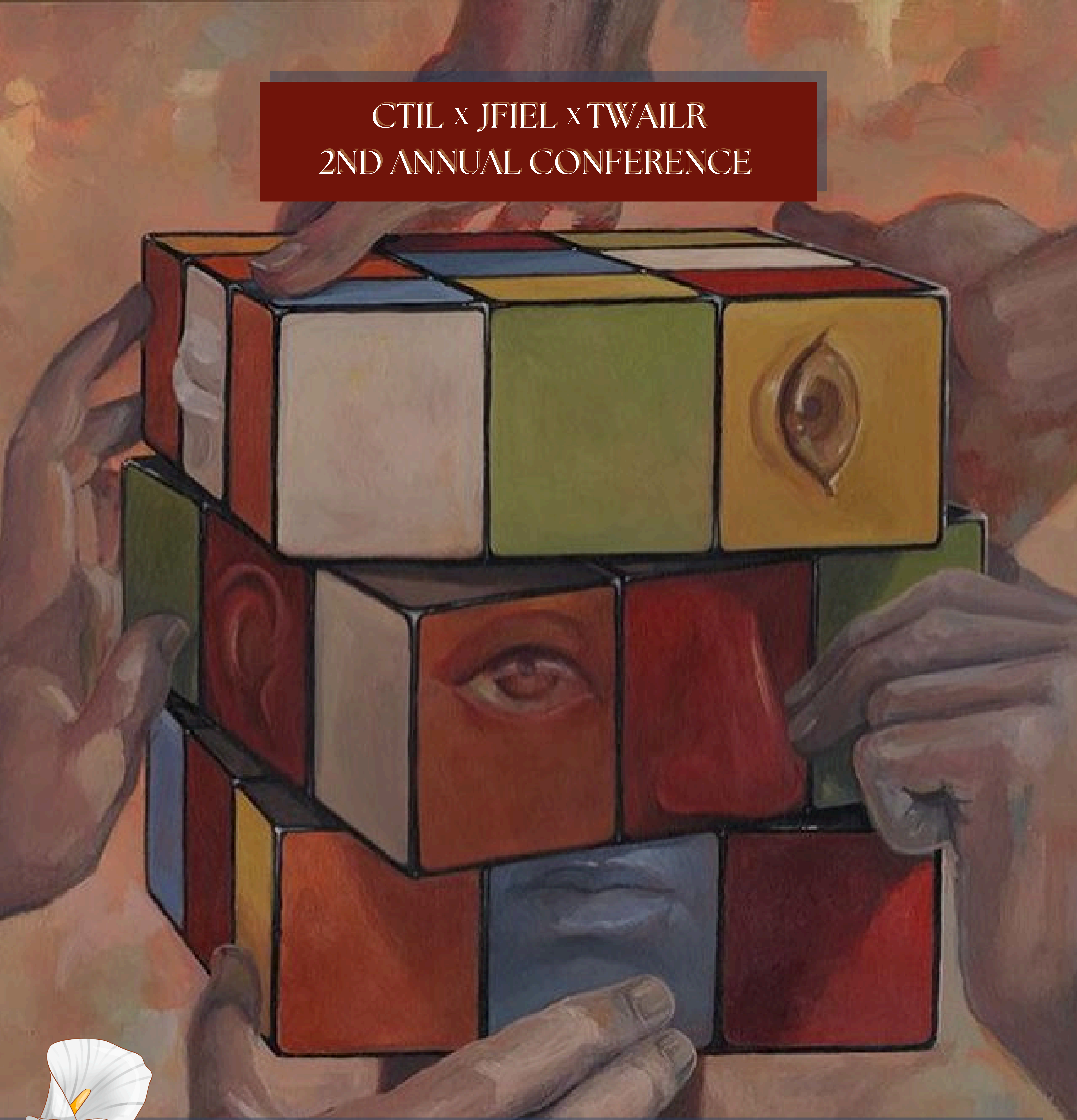


CTIL x JFIEL x TWAILR
2ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Pieces, Puzzles and Penning the Polyphony of
**INTERNATIONAL
LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP**



Launched in 2020, the **Jindal Forum for International and Economic Laws (JFIEL)** is a student-led platform committed to reshaping the boundaries of international law and fostering diverse discourse. What started as a modest initiative has grown into a globally recognized forum, ranked among the 20 most influential international law blogs for 2023-2024, surpassing its previous position in the top 30 from 2021-2023.

At JFIEL, we view law as a dynamic tool for justice and change. Beyond the blog, we spark conversations through symposiums, interviews, conferences, and discussion circles, bridging theory and practice while amplifying diverse and underrepresented voices in international law. Each initiative reflects the passion of students and scholars determined to understand, reflect and perhaps sometimes challenge the norms and advance the law's evolution. JFIEL is more than a blog; it is a community united by the belief that international law must champion equity, dialogue, and shared humanity. Together, we are shaping a just and inclusive future, one conversation at a time.

ABOUT JFIEL

ABOUT CTIL



The Centre for Trade and Investment Law created in 2016 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, in pursuit of its objective of developing international trade and investment law capacity in India. The Centre is a part of the Centre for Research in International Trade (CRIT) at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.

ABOUT TWAILR



The TWAIL Review (TWAILR) was created to facilitate a continuous publication of literature dedicated to the TWAIL network. As a wholly online, open-access, free journal, the review has fostered to cultivate a space where various TWAIL aims are furthered. While the scholarly goals of TWAIL are diverse, a recurring theme across its aims are to deconstruct colonial legacies of international law and to reimagine international law as a space that fully captures the lived realities of people of global south. TWAILR intends to/has revolutionized knowledge production surrounding International Law by creating a network and space that is truly “international”. It is a representative, accountable, and non-hierarchical organizational structure, composed of scholars from diverse global backgrounds, dedicated to sharing knowledge vis-a-vis various mediums and disciplines.



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

International law is a vast system, touching upon endless pressing concerns affecting multitudes of states, humans and non-humans. It is hardly surprising, then, to find that there is no one valid way of approaching the “field”, with many co-existing perspectives. In such a setting, it becomes important to encourage constructive dialogue, with the hope of inclusivity, capturing the discordant as well as harmonious voices that together constitute international legal thought. With this goal, the Jindal Forum for International and Economic Laws (JFIEL) brings its 2025 Conference on *‘Pieces, Puzzles, and Penning the Polyphony of International Legal Scholarship’*.



FORMAT OF THE CONFERENCE

The 2nd JFIEL Conference adopts a **workshop-style format** to encourage interactive and collaborative academic engagement. The conference will feature selected contributors presenting their research in a dynamic and focused setting, fostering meaningful dialogue and critical reflection.

Contributors will be grouped into two to three thematic panels based on the overarching themes of their work. Each panel will consist of three to four contributors with aligned research topics, facilitating cohesive and in-depth discussions. To further enrich these discussions, each panel will include two to three expert moderators (including Esteemed Professors, CTIL professionals, and International Law Practitioners) who will bring diverse perspectives and academic rigor to the table. This structure ensures a productive exchange of ideas, benefiting both contributors and moderators.

The conference's primary objective is to provide contributors with detailed feedback to refine their papers. This collaborative process will help participants expand their drafts into robust, 7,000–8,000-word manuscripts. The revised papers will be considered for publication in the JFIELxTWAILR Special Issue. By prioritizing thematic coherence, intellectual collaboration, and academic excellence, the 2nd JFIEL Conference aims to significantly contribute to advancing international legal scholarship.

SUB-THEMES

1. Cultural Influences on International Legal Framework
2. Exploring the Tensions Between Universalism and Local Realities in International Law
3. Narratives of Power in International Legal Scholarship
4. Role of Individuals and/or Civil Society in Shaping International Legal Norms
5. International Law Education and Pedagogy
6. Legacy of Colonialism in Legal Doctrine
7. (Re)thinking Neutrality in International Law
8. Digital Colonialism and International Law
9. Development and Environmental Law
10. Debt, Development, and Dependency
11. International Investment Law and Global Inequities
12. Who Has a Voice in Global Legal Standard-Setting?
13. Gender, Power, and International Law
14. Discourse on Common Heritage to Mankind



What to Expect

Selected papers will be featured in the JFIEL x TWAILR special issue, based on the external review.

Internships at CTIL for the top 3 participants.

Certificate of Merit to all the contributors.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- **Abstract Submission:** Authors are invited to submit abstracts of 300-500 words.
- **Draft Paper Submission:** The draft must fall between the word limit of 2500-3500 words excluding all citations and references.
- The Citation Style shall be *Oscola 4th Edition*
- Submissions should be formatted in *Garamond*, font size 12, with 1.5 line spacing, on A4-sized paper with 1-inch margins on all sides.
- Headings and sub-headings can be marked as 1, 2, 2.1, 2.2, 3; etc.
- Submissions in different English conventions are accepted, provided they are consistent throughout. For instance, both “organise” (with ‘s’) and “organize” (with ‘z’) are acceptable, as are “color” and “colour.” Likewise, while transliterations may differ, we prioritize local spellings wherever possible (e.g., “Kolkata” instead of “Calcutta”)
- For quotes exceeding three lines, format them as indented text with a line space above and below, omitting quotation marks. Ellipsis should not be used at the start of a quote.
- A maximum of one co-author is allowed per paper.
- The submission must not contain more than 10% plagiarized content.

Deadline for Abstracts Submission - January 17, 2025

Abstract Confirmation - January 19, 2025

Deadline for Draft Paper Submission - February 19th, 2025

Review Period - 20th Feb - 30th March

Conference - April 2025

The Conference will be held in an Offline Mode at OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana

Abstract Submission link: <https://forms.gle/erh6B9S4eBkQdGkV8>

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GET IN TOUCH

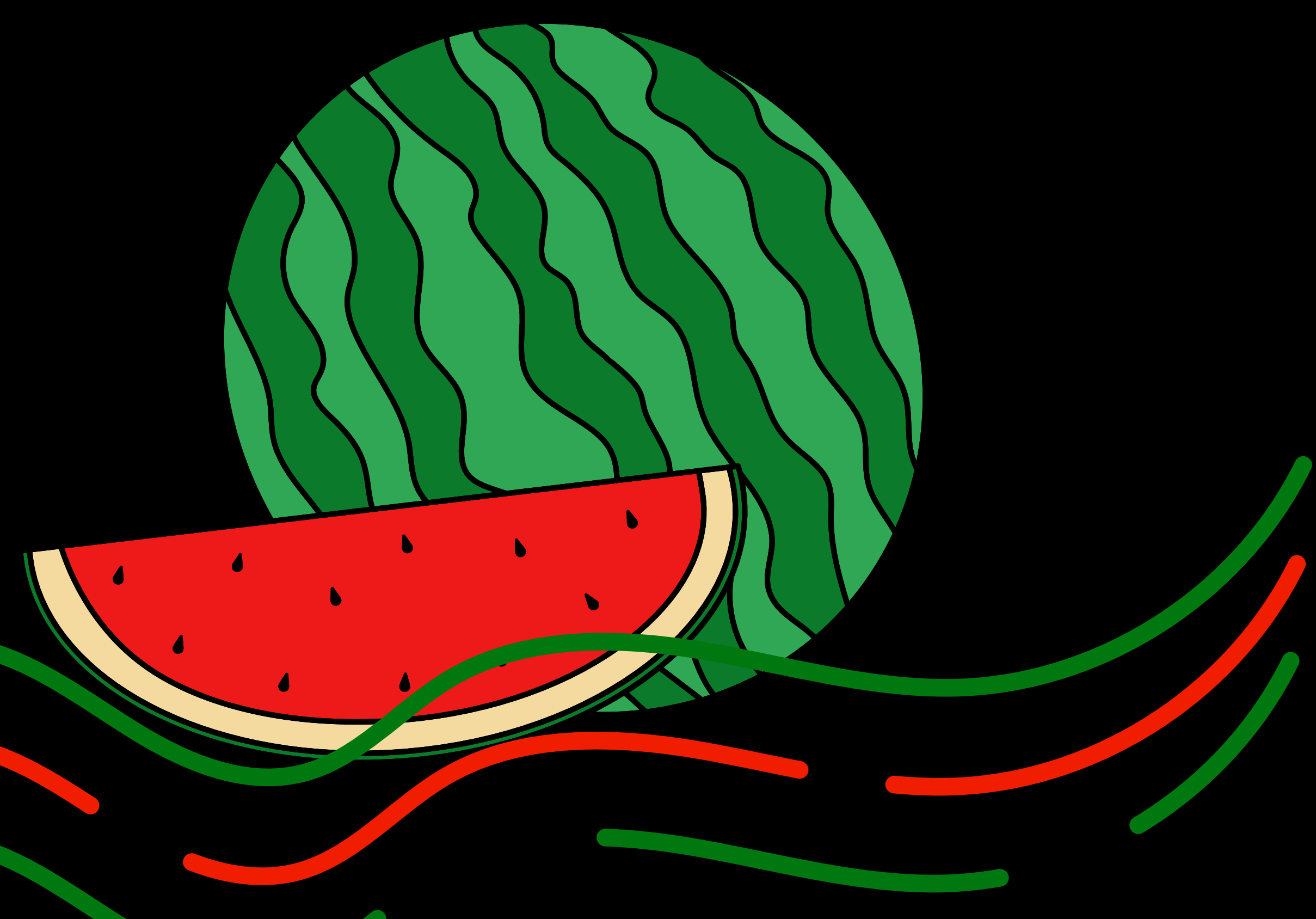


Jindal Forum for International and Economic Laws

Welcome to JFIEL! We are an online student-led platform that seeks to analyse legal developments and foster a discourse in the field of international law and the international economic arena.

 Jindal Forum for International and Economic Laws /

Visit us at: www.jindalforinteconlaws.in
Mail us at - jindalforinteconlaws@jgu.edu.in



2nd JFIEL Conference in Collaboration with TWAILR and CTIL

Pieces, Puzzles, and Penning the Polyphony of International Legal Scholarship

International law is a vast system, touching upon endless pressing concerns affecting multitudes of states, humans and non-humans. It is hardly surprising, then, to find that there is no one valid way of approaching the “field”, with many co-existing perspectives. In such a setting, it becomes important to encourage constructive dialogue, with the hope of inclusivity, capturing the discordant as well as harmonious voices that together constitute international legal thought. With this goal, the Jindal Forum for International and Economic Laws (JFIEL) is excited to announce its 2025 Conference on ‘*Pieces, Puzzles, and Penning the Polyphony of International Legal Scholarship*’.

Contemporary international law, despite its claim of universality, is deeply entrenched in a narrative shaped by imperialist and Eurocentric legacies ([Anghie, 2005](#)). This narrative often obscures its own origins, presenting a particular worldview as if it were naturally given and devoid of political interests ([Pahuja, 2011](#)). The global order it upholds is not neutral but deeply embedded in historical contexts of colonialism and hegemony, perpetuating the very inequities it purports to transcend. Consequently, the structure of international law remains disconnected from the social realities and injustices faced by states and peoples—particularly those that were colonized, marginalized and persecuted ([Chimni, 2006](#)). This dissonance between its professed neutrality and its exclusionary reality calls for a multifaceted exploration of the discipline—one that moves beyond binaries of the mainstream and critical approaches. At JFIEL, we hope to facilitate a multifaceted exploration of international law, welcoming perspectives featuring doctrines, historical analyses, critical perspectives, explorations of topical issues, and more, to represent the ‘*Polyphony*’ of perspectives that contribute to international legal thought.

We envision this space where these ‘*Pieces*’ of various approaches can be juxtaposed, interwoven, and examined, potentially leading to some level of convergence, or at least allow for constructive exchange between disagreements. This will allow us to reimagine international law where competing narratives co-exist, challenge, and enrich one another. The Conference, therefore, embraces the ‘*Puzzle*’ of the complicated ways in which one can do international law. Consider the role of doctrine, for instance, which holds enduring relevance, not only for its role in structuring international legal principles but also for its pedagogical value in the international law classroom, continuing to shape the legal imagination of scholars and practitioners. Similarly, the economic analysis of international law offers an insightful lens, drawing from law and economics to articulate the fundamental need for cooperation among states. (see, [Guzman & Sykes, 2017](#)).

On the other hand, critical approaches to international law, such as Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL), have shown the deep links between international law and imperialism, challenging its Eurocentric legacies. TWAIL’s network of scholars hold diverse views and caution against essentializing what TWAIL is or does. Indeed, such diversity is exemplified by the increasing prominence of [Fourth World](#) and [Second World](#) scholarly networks, as well as feminist, Marxist, and other approaches to thinking about international law.

In this context, varied approaches allow us to reimagine international law where competing narratives coexist, challenge, and enrich one another. In doing so, we seek to move beyond binaries and explore these intersections, interrogating the value of approaching the field from diverse positionalities. Specifically, through our focus on ‘Penning’ or writing *for* international law, we want to create a space for such constructive dialogue where international legal thinkers challenge and inform each other through a scholarly platform.

Such writing is essential because it transforms engagement from mere critique to a constructive process that seeks to shape and strengthen the field. To write for international law is to enter into a dialogue where diverse perspectives, from critical to mainstream, can coexist and challenge one another within the broader framework of legal scholarship. Writing creates a reflective space, inviting scholars to go beyond identifying flaws to envisioning a law that meets the complex, multifaceted realities of our world. This process bridges theory and praxis, allowing abstract ideas to become actionable insights that can inform policy, advocacy, and reform.

This conference by JFIEL aims to provide a platform for diverse perspectives from the Global South. It is also a rather selfish attempt to be a part of the reformatory project ([Eslava and Pahuja, 2012](#)) that challenges international law’s Eurocentric and hegemonic foundations. By fostering dialogue beyond dominant narratives, we seek to critically engage with perspectives that reflect the realities of marginalized states and communities, exposing the post-colonial and political qualities often hidden within its structure ([Pahuja, 2011](#)).

Our ultimate aspiration is to move from ‘partial’ knowledge to ‘fuller’ knowledge— that this journey is only possible through the inclusion and appreciation of all perspectives—those that have been historically dominant as well as those that have been systematically excluded (Rohini Sen, 2024) We believe that by bringing together these diverse voices, we can contribute to a richer, more just, and more equitable mosaic of international legal scholarship.

We welcome submissions that engage with these themes, challenge existing paradigms, and offer new ways of thinking about international law. Let us collaborate, *piece* together the *puzzle* and *pen the polyphony* that truly represents the vast and varied landscape of international legal thought.

Non-exhaustive list of themes and topics of the conference –

- Cultural Influences on International Legal Framework
- Exploring the Tensions Between Universalism and Local Realities in International Law
- Narratives of Power in International Legal Scholarship
- Role of Individuals and/or Civil Society in Shaping International Legal Norms
- International Law Education and Pedagogy
- Legacy of Colonialism in Legal Doctrine
- (Re)thinking Neutrality in International Law
- Debt, Development, and Dependency
- Digital Colonialism and International Law

- Development and Environmental Law
- International Investment Law and Global Inequities
- Who Has a Voice in Global Legal Standard-Setting?
- Gender, Power, and International Law
- Discourse on Common Heritage to Mankind

The deadline for submission of Abstract is January 17, 2025. Interested authors are requested to submit their abstracts through this [form](#).

JFIELxTWAILR Special Issue:

Following the conclusion of the conference, the papers will undergo an external review. Based on this review, selected papers will be published in the JFIELxTWAILR Special Issue.

Contact:

For any queries with respect to 2nd JFIEL Conference, please feel free to reach out to us at @jindalforinteconlaws@jgu.edu.in