



Gujarat National Law University

4th International Conference

on

RULE OF LAW IN SPACE

Organized by

**VS Mani Center for Air and Space Law
(VSMCASL)**

Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar

5TH APRIL 2026



GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY (GNLU)

Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), located in Gujarat, India, is established by the Government of Gujarat under the Gujarat National Law University Act, 2003. GNLU is recognized by the Bar Council of India (BCI) and University Grants Commission (UGC) and has two campuses at Gandhinagar and Silvassa.

National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) has ranked GNLU as the 5th best law school in the country in 2025 whereas GSIRF (Gujarat State Institutional Ratings Framework) has ranked GNLU as 'Five Star' University in the category of law with highest CGPA. As per the Outlook Ranking and India Today Ranking, GNLU is placed 3rd among the top law institutes and 3rd best law college respectively in the country in 2025.

(www.gnlu.ac.in)



V.S. MANI CENTRE FOR AIR & SPACE LAW

VSMCASL was established in 2019 to engage in various ways in shaping the emerging discourse in the field of Air and Space Law. The vision of the Centre is to engage in improving the existing legal and policy framework for facilitation and regulation of a safe, secure, affordable and sustainable aviation and to contribute in the shaping of legal framework for the future of humanity that lies in space.

Link of the Centre webpage: <https://gnlu.ac.in/VSMC-Air-Space Law/Home>

Center's Objectives

- To provide a platform for the students to develop their research skills in the field of Air and Space Law.
- To encourage trans-disciplinary research on issues concerning Air and Space Law.
- To contribute, through research, in Law and Policymaking in the field of Air and Space Law at both international and national level.
- To organise seminars, conferences, workshops, round tables etc. with the aim to provide a platform to facilitate deliberations amongst the stakeholders on the various issues confronting Air and Space Law and to contribute thereby to the ongoing discourse.
- To provide research insights to defence and security forces pertaining to the field of Air and Space Law.
- To collaborate with other universities and research institutions to facilitate the exchange of faculty and students to understand and develop mutual perspectives and contexts regarding the future prospects of Air and Space Law

4th International Conference on 'Rule of Law' in Space

The launch of Sputnik in the Cold War era is considered the beginning of the space age, which culminated in the moon landing in 1969. The international community realized the need to frame laws to govern the challenges posed by these path-breaking technological breakthroughs. Such efforts resulted in International Space Law in the form of the Outer Space Treaty (1967), Rescue and Return Agreement (1968), Liability Convention (1972), Registration Convention (1975) and Moon Agreement (1979). However, two developments characterised the subsequent development of space law. Firstly, a distinct rise in the number of private players and the significant role played by them in human space endeavours. Secondly, increasing democratisation of the group of space-faring nations. Coupled with the integration of cyber technology and artificial intelligence in the space domain, these developments necessitate a review or appropriate amendment to Space Law to govern human activities in space. However, another viewpoint is that the Space Law in its existing form provides opportunities to address all the concerns posed by the abovementioned challenges in order to meaningfully fulfil the global human aspirations to benefit from exploration and use of outer space.

While militarisation and Weaponisation of space continue to be a concern for the international community, the Artemis Accords and the International Lunar Research Station present two competing approaches to commercial cooperation in governance of human activities in space in future, bringing the focus back to the moon.

India has unleashed Reforms in the space sector in 2020 to promote the participation of private players in carrying out end-to-end activities in the space domain. As part of the reforms, the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (INSPACe) was established for promoting and authorising space activities by private players. Indian Space Policy 2023 provided further fillip by providing regulatory clarity to various stakeholders in order to develop a vibrant space ecosystem in India. Long-awaited enactment of a national legislation for regulating Space activities in India is expected to enable India to fulfil its aim of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

This international conference aims to provide a platform for deliberations amongst the Space Law enthusiasts and thereby contribute to the emerging discourse on the challenges posed to Space Law in future.

Sub-Themes of the Conference

- Delimitation of Space
- Militarisation and Weaponisation of Outer Space
- Space Mining
- Space Tourism
- Space Traffic Management
- Regulation of the Space Environment, including Debris
- Space Insurance
- Space Financing
- Intellectual Property Rights in Space
- Regulation of Satellites
- Moon: Gateway for Deep-Space Exploration
- Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in Space Law
- National Space Legislations
- Space Crimes
- Space Weather
- Space Start-ups
- Space Reforms for Viksit Bharat @2047

(The above sub-themes are merely indicative in nature and not exhaustive. Participants may submit a paper on any contemporary issue of Space Law)



Submission Guidelines

- Abstract: 300- 500 words
- Paper: 3500- 5000 words (excluding references).
- Submissions below or above the word limit shall not be considered.
- Citation style: OSCOLA. (4th Edition)
- Font: Times New Roman; Font size: 12; spacing: 1.5.
- Papers with a similarity score as per the UGC Regulation shall only be accepted.
- A cover page with the title of the paper, name, and affiliation of the author/co-authors shall be attached.
- Submit text as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx).
- Co-authorship is permitted up to two authors.
- Submissions shall be in English.
- The title of the paper, once registered, shall not be changed.
- Any identification mark (in any form) on the paper shall lead to automatic disqualification.
- Multiple or incomplete submissions shall not be considered.
- Any contribution received after the last date shall not be considered.
- Selected papers from the conference may be considered for publication in the GNLU Journal of Air and Space Law, subject to the review process thereof.
- All the communications shall be sent to gnluspacelawcon_vsmcasl@gnlu.ac.in

Participation Fee

For Presenters/Attendees	Early Bird	Registration Fee
Students	2360 INR	3540 INR
Professionals	3540 INR	4720 INR
Foreign Nationals	118 USD	136 USD

*GNLU Students will get concession in fees stated above.

**All the authors need to register for the conference separately.

Inclusive: The above fees is inclusive of GST. Participants will be provided with a conference kit, a certificate of participation/paper presentation, breakfast, tea/coffee, lunch, and evening high tea.

Exclusive: Accommodation at the GNLU VIP Residency can be booked by the participants individually, which is subject to availability of rooms, or outside the campus as per their discretion.

Payment Link- [Click here to pay Registration Fee as Early Bird](#)

[Click here to pay Registration Fee](#)

[Click here to pay Registration Fee as Foreign Nationals](#)

Abstract Submission Link- [Click here to submit your abstract](#)

Registration Link - [Click here to register](#)

Paper Submission Link - [Click here to submit paper](#)

Important Dates

Last Date for Submission of Abstract: 15 January 2026

Communication on Acceptance of Abstract: 24 January 2026

Early Bird Registration Date: 31 January 2026

Last Date for Registration: 28 February 2026

Last date to Submit Full Paper: 15 March 2026

Organising Committee

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