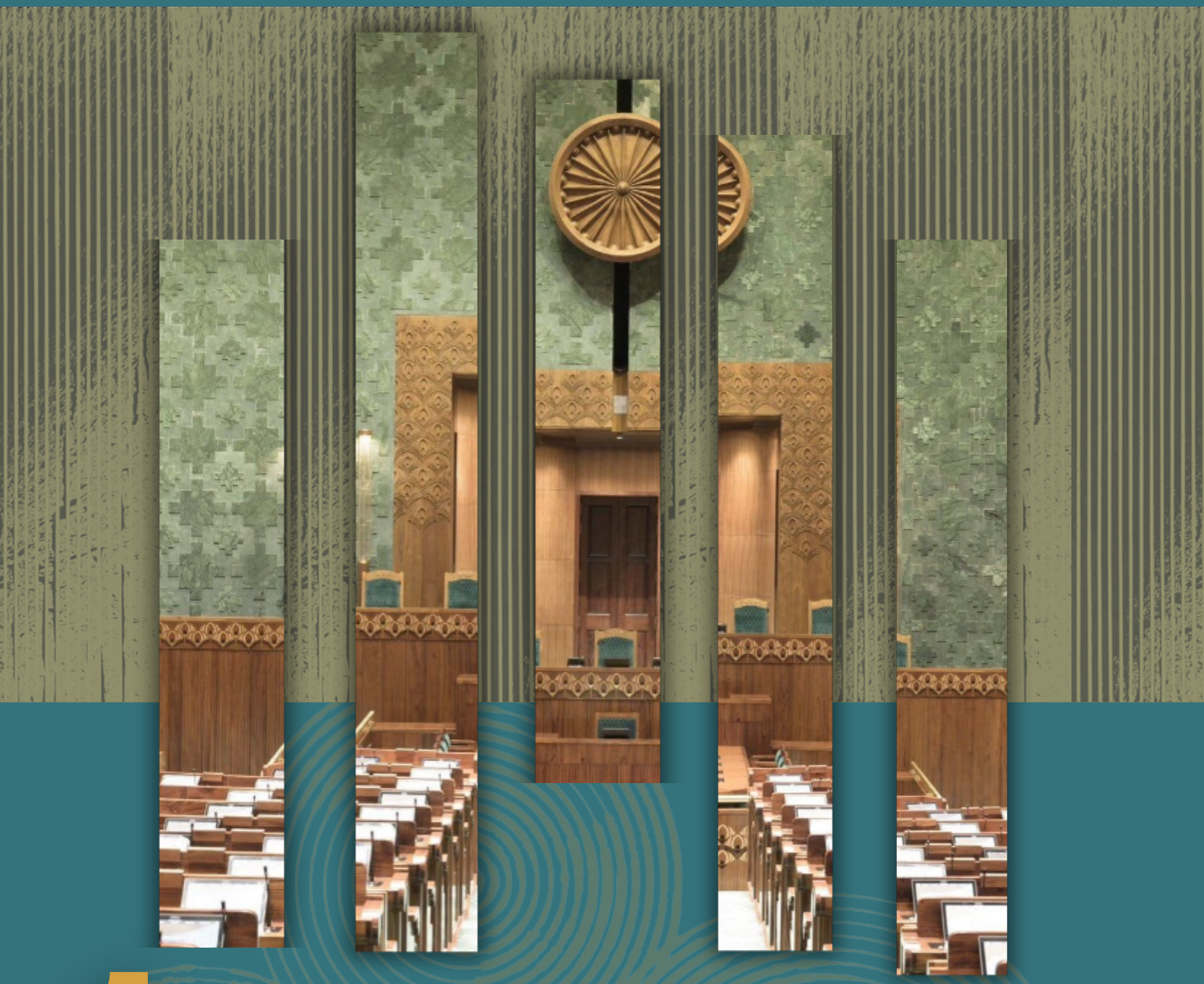
Brochure & Rulebook



1st NLIU-Saikrishna & Associates

IP Blog Writing Competition

About NLIU Bhopal

The National Law Institute University (NLIU), Bhopal, established in 1997, is one of India's premier institutions for legal education and research. Recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Bar Council of India (BCI), NLIU shapes legal minds through an interdisciplinary and innovative approach.

NLIU's curriculum and research initiatives connect traditional legal principles with contemporary challenges. In an era of rapid innovation and digital transformation, the University has placed intellectual property at the centre of its research agenda, giving students and researchers a platform to engage with evolving legal frameworks and the policy questions that technology raises.



About CSIPR, NLIU Bhopal

The Cell for Studies in Intellectual Property Rights (CSIPR) is a dedicated student body of the National Law Institute University, Bhopal, set up to promote and develop knowledge in Intellectual Property Rights. It works under the guidance of **Prof. (Dr.) Ghayur Alam, Faculty In-Charge, CSIPR**.

CSIPR publishes the annual *NLIU Journal of Intellectual Property Law*, launched in 2012, and runs the CSIPR Blog, which publishes double-blind peer-reviewed posts on contemporary IP and technology law issues. It also organises national events in partnership with leading IP firms, including the NLIU–Anand & Anand Trademark Opposition Competition and the NLIU–R.K. Dewan Conference on Contemporary Issues in Intellectual Property Law.

Through these initiatives, CSIPR aims to build critical engagement with developments in intellectual property law and to give students a platform to research, write and publish in the field.

About Saikrishna & Associates

Saikrishna & Associates is a Tier-1 full-service law firm founded in 2001 by Saikrishna Rajagopal, with its principal office in Noida and an office in New Delhi. The firm is built around strong Intellectual Property, Technology, Media & Telecommunications (TMT), Corporate and Competition Law practices.

Widely regarded as one of India's leading IP firms, it is especially known for its copyright and media practice and for IP litigation. Its dispute resolution, prosecution and enforcement teams work alongside its commercial IP, TMT, corporate and competition teams, serving clients across media and entertainment, telecommunications and electronics, pharmaceuticals, FMCG and retail, automotive and other sectors.

As **Title Partner** of this competition, Saikrishna & Associates will evaluate the final round and offer internships to authors.

About the Competition

The Cell for Studies in Intellectual Property Rights (CSIPR), National Law Institute University, Bhopal, in collaboration with Saikrishna & Associates, is pleased to announce the **1st NLIU – Saikrishna & Associates IP Blog Writing Competition, 2026**.

Intellectual property law is changing faster than ever. Generative AI is testing the limits of authorship, platforms are reshaping how brands and content are protected, and questions of access, traditional knowledge and global governance remain unsettled. This competition invites participants to engage with these developments through sharp, well-researched and accessible writing.

The blog format is deliberate. Participants are expected to go beyond describing the law and to take a clear, reasoned position on a contemporary IP issue, in language a wider audience can follow.

The competition aims to:

- foster critical research and original thinking on emerging IP issues;
- develop participants' legal research, analysis and writing skills;
- make complex IP questions accessible to readers beyond specialists; and
- connect students with practitioners through recognition, publication and internship opportunities.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE	WHAT WE SEEK
Law students (UG/PG) Research scholars Professionals	Critical analysis · Research Originality · Clarity

Theme

"Contemporary Issues in Intellectual Property Law"

Sub-Themes

(indicative, not exhaustive)

1. Generative AI, Authorship and Copyright
2. AI-Assisted Inventions and the Limits of Patentability
3. Copyright, Streaming and Digital Piracy (including dynamic and website-blocking injunctions)
4. Broadcasting, Media and Sports Rights in the Digital Age
5. Trademarks, Passing Off and Brand Protection in Digital Markets
6. Personality Rights, Deepfakes and the Protection of Celebrity Identity
7. Standard Essential Patents and FRAND Licensing
8. Intellectual Property, Public Health and Access to Medicines
9. Traditional Knowledge, Geographical Indications and Community Rights
10. Intermediary Liability and IP Enforcement Online
11. Intellectual Property and Competition Law
12. Global IP Governance and Emerging Challenges

Participants may write on any other contemporary issue within the broader scope of intellectual property law, provided it is clearly connected to the theme.

Eligibility & Authorship

1. The competition is open to students currently enrolled in undergraduate (3-year and 5-year LL.B.) and postgraduate (LL.M.) law programmes at any recognised university or college in India. Research scholars and students of allied disciplines are also eligible.
2. Entries may be submitted by a single author or by two co-authors. No more than two authors are permitted per entry.
3. Co-authors may belong to different institutions.
4. Multiple submissions are allowed per author.
5. Students of NLIU Bhopal are eligible to participate.
6. Participants must provide a valid institutional ID or bonafide certificate on request. Entries from ineligible participants will be disqualified at any stage.

Important Dates

All deadlines are at **11:59 PM IST** on the date stated.

5TH NOVEMBER 2026

Release of brochure and commencement of registration

Release of Call for Blogs

22ND NOVEMBER 2026

Last date of Registration

29TH NOVEMBER 2026

Last date of Submission

14th December 2026

Declaration of results

JAN 2027

Publication of top entries

The organisers may revise these dates. Any change will be announced on the CSIPR website and official social media handles.

Registration & Fee

1. Registration shall be done through the registration Google Form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScVCO69Ikr0cbORImcXI7vIK3SDzs_X4BeRDD_CLAhi6OMJfA/viewform?usp=dialog
2. **The submission form will be shared with registered authors via email.** Blogs must be submitted only through that form.
3. Co-authors need to register only once, with details of both authors entered on the same form.
4. Participants must pay the registration fee before filling the form and upload proof of payment (screenshot showing the transaction ID) on the form.
5. No registration shall be valid without payment of the prescribed fee.

CATEGORY	FEE
Single author	**₹400**
Co-authorship (maximum two authors)	**₹600** per entry

PAYMENT DETAILS
Available in the Google Form.

Submission Guidelines

- **Nature of the blog:** Submissions must be analytical, not descriptive. The author should take a clear position on the issue and reach a definite conclusion, supported by legal authority and reasoning.
- **Word limit: 1,200 - 2,000** words, exclusive of endnotes. Entries exceeding the limit by more than 10% may be penalised or disqualified.
- **Title:** Each entry must carry a concise title that reflects its argument. An optional sub-title is permitted.
- **Language:** Submissions must be in English, written in clear, accessible language. Technical concepts should be explained for a non-specialist reader.

- **Anonymity:** The body of the blog, the file name and the document properties must not contain the name, institution or any other identifying detail of the author(s). Any such detail will lead to disqualification.
- **File format:** Submissions must be uploaded in **.docx format and .pdf format**. The file shall be named "[Title of the Blog]".
- **Mode of submission:** Entries must be uploaded through the submission form, which will be shared with registered authors via email.
- **Originality and exclusivity:** The entry must be the original, unpublished work of the author(s) and must not be under consideration for publication or in any other competition.
- **Declaration:** Each author must accept the declaration of originality and consent to publication on the submission form.

Formatting & Citation Guidelines

Formatting

ELEMENT	REQUIREMENT
Main text	Times New Roman, size 12, 1.5 line spacing, justified
Endnotes	Times New Roman, size 10, single line spacing
Margins	1 inch on all sides
Title	Bold, size 14, centred, Title Case
Sub-heading level 1	Bold, left-aligned, Title Case
Sub-heading level 2	Italics, left-aligned, Sentence case
Quotations	Double quotation marks; quotations over 50 words indented as block quotes
Case laws and statutes	Italicised

Citations

1. Sources must, as far as possible, be **hyperlinked** within the text, as is standard for blog writing.
2. Where a reliable online source is not available, **endnotes** may be used.
3. All endnotes must follow the OSCOLA, 4th edition uniformly.
4. Substantive or explanatory endnotes are not permitted; endnotes are only for citing sources.
5. Hyperlinks must lead to authentic, freely accessible sources (official judgments, statutes, government reports, journals) wherever possible.

Originality, Plagiarism & AI Policy

- **Plagiarism:** All entries will be checked using Drillbit / Turnitin. Similarity must not exceed 15%, in line with the *University Grants Commission (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018*. Quoted text, case names and citations are excluded from the calculation.
- **AI-generated content:** AI-generated content must not exceed 10% of the submission. Use of AI tools for research assistance or grammar checking, if any, must be disclosed on the submission form.
- **Citation of sources:** Every source relied upon must be duly cited. Failure to attribute ideas or text will be treated as plagiarism.
- **Fabrication:** Fabricated or falsified cases, data or quotations, including AI-hallucinated authorities, will lead to immediate disqualification and may be reported to the author's institution.
- **Decision:** Entries exceeding these limits will be disqualified. The decision of the organisers on plagiarism and AI usage shall be final.

Evaluation Criteria

Entries will be evaluated in two rounds. A preliminary round by the CSIPR editorial board will short-list the top 15 entries, which will be evaluated in the final round by practitioners from Saikrishna & Associates.

CRITERION	MARKS
Relevance to the theme and contemporaneity of the issue	15
Depth of research and accuracy of legal authorities	20
Quality of analysis and strength of argument	25
Originality and creativity of thought	15
Clarity, structure and readability for a wider audience	15
Language, grammar and adherence to citation and formatting rules	10
Total	**100**

Non-compliance with the word limit or formatting rules may attract deductions of up to 5 marks. The decision of the evaluators shall be final and binding.

Awards & Recognition

WINNER

₹10,000

+ Internship opportunity at Saikrishna & Associates

+ Certificate of Merit

FIRST RUNNER-UP

₹5,000

+ Internship opportunity

+ Certificate of Merit

SECOND RUNNER-UP

₹3,000

+ Certificate of Merit

- **Top 10 entries:** Publication on the CSIPR Blog + Special Mention Certificate
- **All eligible participants:** E-Certificate of Participation

Internships are subject to the firm's availability and terms.

Publication & Copyright

1. The top 10 entries will be published on the CSIPR Blog.
2. Shortlisted authors may be asked to make revisions before publication. Entries whose authors do not complete revisions within the given time may not be published.
3. By submitting, authors grant CSIPR, NLIU Bhopal and Saikrishna & Associates a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to publish, reproduce and distribute the entry, with due credit to the authors.
4. Authors retain moral rights.
5. Opinions expressed in published entries are those of the authors alone and do not reflect the views of CSIPR, NLIU Bhopal or Saikrishna & Associates.

General Rules & Disqualification

1. By registering, participants agree to abide by these rules and the decisions of the organisers.
2. Late entries will not be accepted under any circumstances.
3. An entry once submitted cannot be withdrawn, replaced or edited.
4. Entries will be disqualified for: plagiarism or AI use beyond the permitted limits; any identifying mark in the body or file; exceeding the word limit beyond the permitted margin; submission through any mode other than the submission form; non-payment of the fee; or prior publication or simultaneous submission elsewhere.
5. Any attempt to contact the evaluators or influence the evaluation will lead to disqualification.
6. All queries must be sent to **csipr@nliu.ac.in** with the subject line "Query - NLIU SA IP Blog Writing Competition".
7. Clarifications issued by the organisers shall form part of these rules.
8. The organisers reserve the right to amend, add to or interpret these rules at any time. Their interpretation shall be final and binding.
9. Any matter not covered by these rules shall be decided by the organisers.

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Contact Details & Important Links

All queries must be sent to **csipr@nliu.ac.in** only.

CSIPR Coordinators

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Important Links

Registration form: Google Form *(the submission form will be emailed to registered authors)*

CSIPR website: csipr.nliu.ac.in

Instagram: instagram.com/nliu.csipr

LinkedIn: in.linkedin.com/company/cell-for-studies-in-intellectual-property-rights

Disclaimer

This competition is an academic initiative of the Cell for Studies in Intellectual Property Rights, National Law Institute University, Bhopal, conducted in collaboration with Saikrishna & Associates for educational purposes. Participation does not create any employment, professional or attorney–client relationship with Saikrishna & Associates or NLIU Bhopal, and internship offers remain subject to the firm's own terms. The organisers reserve the right to modify any detail of the competition. Personal data collected through registration will be used only for conducting the competition and will not be shared with third parties without consent, except with Saikrishna & Associates for evaluation and prize purposes.