks that aim to safeguard data privacy, with a particular focus on the challenges faced by Commonwealth countries. Comparative analyses of global regulations, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), will provide insights into developing robust, harmonized data protection laws that can effectively address cross-border data flow and enforcement issues. In the light of these technological advancements, academic integrity remains a cornerstone of credible educational institutions, yet the digital era has introduced new challenges, including sophisticated forms of academic misconduct facilitated by technology. This conference will address strategies to uphold academic integrity, emphasizing the role of technology in detecting and preventing plagiarism and promoting ethical research practices. Ensuring the authenticity and credibility of academic outputs is crucial in maintaining the trust and integrity of educational systems.

This international conference will set the stage for comprehensive discussions on global legal and technological advancements by bringing together experts and international stakeholders to have conversations focusing on innovations in law and technology, thus providing a platform for international dialogue and collaboration. Another aim of the conference is to develop a commonwealth uniform citation for academic writing curriculum and legal framework.

SUB – THEMES

Artificial Intelligence & Legal Practice

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into legal practice is transforming the delivery of legal services. AI's capabilities in automating routine tasks, predicting case outcomes, and conducting legal research offer significant efficiency gains. However, ethical considerations and potential biases in AI algorithms pose challenges that require careful management to ensure fairness and justice in legal processes.

Data Protection and Privacy in the Digital Age

Data protection and privacy laws are crucial for safeguarding individuals' personal information in an increasingly digital world. Commonwealth countries face unique challenges in harmonizing these laws with global standards, such as the GDPR. Ensuring robust data protection requires balancing regulatory frameworks, technological advancements, and international cooperation to address cross-border data flow and enforcement complexities.

Academic Integrity in the Era of AI and Digital Technology

Maintaining academic integrity in the digital age requires addressing new forms of plagiarism and misconduct enabled by technology. Educational institutions must adopt strategies such as using plagiarism and AI detection software, promoting ethical research practices, and fostering a culture of honesty. These efforts are essential to uphold the credibility of academic work and support the development of responsible scholars.

Legal Education & Technology Integration

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into legal education and practice is reshaping the way legal professionals learn and work. AI helps streamline routine tasks, enhance legal research, and even predict case outcomes, making legal processes more efficient and accessible. Hence, as we embrace these advancements, it is crucial to recognize the ethical challenges and potential biases within AI systems. To ensure fairness and justice, law schools and professionals must approach AI thoughtfully, balancing its benefits with human judgment, ethical responsibility, and transparency in decision-making.

Cyber Law & Regulation

The rapid growth of cyber activities necessitates the development of robust legal frameworks to address cybercrime and ensure cybersecurity. Commonwealth countries must develop and enforce laws that protect digital rights, prevent cyber threats, and ensure the safe use of technology. Legal professionals must stay abreast of evolving cyber regulations to effectively navigate the complexities of the digital landscape.

Intellectual Property Rights in the Age of AI

Artificial intelligence is reshaping the landscape of intellectual property (IP) law. AI-generated works and innovations pose new challenges to existing IP frameworks, necessitating revisions to patent and copyright laws. Ensuring the protection of AI-driven inventions while addressing ethical and legal implications requires a nuanced approach to IP rights in the digital era.

Ethics and Responsibility in Legal Tech Development

Developing legal technologies responsibly requires adhering to ethical frameworks that balance innovation with societal impacts. Legal tech developers and stakeholders must ensure that technologies are fair, transparent, and accountable. Addressing ethical dilemmas and incorporating stakeholder perspectives are vital for building trust and ensuring the responsible deployment of legal technologies.

Access to Justice for marginalized communities through Technology

Technology can significantly enhance access to justice by providing legal services to underserved populations. E-governance initiatives and legal tech solutions can streamline legal processes, making them more accessible and efficient. Overcoming barriers to technology adoption, such as digital literacy and infrastructure, is crucial for ensuring equitable access to legal resources and services.

Regulatory approaches to the Internet of Things (IoT) and other emerging technologies

Emerging technologies such as blockchain, autonomous vehicles, and biotechnology present novel regulatory challenges. Legal frameworks must evolve to address the unique issues these technologies pose, including data security, ethical considerations, and societal impacts. Effective regulation requires a forward-thinking approach that balances innovation with public safety and ethical standards.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Submission and selection:

Abstracts (maximum 300 words) must be submitted by **18th February 2025** and must be accompanied by a short CV of the author/s (maximum 100 words). Registration Form https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeKoJvnMxB93ZrE5-jCrAwcA8YS7GiI63_1ZDxM6BOd6m257Q/viewform?usp=dialog

The selection of abstracts will be based on the quality of the abstract and its relevance to the themes. The outcome of the selection of abstracts will be communicated no later than **20th February 2025**.

The final paper needs to be submitted by **10th March 2025**. After the conference, the author will have the opportunity to further improve his or her paper for publication. The papers shall be published in an ISSN Journal or in an ISBN book.

The abstract is to be uploaded in the registration form in the QR code or link provided. The final paper is to be emailed to clea.mumbai25@mkescollegeoflaw.ac.in.

Conference Participants

- Academicians
- Judges
- Attorneys and Legal Professionals
- Research Scholars and Law Students
- Researchers and Stakeholders in Technology
- Educators /Consultants / Policymakers

Submission Guidelines

1. Submissions are to be made in electronic form only and are to be sent by email to the mentioned email id clea.mumbai25@mkescollegeoflaw.ac.in.
2. Each article must be accompanied by an abstract of not more than 250 words with 6 keywords.
3. The word limit for the papers is set at 3000-4000 words.
4. Articles, as well as their respective abstracts must be submitted before the deadline date. Acceptance of articles shall be intimated.

Registration Form



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5. Co–authorship is allowed (maximum of 2 authors).
6. The abstract must contain the name of the author(s), designations, name of the institution, e-mail id and contact number.
7. By submitting an article, the author is presumed to undertake that the article is an original work and has not been submitted, accepted, or published elsewhere.
8. Articles found plagiarized will be summarily rejected.
9. In the case of co-authored papers, only one author would be permitted to make the presentation.
10. All submissions must follow the ILI Citation Format.
11. Submissions may be made in word (.doc/.docx) formats only. File Format shall be Authorname_CLEA.doc/.docx.
12. Submissions must be in Times New Roman with font size 12 and line spacing 1.5. Heading should be in Times New Roman, Bold with font size 14. Subheadings should be Times New Roman, Bold with font size 12. Footnotes must be in Times New Roman with font size 10 and line spacing 1.

ORGANIZERS

The Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA)

The **Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA)** was established in **December 1971** as a Commonwealth-wide body with the aim of fostering and promoting high standards of legal education across the Commonwealth. The Association operates through regional chapters and committees in **Asia, Southern Africa, West Africa, the Caribbean, and Europe.**

Goals of CLEA

The Association is dedicated to achieving the following objectives:

1. **Socially Relevant and Professionally Useful Legal Education:** Developing law curricula and teaching methodologies to make legal education both socially relevant and professionally applicable.
2. **Supporting Continuing Legal Education and Distance Learning:** Encouraging lifelong learning for legal professionals through innovative programs.
3. **Equipping Law Schools:** Assisting law schools to meet the demands of the legal profession by incorporating advancements in technology and addressing global challenges.

The **Constitution of CLEA** envisions the establishment and functioning of country-based chapters to implement its objectives through activities such as conferences, moots, newsletters, lecture series, curriculum development, and student engagement programs.

Commitment to Legal Education and Research. To meet the evolving demands of legal education and research, CLEA is committed to developing **new curricula reflecting** emerging trends in the legal field. The Association also promotes **in-depth dialogues** on legal education and related subjects.

Key Initiatives

1. **The Commonwealth Comparative Constitutional and Public Law Project (2019):** This initiative focuses on a comparative study of constitutional and public law aspects globally, fostering a deeper understanding of these critical areas.
2. **The Commonwealth Institute for Justice Education and Research (CIJER) (2017):** Established as a dedicated research wing, CIJER contributes to legal reforms at the international, regional, and national levels, including policy formulation.

For more information, visit the official website at www.clea.ac.

M.K.E.S. College of Law: A Legacy of Excellence in Legal Education

The Malad Kandivli Education Society's M.K.E.S. College of Law is a premier institution dedicated to providing quality legal education in Mumbai. Affiliated with the University of Mumbai and approved by the Bar Council of India, MKES aims to cultivate knowledgeable, ethical, and skilled legal professionals. Situated in Malad, the college offers a conducive academic environment supported by state-of-the-art facilities, including modern classrooms, a comprehensive library, and a dedicated moot court hall. The institution offers programs such as LL.M. (2 years), LL.B. (3 years), and B.A. LL.B. (5 years), blending rigorous theoretical instruction with practical experience to prepare students for the dynamic legal landscape.

MKES places a strong emphasis on holistic education by integrating academics with extracurricular activities like moot court competitions, legal aid programs, and seminars. Its faculty, comprising experienced academicians and practicing legal professionals, ensures a robust understanding of legal principles and their application in real-world scenarios.

Committed to community engagement, MKES promotes access to justice through legal aid initiatives and collaborations with the legal fraternity. The institution also organizes workshops, guest lectures, and interactive sessions with industry experts to provide students with insights into contemporary legal challenges.

With a legacy of dedication to excellence, MKES College of Law continues to shape socially conscious and competent legal professionals, contributing meaningfully to society and the legal community.

Amity Law School, Amity University Maharashtra, Mumbai

Amity Law School (ALS), Amity University Mumbai, is a premier institution committed to cultivating future legal professionals through academic rigor and holistic development. Approved by the Bar Council of India (BCI), ALS offers integrated programs such as BA LL.B. (Hons.), BBA LL.B. (Hons.), B.Com LL.B. (Hons.), LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M. and Ph.D, blending traditional legal education with modern challenges.

Located on a modern campus, ALS provides state-of-the-art facilities including moot court halls, a digital library, and interactive classrooms that support experiential learning. A dedicated faculty comprising academicians and legal practitioners enriches the curriculum with practical insights, preparing students for research, internships, and legal aid initiatives.

ALS emphasizes global exposure through collaborations and exchange programs while maintaining strong industry ties to ensure internships and placements. Activities like legal aid camps, community outreach, and expert lectures foster leadership and social responsibility. ALS empowers students to excel as socially conscious legal professionals in an evolving legal landscape.

Smt. Kamalaben Gambhirchand Shah Law School, Mumbai

Established in 2009, Smt. Kamalaben Gambhirchand Shah Law School is situated in Matunga, Mumbai, and operates under the aegis of the Seva Mandal Education Society. Affiliated with SNDT Women's University and recognized by the Bar Council of India, the institution is dedicated to imparting comprehensive legal education to women. The law school offers a three-year LL.B. program and a five-year integrated BBA LL.B. program, both designed to provide a strong foundation in legal studies and prepare students for professional roles in the legal field. The campus features a well-equipped library, moot court facilities, and modern classrooms to support an effective learning environment. Emphasizing the promotion of legal and ethical values, the institution aims to achieve academic excellence and foster legal awareness within the community, aligning with its mission to contribute effectively towards social, political, and economic justice as enshrined in the Constitution.

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CONTACT DETAILS

Mr. Clinton N C Damian Librarian, MKES College of Law, Mumbai.	Mr. Narayana Sharma Assistant Professor, KG Shah Law School, Mumbai.
+91 77367 46771	+91 75610 53663
Email: clea.mumbai25@mkescollegeoflaw.ac.in	

