

Call for Papers

International Conference on Comparative Law: A Story of Convergences, Divergences and Exploitation of Liminal Spaces

Jointly Organized by
VIT-AP School of Law, VIT-AP University
and
Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham
Co-Sponsored by Ramaiah College of Law, Bangaluru

(Blended Mode)

15-17 February 2024



Concept Note

The contemporary Nation State is losing its Westphalian territorial construct thereby leading to an increasingly globalised and interconnected world. The world, thus, is appearing to be turning smaller leading to different legal systems intersecting and interplaying with each other like never before. Resultantly, there is a massive expansion of the discipline of comparative law. Prof. David Kennedy explained that between the Core (the Global North) and the Periphery (the Global South) lie liminal spaces that may be powerhouses of more knowledge about the world order due to its proximity to both the core and the periphery. Comparative law today is about engaging with scholarships regarding convergence and divergence of legal and normative frameworks along with understanding the politics of usurping the liminal spaces (by newer actors in international relations like corporations), in turn, augmenting the creation of new power centres.

The new power centres are playing a key role in developing emerging legal order attempting to meet the challenges posed by contemporary developments in the world. The problem continues to be that of accessibility and choice with respect to convergence, divergence or filling up of liminal spaces on the one hand; and that of law and its others, on the other. The choice of language and symbolism today attempt to mask the narratives of domination inherent even in the "virtues" and gains of the post World War II order. Blurring of the conception of territorial sovereignty today is led by the ones who are best placed to exploit the new power centres in the name of globalisation and good governance.

Within and beyond the spirit of the above, this Conference on Comparative Law may attempt to initiate and engage into thinking about and around vibrant and radical ideas about various contemporary issues and challenges by taking law beyond the territorial sovereignty of the State. The conference would like to seek ideas that would initiate the debate in the discipline of comparative law in order to contribute to the existing scholarship in this domain. We highly encourage students, scholars, practitioners, and researchers from around the world to engage in developing an Asian perspective to this discipline, whereby diverse Asian jurisdictions are studied in a comparative manner, along with the traditional understanding of this stream. The conference expects the participants to think beyond the traditional approach of comparing Asian Jurisdiction with the West, encouraging them to engage in intra-Asian perspectives on Comparative Law.

Key Themes:

Comparative Constitutional Law

Comparative Criminal Law

Comparative Civil Law

Comparative Commercial Law (Trade, Investment, Intellectual Property Rights)

Comparative Legal Theory and Methodology

Comparative Public Policy

Contemporary Legal Developments

ABOUT VIT-AP SCHOOL OF LAW (VSL)



Legal education plays a significant role in nation building. VIT AP School of Law, VIT University is a novel endeavour in the direction of providing quality legal education and equipping the young minds with knowledge of law. Pursuing legal studies at VIT-AP School of Law (VSL), one of India's leading academic institutions, is taking a path to innovative learning and skill development. VSL offers an impressive curriculum that ranges wide and is determined to prepare students towards a global legal profession and assures that the graduates are practice ready for today's world. VSL courses are blended with

business leanings and prepare graduates for taking up leadership roles in business positions with a sound legal background. This is achieved by the strong and rigorous practice sessions that are provided to the student's right from the first semester. VIT-AP School of Law (VSL) established as part of VIT-AP University, near Vijayawada. VSL is established to impart quality legal education with a robust curriculum that prepares students for future legal challenges. The main objective is to promote global legal professionals with a passion for the ideals of social justice. VSL has impressive infrastructure with a wide range of facilities. Law Students can have an opportunity to work with and learn from engineering faculty while studying law particularly issues relating to Law and Technology, Cyber Security Law, Blockchain Technology, Machine learning, Artificial Intelligence, and Data protection. With our moot court, legal aid clinics, human rights clinic, digital and data clinics, environmental clinics and intellectual property rights clinics, our students get an opportunity to work with experienced faculty and advocates in solving real-time legal problems and providing solutions as well.

ABOUT BIRMINGHAM LAW SCHOOL

For almost 100 years Birmingham Law School has led the way in legal education and research. One of the world's finest law schools, we continue to provide our students with innovative, challenging and research-driven education. Our research contributes not only to the legal profession, but also to business, governance, public policy, NGOs, and the arts, as well as to the discipline of law per se. Located in the country's first civic university, we are a global, diverse and civic law school committed to excellence in all of our endeavours. We provide an expansive range of programmes, for undergraduate and postgraduate taught masters and doctoral studies and employ a range of approaches in our teaching and our research, from the theoretical and doctrinal to the empirical and applied. Our research is recognised on a global stage, and our academics are frequent participants in legal debates and contribute to the policy-making process. We provide students with more than just a degree, and enable them to develop the skills required to enhance their employability. It features in Top 10 in the UK for research quality according to the Research Excellence Framework 2021 (REF2021). According to the recent Times Higher Education's World University Rankings 2023 the Birmingham Law School is in the Top 75 of world Law Schools.

Important dates:

Last date for submission of abstracts: **16th January 2024**

Date for result of selected abstracts: **19th January 2024**

Last date of Registration for selected participants and attendees: **9th February 2024**

Submission of Draft Papers by selected participants: **9th February 2024**

Registration fees:

Students, Research Scholars- Rs 500 for Indian; 10 USD for SAARC Nationals and 15 USD for Other Country Participants

Professionals - Rs 1000 for Indian; 10 USD for SAARC Countries and 15 USD for Other Country Participants

Submission Guidelines:

Abstract Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts should not be more than 300 words.
- There can be a maximum of one co-author in one submission. Each author must register separately for the conference.

Draft Paper Submission Guidelines-

- The research paper must be original and unpublished work of the author(s).
- The font of the text should be Times New Roman, font size 12, line spacing 1.5, justified alignment (except the title and 'abstract' caption which should be centrally aligned). All pages shall be numbered. The footnotes must be typewritten in the font Times New Roman, font size 10, line spacing 1.0 and justified alignment. The word-limit of the draft paper inclusive of footnotes should be between 5000 - 7000 words.
- All entries should be submitted electronically in .doc or .docx format. All manuscripts must be accompanied by: A cover letter with the name(s) of author(s), designation, institution/affiliation, the title of the manuscript and contact

information (correspondence address, email id, phone number.)

- After the conference, selected papers will be published by Palgrave Macmillan Publishers. Authors will be informed well in advance about the same and the manuscript has to be prepared accordingly.
- Mode of Citation: All citations shall be placed in footnotes. OSCOLA standard style of citation may be followed.

Email Address- the abstracts and the draft Papers should be submitted to the following email address:
vsl.events@vitap.ac.in

Registration Link - The registration fees should be paid using the following link:

<https://vtop1.vitap.ac.in/ICCL/Conferenceinitial>

Organising Committee:

Prof. Paul McConnell, Birmingham School of Law, University of Birmingham

Dr. Benarji Chakka, VIT-AP School of Law, VIT-AP University

Dr. Ananthu S. Hari, VIT-AP School of Law, VIT-AP University

Dr. Sudhir Verma, VIT-AP School of Law, VIT-AP University

Prof. Avin Tiwari, VIT-AP School of Law, VIT-AP University

Prof. Riti Naik, VIT-AP School of Law, VIT-AP University

Knowledge Partner - Law Mantra Trust

