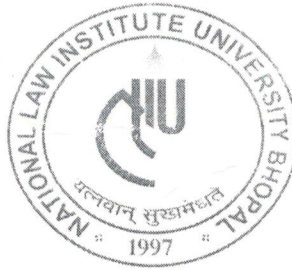


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05/08/2022  
NLIUB

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**The National Law Institute  
University, Bhopal**



AND

**Consumer Unity and Trust Society**

**CUTS<sup>®</sup>**  
International

2022



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### PREAMBLE

**Whereas, the National Law Institute University (NLIU)** was established by the Rashtriya Vidhi Sansthan Vishwavidyalaya Adhiniyam, by Act No. 41 of 1997 enacted by the Madhya Pradesh State Legislature, and substituted by the Madhya Pradesh National Law Institute University Act, 2018 (Act No. 6 of 2018), has been a leading law school in the country imparting legal education and promote research and publication. NLIU is recognized by the University Grants Commission as well as the Bar Council of India.

The **Vision** of NLIU is to become one of the best centres of legal education, training and research in the world. The **Objectives** of NLIU *inter alia*, are: (I) to advance, disseminate and impart comprehensive legal education, learning and knowledge including through distant and continuing legal education at all levels to achieve excellence with a view to ensure its proper role in national development; (ii) to organize advanced studies and promote research in various branches of law; (iii) to promote legal awareness in the community for achieving social and economic justice; (iv) to undertake research, study, workshops or training to judicial officers and training projects relating to law, legislation and judicial institutions etc.: and (v) to hold administrative officers training programme and research on the legal subjects and social importance. NLIU has been offering its flagship course, the B.A.LL.B (Hons) course, one year LL.M, regular Ph.D., and the two-year MCLIS courses.

With more than 24 years of commitment to legal education in India, the NLIU has become the first Law University to offer an inter-disciplinary post-graduate course known as the Masters in Cyber Laws and Information Security (MCLIS). NLIU has been organizing a number of training programmes for the academic staff, non-governmental organizations, governmental bodies and others from time to time on diverse areas. NLIU has organised a number of seminars and conferences and has co-sponsored such international conferences in association with other Law Schools and Institutions.

Whereas NLIU is in mandate to establish academic integration and collaboration with renowned civil society organisations and academic research institutes in the country for mutual development,



capacity development and to foster collaborative academic research projects. NLIU is one of the premier Law Universities and also seeks to engage in the institutional collaborations for symbiotic development, through this Memorandum of Understanding.

**Whereas, Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS)**, established in 1984 and registered under the Rajasthan Societies Registration Act, 1958 is a non-profit and non-government organisation (NGO) working on public interest issues with the vision of 'Consumer sovereignty in the framework of social justice and equality', within and across borders. The organisation is headquartered in Jaipur, Rajasthan. It has a programme centre in Chittorgarh, an advocacy centre in Delhi and a resource centre in Kolkata in India. It has six other affiliated centres in Lusaka (Zambia), Nairobi (Kenya) and Accra (Ghana), Hanoi (Vietnam), Geneva (Switzerland) and Washington DC (USA).

Whereas, CUTS International is authorised to collaborate with academic institutions and research organisations for promoting research activities, jointly undertaking academic projects, sharing resources, disseminating relevant knowledge and skills to spread awareness of its work areas, fostering capacity building and becoming knowledge partners.

### SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed between NLIU as First Party and CUTS International, Jaipur, as Second Party for the purpose of **Academic Collaboration** that will encompass exchange of ideas, training, preparation of developmental modules, research, internship, conducting courses, research and publication. In addition to this, active efforts will be made to develop joint training and research programmes that will be pursued in a collaborative spirit. Some of the collaborative areas include the following:

#### I TERMS OF COOPERATION:

1. Both the Parties shall collaborate in mutually agreeable academic events, conducting courses, training and research, wherever feasible. Such collaboration shall be based on mutually agreeable terms and conditions specifically agreed for each of the collaborative efforts, subject to the approval of the Governing Bodies of the respective institution.
2. To collaborate with one another in organising activities like conferences, workshops, seminars, faculty development programmes, courses, training modules and guest lectures.

 Vice Chancellor  
National Law Institute University  
Bhopal









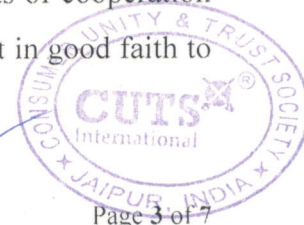
3. To extend benefits of the eminent scholars, researchers and faculty members, subject experts (from the domains of academia, industry, bar and bench), etc. to each other.
4. To participate in collaboration with each other's important academic events viz., seminars, conferences, outreach activities, fundraising events and research activities by way of sharing invitations and information.
5. Research Scholars of both the Institutions shall be extended facilities to make use of the library resources at respective institutional libraries, subject to the respective guidelines as mutually agreed upon by both the parties.
6. The modalities for other programmes herein such as exchange of research scholars, faculty members, training to teachers, staff, and related activities will be subsequently annexed as an appendix to this document after mutual discussion that shall be made operational to the extent of the specific object.
7. To collaborate in disseminating the information regarding the economic implications of judicial decisions and its implications on the economy and citizens of India.
8. To build capacity of scholars, judicial officers in collaboration with institutions having similar links or association with NLIU on economic implications of judicial decisions for various sectors and businesses.
9. Both parties shall assign a SPOC (Single point of Contact) for further communications.

## **II FOCUS OF COOPERATION**

This Memorandum expresses a mutual desire by both the Parties to cooperate in building intellectual, academic, research capacity and scholarship. Additional areas of cooperation may be added by written consent of both the parties. Both parties shall act in good faith to ensure that the objectives of this Memorandum are realised.

 **Vice Chancellor**  
National Law Institute University  
Bhopal







### III TERMS OF AGREEMENT

Progress in realising the terms and conditions referred to herein will be reviewed periodically as mutually agreed and the memorandum may be amended at any time by mutual consent and in writing. The activities specified in Annexure – I can be extended upon during the course of association of both organisations depending upon developments and mutual agreement. The implementation and/or continuance of the programmers of projects established pursuant to this memorandum prior to the effective date of termination shall not be affected by the termination of this Memorandum.

### IV INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

1. In respect of each activity of the cooperation between two parties, the parties shall mutually own the intellectual property and commercial exploitation rights of the same of the same (including without limitation, trademarks and service marks, copyrights, patents, designs, business methods and confidential information pertaining thereto). In case of contradictions in above, it will be mutually decided amongst parties in writing.
2. Neither party shall, at any time, disclose to any third party and confidential information of the other party which is acquired in the course of activities under this Memorandum, a collaborative project or a programme, without the prior consent of the other party in writing; and
3. The confidentiality obligations herein shall not apply to information in the public domain; information in the possession of the receiving party prior to the disclosure of the information; information which is independently developed by the receiving party; information required to be released by law; and information which is rightfully received by the receiving party from third parties without any breach of confidentiality obligations.

### V. NON-BINDING NATURE OF MEMORANDUM

 Vice Chancellor  
National Law Institute University  
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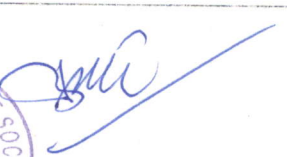


Nothing in this Memorandum shall be construed as creating any contract, partnership, agency or other legal relationship between the parties. This Memorandum is only a non-binding statement of intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial collaboration.

## VI. TERMINATION

1. This Memorandum shall come into force from the date on which both parties have signed and executed this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. The validity of this Memorandum of Understanding is initially for a period of five years from the date of its execution and the same can be further extended on mutual agreement.
3. This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either one of the parties by giving advance notice of six months and without jeopardising the coursework of registration of any of the students of either institution.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Memorandum of Understanding is executed by both the parties hereto on 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March in 2022 in Bhopal

 <b>Vice Chancellor</b> National Law Institute University Bhopal <b>Prof. (Dr.) V. Vijayakumar</b> Vice Chancellor National Law Institute University, Bhopal	  <b>Pradeep S. Mehta</b> Secretary- General Consumer Unity and Trust Society
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Witness 1.

  
(Ranbadi)

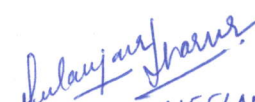
Witness 1.

  
G.C. Jain  
CUTS.

Witness 2.

  
Rohit Sharma

Witness 2.

  
NEELANJANA  
SHARMA





## ANNEXURE I

### Areas of Institutional Collaboration between CUTS International and National Law Institute University, Bhopal (NLIU)

#### A. Half -Yearly Lecture Series

1. NLIU Bhopal and CUTS International will collaborate to organise a lecture series on developments in economic implications due to recent judicial decisions.
2. Both the organisations will collaborate on conducting lectures on Economic Analysis in Judicial Decision Making, Competition Policy, and associated issues, in association with retired Supreme Court judges and CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition (CIRC).
3. The lecture series would be targeted for NLIU students, researchers, lawyers, law firms, practising advocates, and institutions such as the National Judicial Academy, India.

#### B. National and International Conferences

1. NLIU Bhopal and CUTS International shall take part and organise national and international conferences. These conferences shall address the evolving jurisprudence and increasing importance of scientific evidence such as economic impact analysis in judicial decision-making.
2. The conference may also feature addressing the fine balance between economy, environment and society towards sustainable development and equity.
3. The conference would see participation from internationally renowned jurists and judges, researchers, lawyers and law firms, etc.

#### C. Quarterly Academic Research Outputs

1. NLIU Bhopal and CUTS International are research and education-based organisations. The organisations shall thus collaborate on producing research outputs on select themes.
2. These themes can be broadly categorised as the importance of economic impact analysis, competition, regulatory impact assessment and its convergence with the judicial decision making, etc.
3. The select themes can be further broken down into specific case laws and topics for sharp outputs.
4. The research outputs would be targeted to be published in renowned law journals.

#### D. Job Placement and Internship for NLIU students

1. For a law student, internships play an important role in determining the future career prospects. CUTS International wants to provide the students a platform for exploring public policy as a career.

  
**Vice Chancellor**  
National Law Institute University  
Bhopal







2. CUTS International would partner with NLIU Bhopal's placement cell for yearly placement of students and offer them an extraordinary platform to inform and improve public policy discourse in the country with evidence-based research and advocacy.

#### **E. Course Module for Judicial Officers in Training and judges of commercial courts/benches**

1. CUTS International and NLIU Bhopal will collaborate to produce a training module for Judicial Officers in Training (Civil Judges' Recruitment and Higher Judiciary Recruitment). They will make joint efforts to initiate the training module in the course curriculum of judicial officers.
2. Both organisations will collaborate on a handbook for sitting judges and judicial officers in courts and tribunals alike on various topics of relevance with the theme of economic implications of judicial decisions.
3. Both organisations will organise workshops and seminars for the benefit of judicial officers in training on the module.

#### **F. Output in form of Book**

1. In the background of its work with NITI Aayog, CUTS International has prepared a book on '*Supreme Court and the Indian Economy: A story of economic impact of six landmark cases of the Supreme Court.*' The same will be published by the Oxford University Press.
2. Both organisations can collaborate to produce a publication of similar nature with addition of potential recommendations and suggestions. The publication can also incorporate findings from their work together under this association.
3. The publication can include the course module and case studies from the capacity building workshops to showcase impact of the association and measures.

#### **G. Moot courts**

1. CUTS International in collaboration with NLIU Bhopal can organise in-house moot competitions at national and international level with law students, scholars, researchers, among others, on the lines of key cases having economic impact.
2. CUTS International can guide students by providing research scholars as mentors for representing NLIU Bhopal in other moot courts for their performance, research and arguments rounds.

#### **H. Parliamentary Debates**

1. CUTS International in collaboration with NLIU Bhopal can organise in-house parliamentary debate competitions of national and international level with law students, scholars, researchers, among others, on the lines of key cases having economic impact.
2. CUTS International can guide students by providing research scholars as mentors for representing NLIU Bhopal in other parliamentary debate competitions for their performance, research and debating rounds.