**HNLU-ALSA International Conference on**

**“TRADE, BUSINESS & SUSTAINABILITY:**

**PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE & RESILIENT GROWTH”**

**International Online Conference**

**on**

**Trade, Business, and Sustainability: Pathways to Inclusive and Resilient Growth**

**27-28 July 2025**

**Online Mode**

**About the International Conference**

The nexus between trade and environmental goals such as sustainability and climate change was rightly summed up by the World Bank (2021) in stating, “*Trade, in short, is a critical node to mobilize if the world is to achieve green, resilient, and inclusive development in the coming years*.” Regulations addressing issues like local air and water pollution or greenhouse gas emissions require private actors to change their production or consumption decisions, aligning their private costs with the costs to society. Against the backdrop of greening regulations, a growing market for environmental goods and services (EGS) has developed. As Jevan Sauvage in the 2014 OECD Report puts it, *“Environmental regulations thus create a need among regulated actors for new solutions.”* As highlighted in the World Trade Report 2024, low- and middle-income economies can address this challenge by leveraging new opportunities in renewable energy and critical minerals for climate technologies. This can be achieved through diversifying global value chains and expanding trade in related services. Measures such as participation in sustainable initiatives across jurisdictions and implementing nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to achieve climate goals to exploit new trade opportunities in other countries would balance the goal of a greening economy. There is a need to foster innovation in green technologies and enhance access to financing mechanisms for developing economies via programmes such as carbon credit markets, green bonds, and sustainable trade finance initiatives, and regulatory measures such as Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) that have been successful in regulating state behavior, is to be realized to meet the risks of growing trade.

However, the extent of the regulatory effort to propel behavioral change of firms and households at both national and international levels is debatable and varies depending on a country's economic and geographic circumstances (for instance, climate change is already hindering economic growth in vulnerable economies like LDCs, small-island developing states, and landlocked developing economies).

In this background, to commemorate World Nature Conservation Day, HNLU is hosting an online international conference on “*Trade, Business, and Sustainability: Pathways to Inclusive and Resilient Growth*” in order to explore the intricate relationship between Trade, Business, and Sustainability and suggest a path forward.

**Sub-Themes:**

1. Eco-Labeling and Market Access
2. Carbon Border Tax Adjustments (CBTAs) and Low-income Countries
3. Integration of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Metrics
4. Greening Trade: GVCs and Emissions
5. Trade and Inclusiveness: Green Financing and Climate Investments
6. Digital Solutions for Sustainability
7. Consumer Behavior and Sustainable Demand
8. Decarbonizing Global Transportation
9. Post-pandemic Economic Reconstruction and Sustainability
10. Economic Inclusiveness and the Environment

**Note:** The themes are suggestive and not exhaustive. Papers not covered in the above themes but relevant to the thrust area may also be considered.

**Structure of the Conference:**

The inaugural and valedictory sessions will be followed by two modules as follows:

* **Module-1:** Theme-based Panel Discussions as follows:
  + Navigating the Green Trade Maze: Balancing Eco-Labels, CBTAs, and Market Access for Inclusive Growth
  + ESG Integration and Green Financing: Driving Sustainable Value Chains in a Post-Pandemic World
* **Module-2:** Paper Presentations of selected research papers/articles in parallel Technical Sessions

**Call for Papers:**

Research papers/articles in English are invited from academicians, researchers, professionals, practitioners, and students in the field of law.

**Submission Guidelines:**

**For abstract submission:**

The abstract should not exceed 500 words (inclusive of 5 keywords) and must be accompanied by a brief bio-note (in 60 words) of the author/s indicating his/her email ID, contact number, designation, and official address.

The abstract must be in the following format:

* Times New Roman, Font Size 12 & Line spacing 1.5, Justified.
* 1-inch margins on all four sides.
* Submissions are to be made in MS Word format only.

**Note:**

* The file name of the abstract should be as follows:

Full Name\_title of the abstract, e.g., if the corresponding author's name is XYZ then the file name should be XYZ\_title of the abstract.

* The abstract must identify a research problem clearly to be discussed by the author in the full paper, and the particular theme of the conference associated with the paper.
* For submission of the Abstract please scan QR Code or Click the link given below: <https://forms.gle/jYN79TUtxQshnCpcA> 

**Full paper/article submission, Registration and Fee Payment:**

Author/s of the selected abstract shall be intimated separately along with a QR Code/link for full paper/article submission, registration & fee payment through email.

The full paper/article must be in the following format:

* Times New Roman, Font Size 12 & Line spacing 1.5, Justified.
* 1-inch margins on all four sides.
* Submissions are to be made in MS Word format only.
* The Full paper/article must be up to 10,000 words. (inclusive of abstract and 5 keywords)
* For references and bibliography, the author(s) are required to follow the Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation, 20th edition.

**Registration Fees for Paper Presentations:**

* ***Indian Participants***
  + Academicians/Professionals: **INR 1200**
  + Research Scholars and Students: **INR 1000**
* ***Foreign Participants***
  + Academicians/Professionals: **USD 50**
  + Research Scholars and Students: **USD 40**

**Note –**

1. Registration fee is payable only after the *Intimation* of Acceptance of the Abstract.
2. Details of registration and fee payment will be communicated only at the time of *Intimation* of Acceptance of Abstract through email.
3. Co-authorship of a maximum of two authors is permitted with the submission of registration fees by individual authors separately.
4. Registration fee for paper presentation/article will be waived for the members of ALSA’s Chapter on Environment and Sustainability and also for the members of other chapters of ALSA as available [here](https://www.alsa.asia/chapters/), upon request to the conference's secretariat.
5. Registration fees for papers/articles presentations will be exempted from the Students, Ph. D. Scholars & Faculty of HNLU.

**Bank details:**

Name of the Account Holder: Registrar, Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur

Bank Name: State Bank of India

Branch Address: Indravati Bhawan, Nava Raipur Atal Nagar

Bank Account No.: 41394244908

Bank IFSC Code: SBIN0018097 [For Indian participants]

Bank MICR Code: 492002055

Swift Code-SBININBB646 [For foreign participants]

**Dates to Remember**

* Deadline for the Submission of Abstract**: 20 May 2025**
* *Intimation* of Acceptance of Abstract: **20 June 2025**
* Deadline for the Submission of Research Paper/Article, Registration & Fee Payment: **15 July 2025**
* Dates of the Conference: **27-28 July 2025**

**About Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur**

Hidayatullah National Law University (HNLU) is a premier institute for legal education and research and is in its 21st year of establishment. The University's motto “*Dharma sansthapanartham*”translates to ‘for the sake of establishing the primacy of laws of eternal values.’ In line with this ethos, HNLU strives to provide advanced legal education that shapes students into more than just legal professionals; it instils in them a profound responsibility to contribute to society.

In recent years, the university has introduced a series of seminal initiatives, such as Lex Osmose, Ex-Arca, HNLU Press, Sui Generis, HEXA, HAAI and R-Has. The Research-Hub and Spoke (R-HaS) constitutes Five Hubs structured as School for Law & Technology, School for Law & Public Policy, School for Law & Humanities, School for Commercial Law & Arbitration and School for Law & Governance. Each School has five dedicated Research Centres. This Conference is being organised under the aegis of the Centre for WTO & WIPO Studies.

**About School for Law & Technology / Centre for WTO & WIPO Studies**

The School of Law and Technology (SLT) is the Research Hub of HNLU, which is mandated with research, teaching, and advocacy in the fields of intellectual property, privacy & data protection, cyber security, digital commerce, artificial intelligence, and policy impact on trade, commerce, & society. The school and its centres undertake research projects on the policy and practice of the above segments of the technology & law interface.

The Centre for WTO & WIPO Studies promotes research and analysis on international trade policies and IPRs within the framework of the WTO and WIPO. It aims to advance knowledge in these crucial domains, facilitate informed policymaking, and promote global cooperation to address interconnected issues.

**About the Asian Law Schools Association (ALSA)**

The Asian Law Schools Association (ALSA) was established on 1 September 2020 by a group of leading Asian law schools. It is presently a non-profit association of 28 founding schools with the goal of admitting more members over time that will be representative of a large cross-section of law schools in Asia.

The mission of ALSA is to uphold and enhance excellence in legal education and scholarship. It aims to do this by providing a platform for collaboration and mutual support while upholding core values such as academic freedom, rule of law, diversity, fairness and justice.

**About the Chapter on Environment and Sustainability**

The mission of the ALSA Chapter on Environment and Sustainability is to bring together colleagues in ALSA member institutions who work on environmental law, climate change law, and energy law, as well as those who work on the intersections of law and sustainability in other areas, including private law/ economic law and climate change, and trade and investment law in the context of the energy transition. ALSA chapters serve as a means of bringing colleagues together and as forums for the dissemination of relevant information in a subject-matter-specific area.

**For further details and queries, please contact:**

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