

# CENTRE FOR BUSINESS LAWS AND TAXATION

## RGNUL BOOK SERIES

### THE FUTURE OF BILATERAL INVESTMENT TREATIES: A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS

CBLTRGNUL.IN

CALL FOR  
PAPERS, 2024

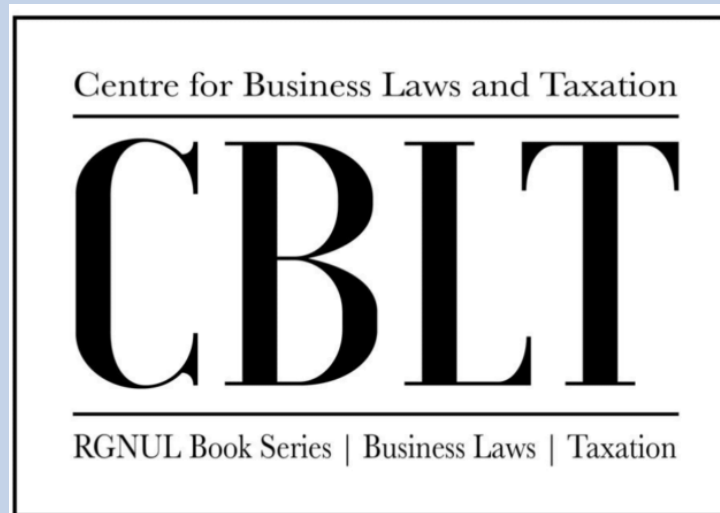
RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB

# ABOUT RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW



The 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. Across the country, it has garnered a repute and has become a prominent institution for legal research and education. 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 Education, Government of India. 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 an autonomous status by the University Grants Commission (UGC). It is counted as one of the most prestigious law universities for students all across the country.

# ABOUT CENTRE FOR BUSINESS LAWS AND TAXATION



The Centre for Business Laws and Taxation (“CBLT”) is a research centre under the aegis of Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab. It aims to promote and conduct interdisciplinary research and undertake numerous activities and projects in the realm of Business Laws and Taxation.

The vision of the centre is to bridge the gap between theory and practice by ambitiously collaborating with the experts of the industry, reputed organisations, prominent academicians and various bodies of the government as it promises to create a healthy forum for discussion and discourse while carrying out research on policy, institutional, legal and regulatory issues. The Centre aims to encourage research, intellectual deliberations, practical output, legal solution and creative awareness; thereby filling the gaps, and easing the hurdles in business laws and taxation.

## **ABOUT RGNUL BOOK SERIES ON CORPORATE LAW AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

In line with its aims and objectives, the centre plans to work on publishing the coveted annual book series on Corporate Laws and Corporate Affairs. The RGNUL Book Series on Corporate Law and Corporate Affairs (hereinafter, “RBS”) is an annual, student-run, peer reviewed book series based at Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab, established in the year 2016.

The book series aims to focus on contemporaneous legal issues related to General Corporate Governance, Banking, Financial Services and Insurance, Consumer Products and Retail, Sports, Dispute Resolution, Communications (Telecom & Broadcasting), Competition Law, Mergers & Acquisition, Taxation, etc. with contributions from practitioners, legal academicians, professionals, undergraduate and postgraduate students, etc.

In the previous volumes, RBS has successfully collaborated with numerous legal experts, academicians and legal luminaries from top law firms including Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas, Jyoti Sagar Associates, Rab & Rab Associates LLP, King Stubb & Kasiva Advocates & Attorneys, Wadia Ghandy & Co. and Trilegal. Looking forward, the VI RGNUL Book Series on Corporate Law and Corporate Affairs endeavours to invite submissions that analyse and review the happenings in the world of competition law and economics.

# CALL FOR PAPERS

In an ever-increasing globalized world where economies are integrating, it is not out of context to observe an exponential rise in the number of Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) signed amongst various nations. BITs are essential international agreements signed between two or more countries to offer protection to the investment made by an investor through articulating substantive rules governing the host state's treatment of the investment and providing a dispute settlement mechanism applicable to the alleged violation of such rules. To that end, international investment law is a regime which aids in understanding various nuances or gradation pertaining to the negotiation and implementation of BITs which would not be completed unless awards made by arbitral tribunals are not thoroughly perused. Now, as opposed to much of the discussion under the head of international economic law focusing on the World Trade Organization, the International Investment Law has gained a lot of traction due to its efficacy in resolving disputes and thereby constantly contributing to jurisprudence.

# CALL FOR PAPERS

Albeit that, the journey has not been hunky-dory as BITs have grappled with numerous challenges, resulting in growing scepticism amongst various stakeholders. Given that international investment law is a fragment of international law, its interface with multilateral environmental agreements or international human rights law is also under the lens. This has led to various nations redrafting their BITs by ditching the conventional standards and evolving some new norms and principles to govern the same. Only through research and proper deliberation, the contours of contemporary norms and principles could be appreciated and reinvigorated with legitimacy under the international investment law regime.

Based on this discussion, scholars and practitioners at all stages of their careers are invited to contribute to Issue VI of the RGNUL Book Series on Corporate Laws and Corporate Affairs (“RBS”), 2023-24 a wing of the Centre for Business Laws and Taxation (CBLT), Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab. This year’s focus will be on “The Future of Bilateral Investment Treaties: A Comprehensive Analysis” and in this regard, abstracts focusing on the underlying theme are welcome.

# THEMES

We particularly welcome the contribution addressing the following aspects (sub-themes), but not limited to:

- Business Responsibilities and Investment Treaties,
- MFN Clause: A Tool for Multilateralization of BITs,
- Investment Law and Public Procurement,
- International Investment Policies and Public Health,
- Curtailing the Friction between BITs and Regulatory Space under Domestic Law,
- Bridging Gaps between Environmental Protection and BITs,
- BITs: A Boon or Bane for International Human Rights Commitment,
- BITs and Sustainable Development Goals,
- Multilateral Investment Courts Project: Evolution or Revolution,
- Manifesting Transparency under BITs,
- Impact of Economic Sanction on BITs: Russia-Ukraine War, and
- Accentuating Dispute Prevention Clause under BITs.

# CATEGORIES OF SUBMISSIONS

- **Descriptive Articles:** A comprehensive and thorough analysis of issues relevant to the theme. The word limit for articles is between 6,000 to 10,000 words.
- **Essays:** They should give a detailed argument-based analysis of the subject matter being dealt with. Essays should generally cover areas which remain unexplored.
- The word limit for articles is between 3,000 to 6,000 words.
- **Short Notes:** These should contain brief, case and point arguments revolving around a specific, current issue, or an issue of importance which may have not received due research. The word limit for articles is between 3,000 to 5,000 words.
- **Case Comments:** An academic writing that analyses or is a critique of a recent case. The word limit for commentaries is between 3,000 to 4,000 words.
- **Normative Law Articles:** The authors may provide an opinion relating to the specific Legislations involved in the theme of the issue and provide relevant suggestions, criticisms or loopholes which are prevalent. It seeks to bring out the author's view on how a particular legislation or legislative Provision should have been drafted. The article must first state briefly about the Legislation/Legislative provision and then suggest what changes could be adopted in it. If there is a reason to believe that the particular legislation requires some amendments, the authors are welcome to **DRAFT** and/or **AMEND** the provisions or can re-draft the entire law, if required; in addition to their analysis and suggestions. Arguments must be logical and can take into account aspects such as sociological, political, and economic implications. The word limit shall not exceed 6,000 words.



# FORMATTING GUIDELINES

- All submissions must be in Garamond, font size 12, line spacing 1.5.
- Margins: Left 1.5 Inch and Right 1 Inch, Top 1 Inch and Bottom 1 Inch.
- All the word limits are exclusive of footnotes.

## CITATION FORMAT

- The OSCOLA System of Citation shall be followed. All footnotes must be in Garamond, size 10, single-spacing and justified.

# COPYRIGHT

- The authors by submitting their articles would be deemed to have divested the copyright of the same to RBS.
- The RBS shall retain all copyright arising out of any publications and only the moral rights shall vest with the author(s).
- The submission must be original, unpublished and an outcome of the author's own efforts.
- The authors are required to acknowledge the contribution of all persons and resources relating to the submission.

# SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- The submissions shall be in English language only.
- The co-authorship shall be limited to a maximum of two authors.
- The manuscript should be accompanied by a cover letter specifying the author(s)' name, designation, institute, contact number and email for future reference.
- The manuscript should not contain the name of the author(s) or his/her institutional affiliation or any other identification mark.
- Submissions should be emailed to [rbs@rgnul.ac.in](mailto:rbs@rgnul.ac.in) with the subject, "Submission for RBS, 2024". All entries should be submitted in .doc or .docx formats along with a pdf copy of the same.
- The author(s) bear sole responsibility for the accuracy of facts, opinions or views stated in the submitted Manuscript.
- All manuscripts would be checked/scrutinized for plagiarism by the Editorial Board. Infringing, offensive or plagiarized submissions will be liable for rejection. Similarity index of 10% shall be strictly adhered to on the submissions received by the Board

# SUBMISSION DEADLINE

After the acceptance of the Abstract. Full papers shall be required to be submitted by successful applicants on or before 30th April 2024 via email to [rbs@rgnul.ac.in](mailto:rbs@rgnul.ac.in).



**PATRON PROF. (DR.) ANAND PAWAR  
REGISTRAR, RGNUL**

**DR. MANOJ KUMAR SHARMA  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW, RGNUL  
COORDINATOR, CBLT  
COORDINATOR, INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL**

For any queries write us at [rbs@rgnul.ac.in](mailto:rbs@rgnul.ac.in).

Contact:

Dikshi Arora, Editor-in-Chief (+91-90245 59982);  
Harshit Bhimrajka, Managing Editor (+91- 98295 13257)