UWSL

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KARNAVATI UNIVERSITY
NAAC GRADE A+



Two-Day International Conference on

Navigating the Intersection of IPR, Global Politics, and Sustainable Development: **Bridging the North-South Divide in the Digital Era**

Publication Opportunity with Atlantis Press
[SPRINGER NATURE GROUP]

Organized by
CRIPR, UWSL

In Collaboration with
GUJCOST

23rd - 24th April 2027

ABOUT
KARNAVATI UNIVERSITY

Karnavati University (NAAC Grade A+) is a State Private University dedicated to excellence in teaching and focused on interdisciplinary learning. Spread over 33 acres of land, the University is located in Uvarsad near Gandhinagar. Karnavati University was granted Private University status in March 2017 by the state of Gujarat through the Gujarat Private Universities Act, 2017.

At the core of KU's vision is the aspiration to be recognised globally as a Centre of excellence in education, research, and innovation, driven by value-based learning, inclusivity and sustainability. Its mission emphasizes high-quality academic programmes, cutting-edge research, leadership development, and strong industry aligned curriculum to foster holistic growth. KU comprises multiple schools and institutes spanning key disciplines — including design, business, law, liberal arts and mass communication, technology, dentistry, and research such as the UID (Design), UIM (Management), UIT (Technology), UWSL (Law), UIBS (Behavioural Sciences), UICA (Communication & Advertising), KSD (Dentistry), Karnavati School of Research. These constituent units provide a diverse portfolio of undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes tailored to emerging global and industry needs.



ABOUT
UNITEDWORLD SCHOOL OF LAW (UWSL)

Unitedworld School of Law (UWSL), a prominent constituent of Karnavati University, is recognized by the Bar Council of India and has established itself as a distinguished center for legal education with a strong emphasis on academic rigor, practical skills, and ethical grounding. UWSL offers a diverse portfolio of programs including B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., and Ph.D. in Law, all designed to prepare students for the complexities of modern legal practice and scholarship.

At the forefront of legal innovation, UWSL is the first law school to integrate AI-focused legal courses into every semester featuring cutting-edge subjects such as AI in Mergers & Acquisitions and AI in Contract Drafting ensuring graduates are uniquely prepared for the technology-driven future of law.

UWSL's curriculum blends foundational theory with experiential learning through industry engagements and specialized legal research hubs, including the Center for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), the Center for Business Laws, the Center for Human Rights etc. Complementing these academic centers are dynamic, student-driven bodies such as the Moot Court Committee and the Legal Aid Committee that offer hands-on real-world exposure, hone practical advocacy skills, and foster leadership. Demonstrating the strength of this training, UWSL students consistently earn top honors and accolades at prestigious national legal competitions, including those hosted by premier National Law Universities (NLUs).



ABOUT
CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (CRIPR)

The UWSL Centre for Research on Intellectual Property Rights (CRIPR) at Karnavati University serves as a premier platform for advancing the global and national IP regime through rigorous research and policy intervention. By addressing the critical need for societal sensitization and legal execution, the Centre fosters scholarly dialogue on the ethical, social, and economic dimensions of intellectual property. Through interdisciplinary seminars, capacity-building programs, and collaborative student research, it aims to drive meaningful legal reforms. Ultimately, the Centre positions the University as a leading hub for IPR training and development in a technology-driven era.

COLLABORATORS

GUJARAT COUNCIL ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Gujarat Council on Science and Technology (GUJCOST) was established in September, 1986, to play a catalytic role in promoting the use of Science and Technology in the development process of the State. The S&T Council was constituted with a view to develop technologies appropriate to and in harmony with present conditions. The Council has been catalyzing interaction between developers and users of technologies, by bringing on a common platform to training Scientists and Engineers, on one hand, and policy makers as well as administrators on the other.

Accordingly, the State Council identifies the areas in which Science and Technology can be applied for development activities and achieve the goals of the State, with a particular emphasis to eliminate the prevailing backwardness, rural unemployment and poverty. It was also felt necessary to establish effective Communication and other links between, and Co-ordinate the activities of centres of Scientific and Technological Research, Government agencies and industries in order to promote the application of Science and Technology in the State.



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The contemporary global order is defined by a paradox: while technology has made information more accessible than ever, the legal and political barriers to accessing that knowledge have become increasingly complex. As the world races toward the 2030 **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),** Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) have emerged as the primary battlefield where corporate interests, state sovereignty, and human rights collide.

The **North-South Divide** remains a central friction point. Developed nations (The North) advocate for stringent IP enforcement to protect innovation, while developing nations (The South) often view these frameworks as hurdles to affordable healthcare, food security, and essential **Technology Transfer.** This conference seeks to deconstruct these power dynamics and imagine a more equitable global IP regime.

THE CORE THEMES

The primary objective of this Conference is to engage with the **sociological, economic, and technological dimensions** of IP. It serves as a multidisciplinary platform to discuss how IPR interacts with the following pillars:

The IP and Politics

Beyond legal statutes, IP acts as an instrument of foreign policy and economic governance. We will examine how IP shapes international relations and the sovereignty of nations.

The IP and Sustainability

Aligning IP with the SDGs requires a shift from "exclusive ownership" to "inclusive innovation." We will examine how IP framework can act as a catalyst for the public good.

Human-Centric Rights

Expansion of digital economy has led to an unprecedented rise in encroachment of artists, consumers and indigenous people rights. We will explore the tension between technological advancement and the rights of human beings.



THEMATIC TRACKS FOR CALL FOR PAPERS

To ensure a diverse and comprehensive discourse, we invite submissions under the following expanded tracks:

Track A

The Geopolitics of Knowledge & The North-South Divide

The IP Waiver Debate

Lessons from global health crises and the future of pandemic preparedness.

Decolonizing IP

Redefine IP structures beyond western frameworks to create equitable economic framework.

Technology Transfer

Exploring role of IP legal framework for transferring technologies to developing nations.

Food Security & Patents

Examining the intersection between agriculture and IP Law, for instance, analysing the how seed patent affect farmers' rights.

Digital Neo-Colonialism

Data sovereignty and protection of digital assets from external exploitation.

Track B

Ethical Innovation & Sustainable Development (SDGs)

IP for Peace and Justice

The role of transparency and trade secrets in governance.

Circular Economy

How IP laws can reduce waste and support circular economy without stifling innovation.

Frugal Innovation (Jugaad)

Recognizing and protecting grass-roots innovations under IP Law.

Gender and IPR

Bridging the gender gap in innovation/creation and ownership.

Infrastructure & Innovation

IPR's role in industrialization and tech led growth.

Track C

Digital Frontiers, Creative Rights & Consumer Protection

AI & Authorship

Determining ownership of works generated by Artificial Intelligence.

The Gig Economy & Performers' Rights

Legal safeguards for digital creators and social media influencers.

Trade Secrets in the Age of Big Data

Balancing corporate secrecy with the consumer's right to information.

E-Commerce & IP Infringement

Liability of intermediaries and the protection of digital consumers.

NFTs & Blockchain

New horizons for authenticating and monetizing creative arts.

Track D

Heritage, Bio-Ethics & Community Rights

Bio-piracy & Benefit Sharing

Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in indigenous territories.

Geographical Indications (GI)

Empowering rural communities and protecting traditional craftsmanship.

Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)

Preventive measures against the misappropriation of ancient wisdom.

Pharma Patents vs. Traditional Medicine

Finding a middle ground between Ayurvedic/herbal knowledge and modern clinical patents.

Environmental Jurisprudence

Protecting the rights of indigenous communities as "Guardians of Biodiversity."

Track E

Corporate Strategy & Technology Transfer

MSMEs and IP Management

Strategies for small businesses to navigate global IP landscapes.

University-Industry Collaboration

Legal models for successful technology transfer from labs to markets.

Valuation of Intellectual Assets

Financial and legal perspectives on IP as a business asset.

Cyber-Security and Trade Secret Theft

Protecting industrial innovation in an era of cyber-warfare.

Track F

Trademark Ethics and Global Identity

Commercial Interest Vs Public Interest

Examining when the trademark crosses the line between brand protection and trademark bullying by large corporations.

Ethics of Global Branding

Commodification of indigenous knowledge and prohibited marks.

Trademarks in the Digital Commons

Impact of virtual branding on consumer rights, data privacy, authenticity of information.

Brand identity and Personality Rights

Examine legal limits of owning an identity in the age of viral influence and digital world.

Merchandising Vs Human Rights

Explore how commercial exploitation of personality rights (athletes, artists, influencers etc.) impact broader public domain.

SUBMISSION FLEXIBILITY NOTE

The organizers welcome submissions that may not strictly fall under these sub-themes but align with the overarching theme of IPR, Politics, and Global Equity. Empirical studies, case laws, and comparative legal analyses are highly encouraged.



CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

The Two-Day event will feature:

- **Inaugural Plenary:** 23rd April 2027
  - **The Panel Discussion:** A dialogue on "IP as a Barrier or Bridge to Technology Transfer" featuring policymakers, scientists, and legal experts.
- **Technical Sessions:** Parallel tracks for paper presentations, curated to foster peer-to-peer feedback and academic rigor.
  - **23rd April 2027:** For presenters from Gujarat [Offline Mode]
  - **24th April 2027:** Presenters from other States [Offline/Online Mode]
  - **Valedictory: 24th April 2027** [Synthesis of the conference findings]

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS [WORK IN PROGRESS]

We invite academicians, legal practitioners, technocrats, social activists, and students to submit their original research. We invite original Work-in-Progress Research (First Draft). Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to present their work-in-progress (First Draft) during dedicated technical sessions and will subsequently have the opportunity to submit the final manuscript for publication.

Submission Process & Timeline

STAGE 1

Abstract Submission

Submit an abstract of 300–500 words. Abstract must specifically highlight issue addressed in the research.

Click Abstract_IPR Conference for submitting the abstract.

STAGE 2

Draft Submission

Submission of first draft of paper by 15th January 2027.

STAGE 3

Presentation

Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to present their paper on 23rd -24th April 2027.

STAGE 4

Full Chapter Submission

Post-presentation, selected authors will be allowed to submit a full-length paper (4,000 – 6,000 words) for the publication.

Detailed Guidelines For Authors

Submission of Abstracts

- **Word Limit:** Abstracts should be between **300–500 words.**
- **Keywords:** Provide **3–5 keywords** that clearly identify the research focus.
- **Author Details:** Include the full name, institutional affiliation, and contact details of the author(s).
- **Submission Deadline:** Abstracts must be submitted on or before 01st November 2026.

Paper Presentation

- **Notification of Acceptance:** Authors will be notified of abstract acceptance by **6th November 2026.**
- **First Draft** of paper to be submitted on or before 15th January 2027.
- **Format:** Presentations will be conducted in **23rd-24th April 2027.**
- **For International Participants:** Presentation will be conducted in online mode.
- **Presentation Time:** Each author will be allotted **10–12 minutes** for their presentation, followed by a Q&A session.
- **Certification: A Certificate of Presentation** will be issued to all the presenters.
- **Certificate of merit will be awarded to best three presenters in the Conference**

Full Chapter Submission

Formatting

- **Font:** Times New Roman, Size 12.
- **Line Spacing:** 1.5 for main text; 1.0 for footnotes.
- **File Format:** Submissions must be in .doc or .docx format
- **No footnotes are required, only references to be added. [APA Style].**

Guidelines for Authors

Publication Process

- **Peer Review:** Papers will undergo a double-blind peer review process by experts in the field to ensure academic rigor.
- **Selected high-quality papers presented at the conference may be considered for publication in an Edited Book to be published by Atlantis Press (Springer Nature). Please note that the final decision regarding the acceptance, selection, and overall quality assessment of any manuscript rests solely with the publishers.**
- **Final Acceptance: Acceptance for presentation does not guarantee publication in the Conference Proceeding. Final decision will be made by the publisher based on the quality and originality of the full paper.**
- **Publication Fee:** Article processing charges levied by the publisher will be borne by the authors only.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

- For every participation, registration is mandatory.
- Registration Fee for the participants who wish to present their work:
  - INR 1200 [For professionals, Faculty, Lawyers etc.]
  - INR 800 [Students & Research scholars]
  - No registration fee for International participants
- Registration Fee for attendees is INR 100. [Certificate of attendee will be awarded to the attendees.]

- Participants need to register only after acceptance of Abstract.
- No TA/DA (Travel Allowance / Dearness Allowance) will be provided for attending the event.
- Participants are kindly requested to make their own arrangements for travel and accommodation.
- Registration fee does not include publication fee. If the paper is selected for publication, article processing charges shall be borne by the authors.

REGISTRATION QR CODE

- **Participants need to register only after acceptance of Abstract.**
- **Attendees can register themselves by making the payment and attaching the payment receipt by clicking on Attendees Registration Form link https://forms.gle/aXeqLvm7WPNnBYuV9**



IMPORTANT DATES

Last Date for Abstract Submission	**01st November 2026**
Notification of Abstract Acceptance	**06th November 2026**
Submission of First Draft	**15th January 2027**
Conference Date	**23rd - 24th April 2027**
Submission of Full Chapter	**30th May 2027**

OUR VISIONARIES



Chief Patron
Shri Ritesh Hada
President, KU



Patron
Prof. (Dr.) P. Lakshmi
Dean, UWSL, KU



Chair
Dr. Charu Srivastava
Professor & Assistant Dean, KU



Co - Chair
Dr. Neeti Goyal
Assistant Professor, UWSL, KU



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UNITEDWORLD SCHOOL OF LAW, ADALAJ-UVARSAD ROAD, GANDHINAGAR, GUJARAT

- 18 KMS (25 Mins Drive) from The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (AMD)
- 7 KMS (15 Mins Drive) from The Gandhinagar Railway Station
- 24 KMS (40 Mins Drive) from The Kalupur Railway Station, Ahmedabad
- 29 KMS (50 Mins Drive) from The New Geeta Mandir ST Bus Stand, Ahmedabad