CALL FOR PAPERS

5TH RGNUL-SAM CONCLAVE

on

Regulating the Digital Economy: Emerging Legal Frontiers

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB

About Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab

Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab (RGNUL) is an autonomous National Law University (NLU) established by the RGNUL Act (No. 12 of 2006) passed by the Legislature of the State of Punjab, under the second wave of reforms instituted by the Bar Council of India. Established in 2006, RGNUL has garnered a pan-India reputation as a stellar institution for legal research and education. In May 2015, RGNUL became the first and the only NLU to have been accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with an 'A' grade. In March 2018, RGNUL was amongst the four NLUs to have been granted autonomous status by the University Grants Commission. The University has been ranked among the top 10 law schools in India in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), by the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

About RGNUL Financial and Mercantile Law Review

RFMLR is a prestigious bi-annual, double-blind, peer-reviewed journal published by the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law. Dedicated to fostering critical discourse and advancing research in financial and corporate laws, RFMLR has emerged as a leading platform for scholarly engagement. The Journal consistently features contributions from eminent academics, seasoned practitioners, and promising students, and is indexed on Manupatra, HeinOnline, SCC Online, and J-Gate. It has been consistently ranked among the top 10 law reviews in India by SCC Online.

The Editorial Board has published thirteen volumes and six Special Issues, including four Special Issues of the RGNUL-SAM Conclave, to date. The Board published Volume XIII Issue II of the Journal recently. The Editorial Board also operates the RFMLR Blog on its website, which can be accessed here. The Editorial Board also publishes a quarterly Newsletter (Au Courant) that covers the latest happenings in different sectors of commercial laws, in addition to interviewing many noted practitioners and academics in order to understand their views on the pressing issues of the day.

About Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co (SAM & Co), founded on a century of legal achievements, is amongst the leading full-service law firms in India. They have 850 plus lawyers, including 182 Partners, offering legal services through their offices in New Delhi, Mumbai, Gurugram, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai. The firm represents major transnational corporates on their India entry and business strategy and is known globally for its exceptional dispute resolution & arbitration, mergers & acquisitions, insolvency & restructuring, banking & finance, tax, competition law, regulatory litigation, capital markets and private equity practices.

A multitude of teams work closely with each other and provide advice to clients on every aspect of their business, from entry strategies and complex tax-efficient structuring to divestitures and exits. It also includes engagements regarding complicated mergers, acquisitions, private equity transactions, takeover code, corporate governance and employee-related matters. Over the years, SAM & Co has given effect to various complex and seminal deals and has consistently been awarded for the same. SAM & Co was ranked #1 by deal count and deal Value with 158 deals worth over USD 46.53 billion by MergerMarket India League Tables 2023. The firm has also been recognized as the 'Law Firm of the Year' and one of the 'Best Overall Law Firms' by the India Business Law Journal, 2024.

Previous Editions of RGNUL-SAM Conclave

1. RGNUL-SAM Conclave on Arbitration Practise, 2021

In July 2021, the Editorial Board organized the first edition of the Conclave in collaboration with SAM, with the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) as the Associate Partner. The Conclave consisted of two sessions, the Paper Presentation and the Expert Panel Discussion, featuring Mr. Tejas Karia (Partner, Head – Arbitration, SAM & Co.), Mr. Gauhar Mirza (Partner, SAM & Co.), Mr. Kevin Nash (Deputy Registrar, SIAC), and Mr. Rohit Singhal (Chief Executive Officer and Construction Dispute Expert, Masin). The discussion was moderated by Mr. Prakhar Deep (Senior Associate, SAM & Co.) and was extremely successful in initiating a discourse on practical issues in arbitration in India.

2. RGNUL-SAM Conclave on Practical Aspects of IT Litigation and Data Protection in India, 2022

In May 2022, the Editorial Board organized the second edition of the Conclave in collaboration with SAM. The event followed a similar structure to the first edition and consisted of two sessions, the Paper Presentation and the Expert Panel Discussion, featuring Mr. Tejas Karia (Partner, Head – Arbitration, SAM & Co.), Mr. Gauhar Mirza (Partner, SAM & Co.), Dr. Subhajit Basu (Associate Professor, Leeds University), and Mr. Prakhar Deep (Senior Associate, SAM & Co.). The Conclave provided an opportunity for students and professionals alike to share practical insights into the industry's changing opportunities and continuing challenges.

Previous Editions of RGNUL-SAM Conclave

3. RGNUL-SAM Conclave on Emerging Trends in Banking & Finance in India, 2023

In April 2023, the Editorial Board organized the third edition of the Conclave in collaboration with SAM. The event followed a similar structure to the previous editions and consisted of two sessions: the Paper Presentation and the Expert Panel Discussion, featuring Mr. Anoop Rawat, Ms. Shilpa Mankar Ahluwalia, Ms. Veena Sivaramakrishnan, Mr. Anurag Dwivedi, and Mr. Shantanu Tyagi, all Partners at SAM & Co. The Conclave and Expert Panel Discussion were extremely successful in initiating a discourse on emerging trends in Banking and Finance in India.

4. RGNUL-SAM Conclave on Emerging Trends in Insolvency and Bankruptcy Laws, 2024

In November 2024, the Editorial Board organized the fourth edition of the Conclave in collaboration with SAM. The event followed a similar structure to the previous editions and consisted of two sessions, the Paper Presentation and the Expert Panel Discussion, featuring Mr. Saurav Panda, Mr. Vaijayant Paliwal, Mr. Sagar Dhawan, Mr. Pratik Datta, and Mr. Navneet Gupta. The Conclave and Expert Panel Discussion were extremely successful in initiating a discourse on emerging trends in Insolvency and Bankruptcy in India.

ABOUT THE CONCLAVE

The emerging challenges in arbitration of technology and digital economy disputes laws constitute a formidable domain within the legal landscape, characterized by its dynamic nature and technical intricacies. In recognition of these factors, the RGNUL-SAM Conclave will serve as a platform for the initiation of insightful discussions on the emergent trends in this area in India.

The first stage of the Conclave shall comprise a call for papers, from which the top 10 entries shall be selected. The shortlisted authors shall be invited to the RGNUL campus for the second stage, which shall comprise an expert panel discussion and paper presentation.

EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION

The first session of the Conclave would be an Expert Discussion on Regulating the Digital Economy: Emerging Legal Frontiers, where a panel of professionals from SAM & Co, comprising of **Mr. Varun Pathak** (Equity Partner at SAM) and **Ms. Amee Rana** (Partner at SAM) and other experts, would discuss emerging issues in this domain. We welcome academics, legal practitioners, and law students to attend the Expert Discussion. This would not only give the attendees insights into the practical issues in this area, but also give them a unique opportunity to interact with the experts from the field.

PAPER PRESENTATION SESSION

The next session of the Conclave would be a Paper Presentation Session. The Editorial Board of RFMLR invites law students to submit research papers under the below-mentioned theme to contribute to the discourse around practical issues in Technology Arbitration & Digital Commerce in India. After preliminarily reviewing all the manuscripts, the Editorial Board will shortlist entries whose authors will be invited to present their research before the experts from SAM & Co on the day of the Paper Presentation Session.

THEMES FOR SUBMISSION & PAPER PRESENTATION

Regulating the Digital Economy: Emerging Legal Frontiers

SUB-THEMES

- Navigating Regulatory Conflicts in Data Privacy
- Algorithmic Decision-Making & Procedural Fairness
- Cross-Border Cybercrime & Private Dispute Resolution
- Synthetic Identity Fraud and Financial Liability
- Platform Governance & the Protection of Digital Rights

Kindly note that the above sub-themes are non-exhaustive in nature. Authors are encouraged to explore and submit papers on any other relevant sub-theme that aligns with the broad theme of **'Regulating the Digital Economy: Emerging Legal Frontiers**.' We welcome innovative and diverse perspectives that contribute to the ongoing discourse in this field, whether through theoretical analysis, empirical research, case studies, or comparative studies. Submissions that address novel issues, propose new frameworks, or offer critical insights into the evolving landscape of digital commerce & arbitration of technology law are highly encouraged. We also value interdisciplinary approaches that connect with other fields, as well as forward-looking analyses that anticipate future challenges. All submissions should aim to advance understanding and inspire further research in the field of digital economy.

PRIZES

- **Internship opportunities with SAM and Co. for the top 2 performers.**
- **Publication of the top 10 entries in a special issue.**
- **The top 10 entries will be awarded Certificates of Merit.**
- **All the other entries will be awarded Certificates of Participation.**

Note: Internships shall be provided as per the internship policy of SAM and Co., subject to availability.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

GENERAL

- The Editorial Board of RFMLR invites submissions from law students from within and outside India for the purpose of the paper presentation.
- The submissions shall be written in the English language only.
- Co-authorship is limited to a maximum of two authors.
- The word limit for the submission is 3000-6000 words (exclusive of abstract and footnotes).
- Submissions shall be lucid, contemporarily relevant, and well-researched. They shall contain a novel analysis of the issue by the author(s). The Editorial Board encourages analytical submissions with concrete suggestions over descriptive submissions with generic suggestions.
- Any form of plagiarism is strictly prohibited and the submission shall be original, unpublished, and an outcome of the author's own efforts.
- The author(s) bear sole responsibility for the accuracy of facts, opinions and views stated in the submission.
- The name(s) of the author(s) or institution must not be mentioned anywhere in the body of the submission.
- The author(s) shall refrain from submitting the manuscript elsewhere during the pendency of the review process.
- The author(s) are required to submit an abstract, not exceeding 250 words, within their manuscript.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

FORMATTING

- **Body:** Submissions shall be typewritten in Times New Roman, font size 12 with line spacing 1.5 and justified alignment.

- **Footnotes:** Citations shall be in accordance with OSCOLA (4th Ed.). All the footnotes shall be typewritten in Times New Roman, font size 10 with single line spacing and justified alignment. Use of speaking footnotes is strictly prohibited.

COPYRIGHT

- Author(s) shall divest the copyright of the manuscript to RGNUL Financial and Mercantile Law Review, Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab, once the manuscript has been selected for publication. However, all moral rights shall remain with the author(s).

SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

- The author(s) shall submit the manuscript through the registration-cum-submission form here before the submission deadline. No author is allowed to submit more than one manuscript.

- The author(s) shall submit the manuscript in .doc or .docx format. The author(s) shall submit the manuscript along with a duly signed Certificate of Originality and Copyright (provided in Google Form).

OTHER DETAILS

REGISTRATION FEES

- Single Author: **INR 350 + GST**
- Co-Authors: **INR 600 + GST**

Note: GST shall not be applicable for RGNUL students

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for Submission of Manuscripts	20th December, 2026
Result Declaration	20th February, 2027
Date of the Conclave	27th - 28th March, 2027

Note: The Conclave will be organised in an offline mode at the RGNUL Campus.

IMPORTANT LINKS:

Payment Link | Submission Form

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