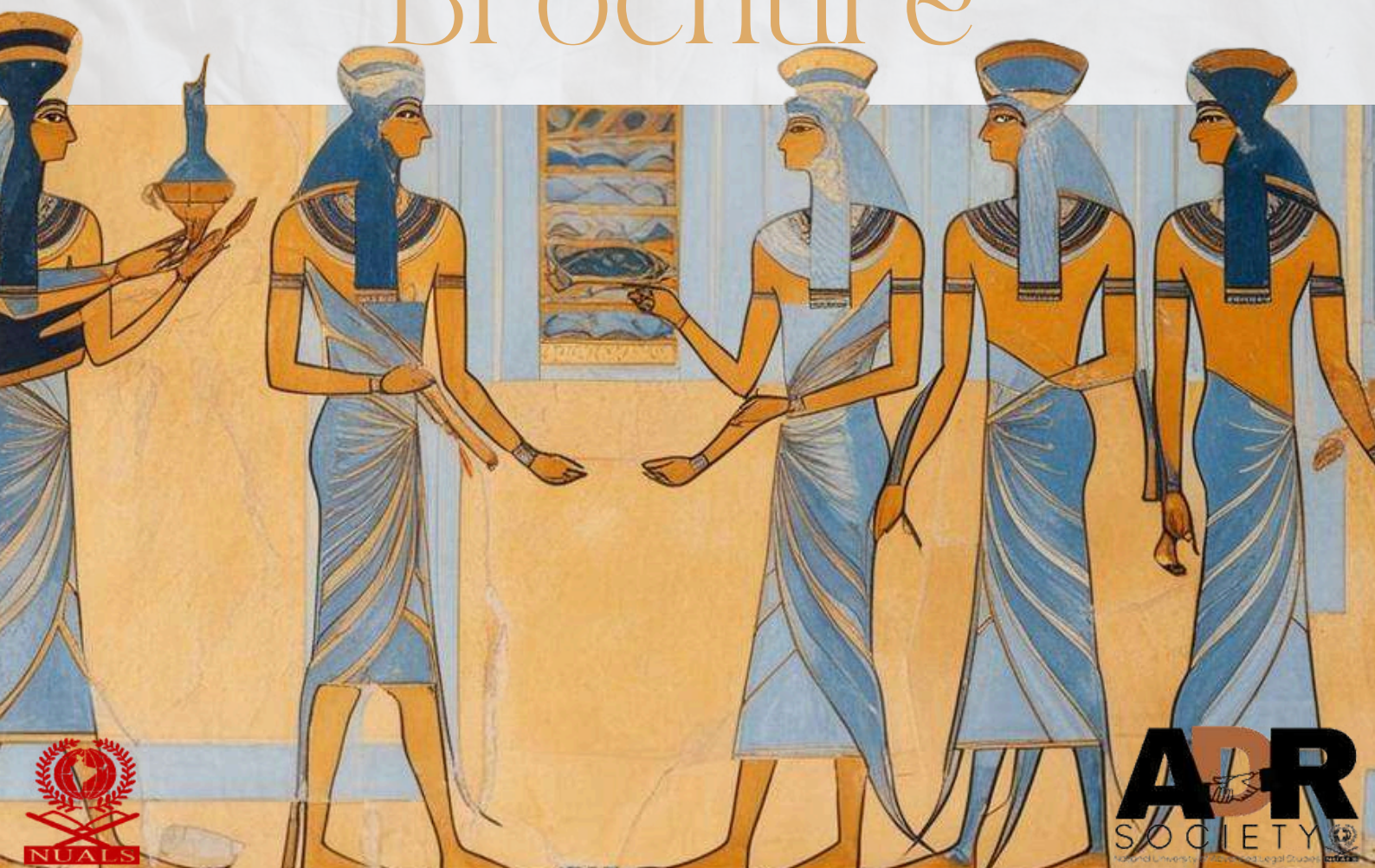


NUALS Mediation Competition 2025



Official Brochure



About NUALS

The National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), Kochi, established in 2005 by the Kerala State Legislature, is a preeminent institution recognised for its excellence in legal education. Renowned for its distinct approach, it offers undergraduate and postgraduate programs that blend academic rigor with practical training. With its innovative teaching methodologies and unique pedagogy, NUALS fosters an intuitive and dynamic learning environment, shaping future leaders in law.

Nestled within a vibrant 10-acre campus, NUALS boasts state-of-the-art facilities and a student-friendly atmosphere. The University houses over 16 specialised research centres that provide a holistic platform for students and faculty to engage in groundbreaking research. With over 500 vibrant students, the University is a thriving hub of activity, hosting numerous clubs, forums, and societies that encourage both curricular and co-curricular excellence. The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Society, which organises the NUALS Mediation Competition, plays a key role in advancing practical skills in mediation and negotiation, reflecting the University's commitment to producing well-rounded, socially conscious legal professionals. NUALS remains dedicated to shaping the future of legal education by cultivating sound legal acumen and promoting innovative approaches to dispute resolution.

About NUALS ADR Society

The NUALS ADR Society (ADRS), established in 2024, serves as the official platform for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) activities at the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS). As a pioneering body, ADRS is dedicated to fostering a vibrant culture of dispute resolution within the university. It actively organises, facilitates, and promotes student participation in prestigious ADR competitions, both nationally and internationally, equipping them with essential skills to navigate the dynamic and ever-evolving realm of dispute resolution. Hosting the inaugural edition of the NUALS Mediation Competition marks a significant milestone in the Society's journey, underscoring its mission to nurture a culture of excellence in ADR at NUALS.

Beyond competitions, ADRS organises training programs, workshops, and guest lectures conducted by leading practitioners and academicians in the field. These activities aim to empower students with theoretical knowledge and practical insights into mediation, arbitration, and conciliation processes, fostering their ability to contribute meaningfully to the world of dispute resolution. Through its endeavors, ADRS continues to uphold its commitment to nurturing a culture of excellence and innovation in ADR practices at NUALS.

About CCLAP

Trade and commerce transcend local, national, and international boundaries, bringing with them legal, social, and ethical challenges, particularly concerning consumer dissatisfaction with products and services. Ensuring quality standards is crucial for safeguarding consumer rights, which is the focus of consumer protection laws that aim to balance the interests of consumers, manufacturers, retailers, and service providers. India, with its robust consumer protection policies even before globalization, recognizes the significance of protecting consumer rights for economic and societal well-being.

The Centre for Consumer Protection Law and Policy (CCPLaP) at NUALS was established to address the need for focused research and education in this field. Its objectives include promoting critical study and awareness of consumer rights, fostering collaboration between academia, policymakers, and activists, and developing integrated research, training, and documentation systems. By serving as a hub for national and international collaboration and a center of excellence, the CCPLaP aims to advance consumer rights, democracy, and peace while providing a platform for joint initiatives in this critical area.

About CCLE

The Center for Continuing Legal Education & Extension under the National University of Advanced Legal Studies is an endeavor with the intention of bringing out social problems and creating awareness regarding the same. The Centre aims to create awareness among people on various socio-legal issues acting as a platform to redress the lacunae in the current laws. The center has been active in conducting a number of successful seminars that have gained wide appreciation including those on the impact of alcoholism and drug abuse, "Right to live with Human Dignity - Say no to Drinks and Drugs", maintenance and welfare of senior citizens, seminar on "Drug Trial and Human Rights", which succeeded in raising awareness and suggesting legal responses to the challenges posed by clinical drug trials, seminar on uniform civil code etc.

The center, steadfast in its mission to achieve its objectives, has actively forged partnerships with renowned institutions to amplify its reach and impact. Esteemed organizations such as The Kerala State Legal Services Authority, Bar Council of Kerala, Jananeethi, and Cochin Medical College have become key collaborators in these endeavors. These partnerships have facilitated knowledge sharing, resource mobilization, and innovative initiatives, enabling the center to address complex societal challenges effectively and deliver meaningful results

About *NMC*

The inaugural edition of the NUALS Mediation Competition (NMC), organised by the NUALS ADR Society is a testament to the rising prominence of mediation as a preferred ADR mechanism catering to the diverse needs of disputing parties. The competition will feature virtual preliminary rounds on February 22, 2025, followed by in-person advanced rounds on March 15-16, 2025.

The NMC serves as a premier platform for aspiring legal professionals to engage with the dynamic field of ADR. Bridging the gap between theory and practice, the competition equips participants with essential skills in mediation and negotiation. By simulating real-world scenarios, it encourages students to develop critical abilities such as problem-solving, effective communication, and creative conflict resolution strategies.

Recognising the increasing importance of ADR in today's legal landscape, the NMC highlights the role of mediation as an efficient, cost-effective alternative to conventional litigation. In an era marked by prolonged judicial processes, ADR methods offer timely solutions, easing the burden on courts and promoting ease of doing business. Participants in the competition gain hands-on experience in dispute resolution while exploring innovative approaches tailored to India's socio-legal framework.



Registration

Preliminary Rounds

1. Provisional Registrations

- Universities interested in reserving a slot for their team can provisionally register their university through the following link.
- **Provisional Registration form:**
<https://forms.gle/9ky1E6hmPVtKYnbt5>
- Dates: *20th December 2024 - 20th January 2025*

2. Final Registrations

- Eligible Teams are required to complete the Final Registration process by duly filling out the Registration Form on or before 15th February, 2025. The link for the final registration shall be sent to the teams selected via email.
- To complete the Final Registration, the Teams are required to transfer the registration fees of *Rs. 1300 per person*. The mode for payment shall be intimated to the Teams later.
- *Dates: 22nd January 2025 - 15th February 2025*
- For more information, refer to Chapter 4 of the Rulebook

Registration

Advanced Rounds

The top 16 teams that qualify the Preliminary Rounds shall complete the second phase of registration within the prescribed dates to participate in the Advance Rounds.

1. Registration for Advanced Rounds

- Participating Teams who have qualified to the Advanced Rounds are required to confirm their offline participation at the campus of NUALS, Kochi by transferring the registration fees of *Rs. 1000 per person* on or before 10th March, 2025.
- Dates: *25th February 2025 - 10th March 2025*

2. Accommodation

- Participating Teams who have qualified to the Advanced Rounds may avail the accommodation facilities provided by the Organising Committee by registering for the same on or before 10th March, 2025.
- The Participating Teams availing accommodation are required to pay a fee of *Rs. 750 per night per person* before 10th March, 2025 to confirm their slot.
- Dates: *25th February 2025 - 10th March 2025*



About the *Format*

For Client and Counsel

The Mediation Competition is structured to test your negotiation skills and ability to resolve disputes in an effective and timely manner. The process begins with online preliminary rounds consisting of two rounds, where each team will represent both the requesting and the responding parties, alternately. The teams' performances in these rounds will then be assessed by way of a standardized scoring system which will rank all the participating teams based on the cumulative scores of the two rounds.

After the prelims, the top 16 teams will then advance to in-person rounds which will be held at the NUALS campus in Kochi, Kerala. In the advanced rounds, each team will participate only in one round per stage, and the sides will be determined by a draw of lots. From the Octa Finals, only the top 8 teams determined on the basis of the standardised scoring system will move on to the Quarterfinals. The Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals will be knockout rounds. From the Quarterfinals, the top 4 teams with higher score in their respective mediation session will progress to the Semifinals. The top 2 teams with higher score in their respective mediation session will progress to the Final round. The Final round shall feature a mediation session consisting of the top two teams and the top two mediators. This format challenges teams to showcase their mediation strategies, negotiation skills, and adaptability.

For Mediator

The Mediation Competition is designed to evaluate mediators on their understanding of the mediation process and their ability to facilitate sessions, guiding negotiating pairs through the complexities of dispute resolution. Each mediator will participate in both preliminary rounds, where they will be judged based on their ability to navigate the discussion, promote effective communication, and guide the parties toward resolution. Each mediation session will consist of two mediators who will need to work together so as to effectively settle the matter at hand. The awarding of points will also be influenced by the coordination between the mediators.

Based on their performance and rankings in the prelims, the top 16 mediators will qualify for the Octa Final rounds. From there, the top 8 mediators will progress to the quarterfinals, again determined by individual rankings. The Quarterfinals, Semifinals and finals will be knockout rounds. From the Quarterfinals, the top 4 mediators with higher score in their respective mediation session will progress to the Semifinals. The top 2 mediators with higher score in their respective mediation session shall mediate the Final session consisting of the top two Negotiating Pairs. Your ability to manage the session, maintain neutrality, and drive the mediation process forward will be crucial to your success at every stage.

Awards and Prizes

Award	Prize
Winner - Negotiating Team	₹20,000 + Internship opportunity + Trophy
Runners-up - Negotiating Team	₹12,000 + Internship opportunity + Trophy
Winner - Mediator	₹12,000 + Internship opportunity + Trophy
Runners-up - Mediator	₹7,000 + Internship opportunity + Trophy
Best Negotiating Pair in the Prelims	₹6,000 + Internship opportunity + Certificate of Merit
Best Mediator in the Prelims	₹3,000 + Internship opportunity + Certificate of Merit

Timeline

Events	Dates
Commencement of Provisional Registration	December 20, 2024
Last date for Provisional Registration	January 20, 2025
Commencement of Final Registration	January 21, 2025
Last date for Final Registration	February 15, 2025
Release of General Information for Prelims	February 1, 2025
Last date for seeking clarifications on General Information for Prelims	February 5, 2025
Release of Clarifications on General Information for Prelims	February 10, 2025
Preliminary Rounds	February 22, 2025

Release of General Information for Advanced Rounds (Octa Finals and Quarterfinals)	March 1, 2025
Last date for seeking clarifications on General Information for Advanced Rounds (Octa Finals and Quarterfinals)	March 5, 2025
Release of clarifications on General Information for Advanced Rounds (Octa Finals and Quarterfinals)	March 10, 2025
Last date for Registration for Advanced Rounds and Accommodation	March 10, 2025
Octa Finals and Quarterfinals	March 15, 2025
Release of General Information for Semifinals and Final	March 15, 2025
Semifinal and Final Rounds	March 16, 2025

Contact Us

ADR
Secretary

Rahul Joseph Stephen
+91 86065 32655

Convener

Alan James Chittinapally
+9181398 81570

Convener

Sania Haneef
+91 89217 59693

ADR
Joint Secretary

Arvind Monipally
+91 94976 07588

Co-convener

David Ashish Pradhan
+91 99855 77993

Co-convener

Anasuya Suresh
+91 95678 65995

✉ nualsnmc@nuals.ac.in

