



CENTRE FOR POLICIES, LAWS AND AGENDA AT NUSRL, RANCHI

PRESENTS

3RD LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING & PRESENTATION COMPETITION, 2026

**GOVERNING ALGORITHMIC PLATFORMS:
PROTECTING YOUTH BEHAVIOUR AND DIGITAL
WELL-BEING**

RULE BOOK



Preliminary

1. SHORT TITLE AND OBJECTIVE

1. These Rules may be called the *3rd Legislative Drafting and Presentation Competition Rules*.
2. These rules shall regulate the conduct, participation, submission, and evaluation of entries in the *3rd Legislative Drafting and Presentation Competition, 2026*, being organised by the Centre for Policies, Laws and Agenda CPLAN at the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, and provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

2. DEFINITIONS

In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) “*Competition*” means the *3rd Legislative Drafting and Presentation Competition, 2026*, being organised by Centre for Policies, Laws and Agenda (CPLAN) at the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi;
- (b) “*Participant*” means any individual or team duly registered for the Competition;
- (c) “*Organising Committee*” means the body responsible for conducting and administering the Competition;
- (d) “*Submission*” means the legislative policy draft submitted by the Participant in accordance with these Rules;
- (e) “*Team Code*” means the identification code assigned to each Participant or team by the Organising Committee.
- (f) “*University*” means the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi.
- (g) “*Team*” shall mean the individual participant or the team of two participants.

3. MODE OF CONDUCT

1. The Competition shall be conducted in a hybrid mode, as determined by the Organising Committee.
2. The competition shall be conducted in two phases. In Phase I, all the participants shall have to submit a legislative policy draft online as per the rules provided in this rule book, which shall be scrutinised by the organising committee. In Phase II, the selected 10 teams will present their policy at the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, in offline mode.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION

1. The Competition shall be open to all students pursuing any degree from a recognised college or university.
2. There shall be no restriction on the number of Participants from a single institution.
3. Participation may be either: (a) individual; or (b) in teams not exceeding two members.
4. Registration shall be completed through [Google Forms](#).

5. REGISTRATION FEE

1. A registration fee shall be payable as follows:
 - (a) ₹350 for individual participation;
 - (b) ₹700 for team participation (up to two members).
2. No registration shall be deemed valid without payment of the prescribed fee.
3. Those participants who will qualify for Phase I will have to pay an additional accommodation amount of Rs. 1500 per person.

6. IMPORTANT DATES

1. The following shall be the dates for the competition:
 - (a) Opening of registrations and release of problem statement: April 13, 2026;
 - (b) Last date of registration: April 25, 2026;
 - (c) Last date for seeking clarifications: April 31st, 2026;
 - (d) Last date of submission: May 13, 2026;
 - (e) Declaration of results of Phase I; May 20, 2026;
 - (f) Dates for Phase II presentations: May 30, 2026;
2. No request for extension of any date will be considered.
3. These dates are tentative and are subject to change at the discretion of the organising committee.

7. AWARDS AND PRIZES

1. All Participants shall be awarded a Certificate of Participation.
2. All participants selected for Phase II shall be awarded a certificate of Merit.
3. The best five submissions shall be published on CPLAN NUSRL's Website (<http://www.cplan.in/>).

4. The following awards shall be conferred:
 - (a) Winner: Trophy, ₹10,000 and Certificate of Merit;
 - (b) First Runner-Up: Trophy, ₹7500 and Certificate of Merit;
 - (c) Second Runner-Up: Trophy, ₹6000 and Certificate of Merit.

Submissions

8. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Every Submission shall be made in electronic format, strictly in *.doc* or *.docx* format.
2. Every Submission shall be titled as “Submission for Legislation Policy Drafting Competition (TC)” along with the assigned Team Code.
3. Submission beyond the deadline shall carry a penalty of 2 marks per hour for the first 12 hours. No Submission shall be accepted after the prescribed deadline.
4. No Submission shall contain any mark, symbol, or identifier that may disclose the identity of the Participant. Failure to comply shall invite a penalty of 10 marks.
5. The submission shall be made through [Google Forms](#).

9. ORIGINALITY AND USE OF TECHNOLOGY

1. Every Submission shall be the original work of the Participant. Plagiarism must be 10 per cent or below and must adhere to the University Grants Commission (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018.
2. The use of artificial intelligence tools or any form of automated content generation is strictly prohibited. However, use of such tools shall be allowed to the extent of 20 per cent.
3. Plagiarism and the use of Artificial Intelligence tools shall be determined through the software Turnitin. Calculation of plagiarism shall exclude footnotes and quoted text.
4. Any violation of this provision shall result in disqualification.

10. RIGHTS OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

1. Upon submission, all rights in the policy drafts shall vest with the Organising Committee.

2. The Organising Committee shall have the sole authority to use, publish, or modify the Submissions.

11. THEMATIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Every Submission shall strictly adhere to the theme and focus areas specified by the Organising Committee.
2. Submissions not aligned with the prescribed theme shall be liable to rejection.

12. MARKING CRITERIA FOR SUBMISSIONS

1. Submissions shall carry a total of 100 marks and shall be marked per the following criteria:

Criteria	Marks	Parameter
Addressing Youth-Centric Digital Harms	25	Depth of understanding of behavioural harms (addiction, reduced attention span, mental health impacts); ability to distinguish and regulate design-based harms (infinite scroll, autoplay) and content-based harms (misinformation, polarisation); effectiveness of safeguards tailored specifically for children and young users
Algorithmic Governance & Design Regulation	20	Strength and clarity of proposed mechanisms such as Algorithmic Accountability Standards (AAS), Ethical Interface Design Norms (EIDN), and transparency/audit frameworks; feasibility of regulating recommendation systems without overreach; treatment of dark patterns and manipulative design
Balancing Innovation, Economy & Regulation	15	Ability to preserve the creator economy, digital entrepreneurship, and AI innovation while introducing safeguards, proportionality of regulation, and avoidance of excessive compliance burdens on platforms, especially startups and global intermediaries
Institutional Mechanisms &	15	Design of governance structure combining state regulation, platform self-regulation, and industry codes; clarity of roles for regulators, platforms, and

Co-Regulatory Model		oversight bodies; effectiveness of grievance redressal and enforcement mechanisms
User Autonomy, Data Rights & Fairness	10	Protection of user autonomy through informed consent, data responsibility, and control over algorithms; addressing issues of algorithmic bias, unfair monetisation, and unequal opportunities for creators; incorporation of fairness and transparency principles
Multi-Stakeholder Ecosystem & Social Integration	10	Inclusion of parents, educational institutions, civil society, and youth in governance; promotion of digital literacy and behavioural awareness; mechanisms for continuous stakeholder participation in evolving digital norms
Feasibility & Implementation Strategy	5	Practicality of rollout (phased implementation, cost considerations, enforceability); adaptability to India's socio-economic and technological realities; reliance on evidence, behavioural research, and comparative regulatory models

2. Plagiarism beyond the limit of 10 per cent shall invite a penalty of 5 marks, and beyond 15 per cent will invite an additional penalty of 10 marks. Submissions containing plagiarism beyond 20 per cent shall be summarily rejected.
3. AI writing beyond the limit of 20 per cent shall invite a penalty of 5 marks, and beyond 30 per cent will invite an additional penalty of 10 marks. Submissions containing AI beyond 40 per cent shall be summarily rejected.
4. Non-compliance with the rules contained shall invite a penalty at the discretion of the organising committee to the extent of 20 marks.

13. FORMAT AND PRESENTATION

1. All Submissions shall be in the English language.
2. The length of the Submission shall not exceed Thirty-Five Pages, excluding references. It must not exceed 7000 Words.
3. The formatting requirements shall be as follows:

- (a) Font: Times New Roman or any standard font;
- (b) Font Size: 12;
- (c) Line Spacing: 1.5;
- (d) Alignment: Justified.

4. In addition to references, the sources must be cited in footnotes and must uniformly follow Bluebook 21st Edition.

14. STRUCTURE OF SUBMISSION

Every Submission shall mandatorily include the following components:

- (a) Cover Page;
- (b) Table of Contents;
- (c) Executive Summary;
- (d) Summary of the Policy Proposal;
- (e) Policy Proposal Content;
- (f) Policy Objectives;
- (g) Literature Review and Background;
- (h) Detailed Policy Proposal;
- (i) Policy Components;
- (j) Implementation Plan;
- (k) Feasibility and Cost-Benefit Analysis;
- (l) Stakeholder Consultation/Engagement;
- (m) Ethical Considerations;
- (n) Public Support and Communication;
- (o) Way Forward/Conclusion;

15. COVER PAGE REQUIREMENTS

The Cover Page shall contain:

- (a) Title of the Policy Proposal;

- (b) Team Code assigned by the Organising Committee;
- (c) Any logo or design element, at the discretion of the Participants.

Presentation of the Policy

16. PRESENTATION OF POLICY

1. The ten (10) teams qualifying for Phase I of the Competition shall be required to present their respective policy proposals in an offline mode before the designated panel.
2. In the case of a team consisting of two members, it is sufficient that one member is present to present the policy offline.
3. All such teams shall mandatorily submit their presentation in both .pptx and .pdf formats no later than one (1) day before the scheduled date of presentation, in the manner as may be prescribed by the organising committee.
4. No team shall reveal their personal identity or institutional affiliation in the submitted document or at any time during the presentation.

17. TIME-FRAME AND FORMAT

1. Each team shall be allotted a total duration of twenty (20) minutes for the presentation of its policy before the panel. The panel may, at its discretion, grant additional time where deemed necessary.
2. An additional period of five (5) minutes shall be allocated for a question-and-answer session, during which the panel may seek clarifications from the presenting team.

18. MARKING CRITERIA

Each team shall be marked on the following criteria in phase II:

Criteria	Marks	Parameter
Clarity of Individual Understanding	25	Demonstrates clear grasp of the team’s policy; ability to explain assigned components independently; depth of conceptual clarity on key issues (AI systems, platform design, user harms)
Articulation & Communication Skills	20	Clarity, coherence, and fluency in speech; ability to simplify complex ideas; structured and logical delivery
Analytical Ability	20	Ability to justify policy choices; critical engagement with issues; demonstrates reasoning rather than mere description

Responsiveness in Q&A	15	Accuracy, confidence, and depth in answering questions; ability to think on one's feet; handling cross-questions and critiques
Engagement & Persuasiveness	10	Ability to engage the panel; persuasive presentation style; clarity in conveying the importance and impact of proposals
Time Management	5	Adherence to allotted time; balanced distribution among members; effective pacing
Professionalism & Demeanour	5	Confidence, body language, formal conduct, and overall presentation etiquette

19. FINAL RESULTS

1. While calculating the final results, 50 per cent weightage shall be given to the score of the policy in Phase I and 50 per cent weightage shall be given to the score obtained in the presentation in Phase II.
2. The decision, as to results, shall be binding.

Miscellaneous

20. CLARIFICATIONS

1. Clarification (if any) can be emailed to cplan@nuslranchi.ac.in.

21. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Students of the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, are barred from participating in the competition.
2. Any team being disqualified from participating in the competition in contravention of these rules shall not be entitled to a refund of registration fees.
3. The decision of the Organising Committee shall be final and binding in all matters relating to the Competition.
4. The organising committee shall be at its discretion to amend these rules at any time.
5. The Organising Committee shall determine any matter not expressly provided for in these rules.