

# Ad Meliora 7

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International Conference

on

**Contemporary Challenges to  
Governance and Rule of Law**

(Hybrid)

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**29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**



## **ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS**

Christ Academy Institute of Law (CAIL), located in Bengaluru, is a premier institution affiliated with the Karnataka State Law University (KSLU). Established and managed by the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI) congregation, CAIL is committed to nurturing intellectually vibrant, ethically grounded, and socially responsible legal professionals dedicated to the pursuit of justice, truth, and peace.

**Vision:** Guided by India's core constitutional values, CAIL envisions delivering socially engaged legal education of the highest global academic and professional standards. It seeks to directly engage with social challenges—evaluating and responding, in particular, to the legal dimensions of globalization and its impact—to foster a legal and justice system that effectively meets the needs of the common people in India.

**Mission:** CAIL aspires to be a leading-edge centre of global excellence in legal education, research, and policy analysis. Through its graduates and innovative ideas, the institution aims to catalyse legal reforms necessary to effectively serve the needs of the common people in India.

CAIL offers a range of law programmes including BA LLB, BBA LLB, BCom LLB (Five-Year Integrated Programmes), LLB (Three-Year Programme), and LLM (Two-Year Programme in Constitutional Law). With a focus on holistic development, experiential learning, and research-oriented pedagogy, CAIL continues to shape future leaders committed to strengthening justice and the rule of law.

The Academic Outreach Committee (AOC) at CAIL promotes academic engagement beyond the classroom through workshops, seminars, guest lectures, lecture series, and development programmes for students and faculty. Focused on fostering critical thinking, research aptitude, and academic curiosity, the Committee connects the CAIL community with experts from legal and interdisciplinary fields. Its initiatives aim to enrich the academic environment, encourage collaborative learning, and cultivate a culture of intellectual growth and scholarly exchange within the institution.

## **ABOUT AD MELIORA**

*Ad Meliora*, meaning “towards better things,” is the annual flagship academic conference of Christ Academy Institute of Law, envisioned as a platform for critical engagement with emerging issues at the intersection of law, society, and ethics. Since its inception, *Ad Meliora* has evolved into a vibrant forum that brings together scholars, practitioners, students, and policy thinkers from around the world to deliberate on themes of contemporary significance and enduring value.

# Ad Meliora 7

The journey of *Ad Meliora* commenced with *Ad Meliora 1*, the International Conference on Law, Society and Development, which laid the foundation for rigorous academic discourse and meaningful exchange of ideas. *Ad Meliora 2*, the International Webinar on Peace, Ethics and Development, further advanced this vision by engaging with the ethical imperatives underpinning global governance and sustainable progress. With *Ad Meliora 3*, the International Virtual Conference on Law and Ethics, the focus shifted to examining the ethical dimensions of legal processes within an increasingly digital and interconnected world.

*Ad Meliora 4*, the National Conference on Health Law and Policy, delved into the intricate relationship between law and public health, addressing questions of rights, regulation, and ethical responsibility. *Ad Meliora 5*, the International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Law and Ethics, explored the evolving interface between technology, accountability, and justice in the age of artificial intelligence. Building upon this intellectual trajectory, *Ad Meliora 6*, the International Conference on Migrants and Displaced Persons: Protection of Human Rights and Challenges, centred its deliberations on the humanitarian and legal complexities surrounding migration and displacement, thereby reaffirming the conference's commitment to addressing issues of profound contemporary relevance.

Carrying forward this legacy, *Ad Meliora 7*, the International Conference on Contemporary Challenges to Governance and Rule of Law, seeks to reflect on the evolving nature of governance, legitimacy, and constitutional values in the face of global transformation.

## **ABOUT THE CONFERENCE**

Governance and the rule of law form the bedrock of any democratic society, ensuring government accountability, judicial impartiality, and the promotion of public welfare. In recent years, these ideals have faced growing challenges across the world — from political instability, corruption, and institutional fragility to emerging concerns such as digital surveillance, the use of AI in administration, and restrictions on civil liberties. The interplay of law, politics, and technology has given rise to new forms of governance that question traditional notions of sovereignty, justice, and state authority.

Against this backdrop, Christ Academy Institute of Law (CAIL) is hosting an International Conference on “Contemporary Challenges to Governance and Rule of Law”. The conference seeks to provide a platform for scholars, jurists, practitioners, and policymakers to engage in critical dialogue on the evolving nature of governance in an increasingly complex global order. It aims to revisit foundational legal principles and assess their adaptability to contemporary realities shaped by globalisation, environmental crises, technological advancement, and socio-economic disparities.

Through interdisciplinary deliberations and comparative insights, the conference aspires to promote meaningful scholarship, foster collaboration, and generate innovative legal and policy responses that strengthen the rule of law, enhance accountability, and uphold justice in a rapidly transforming world.

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Abstracts are invited from academicians, practitioners, researchers, scholars and students on issues related to specified themes. The sub-themes are not exhaustive, and the researchers are free to address any topic related to the theme. Once abstracts are selected, authors may make payment and secure the opportunity to present their papers at the conference. Selected papers from among those submitted for consideration for publication will be published in an edited volume with an ISBN number. Hard copies of the edited volume will be available to authors at an additional cost, to be communicated after publication.

## **SUB-THEMES**

The sub-themes are referred below. These are only indicative and are not exhaustive in coverage.

### **1. Revisiting the Rule of Law: Jurisprudential and Theoretical Perspectives**

Rethinking justice, authority, and legitimacy in contemporary governance.

### **2. Constitutionalism, Democracy, and Institutional Accountability**

Constitutional crisis in modern democracies, Threat of illiberal democracy, Challenges to separation of powers, judicial independence, constitutional morality.

### **3. Administrative Governance and the Ethics of Public Decision-Making**

Transparency, accountability, and the rise of e-governance and algorithmic regulation.

### **4. Global Governance and International Rule of Law**

Human rights, multilateralism, threats to national sovereignty, the role of international institutions in maintaining global order.

### **5. Environmental Justice, Climate Governance, and Sustainable Development**

Legal frameworks for environmental protection, climate change and realization of the SDGs.

### **6. Corporate Governance, Trade, and Economic Regulation**

Accountability in corporate conduct, digital markets, transnational commerce.

### **7. Labour Rights and Socio-Economic Justice in a Changing World**

Informal work, Work From Home, labour rights during industrial reforms, gig economy, automation, social security in the post-pandemic era.

### **8. Criminal Justice, Human Rights, and the Protection of Civil Liberties**

Cybercrime, surveillance, gender-based violence, and reforms in criminal justice systems.

## 9. Technology, Data Protection, and Digital Governance

AI, privacy, cybersecurity, digital sovereignty under the rule of law framework.

## 10. Governance, Corruption, and Anti-Transparency Mechanisms

Ethics in public administration, institutional integrity, accountability reforms.

## 11. Socio-Political Challenges to Governance and Democratic Values

Populism, misinformation, migration, identity politics in democratic societies.

## 12. Law, Development, and Inclusive Governance

Human rights-based approaches to development, equity, participatory decision-making.

### **GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT**

An abstract of 300-350 words should be uploaded on or before (deadline) via the following link or QR:

<https://forms.gle/HjkEgTH79nEEtQ6C7>



The abstract must include the name of the author (and co-author, if any) along with their institutional affiliation. A maximum of one co-author is permitted.

Each submission should be accompanied by a cover page containing the following details:

- Title of the Paper / Sub-theme
- Name of the Author(s)
- Institution Name
- Email ID
- Contact Number

All abstracts will undergo a plagiarism check, and submissions found plagiarised will be rejected.

### **GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PAPER**

Successful paper presentation in the conference is subject to submission of full papers as directed on or before (deadline). Full papers shall be sent to [papers.admeliora@calaw.in](mailto:papers.admeliora@calaw.in). The paper must be accompanied by a cover letter mentioning the Name of the Author(s), Designation, Program & Year of Study (if applicable), Name of the College/University (if applicable), Email Address and Contact Number.

### **BEST PAPER AWARD**

In recognition of outstanding scholarly contribution, a Best Paper Award will be conferred upon one paper selected from among all papers presented at the conference. The award carries a **cash prize of ₹3,000** (Rupees Three Thousand only) along with a certificate of merit. The selection will be based on the originality, depth of research, and overall quality of presentation as assessed by the evaluation committee.

## FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

*Font and Spacing:* The main text must be in *Times New Roman*, font size 12, with 1.5 line spacing. Footnotes should be in *Times New Roman*, font size 10, with single (1.0) line spacing.

*Citation Style:* All references and citations must follow the OSCOLA (Oxford University Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities) style.

*Word Limit:* The full paper should not exceed 3,500 words, excluding footnotes, annexures, and references/reports.

*Submission Format:* Both the abstract and full paper must be submitted in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) and PDF (.pdf) formats.

*Plagiarism:* The overall permissible limit for plagiarism is 10%.

*Artificial Intelligence:* Ethical use of AI is allowed, provided its contribution does not exceed 10% of the total content.

## REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration shall be done only after the acceptance of the abstract. It shall be done through the following link or QR:

<https://forms.gle/8qvQNvmeqjfHMZrFA>



In the case of co-authored papers, both authors are required to pay the registration fee. The names of both co-authors must be entered together in the same Google Form, and separate form submissions for each author will not be accepted.

No TA, DA, or Accommodation will be provided by the host Institution.

E-Certificates will be provided to all paper presenters and observers.

## REGISTRATION FEE

Category	Offline	Online
Student	₹900	₹750
Research Scholar	₹1250	₹1000
Academician/ Lawyer/ Other	₹1800	₹1500
Foreign Delegate	-	\$50
Observers	₹500	₹200

## IMPORTANT DATES

Last Date for Submission of Abstracts	March 23, 2026
Intimation of Confirmation of Abstracts	March 25, 2026
Last Date for Registration for the Conference	April 30, 2026
Last Date for Submission of Papers for Consideration for Publication	April 21, 2026
Last Date for Submission of Papers for Presentation in the Conference	May 20, 2026
Dates of Conference	May 29 & 30, 2026

*Full Paper is to be sent to [papers.admeliora@calaw.in](mailto:papers.admeliora@calaw.in).*

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Vidyaya Vichhara

Annual Lecture Series

Inaugural Lecture

on

Constitutional Values in Contemporary Society



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