NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM

Established under the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam Act, 2009 (Assam Act No. XXV of 2009)

CALL FOR CHAPTERS

RIGHTS AND INSTITUTIONS

Contemporary Developments and Perspectives

An Edited Book to be Published with ISBN
National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION

30th NOVEMBER 2026

EDITORIAL BOARD

rightsandinstitutions@gmail.com

Hajo Road, Amingaon, Guwahati – 781031, Assam (India)

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

NLUJA, Assam was established by the Government of Assam through the enactment of the National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam Act, 2009 (Assam Act No. XXV of 2009).

NLUJA, Assam was the first National Law University to be established in the North Eastern Region of India, with the vision of promoting exemplary legal education that transcends the constraints of provincialisation and aspires towards global standards. Since its inception, the University has endeavoured to provide cutting-edge legal education, addressing both the theoretical foundations and practical dimensions of the discipline.

The University promotes and facilitates modern legal education and research through its academic and research infrastructure, catering to students, scholars and faculty drawn from across the country, particularly the North Eastern Region and representing diverse socio-economic, ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds.

In furtherance of its institutional vision, NLUJA, Assam has consistently striven to deliver quality legal education embedded in social values. It seeks to provide aspirants from North East India with exposure to contemporary and globally oriented legal education, while contributing towards the development of an informed, responsible and robust citizenry.

ABOUT THE EDITED BOOK

"Rights & Institutions: Contemporary Developments and Perspectives" is proposed as an interdisciplinary edited book examining contemporary questions concerning rights, institutions and their interaction with changing legal, social, economic, technological and environmental conditions.

Rights are neither defined nor experienced in isolation. Their meaning and effectiveness are shaped by the institutions through which they are interpreted, administered, enforced and contested. At the same time, institutional structures themselves evolve in response to changing social realities, technological developments, economic arrangements and competing conceptions of justice. This relationship raises a wide range of contemporary questions that call for renewed doctrinal, jurisprudential, comparative and socio-legal inquiry.

The book seeks to bring together scholarship from diverse fields while maintaining a common concern with the changing relationship between rights and institutions. It welcomes contributions that revisit established legal principles in contemporary contexts, examine emerging institutional challenges, or place existing legal frameworks in conversation with developments in society, economy, technology, environment and culture. The objective is to create a scholarly collection in which diverse areas of inquiry remain individually substantive while contributing to a broader understanding of how rights and institutions respond to contemporary change.

RATIONALE

Contemporary legal scholarship increasingly encounters questions that cannot be adequately understood within rigid doctrinal boundaries. The protection of rights is shaped not only by constitutional provisions and judicial doctrine, but also by administrative practices, technological systems, commercial institutions, family and community structures, environmental conditions and social norms. These developments call for scholarship examining the interaction between rights and the institutions through which they are realised.

The book responds to this need by bringing together diverse areas of scholarship within a common intellectual framework. Rather than limiting the discussion to a single branch of law or a single emerging issue, it seeks to capture the plurality of contemporary questions affecting rights and institutions. It is particularly intended to encourage scholarship that connects established doctrine with emerging developments, and legal analysis with institutional, social and empirical realities.

OBJECTIVES

1. To examine contemporary developments in the understanding, protection and enforcement of rights across diverse legal and institutional contexts.
2. To encourage critical and original scholarship on emerging challenges confronting institutions and established legal frameworks.
3. To promote interdisciplinary engagement between doctrinal, jurisprudential, comparative, empirical and socio-legal approaches.
4. To provide a platform for scholarship addressing under-examined and emerging questions across established and developing fields of legal inquiry.
5. To foster broader academic dialogue on the interaction between rights, institutions and changing social realities.

SUB-THEMES AT A GLANCE

No.	Sub-Theme
I	Constitutional Law, Jurisprudence and Rights
II	Rights and Institutional Change
III	Intellectual Property, Innovation and Creative Rights
IV	Family, Community and Social Institutions
V	Corporate, Commercial and Economic Institutions
VI	Environment, Resources and Ecological Justice
VII	Society, Culture and the Sociology of Rights
VIII	Emerging Questions in Contemporary Decision-Making

SUB-THEMES

Sub-Theme I. Constitutional Law, Jurisprudence and Rights

This section may examine contemporary developments in constitutional doctrine and jurisprudence, including:

- Constitutional interpretation and evolving conceptions of rights
- Fundamental rights, dignity, liberty and equality
- Natural justice, reasoned decisions and procedural fairness
- Judicial review, constitutional remedies and institutional limits
- Constitutional morality, transformative constitutionalism and contemporary jurisprudence
- Emerging questions in constitutional theory and rights adjudication

Sub-Theme II. Rights and Institutional Change

This section may explore the changing relationship between rights and institutional decision-making, including:

- Institutional responsibility and decision-making
- Access to justice and procedural safeguards
- Administrative discretion and institutional accountability
- Emerging forms of automated and data-driven decision-making
- Contestability, exclusion and the protection of individual rights
- Contemporary challenges to institutional legitimacy

Sub-Theme III. Intellectual Property, Innovation and Creative Rights

This section may address contemporary questions concerning intellectual property and the changing relationship between creativity, innovation and public interest, including:

- Copyright, authorship and emerging forms of creation
- Patents, innovation and access
- Trademarks and contemporary commercial practices
- Traditional knowledge and cultural expressions
- Intellectual property, technology and public interest
- Emerging challenges in intellectual property protection and enforcement

Sub-Theme IV. Family, Community and Social Institutions

This section may examine contemporary developments in family law and the relationship between formal law, custom and changing social structures, including:

- Family law and evolving conceptions of family
- Marriage, autonomy, equality and personal law
- Child rights, guardianship and family institutions
- Gender and rights within family structures
- Customary norms and formal legal institutions
- Emerging questions in family and community law

Sub-Theme V. Corporate, Commercial and Economic Institutions

This section may examine contemporary developments concerning corporate and commercial institutions, including:

- Corporate governance and institutional responsibility
- Directors' duties and shareholder rights
- Insolvency, restructuring and corporate accountability
- Corporate responsibility and stakeholder interests
- Commercial regulation and emerging business practices
- Contemporary questions in corporate and commercial institutions

Sub-Theme VI. Environment, Resources and Ecological Justice

This section may examine contemporary environmental questions through legal, institutional and rights-based perspectives, including:

- Environmental rights and environmental justice
- Climate change and intergenerational equity
- Biodiversity, conservation and natural resources
- Community and indigenous rights in environmental protection
- Environmental responsibility and institutional decision-making
- Emerging developments in environmental jurisprudence

Sub-Theme VII. Society, Culture and the Sociology of Rights

This section invites socio-legal and sociological approaches to the operation of rights within everyday social life, including:

- Sociology of rights and institutions
- Food, culture, identity and social relations
- Sport, society, participation and inclusion
- Gender, disability and social inequality
- Social norms, institutions and legal change
- Rights, marginalisation and lived social experience

Sub-Theme VIII. Emerging Questions in Contemporary Decision-Making

This section may address emerging institutional questions arising from technological and procedural transformation, including:

- Opacity and explainability in consequential decision-making
- Automated decision-making and institutional responsibility
- Artificial intelligence and evidentiary processes
- Biometric systems and individual rights
- Data-driven public services and exclusion
- Traceability, contestability and procedural safeguards

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION: 30th NOVEMBER 2026

Chapter Length: Chapters may ordinarily range between 3,000 and 5,000 words. The Editorial Board may consider manuscripts falling outside this range where the subject matter warrants a different length.

Abstract: Each chapter shall contain an abstract not exceeding 300 words, concisely identifying the central research question, principal argument and scholarly contribution of the manuscript.

Submission Format: Manuscripts shall be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx).

Formatting Requirements

- Body text: Times New Roman, 12-point font, 1.5 line spacing throughout the main text.
- Headings and sub-headings: Times New Roman, 12-point font, bold.
- Footnotes: Times New Roman, 10-point font, single line spacing.
- Citations and references: all citations and references shall strictly conform to The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (21st ed.). Every authority relied upon must be accurately, consistently and adequately cited so as to permit independent verification.

Originality and Conduct

- Manuscripts must be original and unpublished and must not be simultaneously submitted or under consideration for publication elsewhere.
- Plagiarism and all other forms of academic misconduct shall not be permitted. All submissions shall be subjected similarity checks. A similarity level of up to 10% may ordinarily be accepted, subject to the applicable UGC regulations. The Editorial Board shall assess the nature and source of similarity and may reject any manuscript containing unattributed, improperly attributed or otherwise impermissible material.
- The use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in the preparation, drafting, rewriting, paraphrasing, substantive modification or generation of the manuscript is strictly prohibited. The manuscript must represent the authors' own original intellectual work. Where a manuscript is found to contain unauthorised AI-generated or substantially AI-assisted content, the Editorial Board reserves the right to reject the submission or withdraw it from consideration.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

All submissions shall be made electronically via email to rightsandinstitutions@gmail.com. The subject line of the email should clearly read "Submission for Edited Volume – [Author's Name]".

FOR QUERIES

We look forward to your scholarly contribution to this edited book.
Contact: rightsandinstitutions@gmail.com