

॥ न्यायस्तत्र प्रमाणं स्यात् ॥



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON REPARATIONS AND VICTIM JUSTICE IN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW

FROM HARM TO REPAIR

14th November 2026 (Saturday)
Online

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Organised under the National Law University Delhi,
Research Endeavour Grant (N-REG) 2025-26 project:
“Reparations and Victim-Centered Justice under
International Criminal Law”

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

International criminal law has traditionally centered on the investigation, prosecution and punishment of individuals responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other international crimes. However, at the center of these crimes actually are the victims whose lives, dignity, livelihoods, communities and identities are profoundly affected. The growing recognition of victims within international criminal justice has consequently brought questions of victimhood, participation, harm, remedies and reparations to the forefront of international legal scholarship. The development of reparations jurisprudence, particularly before the International Criminal Court (ICC), represents an important evolution in international criminal justice: from a predominantly perpetrator-centred model of accountability towards a framework that also seeks to recognize and respond to the harm suffered by victims.

However, significant questions remain. Who qualifies as a victim of an international crime? How should harm be identified and established? What forms of repair can international criminal courts provide? Can financial compensation adequately respond to collective, cultural, psychological or other complex forms of harm? How should responsibility for reparations be allocated? What happens when reparations orders cannot be effectively implemented or enforced? And what can international criminal law learn from domestic courts, hybrid tribunals, regional human rights courts and transitional justice mechanisms?

Against this background, the international conference titled, **“Reparations and Victim Justice in International Criminal Law: From Harm to Repair”** seeks to examine the evolving place of victims and reparations within international criminal law and their relationship with broader developments in international law. It is organised within the purview of *“Reparations and Victim-Centered Justice under International Criminal Law”* project under the Research Endeavour Grant (N-REG) 2025-26 of NLUD.

The conference aims to bring together scholars, practitioners and researchers working across international criminal law, international human rights law, international humanitarian law, State responsibility, transitional justice and domestic and hybrid mechanisms dealing with international crimes. In the same spirit, it welcomes doctrinal, comparative, theoretical and interdisciplinary scholarship examining victims, harm, remedies and reparations within international criminal law and their relationship with broader developments in international law.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Examine evolving approaches to victims and reparations within international criminal law and broader international law.

Facilitate dialogue and exchange of ideas among academics, practitioners, researchers and students working in international law and international criminal law.

Encourage comparative and interdisciplinary research on victimhood, harm, reparations, accountability and remedies.

Foster collaboration and scholarly networks among researchers and institutions working on contemporary questions of international law.

Encourage emerging scholarships and research by providing a platform for postgraduate students, doctoral researchers and early-career scholars.

Explore opportunities for further research and publication, including development of selected conference papers for publication in appropriate academic outlets.

ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

National Law University Delhi (NLUD) is a premier institution for legal education and research in India, established under the National Law University Act, 2007. The University is committed to advancing excellence in legal education, interdisciplinary scholarship and research that engages contemporary national and international legal challenges. NLU Delhi has been consecutively ranked number two in the NIRF rankings of Law Universities in the country for the last eight years and debuted in the 201-250 global band (rank 223) in the 2026 QS World University Rankings by Subject for Law & Legal Studies. Through its academic programmes, research initiatives, centers and faculty scholarship, NLUD has developed a strong engagement with public international law, international criminal law, human rights, humanitarian law and related areas of international legal practice and policy. The University provides a platform for sustained engagement between legal scholars, practitioners, policymakers and students, fostering critical and comparative approaches to emerging questions of law and justice.

The present conference reflects NLUD's broader commitment to advancing scholarly dialogue on contemporary developments in international law. By bringing together perspectives on victims, reparations and international criminal justice, the conference seeks to facilitate rigorous engagement by evolving international legal standards, judicial practice and institutional approaches, while also examining their implications for domestic legal systems. It aims to provide a forum for academics, practitioners and emerging scholars to critically examine how international law responds to victims of international crimes and the continuing challenges of translating recognition of harm into meaningful repair.



CONFERENCE THEMES

The conference invites paper presentations based on doctrinal, comparative, theoretical and interdisciplinary research examining victims and reparations within international criminal law and their relationship with broader developments in international law. Submissions must remain firmly grounded in public international law and engage substantively with relevant international legal norms, principles, jurisprudence or institutional practice.

The conference welcomes papers addressing, but not limited to, the following themes:

Theme 1: Victim Identity and Recognition

Questions concerning the identification, definition and categorization of victims of international crimes, including direct and indirect victims, individual and collective victimhood, victim participation and representation, and evolving understandings of who qualifies as a victim under international law.

Theme 2: Domestic, Hybrid and Regional Human Rights Approaches to Reparations and Victimhood

Approaches adopted by domestic and hybrid courts, regional human rights courts and other mechanisms in addressing victims, remedies and reparations for international crimes, and the contribution of these approaches to the development of international criminal law.

Theme 3: Reparations and Transitional Justice

The relationship between criminal accountability and broader processes of justice, including truth-seeking, reparations programmes, reconciliation, rehabilitation, memorialization and guarantees of non-recurrence.

Theme 4: Victims, Reparations and Other Branches of International Law

The intersection of international criminal law with international human rights law, international humanitarian law and the law of State responsibility in addressing victims, remedies and reparations for international crimes.

Theme 5: Emerging Challenges in Victim Justice and Reparations

New and evolving forms of harm, developments in reparations jurisprudence, institutional innovations, implementation and enforcement challenges, and unresolved questions concerning the future of victim-centered justice in international criminal law.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Researchers, academics, practitioners, doctoral scholars, graduate and postgraduate students are invited to submit abstracts of 600-800 words outlining the proposed paper, its central argument, contribution and methodology.

- The abstract should pertain to any of the thematic areas of the Conference and must engage substantively with public international law.
- The abstract must be submitted in English and in MS Word format only, with a word limit of 600-800 words.
- Each abstract must include the title of the proposed paper, name and institutional affiliation of the author(s) (maximum two authors), email address and contact details, and a short biographical note of approximately 100 words for each author.
- The abstract should clearly indicate the research question or central problem, principal argument, relevant legal/doctrinal/comparative/theoretical framework, methodology, and contribution to existing scholarship or international legal discourse.
- The text should be in Times New Roman, 12-point font, with 1.5-line spacing. Footnotes should be in Times New Roman, 10-point font, with single-line spacing.
- All citations should be placed in footnotes and not endnotes and should conform to the OSCOLA 5th Edition.
- The submission must include a declaration confirming that the work is original and has not been published or is under consideration for publication elsewhere.
- The organizers uphold a strict zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism and the use of AI-generated content in submissions.

CO-AUTHORSHIP

- Co-authorship is allowed subject to a maximum of 02 authors per paper. Both authors should make a substantive contribution to the proposed paper.
- All such authors and co-author(s) will have to mandatorily and separately register themselves by paying the requisite registration fees.
- At least one person amongst the author or co-authors has to be present for presenting the paper.
- Certificates would be given to all paper presenters.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Submission format: Word document

File name: Surname(s)_ICLAbstract_2026_NLUD

Submission link: Google Form link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeec7IaPGIATDS2o1q6pzpvaVwbcpfCM9pBoZ2jtz88hHcb9A/viewform>

Details regarding Registration & Payment link will be shared in due course.

IMPORTANT DATES

EVENT	DATE
Call for Abstracts	7 September 2026
Abstract Submission Deadline	21 September 2026
Notification of Acceptance	25 September 2026
Registration Deadline	3 October 2026
Full Paper Submission	1 November 2026
Conference	14 November 2026

CONFERENCE FORMAT

The conference will be conducted in an online format, virtually via Google Meet/Zoom.

Selected presenters will be assigned to thematic sessions based on the subject and approach of their accepted papers.

REGISTRATION (PER PERSON)

For Graduate/ Post
Graduate Students
INR 1,000

For Doctoral Scholars
INR 1,200

For Faculty Members &
Professionals
INR 1,500

For Attendees Only
INR 500

FINAL PAPER GUIDELINES

Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be invited to submit a full paper in accordance with the conference guidelines.

Suggested length: 5000- 6000 words (inclusive of footnotes)

Citation style: OSCOLA 5th Edition

Submission deadline: 11:59 PM, 1st November 2026.

Further instructions concerning formatting, presentation and publication opportunities will be communicated to selected authors.

Selected papers may be considered for publication in an edited book, subject to the applicable editorial and peer-review process. Acceptance for presentation at the conference will not automatically guarantee publication.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- **Chief Patron:** Prof. (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai, Vice Chancellor, National Law University Delhi
- **Patron:** Prof. (Dr.) Risham Garg, Registrar, National Law University Delhi
- **Conference Convenor:** Dr. Garima Tiwari, Associate Professor, National Law University Delhi
- **Conference Coordinator:** Himani Jha, Research Associate, National Law University Delhi

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