



Certificate Course in International Commercial & Investment Treaty Arbitration, 2026

**Chair on Investment Treaties &
International Commercial Arbitration**

National Law University Delhi

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Contents

About NLU Delhi	3
About the Chair	4
Message from the Vice Chancellor	5
Message from the Registrar	6
Patrons	7
Committee of International Expert Advisors	8
Visiting Faculty	9
Objective of the Course	11
Outline of the Course	11
Details of the Course	12
Previous Edition	13
Glimpses of the Previous Edition	14
Contact	16



About NLU Delhi

Established in 2008 through the joint initiative of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, National Law University Delhi was founded with the vision of delivering comprehensive, interdisciplinary, and socially responsive legal education. It offers courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and is built on the five-year law degree model, which is proposed and implemented by the Bar Council of India. The National Law University, Delhi Act, 2007 provides that the Chief Justice of India, or a senior judge of the Supreme Court nominated by him or her, shall serve as the Visitor of the University. The Act further designates the Chief Justice of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi as the Chancellor, with the Vice-Chancellor functioning as the chief administrative authority of the University.

Over the years, the University has established itself as one of India's leading institutions for legal education and scholarship. NLU Delhi's strong commitment to academic excellence is reflected in its consistent performance in national rankings, placing second among law universities in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for seven consecutive years.

The University is dedicated to the dissemination of legal knowledge and its contribution to national development. Through rigorous academic engagement, research, and public-oriented initiatives, it seeks to enhance the capacity to analyse contemporary issues of public importance and their legal implications. These efforts foster legal awareness in the community and advance the broader goals of justice.



About the Chair

The Chair on Investment Treaties and International Commercial Arbitration at National Law University, Delhi, was established as a distinguished academic and research initiative under the patronage of former Supreme Court Judge, Hon'ble Justice Indu Malhotra, and the chairmanship of Mr V. K. Rajah, Vice President of the ICC Court of Arbitration. The Chair signifies NLU Delhi's resolve to cultivate informed discourse, professional excellence, and global engagement in the field of international arbitration.

The Chair is conceived at a time when international arbitration, both commercial and investment treaty arbitration, has assumed critical importance in global dispute resolution. With increasing cross-border trade, foreign investment, and complex investor-state relationships, arbitration has emerged as a preferred mechanism for resolving high-value and technically complex disputes. In this context, the Chair aims to provide a platform for rigorous research and scholarly inquiry into contemporary and emerging issues in international arbitration. By engaging with scholars, practitioners, and institutions across jurisdictions, the Chair aims to contribute constructively to the global dialogue and strengthen India's engagement with international arbitration norms and practices.

In addition to research, the Chair places strong emphasis on capacity-building and professional training. Recognising the growing demand for specialized expertise in the field, the Chair currently runs the Certificate Course in International Commercial and Investment Treaty Arbitration, which is a capacity-building course specifically designed for government officials and other stakeholders to broaden their understanding of the nuances of international arbitration. It aims to undertake more such initiatives in the near future, including the organization of lectures, workshops, conferences, and specialized training programmes, often delivered by eminent academics, seasoned practitioners, and international experts in the field.

Message from the Vice Chancellor



Prof. (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai

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National Law University Delhi is pleased to organize the second edition of the Certificate Course in International Commercial and Investment Treaty Arbitration. Over the years, the University has remained committed to academic excellence and meaningful engagement with evolving legal challenges by organizing a wide range of capacity-building programmes for government officials, judges, and other stakeholders.

These initiatives include specialised courses in areas such as competition law, consumer law, debt recovery, and other emerging fields. Introduced last year, the certificate course is being offered at a crucial time, as India undertakes significant legal reforms, including proposed amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act and revamping the existing Model Bilateral Investment Treaty.

In light of these developments, it is essential that legal practitioners, government officials, and academicians are well prepared to understand and navigate the changing arbitration and investment law landscape. The course, carefully designed, aims to equip participants with insights from both international and domestic experts, along with the knowledge and practical skills needed to effectively address these emerging challenges and contribute to the growth and prosperity of India. ”

Message from the Registrar



Prof. (Dr.) Ruhi Paul

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At National Law University Delhi, we teach law not merely as an academic discipline, but as a means to create meaningful impact within our communities. The Certificate Course in International Commercial and Investment Treaty Arbitration is offered at a critical juncture, as India faces a rising number of investor-State dispute settlement (ISDS) cases and continues to address complex questions surrounding the operation of sunset clauses following the termination of several bilateral investment treaties with countries starting from 2016.

This course seeks to equip participants with the conceptual grounding and practical skills necessary to effectively engage with ISDS proceedings, as well as to meaningfully contribute to policy formulation and treaty drafting. In addition, the programme provides a comprehensive understanding of the intricacies of international commercial arbitration, recognising the growing overlap and interaction between commercial and investment arbitration in contemporary practice. Together, these components aim to prepare participants to navigate and contribute to the evolving landscape of international dispute resolution.”

Patrons



Patron-in-Chief:
Justice Indu Malhotra

Hon'ble Justice Indu Malhotra is a former Judge of the Supreme Court of India. Before her elevation to the Bench, she served as a Senior Advocate at the Supreme Court and, in 2007, became only the second woman to be designated as a Senior Advocate by the Court. In 2018, she created history by becoming the first woman to be elevated directly from the Bar to the Supreme Court. Justice Malhotra is the author of a leading commentary on arbitration law and practice in India, which has been extensively cited by the Supreme Court and various High Courts in several landmark judgments. She has instituted this Chair, intending to strengthen the capacity of government officials in addressing international disputes more effectively.



Chairperson:
Mr. V.K. Rajah, SC

Mr. V. K. Rajah currently serves as Vice President of the ICC International Court of Arbitration. Over the years, Mr. Rajah has chaired tribunals and acted as arbitrator in numerous high-profile and complex international commercial arbitrations as well as investor-State disputes. From 2004 to 2014, he served as a Judge of the Singapore Supreme Court and was later elevated to the position of Judge of Appeal. In 2014, he was appointed Attorney-General of Singapore. Upon his retirement from public service in 2017, the Prime Minister of Singapore, in a valedictory letter, noted: "In every appointment, you have carried out your duties with dynamism and commitment. You have strengthened our legal system and made a lasting difference for future generations of lawyers."

Committee of International Expert Advisors



Prof. Stavros Brekoulakis

Professor Stavros Brekoulakis is the Michael and Laura Hwang Chair of International Arbitration at the National University of Singapore. He practices as an arbitrator from 3 Verulam Buildings (Gray's Inn) and is consistently recognised as a Who's Who Legal Arbitration: Global Elite Thought Leader. He is the author of numerous monographs, books, edited volumes, and articles in leading law journals. He has been invited to deliver the 2026 Summer Course on Private International Law at the Hague Academy of International Law, serves as Vice President of the ICC Court, and is a member of the ICCA Governing Board. He also holds key editorial positions such as General Editor of the Journal of International Dispute Settlement and Deputy Editor of Arbitration International.



Ms. Carolyn B. Lamm

Ms. Carolyn Lamm is a Senior Partner at White & Case LLP and a prominent international arbitration practitioner. She was appointed by President Clinton to the U.S. Panel of Arbitrators for ICSID and later by the Government of Uzbekistan to the Uzbek Panel. She has represented several sovereign states in investment arbitrations and related litigation, including the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of India. She is a founding member of the American Uzbekistan Chamber of Commerce and currently serves as Chair of its Board. She has also served as President of the District of Columbia Bar, the American Bar Association, American Bar Endowment, and as the ABA's representative to the International Bar Association and the United Nations.



Mr. Toby Landau

Mr. Toby Landau KC is a senior Barrister and Arbitrator, and a member of the Bars of England & Wales, Singapore, New York, the BVI, and Northern Ireland, and registered in the DIFC. He practises in Singapore from Duxton Hill Chambers and London as a sole practitioner. He is a member of the Panel of Advisors to the Attorney-General of Singapore; Vice President of the SIAC Court of Arbitration; Member of the Governing Board of ICCA; Fellow of the CI Arb and Chartered Arbitrator; Vice-Chairman of the Saudi Centre for Commercial Arbitration. He was a draftsman of the English Arbitration Act 1996. He holds a first-class law degree and a first-class BCL from Oxford University (Eldon Scholar), and an LL.M. from Harvard Law School (Kennedy Scholar).

Visiting Faculty



Prof. N. Jansen Calamita

Professor N. Jansen Calamita is Principal Research Fellow, Centre for International Law, and Research Associate Professor (CIL), Faculty of Law, at the National University of Singapore. He is head of the Centre's programme on Investment Law and Policy. He has previously held academic positions at the University of Oxford, the University of Birmingham, and the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, and earlier served in the U.S. Department of State's Office of the Legal Adviser and the UNCITRAL Secretariat. He began his career in private practice in New York and has advised and trained more than two dozen countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East on foreign investment, commercial arbitration, and investor-state disputes. He has published widely in foreign investment and public international law, including *Investment Treaties and the Rule of Law Promise* (Cambridge, 2022), *ASEAN and the Reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement* (Elgar, 2022), and the *APEC Handbook on Obligations in International Investment Treaties*.



Mr. Ciccu Mukhopadhaya

Mr. Ciccu Mukhopadhaya is a Senior Advocate with over 37 years of experience in legal practice and was designated as a Senior Advocate in 2011. He holds a Master's degree in Law from Temple University, Philadelphia, USA. He has served as Vice President of the ICC Court of Arbitration, Paris, for six years and regularly acts as an arbitrator in international and domestic arbitrations, including appointments by the ICC and SIAC, as well as ad hoc appointments as Chair, Sole Arbitrator, and Co-Arbitrator. He also has significant experience in corporate transactional and advisory work.



Mr. Promod Nair

Mr. Promod Nair is a Senior Advocate and dispute resolution specialist who regularly appears as counsel in commercial litigation and public law matters before the Supreme Court of India and various High Courts. He has been appointed as an arbitrator in proceedings under the LCIA, ICC, SIAC, and ad hoc arbitration rules. As counsel, he has conducted arbitrations across multiple jurisdictions in Europe and Asia under a range of institutional frameworks. He previously served as a member of the LCIA Court (2014–2019) and currently serves as a Council Member of the HKIAC.



Prof. Dr. Prabhash Ranjan

Prof. Prabhash Ranjan holds a PhD in Law from King's College London. He completed an intercollegiate LL.M. programme in London at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and University College London (UCL) as a recipient of the prestigious British Chevening Scholarship. He is currently a Professor at O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat, a Visiting Professor at the National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata, and an International Fellow at the National Institute of Military Justice, Washington, DC. Previously, he has taught at South Asian University, National Law University Jodhpur, and NUJS. He has also been a Visiting Scholar at Brookings India, a Visiting Fellow at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge, and a Transnational Summer Law Institute Fellow at the Transnational Law Institute, Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London.



Mr. Aditya Singh

Mr. Singh is a Partner at White & Case, Singapore, where he is part of the International Disputes and White-Collar Investigations practice. He is qualified to practise in India, New York, England, and Wales. He previously served as the first Asia Regional Chair of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration's under-40 group, Young ITA, and currently serves on the YSIAC Council. Mr. Singh is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore, where he teaches a course on International Arbitration. Before joining White & Case, he was a Student Empirical Research Fellow at Harvard Law School's Program on the Legal Profession, as well as a Grotius Fellow and Visiting Scholar at the University of Michigan Law School.



Mr. Ajay Thomas

Mr. Ajay Thomas is an ADR consultant and arbitrator with over two decades of experience in the field of arbitration. Most recently, he served as Registrar and Director of the Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre in Muscat. He has worked with three of the world's leading arbitration institutions (the LCIA, SIAC, and SCMA) and has served as a member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration in Paris, Vice Chairman of the ICC Court's India Arbitration Group, Legal Consultant at Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas, and Director at the Faculty of Law, Manav Rachna University. He currently serves as India's National Correspondent to the UNCITRAL CLOUT system.

Objective of the Course

This course is designed to strengthen India's capabilities in international arbitration by offering participants a thorough understanding of international commercial and investment treaty arbitration, along with the practical skills required to handle complex cross-border disputes in a globalised economic environment. This assumes particular significance at a time when the global transition to green energy and emerging technologies is giving rise to complex, cross-border disputes. As India's integration with international markets continues to deepen and as the country advances its own transition towards sustainable energy and technological innovation, a strong understanding of the legal frameworks governing disputes has become increasingly essential.

Outline of the Course

Building on the success of the previous edition, this year's course is designed as a structured programme with a strong emphasis on practical and contemporary issues in international arbitration. It will be delivered through a combination of lectures and interactive sessions led by eminent academics and experienced practitioners in the fields of international commercial and investment treaty arbitration.

The course will run for a duration of five months and will be divided into two parts:

Part A – International Commercial Arbitration: This module focuses on providing both conceptual understanding and practical insight into the resolution of cross-border commercial disputes.

Part B – Investment Treaty Arbitration: This module examines the legal framework governing Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) and explores dispute resolution mechanisms under international investment law.

Candidates will be assessed through a combination of continuous assessment and an end-term examination.



Details of the Course

Eligibility and Prerequisites:

- Open to only Government officials (working in any Government Department/PSU), lawyers, academicians, and law officers (PSU/ Private employment).
- Candidate must have completed his/her graduation, in any discipline, with a minimum of 50 % marks.

Attendance: minimum attendance of 75% required for completion of the course.

Fee details: Rs. 1.10 lakhs

Location: National Law University Delhi (In-Person Participation Only)

Schedule: Saturday and Sunday, 10 am to 05: 15 pm

Timeline:

- Opening of the application - 15 January 2026
- Deadline for the application - 10 April 2026
- Orientation Program - 30 April 2026
- Start of the course - 2 May 2026

Registration: [click here](#).



Previous Edition

The inaugural edition of the Certificate Course was conducted from March to July 2025 at the Delhi International Arbitration Centre. Being the first programme of its kind in India, the course emphasized practical and theoretical learning, informed by the expertise of leading academics and experienced practitioners.

The programme featured a strong panel of resource persons and experts, along with participation from a wide range of professionals which included senior officials from government departments such as the Department of Economic Affairs, the Department of Legal Affairs, and the National Highways Authority of India; professionals working with policy think tanks like the Centre for Investment and Trade Laws; and practising lawyers from leading law firms, including Khaitan & Co. and Saraf and Partners etc. This diverse group of participants added depth to the discussions and helped create a rich and interactive learning environment.

Glimpses of the Previous Edition



A glimpse of a class on the Future of Investment Treaty Arbitration, taught by Mr. Dan Tan and Mr. Mark Beckett, Lecturers at Harvard Law, USA.

A glimpse of a class on the Seat and Choice of Law in Arbitration, taught by Mr. Nicholas Lingard and Mr. Rohit Bhatt, Partners at Freshfields, Singapore.



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A proud moment as Mr. Keshav Kumar Jha, Deputy Legal Advisor at National Thermal Power Corporation, is awarded First Rank at the Convocation Ceremony held at the Delhi High Court.

A memorable group photograph capturing the participants alongside Hon'ble Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyay, Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court; Hon'ble Justice Indu Malhotra, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India; and Prof. (Dr.) G. S. Bajpai, Vice Chancellor, National Law University Delhi.





For registration please visit



<https://odl.nludelhi.ac.in/>

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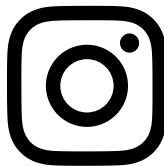


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