THE TAMIL NADU DR. AMBEDKAR LAW UNIVERSITY
தமிழ்நாடு டாக்டர் அம்பேத்கர் சட்டப் பல்கலைக்கழகம்
SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE IN LAW



IMC 2.0

THE DEPARTMENT OF MARITIME LAW

MTS marine technology society
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organises a

THREE-DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (HYBRID MODE)

SEA LANES, SANCTIONS AND SOVEREIGNTY

Revisiting the Carriage of Goods under Private International Law

27TH, 28TH & 29TH JANUARY 2027

DEPARTMENT OF MARITIME LAW

VENUE: Conference Hall, Library, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, M.G.R. Salai, near Taramani (MRTS) Railway Station, Perungudi, Chennai – 600 113

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY | EMINENT SPEAKERS | HYBRID PLATFORM | CERTIFICATES FOR PARTICIPANTS

www.tndalu.ac.in

ABOUT TNDALU

The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (TNDALU) was established by the Government of Tamil Nadu under Act No. 43 of 1997 of the State Legislature for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge through learning, teaching and research in the field of law. The University was inaugurated by Shri K.R. Narayanan, the then President of India, on 20th September 1997, and began functioning on 3rd October 1997.

The University is recognised by the Bar Council of India and by the University Grants Commission under Sections 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956. It is a member of the Association of Indian Universities, the Association of Commonwealth Universities (U.K.) and the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, and serves as the nodal agency for the advancement of legal education in Tamil Nadu.

As the first full-fledged sui generis law university in the country, TNDALU imparts legal education on its own campus and through twenty-seven affiliated colleges across Tamil Nadu. The School of Excellence in Law, established on the University campus in 2002 and modelled on the National Law Schools, offers the three-year LL.B. and five-year integrated undergraduate programmes in law. The University's Postgraduate Centre offers the Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree in thirteen specialisations, and its Research Centre offers Ph.D. and LL.D. programmes and promotes research in diverse areas of law.

Department of Maritime Law

The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University has emerged as a trendsetter in Indian legal education by introducing a two-year LL.M. programme, based on Outcome-Based Education, devoted exclusively to Maritime Law. Under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) V. Balaji and Dr. Nikhilesh N., Assistant Professor, the Department of Maritime Law equips young law graduates with a thorough understanding of the legal frameworks governing maritime commerce, ocean resources, navigation and maritime security, preparing them to address challenges in both the commercial and the environmental domains.



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Escalating geopolitical tensions involving Iran and the United States have significantly disrupted global maritime trade and energy security, with consequences felt in everyday life across the world, including in India. With over 80 per cent of global trade by volume carried by sea, strategic chokepoints such as the Strait of Hormuz, through which around 20 million barrels of oil pass each day in normal conditions, reveal how vulnerable international shipping is to geopolitical conflict.

This conference examines the legal complexities of the carriage of goods by sea through the lens of private international law. It focuses on key issues such as charterparty obligations, war risk and sanctions clauses, and the duties of shipowners and charterers in ensuring cargo safety and commercial viability. The safety and welfare of seafarers, and the role of marine insurance and Protection and Indemnity (P&I) Clubs in conflict-affected regions, are central concerns.

The conference also explores emerging challenges such as maritime security threats, cyber risks and the concept of "cyberworthiness". It addresses questions of jurisdiction and choice of law, and the growing importance of international maritime arbitration in resolving disputes efficiently. Above all, it seeks to identify gaps in existing legal frameworks, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), in responding to contemporary maritime crises.

Objectives

The conference aims:

- to critically examine the evolving challenges in the carriage of goods by sea amid geopolitical tensions involving Iran and the United States, with particular focus on disruptions to key maritime routes such as the Strait of Hormuz;
- to analyse the role of private international law in resolving jurisdictional and contractual disputes;
- to evaluate the obligations of shipowners, charterers and insurers;
- to highlight concerns relating to the safety of seafarers and maritime security; and
- to identify gaps in existing frameworks, including UNCLOS, and to propose practical legal and policy reforms.

SUB-THEMES

- Carriage of Goods by Sea: Legal Framework and Emerging Challenges
- Charterparty Agreements: War Risk, Force Majeure and Sanctions
- Maritime Trade Disruptions and Strategic Chokepoints, including the Strait of Hormuz
- State Sovereignty and Freedom of Navigation under UNCLOS
- Private International Law: Jurisdiction, Choice of Law and Conflict of Laws
- International Maritime Arbitration and Dispute Resolution
- Marine Insurance, War Risks and Liability Frameworks
- Rights, Safety and Welfare of Seafarers in Conflict Zones
- Maritime Security, Modern Warfare and Cyber Risks ("Cyberworthiness")
- Impact of Sanctions on Global Shipping and Trade
- Environmental and Energy Security Concerns in Maritime Transport
- Gaps and Reforms in Public International Law and the Law of the Sea

Note: The sub-themes listed above are indicative, not exhaustive. Authors may choose any other topic, provided it is in keeping with the main theme of the conference.

Eligible Participants

Submissions are invited from students, academicians, research scholars, advocates, naval officers and technical experts from the maritime industry.

Mode of the Conference

In recognition of the international character of the maritime industry, the conference will be held in hybrid mode, with certain sessions conducted online to accommodate resource persons.

Guidelines for Abstract Submission

- Participants must fill in the Google Form with accurate and complete details, including a primary email ID and a WhatsApp number.
- Ensure that the names of the author and co-author (if any), designation, institutional affiliation and contact details are entered correctly.
- Abstracts must not exceed 300 words and must be uploaded in Word format only (.doc/.docx).
- A submission may have a maximum of two authors.
- The abstract must clearly state the research objectives, the research questions and the theme of the paper.
- The abstract must be accompanied by 5–7 keywords.
- The file must be named in the format Name_FirstThreeWordsOfTitle (e.g., Ramu_CarriageofGoods).
- Only authors of shortlisted abstracts will be invited to submit full papers and will be eligible to present their research.
- All submissions must be made on or before the deadline. Incomplete or late submissions may not be considered.
- On successful submission, participants will receive a confirmation by email or WhatsApp, using the details provided.
- Participants whose abstracts are accepted must complete their registration by paying the prescribed conference fee.

All abstracts must be submitted through the Google Form link on or before 7th December 2026.

Full Paper Guidelines

Once abstracts have been reviewed and acceptance has been communicated, the Editorial Board will accept full papers in electronic form only. The following guidelines must be strictly followed:

- Full papers must be between 3,500 and 5,000 words (inclusive of footnotes) and submitted in .doc or .docx format.
- The file must be named in the format FirstAuthorName_FullPaper (e.g., Ramu_FullPaper.docx). For co-authored papers, use only the first author's name.
- Papers must be submitted through the Google Form.
- Any form of plagiarism will lead to disqualification.
- The manuscript must not contain the author's name, institutional affiliation or any other identifying mark.
- Citations must follow the 21st edition of The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation.
- Main text: Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.5 line spacing, justified.
- Footnotes: Times New Roman, 10 pt, single line spacing, justified.
- Margins: 1 inch (2.54 cm) on all sides.

Awards and Publication

Cash prizes will be awarded for the Best and Second-Best Research Papers, and for the Best and Second-Best Presenters. The top 15 papers will be published as an edited book or peer reviewed journal, and a further 10 papers will be published on the Department of Maritime Law blog; Certificates of Publication will be issued for both. All presenters will receive a Certificate of Presentation.

Release of notification	**11th November 2026**
Last date for abstract submission	**7th December 2026**

Registration Procedure

Only authors whose abstracts have been selected are eligible to register as presenters. Please note the following:

- Registration for presenters will open on 14th December 2026, upon communication of the selection of abstracts.
- The registration fee must be paid on or before 4th January 2027.
- A registration form will be attached to the selection email. Presenters must send the completed form, along with electronic proof of payment of the registration fee (scanned receipt or screenshot), to maritimeconference2026@gmail.com.

For payment of registration amount

Last date for payment of registration fee (presenters)	**4th January 2027**



Registration Fees

Category	I. Paper Presenters	II. Participants (Non-Presenters)
Foreign academics, professionals and others	US$ 25	US$ 25
Indian academics, professionals and others	₹1,500	₹500
Foreign students	US$ 25	US$ 25
Indian students	₹1,000	₹500

Bank Details

Account Name	The Registrar, Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (TNDALU)
Account Number	7610205347
Account Type	Savings Bank Account
Bank	Indian Bank
Branch	Dr. Ambedkar Law University Branch, M.G.R. Salai, near Taramani Railway Station,
IFSC	IDIB000A221
UPI ID	tndalu@indianbk (or scan the QR code)

Important Dates

Release of notification	13th November 2026
Last date for abstract	7th December 2026
Communication of acceptance	14th December 2026
Last date for payment of	4th January 2027
Last date for full paper	11th January 2027
Last date for registration of	20th January 2027
Conference dates	27th, 28th & 29th January 2027

Registration for Participants

Delegates who wish to attend the conference without presenting a paper are requested to confirm their participation by filling in the registration form on or before 20th January 2027. Participants attending in person are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

Important Links

- **Abstract submission:** https://forms.gle/f1KUqRyNfuiLtKT68
- **RegistrationLink:** https://forms.gle/dKZmjHMVGHWXgbBZ7
- **Official email:** maritimeconference2026@gmail.com

Papers must not be submitted to this email address. It is to be used only for queries and clarifications, and for communications from the organisers.

Contact
Email: maritimeconference2026@gmail.com
Faculty Convenor: Dr. Nikhilesh N. – +91 90378 84213
Students Coordinators: Mr. Akilan-9677114187;
Ms. Ashika M: 9342401969:
Ms. Gayatri M- 8870231510

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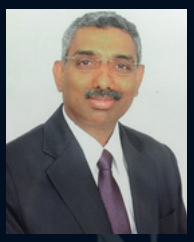

Hon'ble Thiru Justice V. BHARATHIDASAN
Former Judge, High Court of Madras



Tmt. P. Sumathi,
Secretary to Government, Law Department Government of Tamil Nadu



Thiru. E. OM PRAKASH
Senior Advocate, High Court of Madras

PATRON



Prof. (Dr.) Ranjit Oommen Abraham, *Registrar (I/c), TNDALU*

Conference Director



Prof. (Dr.) V. Balaji,
Dean , SOEL Head, Dept. of Maritime Law, TNDALU

CONVENOR



Dr. Nikhilesh N
Assistant Professor, Department of Maritime Law, TNDALU

STUDENT CO-ORDINATORS

1st & 2nd Year Students
Department of Maritime Law, TNDALU





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School of Excellence in Law