

From Harm to Repair: Call for Abstracts – International Conference on Reparations and Victim Justice in International Criminal Law

The National Law University Delhi (NLUD) is pleased to announce a call for abstracts for an international conference on **"Reparations and Victim Justice in International Criminal Law: From Harm to Repair"** to be held online on **14 November 2026**.

The Evolving Place of Victims in International Criminal Law

International criminal law has long prioritized the investigation, prosecution, and punishment of perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and other grave international crimes. Yet at the centre of these offences lie the victims, whose lives, dignity, livelihoods, communities, and identities are profoundly affected by such violations.

The growing recognition of victims' rights within international criminal justice has brought questions of victimhood, participation, harm, remedies, and reparations to the forefront of legal scholarship and institutional practice. The development of reparations jurisprudence before the International Criminal Court (ICC) represents a significant evolution toward a framework that recognizes and responds to victims' harm alongside accountability for perpetrators.

However, fundamental questions persist: Who qualifies as a victim? How should complex forms of harm, like collective, cultural, and psychological, be identified and established? What forms of repair can international courts effectively provide? How should responsibility for reparations be allocated and enforced? And what insights can international criminal law draw from domestic courts, hybrid tribunals, regional human rights mechanisms, and transitional justice processes?

Conference Scope and Themes

The conference welcomes doctrinal, comparative, theoretical, and interdisciplinary scholarship examining victims and reparations within international criminal law and their relationship with broader developments in international law.

Papers are invited addressing (but not limited to) the following themes:

1. **Victim Identity and Recognition** – Questions concerning identification, definition, and categorization of victims; direct and indirect victimhood; collective victimhood; participation and representation; and evolving understandings of victim status under international law.
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; and their contribution to the development of international criminal law.

3. **Reparations and Transitional Justice** – The relationship between criminal accountability and broader justice processes, including truth-seeking, reparations programmes, reconciliation, rehabilitation, memorialization, and guarantees of non-recurrence.
4. **Victims, Reparations and Other Branches of International Law** – The intersection of international criminal law with international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and State responsibility in addressing victims, remedies, and reparations.
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

Deadline for Abstract Submission: 11.59 PM (IST), 21 September 2026

Researchers, academics, practitioners, doctoral scholars, and graduate and postgraduate students are invited to submit abstracts of **600–800 words** in English, in MS Word format only.

Each abstract must include:

- Title of the proposed paper
- Name and institutional affiliation of author(s) (maximum two authors)
- Email address and contact details
- Short biographical note (~100 words per author)
- Clear indication of the research question, principal argument, legal/doctrinal/comparative/theoretical framework, methodology, and contribution to existing scholarship

Formatting requirements:

- Times New Roman, 12-point font, 1.5-line spacing
- Footnotes in Times New Roman, 10-point font, single-line spacing
- All citations in footnotes (not endnotes), conforming to **OSCOLA 5th Edition**
- Declaration of originality (work not published or under consideration elsewhere)

Important: The conference organizers uphold a strict zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism and AI-generated content.

Key Dates

Event	Date
Call for Abstracts Opens	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

Co-Authorship and Registration

Co-authorship is permitted with a maximum of two authors per paper. All authors must register separately and pay the applicable registration fee:

- Graduate/postgraduate students: INR 1,000
- Doctoral scholars: INR 1,200
- Faculty members and professionals: INR 1,500
- Attendees only: INR 500

At least one author must be present to present the paper.

Submission and Contact

Submit your abstract via Google Form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeec7laPGIATDS2o1q6pzpvaVwbcpfCM9pBoZ2jtz88hHcb9A/viewform>

File name format: **Surname(s)_ICLAbstract_2026_NLUD**

For queries, contact:

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Details

Organisation - National Law University Delhi

Official Brochure Link: https://nludelhi.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Post-668.pdf#new_tab

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The conference is organized under NLUJ's Research Endeavour Grant (N-REG) 2025-26 project on "Reparations and Victim-Centered Justice under International Criminal Law." Selected papers may be considered for publication in an edited book following the peer-review process.