



REVA
UNIVERSITY

Bengaluru, India

School of Legal Studies

NEWSLETTER

July 2023

Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy (CHRLP)
School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru, India
&
Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement (CISA),
School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru, India

Welcome to the July 2023 Newsletter



As this academic year draws to a close, I write to thank all the student members and of course the faculty coordinators of our two research centres, the Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy and the Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement for their hard work over the last year. To the fabulous School of Legal Studies students, well done for seizing the many opportunities offered to you by our research centres: organizing two international e-conferences, attending webinars, submitting reports to United Nations Treaty Bodies and engaging with international academics.

This first joint edition of the newsletter from the Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy and the Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement is a shining example of how the School of Legal Studies has grown considerably in the last year in terms of research and collaboration. I am particularly looking forward to the events in the upcoming academic year that will further motivate the students to excel in law school. I know you are all looking forward to the summer break. I encourage you to use this time to relax and recharge. You have earned it! However, I also encourage you to stay engaged with the law and the activities of the law school.

Prof. (Dr.) Bharathi S.

Director

School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru, India

Joint message from faculty co-ordinators of CHRLP and CISA



Both CHRLP and CISA hope to equip a new generation of leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect and promote rights for all. Reflecting a deep commitment to research, the Centres aim towards collaborating with partners across REVA University and beyond on innovative programs and activities that foster critical inquiry in the classroom and in the world.

As this eventful year winds down, the Centres gladly share with you some of the highlights over the last academic year. We have been busy! The Centres organised two international e-conference, hosted an international webinar, engaged in policy work and built international networks.

All this would, quite evidently, not have been possible without the support and encouragement of Prof. (Dr.) Bharathi S., Director, School of Legal Studies, REVA University and the dedicated, energetic and talented student members of both Centres. Warm and sincere thanks and admiration! We use this opportunity to also thank all the faculty members and administrative staff at the School of Legal Studies for walking alongside us during this academic year. Much appreciation!

Dr. Amit Anand

Assistant Professor | School of Legal Studies

Faculty Co-ordinator, Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy and
Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement,
School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru

Ms. Akanksha Madaan

Assistant Professor | School of Legal Studies

Faculty Co-ordinator, Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy and
Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement,
School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru

About the Centres:

1. Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy (CHRLP)

The Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy (CHRLP) aims of conducting interdisciplinary research in the contemporary issues of human rights and provide input to governmental and non-governmental organizations in eradicating human rights violations in India as well as at global level. The Centre focuses on contextualizing violence and discrimination as human rights violations by conceptualizing diverse occurrences, laws, policies, and procedures that address or lead to human rights violations. The goal of the Centre is to comprehend the nature, dynamics, and varied dimensions of human rights violations at both the theoretical and empirical levels, with a holistic policy implications viewpoint. The Centre is also concerned with assisting and persuading legislatures and governments to establish appropriate laws and policies to protect human rights.

2. Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement (CISA)

The Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement (CISA) aims of conducting interdisciplinary research in the contemporary issues of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and provide input to governmental and non-governmental organizations in developing IPR in India as well as at global level. The goal of the Centre is to comprehend the nature, dynamics, and varied domains of contemporary issues of IPR at both theoretical and empirical levels, with a holistic policy implications viewpoint. Moreover, the Centre is also concerned with assisting and persuading legislatures and governments to establish appropriate laws and policies to protect IPR.

Activities/Achievements in the Academic Year 2022-2023

1. International E-Conference on 'Law and Society' organized by Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy, School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru, India in collaboration with The Staffordshire Law School, The School of Justice, Security and Sustainability Staffordshire University, United Kingdom [02 December 2022 via MS Teams].

The Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy at the School of Legal Studies, REVA University organized an International E-Conference on 'Law and Society' in collaboration with The Staffordshire Law School, The School of Justice, Security and Sustainability Staffordshire University, United Kingdom on December 02, 2022.

The international e-conference brought together researchers and academics from around the world to take forward the discourse on 'Law and Society' from a legal perspective highlighting among other things some of the core social challenges

pertaining to the protection of basic human rights around the world. *The international e-conference received 80 papers from participants from 15 different nationalities making the conference a first of its kind for the School of Legal Studies.* The entire conference organizing committee (including the conference convenors Dr. Samantha Spence, Ms. Amlanika Bora, and Dr. Amit Anand) with the support of Prof. (Dr.) Bharathi S, Director, School of Legal Studies, and the higher administration at REVA University were successful in putting together an international conference of a huge magnitude and welcomed both national and international participants for an edifying and transformative day of discussion.

The conference organizing committee by choosing the theme of 'Law and Society' were successful in bringing forth a fruitful day of discussion that debated the nexus between law and society bearing in mind the tenets of international human rights law and also provided an opportunity to the participants to not only study the structural inequalities prevalent in varied spheres of human life but also look for solutions that can help create a strong mechanism to enforce socio-economic rights and better assess the feasibility of government policies on the grounds of social justice.



2. Submission of written contribution for the purpose of the half-day of general discussion to prepare the elaboration by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women of a General Recommendation on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems

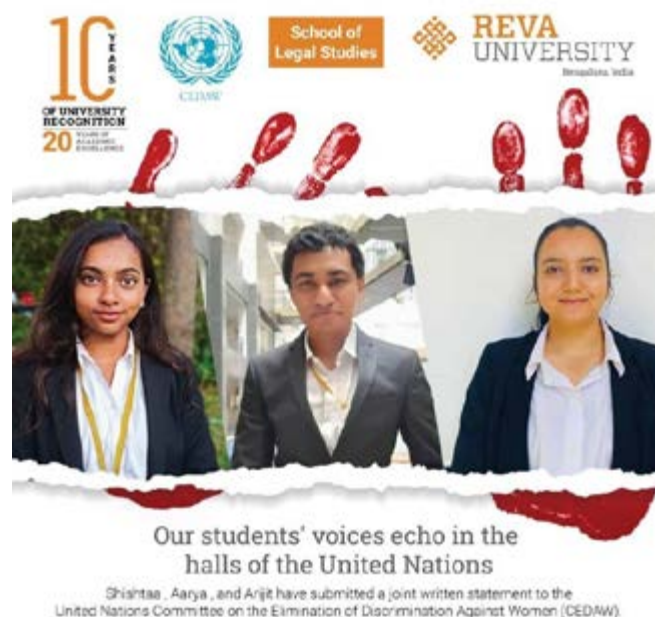
Aarya R Krishnan, Shishta Pareek and Arijit Udhoy Chowdhury student core committee members for the Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy, School of Legal

Studies, REVA University submitted written inputs to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women highlighting '*Failure of the government to take specific measures to remove physical, social and economic barriers that impede women's representation and participation*' as one of the many structural challenges that result in the skewed political participation of women in India.

The written contribution highlighted that:

The socio-cultural barriers that women negotiate within families and in public life need to be changed. Awareness about the importance of equal participation of women in the development of the nation is required through educational institutions, religious, social and political leaders, civil society organisations, etc. More importantly, the Draft National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2016 needs to be finalized and implemented particularly,

- Establishing mechanisms to promote women's presence in all the three branches of the government including the legislature, executive and judiciary. To ensure women's participation in the political arena at all levels of local governments, state legislations and national parliament there is an urgent need to ensure at least 50% reservation for women in local bodies and 33% in state assemblies and parliament to provide more responsive, equitable and participatory development.
- In order to achieve women's full participation and representation at all levels, there is a need to maintain gender disaggregated data to track and assess progress, or serious inconsistencies including the ones resulting from the intersection of caste, class, gender and stereotypical gender roles.



3. Dr. Amit Anand, Assistant Professor, School of Legal Studies, REVA University presented an oral statement to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on “Equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems” for the half-day general discussion on 22 February 2023.



4. Submission of written contribution for the purpose of the half-day of general discussion to prepare the elaboration by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women of a General Recommendation on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems

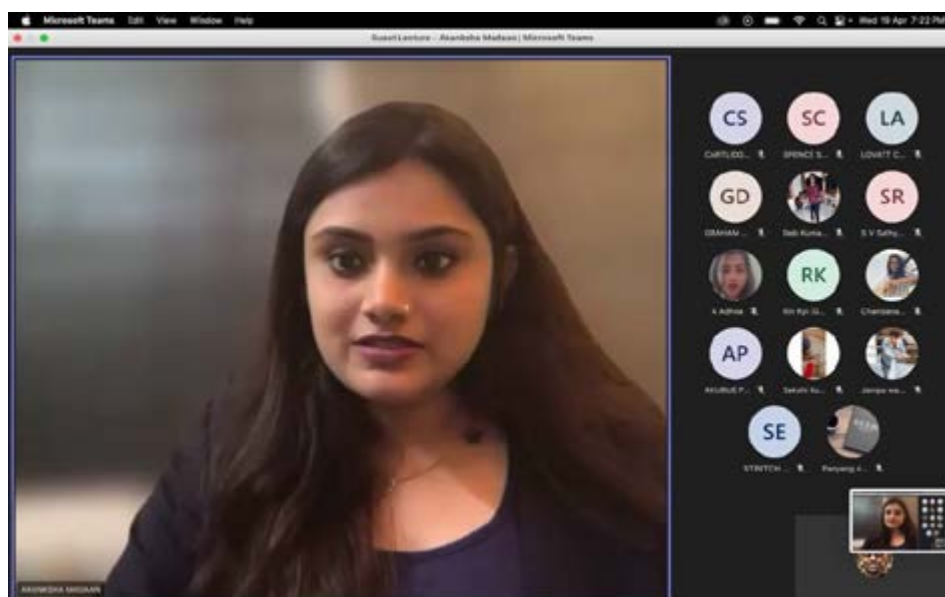
Dr. Amit Anand and Ms. Akanksha Madaan jointly submitted inputs to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women highlighting some of the structural challenges that result in the skewed political participation of women in India. The written contribution focused on the following points:

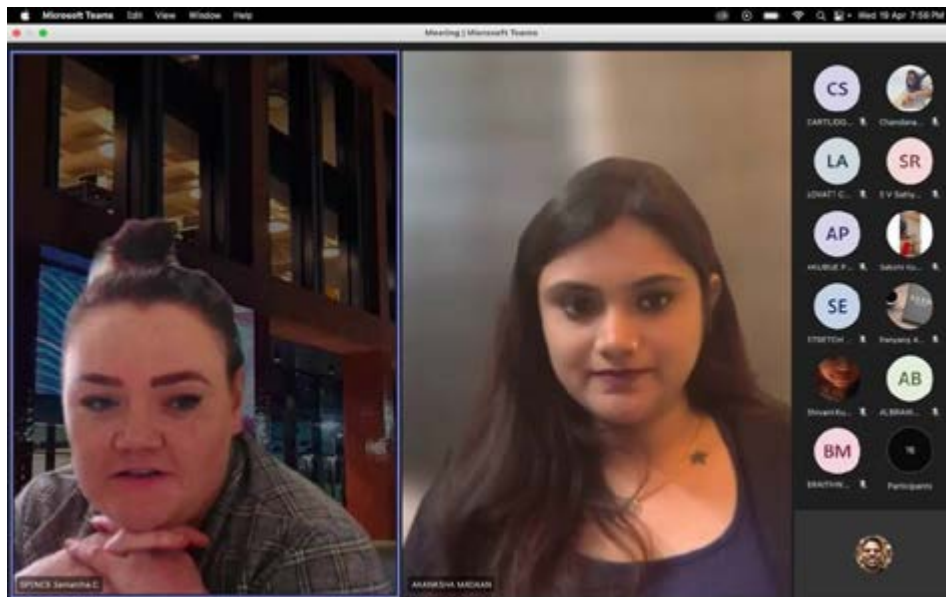
- Failure to recognize gender equality issues as politically significant.
- Under-representation of women in existing government policy making bodies, especially those that have always been male dominated, for example the areas of formulation of economic policies, defence, foreign affairs.
- The absence of women-friendly environment in the electoral system in India due to the failure of the government to amend the Constitution to ensure adequate representation to women in Parliament and State Legislatures.
- Failure of the government to take specific measures to remove physical, social and economic barriers that impede women's representation and participation.

5. Dr. Amit Anand, Assistant Professor, School of Legal Studies, REVA University presented an oral statement to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under the topic “Impacts and challenges faced by persons with disabilities in situations of risk & the role of state and non-state actors in addressing them” during the Day of General Discussion (DGD) on article 11 of the CRPD on 7 March 2023.



6. Ms. Akanksha Madaan, Assistant Professor, School of Legal Studies, REVA University was invited by The Staffordshire Law School, The School of Justice, Security and Sustainability Staffordshire University, United Kingdom to deliver a guest lecture on 'Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights' on 19 April 2023.





7. Dr. Amit Anand, Assistant Professor, School of Legal Studies, REVA University was invited by The Staffordshire Law School, The School of Justice, Security and Sustainability Staffordshire University, United Kingdom to present a part of his ongoing research on Violence Against Women and Girls at the Centre for Crime, Justice and Security (CCJS)'s Public Seminar Series, Staffordshire University, United Kingdom on 26 April 2023.



8. International E-Conference on 'Harmful Practices Related to Accusations of Witchcraft and Ritual Attacks: Challenges for Marginalized Groups' organized by Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy, School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru, India in collaboration with The Staffordshire Law School, The School of Justice, Security and Sustainability, Staffordshire University, United Kingdom and The Department of Languages & Cultures, Lancaster University, United Kingdom [15-16 May 2023 via MS Teams].

Following the huge success of the International E-Conference on 'Law and Society' in December 2022, the School of Legal Studies through the Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy embarked upon further engaging with international academic staff and researchers by holding an international e-conference in May 2023.

The international e-conference in May 2023 focused on the challenges faced by marginalized groups who can be most vulnerable to harmful practices. It offered a space for researchers and practitioners to engage in inclusive interdisciplinary dialogues about the many facets of harmful practices resulting from the belief in witchcraft and ritual attacks that often target these groups and other vulnerable individuals. The international e-conference brought together researchers and academics from around the world to take forward the discourse on 'Harmful Practices Related to Accusations of Witchcraft and Ritual Attacks: Challenges for Marginalized Groups' from an interdisciplinary perspective. *The international e-conference received 60 papers from participants from 10 different nationalities making the conference a grand success for the School of Legal Studies.* The entire conference organizing committee (including the conference convenors Dr. Samantha Spence, Dr. Charlotte Baker, Dr. Amit Anand, and Ms. Akanksha Madaan) with the support of Prof. (Dr.) Bharathi S, Director, School of Legal Studies, and the higher administration at REVA University were successful in putting together an international conference of a huge magnitude and welcomed both national and international participants for an edifying and transformative day of discussion.



9. International Webinar on 'Australian Child Maltreatment Study (ACMS)' organized by Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy, School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru, India [23 May 2023 via MS Teams].

The Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy at the School of Legal Studies, REVA University organised an international webinar with **Dr. Divna Haslam, Clinical Psychologist and Senior Research Fellow, Faculty of Business and Law, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia** focusing on the recent Australian Child Maltreatment Study (ACMS) data. This event took place on 23 May 2023.

The webinar was attended by over 150 participants from all over the country. The webinar focused on The Australian Child Maltreatment Study (ACMS) which is a landmark Australian study of the prevalence of child maltreatment that essentially generated data on five types of child maltreatment (physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, and exposure to domestic violence).

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REVA
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Centre for Human Rights Law and Policy, School of Legal Studies

Organises a Webinar on

Australian Child Maltreatment Study (ACMS)



Distinguished Speaker

Dr. Divna Haslam

Clinical Psychologist and Senior Research Fellow, Faculty of Business and Law, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

23rd May, 2023

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

MS Teams

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/dYRhc2yPa64ab4Sj7>

www.reva.edu.in

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WEBINAR - Australian Child Maltreatment Study (ACMS) | Microsoft Teams

Participants

Type a name

Projectors (76)

Dr. Amit Anand
Organizer

AARYA R KRISHNAN
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Aditi Singh

Akanksha Madan
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On Behalf of the ACMS team

Prof Ben Matthews
(QUT)

Prof Rosana Pacella
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Prof James Scott
(QIMR Berghofer, QCMH-R, UQ)

Prof David Finkelhor
(University of New Hampshire)

Assoc Prof Franziska Meinck
(University of Edinburgh)

Prof Daryl Higgins
(ACU)

Assoc Prof Holly Erskine
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Dr Hannah Thomas
(UQ)

Prof David Lawrence
(Curtin University)

Prof Michael Dunne
(QUT)

Dr Divna Haslam
(Project Manager, QUT)

Dr Eva Malacova
(Statistician, QIMR Berghofer)

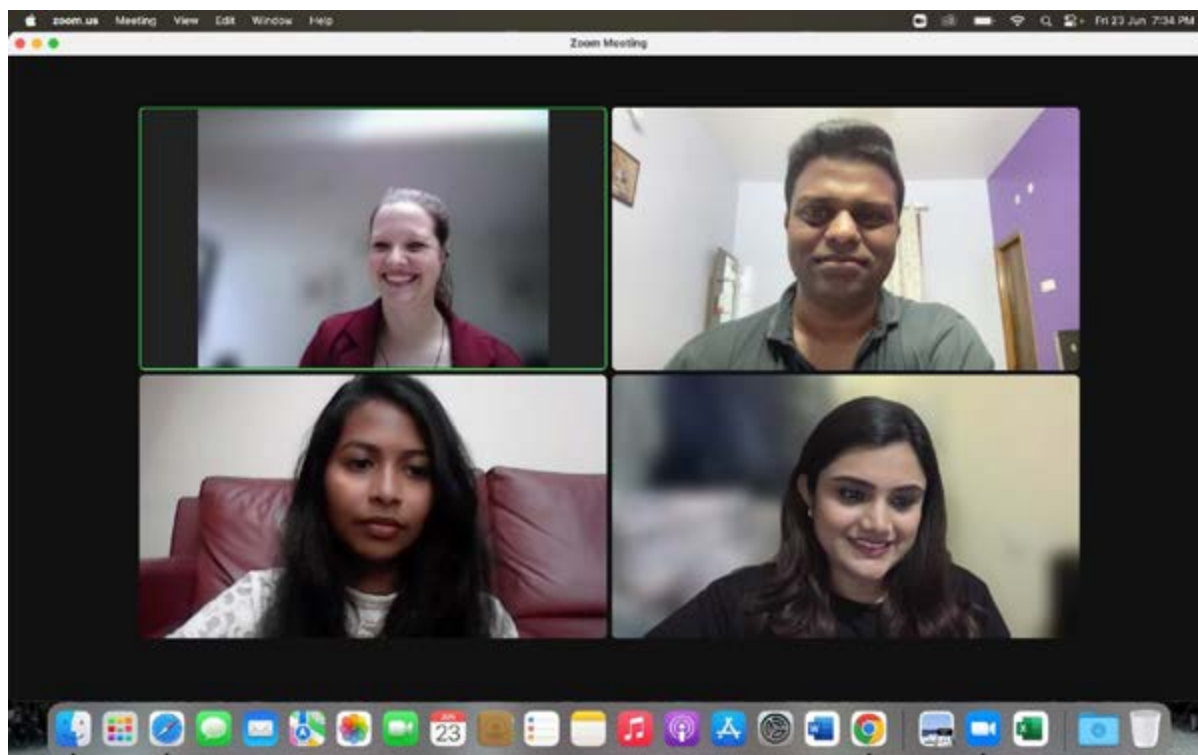
ACMS

Divna Haslam

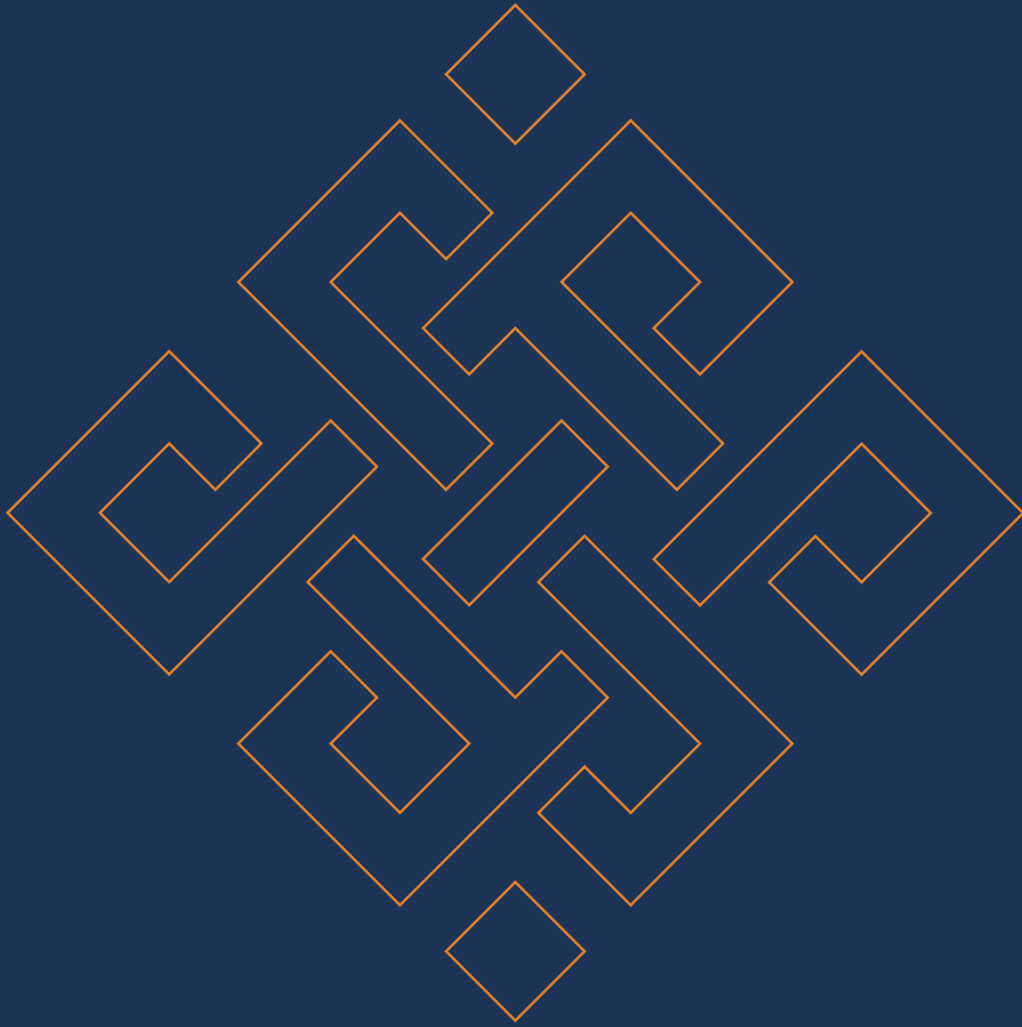
Activities Planned in the Academic Year 2023-2024

Going forward the two Centres at the School of Legal Studies are aiming at initiating research independently and with others - at national, regional and international levels. In this regard, the Centres are in the process of forging a relationship with The Hume Institute for Postgraduate Studies (Hume) which is a higher education institution based in the Canton of Vaud, Lausanne, Switzerland. A vital step in this direction is taken by the Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Strategy and Advancement (CISA) in holding an International Essay Writing Competition in Summer 2023. CISA is also aiming to establish itself as a vital contributor to enhancing the research output for the School of Legal Studies in the months to come through executive courses and training programmes in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.

Further, the Centres are also aiming to organize an international conference in late 2023 which builds upon the knowledge gained from the past two international conferences.



For more information please write to us at:
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