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NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA

Call for Papers

HUMAN RIGHTS LAW JOURNAL

Volume XII

Submission Deadline

31st March 2027

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About the Journal

Human Rights Law Journal (HRLJ) is an annual, double-blind peer reviewed academic journal bearing ISSN No. 2581-3307 and does not charge any submission fees. It is published by National Law University Odisha, Cuttack, with an objective of encouraging legal writing and scholarship in the field of human rights. The Journal started in the year 2016 and has received quality submissions, both doctrinal and empirical in nature from members of the legal academia, professionals and researchers.

Human rights perspective is at the nucleus of an array of rights and the canvas of justice that law offers. Human Rights standards can provide boundaries to law and associated disciplines that can modulate the substantive as well as the procedural aspects of such discourses. Hence, HRLJ encourages discussion and analyses nuanced with human rights approaches that adequately reflect contemporary challenges, changing nature of human rights, expanding horizon of rights and obligations in general, and anything under the broader ambit of human rights. The editorial board of Human Rights Law Journal encourages focused scholarly writings and invites submissions from academicians, researchers and legal practitioners. The Journal accepts submissions in the form of articles, case comments, legislative comments and book review.

Themes

The journal especially welcomes submissions on contemporary issues within the broader ambit of human rights and its legal interactions. The sub-themes listed below are merely indicative and not exhaustive.

Climate Change and Environmental Justice:

- **Climate Litigation and Judicial Intervention**
- **Right to a Healthy Environment**
- **Climate-Induced Displacement and Migration**
- **Intergenerational Equity and Climate Justice**
- **Environmental Rights of Vulnerable Communities**
- **State Obligations in Climate Governance**

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Themes Contd.

Freedom of Expression, Association and Assembly

- Regulation of Online Speech
- Internet Shutdowns and Digital Rights
- Sedition Laws and Anti-Terror Legislation
- Constitutional Protection of Protest Rights
- Campus Politics and Student Activism
- Protest Literature and State Censorship
- Cultural Hegemony and Political Dissent

Migration and Refugee Protection

- Statelessness and Legal Identity
- Citizenship and Documentation Processes
- Immigration Detention and Deportation
- Human Rights in Citizenship Mapping
- Refugee Protection and Non-Refoulement
- Legal Status of Displaced Populations

Ecocide and Human Rights: The Right to a Healthy Environment

- Recognition of Environmental Human Rights
- Implementation of UN Environmental Resolutions
- Corporate Accountability for Ecological Destruction
- Ecocide and International Criminal Law
- Environmental Degradation and Human Rights
- State Responsibility for Ecological Harm

The Infosphere and Democracy: Misinformation, Censorship and Free Expression

- State-Sponsored Internet Shutdowns
- Accountability of Social Media Platforms
- Content Moderation and Digital Censorship
- Protection of Whistleblowers and Journalists
- SLAPP Suits and Press Freedom
- Misinformation and Democratic Participation
- Algorithmic Bias and Information Control

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Themes Contd.

The Corporate Veil: Enforcing Human Rights in Global Supply Chains

- Mandatory Human Rights Due Diligence
- Corporate Accountability Across Global Supply Chains
- Eradication of Modern Slavery
- Prevention of Forced Labour Practices
- Corporate Influence on State Policymaking
- Business Responsibility and Human Rights

Human Rights Frameworks and Mechanisms: National and International

- International and Regional Treaty Obligations
- Enforceability of International Human Rights Treaties
- International Responses to Human Rights Violations
- Functioning of Regional Human Rights Courts
- Mandates of United Nations Human Rights Bodies
- Human Rights in International Humanitarian Law
- Accountability Through International Criminal Law
- Effectiveness of Domestic Human Rights Institutions

Human Rights and Manifestations of Injustice Through the Lens of Legal Language

- Gendered Language in Legislative Drafting
- Language and Trauma in Lower Courts
- Literature and Law in Human Rights Judgments
- Linguistic Barriers to Accessing Justice
- Human Rights Representations in Indian Literature
- Language, Identity and Structural Discrimination

Human Rights of Children in Humanitarian Crises

- Protection of Refugee and Displaced Children
- Children in Armed Conflict Situations
- Child Labour in Global Supply Chains
- Nutritional Rights During Humanitarian Emergencies
- Statelessness and Displaced Children's Rights
- International Frameworks for Child Protection
- Access to Education During Displacement

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Themes Contd.

Committed Judiciary and Human Rights

- Judicial Accountability During Communal Riots
- Judicial Responses to Massacres
- Human Rights Violations Under AFSPA
- Rights of Women Political Prisoners
- Procedural Fairness in Post-Conviction Proceedings
- Judicial Independence and Human Rights Protection

Expanding the Scope of Human Rights

- Expanding Article 21 Beyond Humans
- Legal Personhood for Non-Human Entities
- Rights of Animals and Ecosystems
- Non-Human Entities in Constitutional Jurisprudence
- Ecological Justice and Legal Recognition
- Rethinking the Human-Centric Rights Framework

Types of Submissions

HRLJ accepts original, unpublished manuscripts from academicians, legal practitioners and researchers working in law and allied interdisciplinary fields. There is no restriction on the number of co-authors. All word limits are exclusive of footnotes.

1. Long Article – 5000 to 8000 words
2. Short Article – 3000 to 5000 words
3. Case Comment – 2000 to 3000 words
4. Legislative Comments (on a Bill or Act) – 2000 to 3000 words
5. Book Reviews – 1500 to 2500 words

**in case the manuscript exceeds the word limit, the author must provide a justification in the cover letter.*

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Submission Guidelines

The detailed Submission Guidelines are available here. In brief:

- **Formatting: Main text in Times New Roman, 12 pt, double line spacing. Footnotes in Times New Roman, 10 pt, single line spacing.**
- **Citation: Footnotes must conform strictly to the Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA, 5th edition).**
- **Abstract and keywords: Manuscripts must carry an abstract of up to 300 words and a maximum of 5 keywords. Case comments and book reviews are exempt.**
- **Originality and exclusivity: Manuscripts must be original and not under simultaneous consideration elsewhere. Submissions undergo similarity screening and go to peer review only if the overall similarity index is below 10%.**
- **Generative AI: AI may not be used to generate or fabricate text, empirical data, citations or case law; to simulate interviews or synthesise qualitative field data; for automated qualitative or thematic analysis; or to produce synthetic figures or images presented as primary evidence. Permissible uses: copyediting, grammar, translation, source compilation, preliminary literature searches, illustrative graphics (with full attribution), and reference formatting and proofing, must be disclosed in the Certificate of Originality. Authors remain accountable for the factual integrity and attribution of all AI-assisted outputs.**
- **Anonymisation and Cover Page: The manuscript must be fully anonymised. A separate Cover Page must be submitted with it, stating the full title and, for each author, the full name, institutional affiliation, designation, email, telephone number, ORCID ID and postal address.**
- **Certificate: A Certificate of Originality and Copyright Transfer, signed by each author, must accompany the submission, including a declaration of any conflict of interest.**
- **Ethics: HRLJ aligns with the publication ethics guidelines of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).**
- **Fees: HRLJ does not charge any submission fees.**

The Journal accepts submissions on a rolling basis. Submissions received on or after 1 April 2027 will be considered for the August 2028 volume. Every manuscript undergoes strict double-blind peer review, and authors may be invited to make minor or major revisions in line with reviewer feedback.

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Important Dates

Call For Papers	3rd November 2026
Deadline for Abstract Submission	20th November 2026
Acceptance Notification	30th November 2026
Final Paper Submission	31st March 2027

How to Submit

Scan the QR Code to Submit your Abstracts

or Access the Abstract Submission Form here

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