

International Symposium on Understanding Representative Governance

Legislative Processes of the United States Congress and
the Indian Parliament from a Comparative Perspective



Organised by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) & the Centre for
Constitutional Law & Administrative Law, National Law University, Jodhpur
in collaboration with
United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF)

Website: www.nlujodhpur.ac.in & www.calj.in | Email: editorcalq@gmail.com

Introduction

The study of comparative constitutional law and legislative governance remains a dynamic field, encompassing critical dimensions of democratic practice that merit sustained scholarly attention. Institutions such as NLU Jodhpur, a premier National Law University committed to advancing legal scholarship through rigorous inquiry, serve as vital hubs for fostering discourse among academics, jurists, and policymakers. Guided by the University's motto, "Knowledge is Empowerment", the Centre for Constitutional and Administrative Law at NLU Jodhpur proposes this international one-day symposium: "Comparative Legislative Processes: United States Congress and Indian Parliament," alongside a guest lecture series on the American Legal System, its evolution, and reforms.

These events gain special significance through the Fulbright specialist visit of Prof. Paul Koster, Professor of Practice, whose expertise will foster discussion on the constitutional principles, history, and governmental structures that shape the U.S. legal system during his visiting professorship at NLU Jodhpur. Hosted amid Freedom250 commemorations celebrating 250 years of the USA's constitutional journey, the symposium explores shared odysseys between the two legal systems. It traces historical events from the US Constitution's framings to India's post-independence innovations.

Through the symposium, the participants will have the opportunity to engage with pivotal themes like fiscal oversight, emergency powers, deliberative efficacy, and legislative-judicial interplays, promoting cross-jurisdictional dialogue addressing governance legacies while addressing contemporary challenges.



About NLU Jodhpur

National Law University, Jodhpur (“NLUJ”) is one of India’s leading law schools situated in the vibrant and colourful city of Jodhpur, Rajasthan. Since its establishment in 1999, NLUJ has endeavoured to produce exceptional lawyers and legal scholars who aim to push and challenge the existing boundaries of knowledge.

NLUJ is known for its rigorous academic curriculum and its commitment to providing students with a comprehensive education in the field of law. The faculty consists of experienced and well-respected legal scholars, and the university is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and resources to support student learning and research. In addition to its academic programs, NLUJ is also known for its strong commitment to social justice and human rights, and for its focus on practical skills training.

The university provides students with numerous opportunities for internships, clinical programs, and other hands-on experiences that help to prepare them for careers in the legal field.



About CCAL

The Centre for Constitutional Law and Administrative Law (“CCAL”) at National Law University Jodhpur is dedicated to fostering dialogue and scholarship in the domains of Constitutional Law and Administrative Law. Our flagship publication, the Comparative Constitutional Law and Administrative Law Journal (“CALJ”) has been fostering scholarly excellence since its inception in 2013. Our Advisory Board comprises legal stalwarts including Former CJI M.N. Venkatachaliah, Senior Advocate Rajeev Dhawan and Prof. Timothy Endicott. Indexed on SCC Online and Manupatra, CALJ offers a platform for robust debate on contemporary issues in Comparative Constitutional Law and Administrative Law. As part of our commitment to enhancing discussions on contemporary legal issues, we also publish Pith & Substance: The CCAL Blog where scholars, students, and legal practitioners share their insights on constitutional and administrative law themes. In our continuous endeavour to promote in-depth engagement with legal writing, we initiated the Writ[e] & Talk Podcast in 2022. Through insightful interviews with authors of academic papers, we explore the intricacies of their research, arguments, and methodologies. The CCAL also had the privilege of hosting guest lecturers by eminent scholars, including Prof. Romila Thapar, Prof. Shubhankar Dam, and Mr. Vikram Raghavan, who enriched our academic pursuits.

Patron-In-Chief



Prof. (Dr.) Harpreet Kaur
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor,
National Law University Jodhpur

Prof. (Dr.) Harpreet Kaur, the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, stands as a beacon of academic distinction and a true advocate for legal education. A Fulbright Scholar at Emory Law School and Miami Dade College, she has also been a Chair Professor at Leibniz University, Hannover, and a Fellow of the International Visitor Leadership Programme on Competition Law. Specializing in Company Law, Securities Regulations, and Competition Law, she has also taught interdisciplinary legal courses for management education. Prof. Kaur leads the India Chapter of Daughters of Themis, an international network of women business scholars.

Guest Profile

Prof. Paul Koster is Professor of Practice at Emory University School of Law. He teaches Introduction to Legal Analysis, Research, and Communications, Introduction to Legal Advocacy, Introduction to the American Legal System, Legal Profession, and Administrative Law.

He serves as faculty advisor to the Emory Law School Supreme Court Advocacy Program and the Emory Law Moot Court Society, and has received awards including Professor of the Year from the Emory Black Law Students Association in 2023 and the Provost's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2021.



Prof. Paul Koster

Organising Committee



Dr. Rashmi Mathur

Associate Professor and Dean, IQAC



Dr. Sayantani Bagchi

Assistant Professor and Director,
Centre for Constitutional and Administrative Law



**Student Board of
the Centre for
Constitutional Law
& Administrative
Law**

Objectives

The objectives of the Symposium include

- Tracing significant historical events in the USA's 250-year constitutional journey through the lens of legislative evolution, juxtaposed with parallel developments in India's parliamentary framework.
- Examining structural and procedural alignments in legislative processes between the US Congress and Indian Parliament.
- Fostering academic discourse on legislative principles that have shaped both US and Indian governance through cross-jurisdictional insights.
- Equipping scholars with critical tools for analyzing comparative legislative dynamics, drawing on pivotal historical events in the USA's journey and India's constitutional trajectory.



Eligibility Criteria

- The symposium will be open to all law students (including the students of NLU, Jodhpur) enrolled in UG, PG and PhD programs, as well as for Research Scholars and Academicians, with the following slab of respectively applicable non-refundable registration fees, payable pursuant to the intimation of selection of Research Synopsis.
- *Co-authorship shall be permitted up to 2, and the registration fees shall be payable per person.*



Fees Structure

- NLUJ Students : ₹ 500/-
- UG and PG Students: ₹ 2,000/-
- PH.D. Scholars: ₹ 1,000/-
- Academicians: ₹ 3,000/-



Guidelines for Paper Presentation

The interested candidates shall be required to submit a detailed Research Synopsis (of about 1500 words) of their proposed Working Paper theme [here](#), including the following components:

- i. Introduction
- ii. Research Objectives
- iii. Research Questions
- iv. Contextualised Literature Review, clearly identifying the gap(s) in the existing literature
- v. Core Argument

The organising committee shall examine the suitability of selection of synopses, for presentation in the symposium inter-alia based on academic depth of the proposed argument, adherence to the above structure, and similarity and AI indices of the submitted synopses.

On selection of a synopsis, the participants shall be required to submit the draft of their Working Paper (of minimum 3000 words), before presentation in the Symposium.

Structure & Stages of the Event

1st August, 2026

S
a
t
u
r
d
a
y

10:00AM-10:30AM

Opening Ceremony

10:45 AM-11:00 AM

High Tea

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Panel Discussion

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Paper Presentations (before 2 concurrently functional panels of guest reviewers)

4:15 PM - 4:45 PM

High Tea

Themes

The Symposium will be based on the broader theme of: Comparative Legislative Processes: United States Congress and Indian Parliament, inter alia including the

following indicative sub-themes for the participants

Fiscal oversight through appropriation acts in the US and India.

Congressional committees alongside parliamentary committees in the US and India.

Emergency powers of US Congress and Indian Parliament.

Conventions shaping functioning of US Congress and Indian Parliament.

Efficacy in legislative deliberation: Time, debates, and productivity in US Congress and Indian Parliament.

Frameworks of legislative processes in US Congress and Indian Parliament.

Appointment and control of independent legislative oversight bodies in the US and India.

Legislature-judiciary interactions in US and India.

Legislative roles in war, peace, and related decisions in the US and India.

Legislative checks on executive treaty powers in the US and India.

Timeline

1

JUNE 2026

Release of themes, brochure
and call for synopses

30

JUNE 2026

Deadline to submit synopses

10

JULY 2026

Intimation of selection of synopsis

27

JULY 2026

Submission of Working Papers

1

AUGUST 2026

Symposium



ACCOMODATION

Accommodation for the visiting guests shall be arranged at the Convention Centre for the event.

Visiting participants can pre-book and avail accommodation in the University Convention Centre

- a. on a twin sharing basis
- b. on a first come-first serve basis
- c. on the payment of requisite fees
- d. subject to availability



TENTATIVE SCOPE FOR PUBLICATION

The best 2 articles shall be published in an upcoming issue of the Comparative Constitutional and Administrative Law Journal (CALJ), subject to the satisfaction of the qualitative standards of CALJ by the complete papers of the winners, submitted within the deadline for the same, communicated by CALJ to the winners.



PRIZES

- A Certificate of Participation shall be provided to all the paper presenters and participants.
- Names of the best 2 paper presenters shall be declared during the closing ceremony.
- Cash prizes of Rs. 5000/- & Rs. 3000/- respectively shall be payable to the best 2 presenters/presenting teams



SPONSORSHIPS

The Symposium shall be conducted in collaboration with the United States- India Educational Foundation (USIEF), planning Freedom250 celebrations, commemorating 250 years of the independence of the United States of America.



For queries

Contact us: editorcalq@gmail.com



National Law University Jodhpur,
NH-62, Nagour Road, Mandore,
Jodhpur 342304 (Rajasthan) - INDIA