

**MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION
OF
CONSORTIUM OF NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITIES**
[Registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960
and the rules framed thereunder]

WHEREAS the concept of a national institution to act as a pace-setter and a testing ground for bold experiments in legal education came up before the Bar Council of India (the "**Council**") in the context of the Council's statutory responsibility for maintaining standards in professional legal education under the Advocates Act, 1961, the culmination of efforts by the Judiciary, the Council, the Karnataka Bar Council and the Government of Karnataka to reform legal education and to establish a centre of excellence for legal education and research in India resulted in the establishment of first National Law University in Bangalore in the year 1986.

AND WHEREAS the committee appointed by the Chief Justices Conference on Legal Education and Training (1993) has recommended the establishment in each State of an Institution on the model of the National Law School of India University (the "**NLSIU**") at Bangalore.

AND WHEREAS the All India Law Ministers Conference (1995) has resolved to set up in each State a national law university (the "**NLU**") modelled on the lines of the NLSIU at Bangalore for improving the quality of professional legal education.

AND WHEREAS on the direction issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Varun Bhagat vs. Union of India* [W.P. No. 68 of 2006, decided on 23.11.2007] and due deliberations made by University Grants Commission, Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Government of India and the Council with the first seven (7)NLU, the idea to conduct a combined test for all the then existing NLUs was conceptualised.

AND WHEREAS seven (7) existing NLUs in the year 2008 signed the Memorandum of Understanding dated November 23, 2007 (the "**MOU**") to hold a combined admission test, to be organised by an NLU on rotation basis in the order of seniority.

AND WHEREAS the MOU was amended in November, 2014 at the meeting of the Vice-Chancellors of National Law Universities at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University (the "**RMLNLU**"), Lucknow.

AND WHEREAS keeping in view the need for greater co-operation and co-ordination amongst NLUs to further improve legal education and research in law and allied disciplines, a decision in November 2014 at the meeting of Vice-Chancellors of NLUs at RMLNLU was taken to constitute a Consortium of National Law Universities (the "**Consortium**").

AND WHEREAS the Consortium had its meeting at NLSIU, Bangalore on August 17, 2017 and on October 17, 2018; at National University of Advanced Legal Studies, Kochi in May, 2018 and on October 3, 2018; at Bhubaneswar on November 24, 2018; and at New Delhi on December 3, 2018 and took some decisions to further streamline conduct of Common Law Admission Test (the “CLAT”) and co-ordination and co-operation among NLUs.

AND WHEREAS the Consortium has now resolved to register it as a society under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960, at Bangalore.

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to establish a society *i.e.* Consortium of National Law Universities (the “Society”) for the purpose hereinafter appearing.

AND WHEREAS on the constitution of the Society, and registration thereof, the earlier MOU shall cease to exist, and the Society shall be governed by the bye-laws (the “Bye-Laws”) of the Society.

1. **NAME OF THE SOCIETY:** The name of the society shall be Consortium of National Law Universities.
2. **REGISTERED OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY:** The registered office of the Society shall be in Bengaluru, State of Karnataka and at the following address at the time of registration of the Society:

Consortium of National Law Universities
CLAT Permanent Secretariat
National Law School of India University
Gnana Bharathi Main Road,
Opposite NAAC, Teachers Colony,
Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560072

2a. **JURISDICTION OF SOCIETY** – Area of operation – Karnataka State only

3. **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY:**

A. **The main aims and objectives for which the Society is established are as under:**

- i. To provide the highest standards of legal education to make Indian legal education comparable with the most reputed international institutions of legal education.
- ii. To consider, initiate and promote reforms in legal education and disseminate learning and knowledge of law and legal processes and their role in national development.



- iii. To provide better co-ordination amongst the NLUs and other legal institutions to achieve highest standard of legal education in the country. Further the Consortium recognizes the autonomy of its member institutions and therefore its decisions will need adoption by the member institutions for implementation in such institutions.
- iv. To provide advice to the universities, educational institutions and academicians on teaching and promote innovative curriculum, teaching methods and teaching materials in the field of law and allied disciplines.
- v. To administer, control and monitor the conducting of all India common entrance examination for law i.e. CLAT, for and on behalf of all the participating NLUs, and facilitate admission of students into various NLUs in the country.
- vi. To permit the use of CLAT score by any other institution for admission or appointments or for any other purpose in accordance with the Bye-Laws of the Society.
- vii. To consider and streamline the process of recruitment of teachers of Law Universities and develop skills in research, publication, pedagogy among the law teachers in all the NLUs and the law teachers in other institutions imparting courses in law.
- viii. To promote and disseminate knowledge, create awareness and provide a common forum of interaction amongst the academicians, judges, lawyers, professionals, universities, educational institutions and government agencies.
- ix. To promote and facilitate exchange of faculty as well as students not only amongst the NLUs but also with the foreign law schools and universities.
- x. To promote educational research and facilitate the exchange of information among the universities through sharing of resources.
- xi. To make the benefits of legal education of one or more NLUs available to the rest of the NLUs.
- xii. To provide the necessary support including financial assistance to the NLUs which subscribes to the membership of the Society, in an attempt to streamline legal education and set the highest national standards in education.
- xiii. To undertake and promote research in the field of law and attract students of highest calibre to member NLUs in the country, irrespective of race, creed, caste, sex or religion, and provide



opportunities for their involvement in research activities and projects in the field of law, and to host seminars, lectures and conferences to disseminate the results of such research.

- xiv. To facilitate and enhance the importance of clinical legal education.
- xv. To introduce new courses in various contemporary fields of law such as Law of the Sea, Maritime Laws, Marine Insurance, Air and space Law, Atomic Energy Laws, Security Laws, Laws on Terrorism; International Business Laws, Investment Laws, Displacement and the Laws, WTO and GATS, Laws on Minerals and Mines; International Economic Laws, Competition Laws, Comparative Federalism, Comparative Constitutional Laws, Diversity Law, Religion & Law, Sentencing, Cyber Forensics, Global Administrative Law; Global Rule of Law; Comparative Environmental Laws, Energy Laws, and EU Laws, etc., or in any other subject of law and allied discipline at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- xvi. To encourage inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approach in both the regular and seminar courses.
- xvii. To facilitate research in national, transnational and comparative areas of law.
- xviii. To establish, develop and promote links with similar bodies, organizations, members of the legal profession, nationally and internationally, and provide a focal point in India for scholars in the field of law.
- xix. To evolve uniform policies in terms of admission, courses, semester system, uniform grading system and the like in tune with global standards.
- xx. To promote international collaborations amongst institutions of importance for academic research and related objectives.
- xxi. To attract more and more foreign students and thereby participate in globalizing not only legal education but also develop friendly relations with people from diverse cultures across the world.
- xxii. To work towards improvement in the diversity of NLU's amongst students, teaching and non-teaching staff.
- xxiii. To take all appropriate actions in furtherance of such purposes and to exercise all powers that are consistent with such purposes.



B. The other objectives which are incidental or ancillary to the main aims and objectives of the Society are as under:

- i. To accept grants, donations, assistance from public bodies, corporations, companies, persons or trusts for furthering the objectives of the Society.
- ii. To organize and participate in seminars, conferences, fairs related to the objectives of the Society and to compile, collate, edit and publish reports, presentations, papers, books, journals, magazines, periodicals, thesis, research, writings, articles, documents, etc.
- iii. To enter into any arrangement with any Government agency or authority whether Central, State, local, municipal or international or with any other person, that may seem conducive to the objectives of the Society.
- iv. To purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any movable, immovable property, and in particular any land, building, workshops, machinery, appliances, trademarks, licenses, permits, intellectual property rights and any other rights or privileges, necessary or convenient for the purpose of meeting the objectives of the Society.
- v. To borrow or raise funds, with or without security, as may be required by the Society for fulfilling its objectives.
- vi. To collect fees, including membership fees, service charges, consultancy charges, compensations, or such other monies as may be required in the due course of functioning of the Society and in furtherance of the objectives of the Society.
- vii. To pay all expenses, preliminary or incidental to the formation of the Society and its registration.
- viii. To draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue cheques, promissory notes, hundies and other negotiable instruments of all descriptions in connection with the Society's business.
- ix. To create academic, technical, administrative, ministerial and other posts and to make appointments thereto.
- x. To institute and award scholarships, prizes and medals.
- xi. To generally take such other lawful steps and initiatives that may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment or enlargement of the objectives of the Society.

Income and Properties of the Society

4. All the income, earnings, movable or immovable properties of the Society shall be solely utilized and applied towards the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Society only as set forth in this Memorandum of Association and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly by way of dividends, bonus, profits or in any manner whatsoever, to the present or past members of the Society or to any person claiming through any one or more of the present or the past members. No member of the Society shall have any personal claim on any movable or immovable properties of the Society or make any profit, whatsoever, by virtue of his membership. The Society however will be free to annually grant such financial help to the NLUs which subscribes to the membership of the Society, as may be decided by the Governing Body for carrying out the objects of the Society and activities intended to promote the objectives of the Society.
5. **GOVERNING BODY OF THE SOCIETY:** The Governing Body shall be the supreme governing body of the Society entrusted with its management and the following members shall constitute the first Governing Body of the Society:

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the member	Occupation	Age (Years)	Designation
1.	Prof. (Dr.) R. Venkata Rao National Law School of India University(NLSIU), Bengaluru, P.O. Bag 7201, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore - 560 072 Karnataka	Academician	65	Vice-Chancellor
2.	Prof. (Dr.) Faizan Mustafa NALSAR University of Law(NALSAR), Hyderabad Post Box No.1, Justice City, Shameerpet, Medchal District, Hyderabad - 500078, Telangana	Academician	52	Vice-Chancellor
3.	Prof. (Dr.) V. Vijayakumar The National Law Institute University(NLIU), Bhopal Kerwa Dam Road, Bhopal - 462 044	Academician	65	Vice-Chancellor
4.	Prof. (Dr.) Poonam Saxena National Law University(NLU), Jodhpur NH-65, Nagour Road, Mandore, Jodhpur - 342304 , Rajasthan	Academician	62	Vice-Chancellor
5.	Prof. Subir K Bhatnagar Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University	Academician	65	Vice-Chancellor

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the member	Occupation	Age (Years)	Designation
	(RMLNLU), Lucknow Sec- D1, LDA Colony, Kanpur Road Scheme Lucknow - 226012, Uttar Pradesh			
6.	Prof. (Dr.) Paramjit S. Jaswal Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL), Punjab Sidhuwal - Bhadson Road, Patiala, Punjab	Academician	62	Vice- Chancellor
7.	Prof. K. C. Sunny National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), Kochi NUALS Campus, H.M.T. Colony P.O. Kalamassery, Ernakulam - 683 503	Academician	60	Vice- Chancellor
8.	Prof. (Dr.) Srikrishna Deva Rao National Law University Odisha(NLUO), Cuttack Kathajodi Campus, Sec-13, CDA, Cuttack-753015, Odisha	Academician	58	Vice- Chancellor
9.	Prof. V. Kesava Rao National University of Study and Research in Law (NUSRL), Ranchi, At: Nagri, PO: Bukru, PS: Kanke, Kanke Pithoria Road, Ranchi, Jharkhand - 834006	Academician	65	Vice- Chancellor
10.	Prof. (Dr.) J. S. Patil National Law University and Judicial Academy (NLUJA), Assam Hajo Road, Amingaon, Guwahati-781031, Assam	Academician	65	Vice- Chancellor
11.	Prof. (Dr.) S. Surya Prakash DamodaramSanjivayya National Law University (DSNLU), Visakhapatnam NYAYAPRASTHA'Sabbavaram, Visakhapatnam-531035 Andhra Pradesh	Academician	58	Vice- Chancellor
12.	Prof. (Dr.) Dilip Ukey Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU), Mumbai	Academician	56	Vice- Chancellor

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the member	Occupation	Age (Years)	Designation
	Post Box No: 8401 Powai, Mumbai - 400 076			
13.	Prof. (Dr.) Vijender Kumar Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU), Nagpur Moraj Design and Decorator (DnD) Building, Near Oil Depot, Mihan Fly Over, Wardha Road, Khapri, Nagpur-441108, Maharashtra	Academician	50	Vice- Chancellor
14.	Prof. Dr. Kondaiah Jonnalagadda Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU), Aurangabad Govt. B. Ed. College Campus, Padampura, Aurangabad - 431 005. (MS)	Academician	42	In Charge Vice- Chancellor
15.	Prof. (Dr.) Nishtha Jaswal Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU), Shimla P.O. Shakrah, Sub-Tehsil Dhami, District: Shimla, Himachal Pradesh-171011, India	Academician	60	Vice- Chancellor
16.	Prof. Balraj Chouhan Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur (M.P.) BRBRAITT Campus South Civil Lines, Ridge Road Jabalpur (M.P.) - 482001	Academician	67	Vice- Chancellor

Note: The Governing Body may admit new members to the Governing Body in accordance with the Bye-Laws of the Society.

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY

The Governing Body shall be assisted by a chief administrative body known as the executive committee of the Society (the "**Executive Committee**") which shall be responsible for the day to day administration, management and control of the Society and ensuring the operational effectiveness of the Society. The work of the Executive Committee shall proceed in accordance with the mandates and delegated authority of the Governing Body and the following members shall constitute the first Executive Committee of the Society:

- 6.1. President of the Society;
- 6.2. Vice-President of the Society;

- 6.3. Secretary-Treasurer of the Society;
 - 6.4. CLAT Convenor of that year;
 - 6.5. Vice-Chancellor of the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University, Hyderabad, in his ex-officio capacity;
 - 6.6. Vice-Chancellor of National Law Institute University, Bhopal, in his ex-officio capacity; and
 - 6.7. One individual to be elected by the Governing Body of the Society, who shall be the Vice-Chancellor/Director of the Member Institutes having experience of successfully conducting CLAT.
7. The following person, being Secretary-Treasurer of the Society and the authorized representative of one of the subscribers to this Memorandum of Association, is authorized to correspond with the Registrar for and on behalf of the Society:

Name	Address & email ID for correspondence
Prof. (Dr) R. Venkata Rao	Vice-Chancellor, National Law School of India University, Bangalore P.O. Bag 7201, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore - 560 072 Karnataka Email : vc@nls.ac.in

8. We, the several persons, whose names, addresses and other details are given above having associated ourselves for the purpose described in this Memorandum of Association and set our several and respective hands hereinto and form ourselves into a society under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960:
9. The Memorandum of Association is accompanied by the Bye-Laws of the Society which shall be considered as a part and parcel of this Memorandum of Association. The Society shall be run and governed by such Bye-Laws.
10. **AMENDMENT TO THE BYE-LAWS:** The amendment to the Memorandum of Association and the Bye-Laws shall be made by way of resolution moved and passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths (3/4th) of the members present in person at the special meeting of the Governing Body convened for this purpose.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF ALL THE SIGNATORIES



