



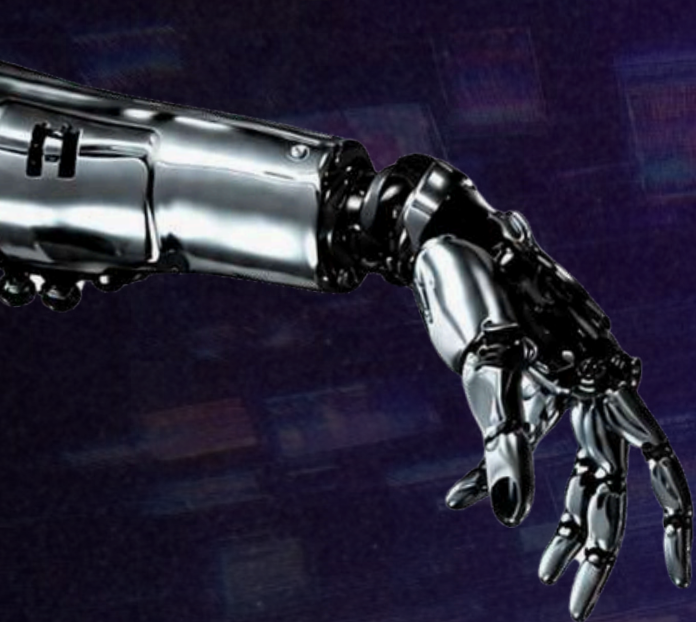
# NINC

20  
26

DUALS INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION COMPETITION

VIRTUAL





# A LETTER FROM THE OC

## GREETINGS FROM THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF NUALS INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION COMPETITION 2026

It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome you to the inaugural edition of the NUALS International Negotiation Competition (NINC) 2026—a platform designed to inspire and challenge the next generation of negotiators.

The vision of the NUALS International Negotiation Competition is to establish negotiation as a viable and essential alternative to traditional litigation in India, promoting its adoption as a cornerstone of effective dispute resolution. At NINC 2026, we strive to create a dynamic and intellectually stimulating environment that fosters growth, collaboration, and excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and cultivates a deeper understanding of ADR's potential and versatility.

We are privileged to host a distinguished panel of judges, comprising esteemed ADR professionals who bring remarkable expertise to the competition. Our collaboration with leading firms and institutions reinforces our commitment to providing an unparalleled platform for participants to refine their skills and gain real-world insights. We eagerly look forward to hosting you at NINC 2026 and wish all participants the very best!







# ABOUT NUALS

The National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), located in Kochi, Kerala, is a distinguished institution for legal education in India. Established in 2005 by the Kerala State Legislature, NUALS has rapidly gained recognition for its innovative curriculum that seamlessly integrates traditional legal doctrines with contemporary global challenges. The University emphasizes a global outlook, fostering international collaborations that enhancing the academic exposure of students to prepare them for the demands of a fast, technologically integrated and globalized legal profession. A strong focus on extracurricular activities and holistic development ensures that NUALS graduates are not only proficient legal experts but also responsible individuals ready to assume leadership roles in society.

Each year, multiple teams from NUALS participate in prestigious ADR and Moot Court Competitions, frequently winning laurels. The ADR Society plays a key role in advancing practical skills in mediation and negotiation, reflecting the University's commitment to producing well-rounded 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 University's official body for managing and facilitating ADR activities. It aims to promote participation of students in nationally and internationally reputed ADR competitions, development programmes and related events. Through various activities, the ADRS strives to equip students with the skills necessary to contribute to the rapidly evolving landscape of dispute resolution. Hosting the inaugural edition of the NUALS International Negotiation Competition (NINC) marks a significant milestone in the Society's journey, underscoring its mission to nurture a culture of excellence in ADR at NUALS.



# THE EVENT

The inaugural edition of the NINC organised by the NUALS ADR Society, marks the next step in the Society's efforts to advance mediation and negotiation among aspiring lawyers. Held entirely online on 3rd and 4th October 2026, NINC widens on the legacy of the NUALS Mediation Competition by opening its doors to law schools across India and beyond, without the constraints of travel or logistical costs.

NINC serves as a premier platform for aspiring legal professionals to engage with the dynamic field of ADR. The competition begins with a Negotiation Plan Elimination Round, from which the top sixteen teams advance through the Octa-Finals, Quarter-Finals, and Semi-Finals to the Final round, each stage judged on creativity, problem-solving, teamwork, and command over negotiation principles, with problems growing progressively more complex to mirror real-world negotiation dynamics.

Recognising the increasing importance of ADR in today's legal landscape, NINC highlights negotiation as an efficient, collaborative alternative to litigation. By conducting the competition online, the ADR Society ensures that logistical and financial barriers never come between a deserving team and the experience equipping participants with practical, hands-on skills in dispute resolution tailored to India's evolving legal framework.

This year, NINC turns its focus to technology and its growing influence on negotiation and dispute resolution. As legal practice increasingly intersects with the digital world, the competition invites participants to explore how negotiation strategy adapts when technology enters the room.



# DETAILS OF THE EVENT

## FORMAT

All rounds of NINC will be conducted in an online format through Zoom Workspace. Each participating team shall comprise two members, consisting of one Client and one Counsel. Teams may be from universities in both India and abroad. Cross-Institutional teams are permitted. The Competition will commence with a Negotiation Plan Elimination Round where each team will must submit a negotiation plan on the basis of which teams will be evaluated for advancement. The top sixteen teams emerging from the Negotiation Plan Elimination Round will qualify for the Octa-Finals. All rounds, starting with the Octa-Finals will be knockout rounds. The top eight teams from the Octa-Finals will advance to the Quarter-Finals, the top four teams will advance to the Semi-Finals, and the top two teams will compete in the Final. The Final will determine the Winning Negotiating Pair and the Runner-Up Negotiating Pair.

## REGISTRATION PROCESS

Registration for NINC will take place in two phases.

Provisional Registration for the Negotiation Plan Elimination Rounds will commence on August 25, 2026. Teams are required to complete their registration by duly filling out the Registration Form by September 15, 2026. The registration form will be made available through the link provided: <https://forms.gle/KLpsT3cknrZGtZTm8>

Teams must also complete the payment of the prescribed registration fee and attach proof of payment at the time of registration. Upon successful registration, participation will be confirmed and Team Codes assigned.

Upon declaration of results of the Negotiation Plan Elimination Round, the sixteen teams that have qualified must separately register for the Advanced Rounds by October 1, 2026. Additional registration fees must also be paid and proof of payment must be attached at the time of registration. Upon successful registration, participation will be confirmed.

Any amount paid towards registration shall be strictly non-refundable.

Failure to complete either registration or submit the prescribed registration fee within the stipulated period may result in the forfeiture of the team's allotted slot. In such circumstances, the organisers reserve the right to allot the vacant slot to another team from the pool of applicants in case of the Preliminary Registration and to the team ranked highest outside the top sixteen in case of registration for the Advanced Rounds.



# REGISTRATION FEES

| PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| National Teams           | ₹3,540 |
| International Teams      | ₹4,130 |

For advanced rounds, an additional registration fee of Rs. 4130 is payable by all advancing teams irrespective of team category

# AWARDS

The Competition seeks to recognise excellence through a prize pool comprising of ₹65,000 and other exciting rewards (internships/subscriptions). The following awards and corresponding prize money are to be presented.

| AWARD                 | PRIZE MONEY |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Winner                | ₹30,000     |
| Runner-up             | ₹20,000     |
| Best Negotiation Plan | ₹8,500      |
| Best Negotiator       | ₹6,500      |



# TIMELINE

**AUGUST 26, 2026**  
COMMENCEMENT OF REGISTRATION

**26**  
AUG

**28**  
AUG

**AUGUST 28, 2026**  
RELEASE OF RULEBOOK

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2026**  
LAST DATE FOR REGISTRATION &  
RELEASE OF PROPOSITION

**15**  
SEP

**17**  
SEP

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2026**  
LAST DATE FOR CLARIFICATION

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2026**  
RELEASE OF CLARIFICATIONS

**18**  
SEP

**22**  
SEP

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2026**  
SUBMISSION OF THE NEGOTIATION  
PLAN

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2026**  
DECLARATION OF RESULTS OF THE  
NEGOTIATION PLAN ELIMINATION

**29**  
SEP

**01**  
OCT

**OCTOBER 1, 2026**  
LAST DATE OF CONFIRMED  
REGISTRATION FOR ADVANCED ROUNDS

**OCTOBER 3, 2026**  
OCTA-FINALS, QUARTER FINALS AND  
RELEASE OF RESULTS OF THE  
QUALIFYING TERMS

**03**  
OCT

**04**  
OCT

**OCTOBER 4, 2026**  
SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND VALEDICTORY  
CEREMONY



# NINC



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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NUALSNINC



NUALS ADR



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