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International Investment Law

Contracts, Arbitration & Practice



2026



About National Law University, Delhi

National Law University Delhi (NLU Delhi) is one of India's foremost institutions dedicated to legal education and research. Established in 2008, the University has earned a stellar reputation for academic excellence, innovation, and its commitment to shaping future leaders in law, policy, and justice.

At the heart of NLU Delhi's philosophy is a rigorous, interdisciplinary approach that blends theoretical foundations with practical insight. The University offers a dynamic and intellectually stimulating environment where students engage with some of the most respected legal minds in the country.

NLU Delhi is home to cutting-edge research centres and initiatives that address contemporary legal challenges, from constitutional law and criminal justice to technology policy and human rights. Its vibrant campus culture encourages critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and a strong sense of social responsibility.

With a focus on academic rigor, real-world impact, and global engagement, National Law University Delhi continues to redefine the landscape of legal education in India, preparing students not just for careers but for meaningful contributions to society.



About Centre for Transnational Commercial Law (CTCL)

The Centre for Transnational Commercial Law (CTCL) at National Law University, Delhi is a premier research and academic unit focused on advancing the study, practice and policy of commercial law in a national and comparative context. Established with the mandate to become a centre of excellence in transnational commercial law research and teaching, CTCL undertakes high-quality scholarship, policy evaluation and consultative work for governments, institutions and professional bodies. The Centre designs and conducts certificate, diploma and postgraduate programmes in commercial law and related practice areas, and serves as a forum for academics, practitioners and regulators through seminars, workshops, conferences and specialised trainings.

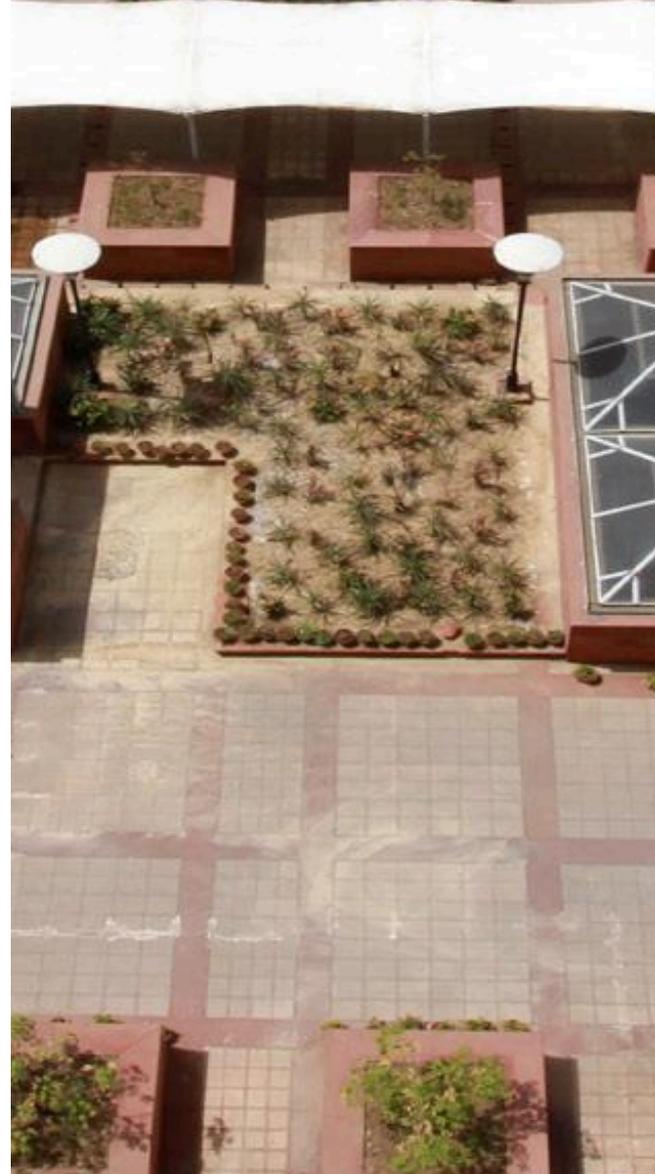
CTCL actively engages in collaborative initiatives with leading international institutions such as UNCITRAL, UNIDROIT and The Hague Conference, contributing to dialogues on harmonisation of international private laws and cross-border legal issues. The Centre also organises flagship events like the Arun Jaitley International Insolvency and Bankruptcy Moot Competition, attracting participation from top law schools and senior legal professionals. Through its interdisciplinary focus, research publications and industry connectors, CTCL nurtures future legal thinkers and practitioners equipped to navigate complex commercial legal landscapes in India and beyond.

About the Course

This course examines the international legal framework governing foreign investment by integrating treaty-based international investment law with the contractual dimensions of investment governance.

The course introduces students to the historical evolution, sources, and objectives of international investment law, and situates the regime within broader debates concerning State sovereignty, regulatory autonomy, and investor protection. Adopting an India-centric and Global South perspective, the course analyses India's investment treaty practice, the India Model Bilateral Investment Treaty, and the operation of investor–State dispute settlement (ISDS) through close engagement with treaty texts, arbitral jurisprudence, and policy materials.

The course further addresses contemporary challenges and reform initiatives in international investment law, including ongoing multilateral reform processes. In its latter part, the course shifts focus to international investment contracts, examining the interaction between treaties and contracts through the UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts and ICC model clauses, and introduces students to foundational transactional skills relevant to investment practice.



Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes



Upon completion of the course, students will develop a clear understanding of the foundations, sources, and evolution of international investment law and its place within public international law and international economic law.

Students will be able to:

- Analyse and apply the principal standards of investment protection, including admission and establishment, fair and equitable treatment, national treatment, MFN treatment, umbrella clauses, and expropriation
- Understand the structure and operation of investor–State dispute settlement, including jurisdiction, admissibility, annulment, enforcement, and State defences
- Critically assess legitimacy concerns, policy challenges, and reform initiatives, with particular reference to India’s treaty practice and ongoing multilateral reforms
- Acquire introductory competence in international investment contracts, including the interaction between treaty obligations and contractual arrangements

Teaching Pedagogy

The course is taught as a discussion-intensive seminar combining doctrinal instruction with case-law analysis and critical perspectives.

Each module is structured to progressively build students' understanding from foundational concepts and sources of international investment law to substantive standards of protection, dispute settlement mechanisms, and contemporary reform debates, before culminating in the contractual and practical aspects of investment governance.

Teaching methods include:

- Guided discussions based on prescribed readings
- Close analysis of landmark and recent arbitral awards
- Problem-based learning exercises
- Student presentations
- Contract-focused exercises, including drafting and negotiation simulations based on the UNIDROIT Principles and ICC model clauses

Emphasis is placed on developing students' ability to critically evaluate arbitral reasoning and treaty interpretation, while building introductory practical skills alongside conceptual understanding.

Eligibility



Candidates **must** be a Graduate in any discipline; In case of candidates enrolled in an integrated undergraduate course of **4/5 years**, they must be in the **4th or 5th year** of their course.

Course Structure

The course is structured into five thematic modules, progressing from foundational concepts to advanced doctrinal and practical issues:

1. Introduction to International Investment Law and Its Sources
2. Admission and Establishment; Standards of Investment Protection; Expropriation
3. National Treatment; Jurisdiction, Annulment, and Enforcement of Investment Awards
4. Defences in International Investment Law and ISDS Reform
5. International Investment Contracts and Practice

Emphasis is placed on developing students' ability to critically evaluate arbitral reasoning and treaty interpretation, while building introductory practical skills alongside conceptual understanding.

The detailed course outline can be found attached here.

Course Details



Duration

3 Months (9 weeks)
February – May 2026



Schedule

2.5 hours/
per week



Class Format

Online sessions
on weekends



Course Fee

Rs. 10,000/-

Course Faculty

Prof. (Dr.) Risham Garg

Professor of Law and Executive Director at the Centre for Transnational Commercial Law, National Law University Delhi. An expert in Corporate Insolvency, Transnational Commercial Law, and Dispute Resolution, he is also a recipient of a Doctorate in Law and regularly contributes to policy, academia, and legal reforms.



Interested candidates must fill out the official application form using the link given <https://odl.nludelhi.ac.in/> or by scanning the QR code below:



Important Instructions

- Ensure you meet the eligibility criteria before applying.
- Complete all required fields in the form carefully.
- Upload supporting documents as specified.
- Once submitted, a confirmation will be sent to your registered email.

Last Date to Apply is : 22nd February 2026

Contact

For any assistance during the application process, feel free to contact

**us at:
ibt@nludelhi.ac.in**

With the subject line 'International Investment Law: Contracts, Arbitration & Practice.'