i|s|c|i 2024 | NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA

9th CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CHILD INDICATORS

"GLOBAL CHILDHOODS: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES PROMOTING THEORETICAL, EMPIRICAL AND POLICY UNDERSTANDINGS"

14 - 16 FEBRUARY 2024
BHUBANESWAR-INDIA

www.isci2024.nluo.ac.in

ABOUT NLUO

The National Law University Odisha (NLUO) was established in 2009 by Act IV of 2008 of the State of Odisha. The University is located in the city of Cuttack, where the seat of Orissa High Court is also situated. The Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court is the Chancellor of the University and the Chief Justice of India, or their nominee from among the Supreme Court Judges, is the Visitor of the University. The University is recognised under Section 12(b) of the UGC Act 1956 and has been accredited with an 'A' grade by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The University has been consistently placed high by different ranking and accreditation agencies, both public and private.

The University offers five-year integrated B.A.LL.B. (Hons.)/B.B.A.LL.B (Hons.) degree programme at the undergraduate level, Master of Laws (LL.M.) and PhD program at the postgraduate level. Within this short span, NLUO has made its mark as a university engaged in quality teaching and research in law. The liberal yet demanding academic culture coupled with the friendly environment has ensured that students can harness their full potential and contribute to the area of their choice. National Law University Odisha alumni are spread across the globe in top-tier law firms, blue chip companies, judicial offices, courts, academia and think tanks.

For more information, visit www.nluo.ac.in

ABOUT ISCI

The International Society for Child Indicators (ISCI) is an international organisation that is home to researchers, data users, child advocates, and policymakers. It has made considerable advances in developing and using indicators to measure the well-being of children and adolescents.

The ISCI Inaugural Conference on "Child Indicators: Diverse Approaches to a Shared Goal" (June 2007) dealt with several themes such as the theory and conceptual framework of child indicators, development of policy using child indicators and children's involvement in measurement and implementation of indicators. Since then, ISCI has organised 8 Biennial International Conferences exploring the use of child indicators to improve the well-being of children in a globalised world and to assess children's subjective well-being from an international perspective. On average, hundreds of delegates consisting of academics, researchers, data analysts, child advocates, and policymakers from 35-47 countries across the globe have attended these conferences and have shared best practices in their countries and regions for improving the wellbeing of children. The research and experiences presented from the grassroots have broken many myths about adult thinking regarding children's awareness of their environment and have provided centre-stage to the voice of the child. The 8th ISCI International Conference on "Children's Rights and Opportunities in an Unequal World: Research, Policy and Intervention" (May 2022) offered a critical perspective on public and social policies and promotion of equality of well-being for all children and how children dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic in different parts of the world.

In 2024, ISCI is going to hold its 9th International Conference for the second time in Asia.

To know more about ISCI, visit www.isci-haruv.org/iscis-conferences/

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CONCEPT NOTE AND THEMES

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9ᵀᴴ ISCI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

National Law University Odisha is proud and privileged to be the host of the 9th ISCI Conference on the theme of "Global Childhoods: Critical Perspectives Promoting Theoretical, Empirical and Policy Understandings" on 14-16 February 2024 in Bhubaneswar, India. In organising this conference National Law University has the support of Prof. Ravinder Barn from Royal Holloway, University of London, England and Prof. Damanjit Sandhu from Punjabi University, Patiala, India.

The 9th ISCI International Conference will focus on three aspects. Firstly, there will be critical analyses of whether government policies and programs have succeeded in promoting the wellbeing of children. Secondly, there will be an assessment of the rate of progress in Odisha, India and other countries in terms of the SDG goals to be achieved by 2030. Thirdly, there will be deliberations on changes in policies and programs for better results by incorporating the voices of children in consonance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child recognising the Right of Participation of children relating to decisions affecting them. In most countries, this right exists mostly on paper and children are rarely involved in any law, policy decision, scheme, etc. affecting them.

The 9th International Conference of ISCI being held in Asia will provide an added platform for the voices of children in the Asian region. Children are not merely future citizens of a country. The contemporaneous presence of children is as important as their future potential as adults.

For more information, Click Here

CONCEPT NOTE

The Resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly on 25th September 2015 titled as "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" provides a plan of action consisting of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for people, planet and prosperity with the aim to strengthen universal peace. Amongst several areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet, the SDGs focus on children's welfare and well-being. In their broader scope, the following SDGs address children-related issues, aiming to: end poverty in all its forms everywhere (Goal 1); end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture (Goal 2); ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (Goal 3); ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (Goal 4); achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (Goal 5); ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (Goal 6); promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (Goal 8); make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (Goal 11); and promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (Goal 16).

More specifically, the SDGs address issues such as reduction of poverty amongst children, ensuring food security, ending malnutrition and serving other nutritional needs of children and adolescent girls. Health-related concerns of children such as reduction of the global maternal mortality ratio and neonatal mortality rate, ending preventable deaths of newborns and infants and promoting mental health and well-being etc. are also addressed in the targets of SDGs. Besides, the SDGs aim to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by facilitating access to primary and secondary education which is free, equitable and qualitative. The SDGs also highlight the importance of educational facilities which are sensitive to the needs of children and individuals with disabilities and from a different gender providing safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

Additionally, the SDGs also emphasise the elimination of harmful practices such as child marriage, female genital mutilation, child labour and recruitment of child soldiers. Furthermore, SDGs call for ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children. SDGs also mandate universal access to safe, inclusive, accessible, green and public spaces for children and access to adequate, safe and affordable housing for all.

THEMES

1. Essence of Childhoods

Sub Themes

- Universalism of Values vis-à-vis Cultural Relativism
- Childhoods in Countries with Varying Economic Status
- Socio-Cultural Understandings of Childhoods
- Legal Understandings of Childhoods
- Psychological Understandings of Childhoods
- Gendered Childhoods
- Childhoods in Marginalised Communities

2. Children's Wellbeing and Happiness

Sub Themes

- From Children's Welfare to Children's Wellbeing
- Understanding Wellbeing and Happiness
- Wellbeing Indicators: Children vis-à-vis Adults
- Happiness Indicators: Children vis-à-vis Adults
- Role of Child Rights in Promoting Wellbeing and Happiness
- Best Practices for Promoting Children's Wellbeing and Happiness
- Role of Child Indicators Research in Influencing Public Policy
- Methodologies for Understanding Children's Wellbeing and Happiness
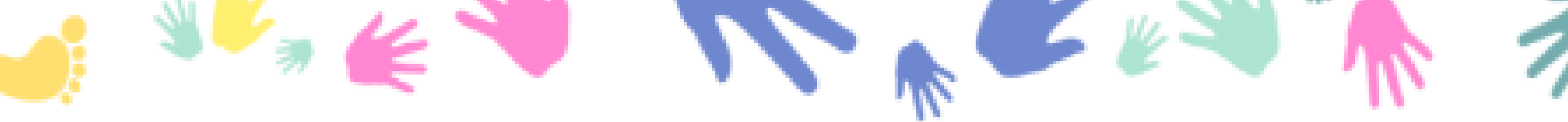
3. Health of Children

Sub Themes

- Health Indicators for Children
- Children's Experience With Healthcare Services
- Access to Healthcare Facilities: Public vis-à-vis Private
- Schemes, Policies and Programs Affecting Children's Health
- Cultural Practices Affecting Children's Health (Circumcision, Female Genital Mutilation etc.)
- Growing Up in a Technological Environment
- Health of Children in Difficult Circumstances;
  - Substance Abuse
  - Domestic Violence
  - Sexual Exploitation/Violence/Abuse
  - Spatial Constraints
  - Child Labour
  - Children With Disabilities
  - Being a Girl Child
  - Mental Health Issues
  - Children in Institutional Care

4. Children's Education

Sub Themes

- What Children want to learn?
- Sites of Learning: Homes, Neighbourhood, Schools, Child Care
- Institutions, Popular Culture
- How do Children want to learn?
- Schemes and Initiatives for Children's Education
- Alternative Education for Children
- Education in Natural Disasters
- Accessibility to Education
- Inclusivity in Education

5. Food and Child Wellbeing

Sub Themes

- Access to Food
- Addressing Malnutrition
- Child Targeted Advertising: Marketing of Junk Food
- Breast Milk Substitutes
- Nutrition in Child Care Institutions

6. Children's Freedom of Choice

Sum Themes

- Evolving capacities and Children's Opinion- Addressing Malnutrition
- Balancing Children's Privacy and Parental control
- Sexual Autonomy
- Child Marriage
- Manipulating Children's Choice: The Effect of Tobacco Advertising

7. Basic Rights for Children's Happiness and Wellbeing

Sub Themes

- Right to Survival
- Right to Family
- Right to Identity
- Right to Development
- Right to Protection
- Right to Participation
- Children in Difficult Circumstances
- Harmonising the Basic Rights
- Children and Environmental Harm

8. Children's Access to Justice

Sub Themes

- Understanding Children's Access to Justice
- Child Advocacy
- Children's Voices in the Institutional Decision-Making
- Legal Aid for Children
- Support System in Legal Proceedings

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND DEADLINES

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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Abstracts for paper presentation and posters at the conference are invited on the topics related to the conference <u>themes and sub-themes</u>.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Papers are invited from academicians, researchers, policymakers, child advocates, data collectors and others working in the field of child wellbeing. Abstracts for the papers are to be submitted by July 14, 2023. Guidelines for submission of abstracts are listed below. Contributors are expected to adhere to them strictly.

1. The Abstract must be written only in English. The word limit for abstract is 250-600 words.
2. Submissions must be made only through the abstract Submission Portal mentioned in the Website.
3. All submissions should be original. If you intend to have your paper considered for publication, on the conference site or special issue, please make sure that your submission is not simultaneously considered by any other publication.
4. Every abstract must be accompanied by a cover page containing the name, affiliation and contact details of the author (s). In case of co-authorship, these details must be mentioned in the order of publication. The cover page should also contain details of the indicated theme and sub-theme. The aforementioned information must be provided ONLY on the cover page and must not appear elsewhere in the submission document.
5. Submissions of up to 2 (two) abstracts per registration as the first author will be allowed, with no limitation on co-authorship. An author whether as first author or as co-author can make a maximum of two presentations.
6. Some abstracts may be accepted for poster presentation rather than paper presentation. If the author(s) agree for poster presentation they may register for the conference.
7. Abstracts must be submitted in a uniform format comprising of the following components:
   a. Thematic importance: the abstract should briefly discuss the relevance of the submission with the theme of conference.
   b. Introduction and objectives: the abstract should throw light on the central issue, objective(s) sought to be achieved , research questions and / or hypothesis.
   c. Method: the abstract must provide an explanation to the study design, description of the participants and sampling methods, procedures for data collection/ measures, and analytical and / or statistical approach.
   d. Results: the abstract should summarise findings.
   e. Conclusion and a Way Forward: the abstract must describe the outcomes of the study, the practice and policy implications and include suggestions for future research.
8. The spelling and grammar must be carefully checked, as we all the specific nomenclature must be respected. The reviewers will evaluate the abstract on the following parameters.
   a. General coherence.
   b. Relevance.
   c. Methodology.
   d. Presentation of results.
   e. Adequate conclusion.

PANEL PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Proposals for Panels at the conference are invited on the topics related to the conference <u>themes and sub-themes</u>.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PANEL PROPOSALS

Proposals for Panels may have up to 4 panellists in addition to chair. Panel proposals must include the following:

1. Thematic importance-The panel should be on the themes mentioned above or related topics. The proposal should clearly mention the importance of the theme of the Panel to this conference.
2. Abstract – Panel submissions should contain a brief abstract (150-250 words) of each submission therein, along with an overall description (not more than 750 words) of the topic of submissions. This is excluding information about the panellists.
3. Perspectives of the Panellists – The proposal should mention the position of the panellists on the topic.
4. Possibility of Discussion- The possible issues in the topic that can generate interesting debates and discussions from diverse perspectives.
5. Moderator- Questions that moderator will use to get the discussion going.
6. Necessary Information- Panel proposals should include the name, affiliation, contact information and brief bio of the chair and the panellists.

The reviewers will evaluate the panel proposals on the following parameters:

1. Relevance for the conference
2. The possibility of debate and discussion on the topics
3. Background of the Panellists
4. Different perspectives of the Panellists

FINAL SUBMISSION AND PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING THE PAPERS AND PRESENTATION

1. The paper must be original and free from plagiarism.
2. It should be in English.
3. The length of the full paper, including tables, diagrams, illustrations, references, etc. should be between 8000 to 10000 words.
4. It should be submitted only through the submission portal.
5. It should be accompanied by a cover page containing the name of the author(s), affiliation and contact details. Such details should not be written elsewhere.
6. It should also contain details of the indicative theme or sub-theme of the Conference.
7. The paper should be in (.doc) or (.docx) format.
8. Font should be Times New Roman 12-point font with 1.5 line spacing.
9. Footnotes shall be in Times New Roman 10-point font with single-line spacing.
10. All citations should be placed in footnotes (and not endnotes) and shall conform to the APA style 7th Edition, 2022.
11. Authors will get about 10 minutes to present their paper. Any number of authors can present the paper in the conference within the same duration.

These guidelines apply also to the papers submitted as part of the panels.

The authors will also be apprised of the results through e-mail. The annals of the Conference will be online and will be published on the event website. Each work will be entitled to 1 (one) certificate, including the name of all authors.

SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION

1. Abstracts and panel proposal submissions must be made in pdf format only on or before [14/07/2023]. The Submission Portal for uploading them is Here

2. Communication of acceptance of abstract will be made by [30/07/2023].

3. At least one of the authors of papers and poster presentations who receive the acceptance has to register as per the Registration Guidelines.

4. In case of more than one author of a paper, author(s) who will make the presentation in the conference must be specified. Author(s) making the presentation have to pay the fee as specified. Registration fee for co-author(s) attending or presenting in the conference is the same.

Acceptance of Paper, poster presentation and panel proposals will be available on the event's website by 30 July 2023. Authors whose abstracts for paper presentation, poster presentation and Panels are accepted may submit the draft papers and posters by [10/01/2024]. After the conference, authors of papers may send their revised paper for publication by [15/04/2024] in the book to be published by NLUO in collaboration with a publisher. Decisions about the inclusion of the paper in the book will be taken by the editor(s) of the book and communicated to the authors. Please note that it is not mandatory to submit a full paper either for the conference or for the publication

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Extended date for submission of abstracts and panel proposals	14/07/2023
Notification of acceptance of abstracts and panel proposals	30/07/2023
Last date for submission of full paper and posters for the Conference (Optional)*	10/01/2024
Last date for submission of revised paper for publication	15/04/2024

*only authors who want their paper to be considered for publication have to submit

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