HIDAYATULLAH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY

RAIPUR

Second Edition of National Conference On

HUMAN RIGHTS, SCIENTIFIC INNOVATIONS AND THE RIGHT TO HEALTH

ALIGNING GLOBAL COMMITMENTS & NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTHCARE POLICIES

DEC 15 2026

Online Mode

Organised by

SCHOOL OF LAW & HUMANITIES	Centre for Law & Human Rights
SCHOOL OF LAW & TECHNOLOGY	Centre for Law & Sciences
SCHOOL OF LAW & PUBLIC POLICY	Centre for Law & Public Health

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Concept Note

'Health is not only about services or survival, but about dignity'

Dr. Tlaleng Mofokeng, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health while delivering the Human Rights Council report to the media in Geneva on 19 June 2026.

The rapid advancement of medical science, biotechnology, artificial intelligence and digital healthcare presents unprecedented opportunities to improve human health and well-being. However, these developments also raise fundamental questions concerning equitable access, affordability, intellectual property protection, technological disparities, privacy and human dignity.

The international human rights framework recognises both the right to health (Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights- ICESCR) and the right to benefit from scientific advancement as essential components of human dignity and well-being (Article 15(1)(b) of the ICESCR).

The interaction between Articles 12 and 15 raises important legal and policy questions. While scientific innovation can facilitate the realisation of the right to health through improved medicines, diagnostics, vaccines and healthcare technologies, the benefits of such advancements may remain inaccessible because of economic inequalities, restrictive licensing practices, inadequate healthcare infrastructure and technological disparities.

Against this backdrop, the conference seeks to examine how States can reconcile the imperative of ensuring equitable access to the benefits of scientific progress with the need to incentivise innovation and uphold human rights safeguards. It aims to explore the legal, ethical and institutional frameworks necessary to translate international human rights commitments into effective national healthcare policies, particularly in the context of developing countries and vulnerable populations.

Sub-themes of the Conference

1. Scientific Innovation as a Public Good and the Right to Health

- Universal Access to Healthcare Technologies & Health Equity
- Publicly Funded Medical Research and Equitable Access to Innovations
- Scientific Progress as a Public Good: State Obligations under Articles 12 and 15 of the ICESCR

2. Reproductive Technologies, Human Rights and Regulatory Frameworks

- Assisted Reproductive Technologies: Human Rights and Regulatory Challenges
- Right to Access Advanced Reproductive Technologies
- Artificial Womb Technology: Emerging Legal and Ethical Frameworks
- Cross-border Reproductive Care

3. Emerging Biomedical Technologies & Human Dignity

- Therapeutic Gene Editing and Genomic Medicine: Regulatory Challenges
- Human Cloning, Heritable Genome Editing and the Limits of Biomedical Intervention
- Genetic Discrimination, Eugenic Practices and International Human Rights Standards

4. Artificial Intelligence, Digital Health & Patient Rights

- AI-assisted Clinical Decision-making and Professional Liability
- Algorithmic Bias, Non-discrimination and Health Equity in Digital Healthcare
- Protection of Electronic Health Records, Genetic Data and Patient Privacy

- Big Data, Predictive Healthcare and Patient Rights

5. Intellectual Property, Innovation & Global Public Health

- Intellectual Property Rights and the Right to Health
- TRIPS Flexibilities, Compulsory Licensing and Technology Transfer
- Public Funding and Open Science for Medical Innovations

6. Clinical Research, Biomedical Ethics & Human Rights Protection

- Ethical Standards in Clinical Trials and Biomedical Research
- Inclusive Clinical Research and the Protection of Vulnerable and Under-represented Populations
- Biobanking, Biospecimen Collection and Governance of Human Biological Materials

7. Pandemic Preparedness, Global Health Governance and National Legal Frameworks

- Equitable Vaccine Distribution, Global Solidarity and Access to Essential Medical Technologies
- Public Health Emergencies: Balancing Collective Health Interests and Individual Rights
- Strengthening Healthcare Governance through International Cooperation and Comparative Legal Approaches

Note: The above sub themes are indicative. The participants may choose any topic relevant to the main theme of the conference.

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Deadline	**30th November 2026**
Notification of Selected Abstracts	**10th December 2026**
Date of the Conference	**15th December 2026**

Submission Guidelines

For abstract:

- The abstract is to be around 400-500 words (inclusive of 5 key words) and to be accompanied by a brief profile (in 50 words) of the author indicating his/her email ID, contact number, designation, and official address.
- The abstract should be in following format:
  - Times New Roman, Font Size 12 & Line spacing 1.5, Justified
  - 1-inch margins on all the four sides, Paper size: A4
  - All submission are to be made in MS word format only
- Please name your attachment as follows: _ e.g. if author's name is John Doe then the file name should be JohnDoe_abstract.
- By submitting an abstract you grant the organizers permission to publish the abstract in hard copy and electronic formats for distribution during the Conference.
- IMPORTANT: Along with the abstract, the author(s) will be required to provide details about the problem identified.
- The author(s) will have to address the theme to which his/their paper belongs.
- Please click the Link given below or scan the QR Code for submission of abstract:

  https://forms.gle/RvTZvQET4V56pSaQA

For Full paper:

- Selected abstracts will be provided with a link for full paper submissions post conference and full paper is not needed for paper presentation.
- The guidelines for full paper will be circulated separately post conference & presentation of paper does not guarantee publication.
- The selected papers after scrutiny may be published in an edited book with ISBN Number.

Conference Registration

Upon notification of acceptance of their abstracts, selected participants shall be required to complete the registration process through the link provided and pay the applicable conference registration fee as detailed below:

Faculty and Professionals: **Rs. 1500/-**

Research Scholars and Students: **Rs. 1000/-**

Important Instructions

1. A maximum of two authors per paper shall be permitted. In the case of co-authored papers, both authors must register individually & pay the applicable registration fee separately.
2. The registration fee, once paid, shall be non-refundable, including in cases where a registered participant is unable to attend the conference.
3. Conference certificates shall be issued only to registered participants who attend the Inaugural and Valedictory Sessions online and actively participate in their respective scheduled paper presentation sessions.
4. Acceptance of an abstract does not automatically confirm participation in the conference. Participation shall be confirmed only upon successful completion of the registration process and payment of the prescribed fee.

About HNLU

Hidayatullah National Law University, a premier university for legal education and research is celebrating its 20th Year of establishment. The university's motto, 'Dharma Sansthapanartham,' translates to 'for the sake of establishing the primacy of laws of eternal values'. In line with this ethos, HNLU is dedicated to providing advanced legal education that shapes students into more than just legal professionals, it instills in them a profound responsibility to contribute to society.The university has launched several innovative programmes in the last four years like Lex Osmose, Ex Arca, HNLU Press, Sui

Generis, HEXA, HAAI and R-Has. With the new hub-spoke model of research centers, HNLU has opened a plethora of opportunities for academic and professional bridging for the benefit of students, legal community and society at large.

About Center for Law & Human Rights

The Centre for Law & Human Rights is one of the research centres of the School of Law and Humanities under the HNLU's ambitious R-HaS Model. The centre is focussed to promote the awareness of human rights with an interdisciplinary approach bringing together all the stakeholders, academicians, professionals, non-governmental organizations working at international, national, and regional level. CLHR aims to work for excellence in research related to Human Rights to extend support as a valuable resource for humanity and contribute to the nation's development.

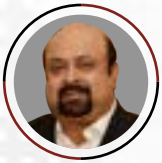
About Center for Law & Sciences

The Centre for Law and Sciences (CLS) at HNLU, Raipur was established under the School for Law and Technology (SLT), in the year 2023. Its objective is to develop research, teaching and advocacy in law and its interface with science advances, innovation and technology. The Centre also aims to focus on the promotion of interdisciplinary research and analysis of legal, ethical, and policy implications of new scientific developments and emerging technologies. The Centre seeks to provide a platform for research relating to scientific advancements and its impact on society at large through advocacy inputs.

About Centre for Law & Public Health

The Centre for Law and Public Health established under the School for Law & Public Policy (SLPP) of the Research- Hub and Spoke (R-HaS) at HNLU is dedicated to advancing the interface between legal principles and public health initiatives. The Centre serves as a dynamic hub for research, policy analysis, recommendation, advocacy, and collaboration in the realms of law and public health. The Centre is committed to harnessing legal expertise for the betterment of public health and the advancement of societal well-being.

Conference Advisors



Prof. (Dr.) V.C. Vivekanandan
Vice-Chancellor & Director, School of Law & Technology



Prof. (Dr.) Yogendra K. Srivastava
Director, School of Law & Public Policy



Dr. Avinash Samal
Director, School of Law & Humanities

Conference Secretariat



Dr. Kiran Kori
Head, Center for Law & Human Rights
Organising Secretary



Dr. Debmita Mondal
Head, Center for Law & Sciences
Organising Secretary

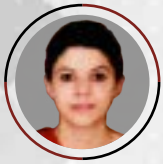


Mr. Ashutosh Aahire
Head, Centre for Law & Public Health
Organising Secretary

Members



Prof. Pankaj Umbarkar
Professor



Dr. Priyanka Dhar
Assistant Professor



Dr. Kamal Narayan
Assistant Professor



Mr. Pradeep Burman
Assistant Professor



Dr. Eritriya Roy
Assistant Professor



Dr. Archana Gharote
Assistant Professor



Ms. Urvi Shrivastava
Assistant Professor



Dr. Shailesh Pandey
Assistant Professor

Contact Information

For further details and queries, please contact:

Dr. Kiran Kori
Mob.: 93297 14863

Dr. Debmita Mondal
Mob.: 88271 16648
Email Id: clhr@hnlu.ac.in

Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur
Sector-40, Nava Raipur Atal Nagar - 493661 (C.G.)

