



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, ODISHA

Kautilya Society

PRESENTS

2ND ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION



OPEN THEME ON PUBLIC
POLICY



ksociety@nluo.ac.in

✱ OVERVIEW OF THE INSTITUTION ✱

National Law University Odisha, Cuttack was established by Act 4 of 2008 by the Odisha State Legislature keeping in mind an enunciated vision of advancement of learning, teaching, research, diffusion of knowledge in the field of law and catering to the needs of society by developing the professional skills of those intending to take up the professions of Advocacy, Judicial Services, Legal services, and so on. National Law University, Odisha is committed to providing an atmosphere in which academic excellence is the foremost priority for students. Along the lines of this vision, NLUO has significantly catered to the needs of the research in various legal fields by paving way for various dedicated research centers and societies. Such endeavors enable students to pursue individual interests and take part in various literary and recreational activities throughout the academic year.

The Kautilya Society is one of such initiatives of NLUO which aims at promoting study, research, and informed deliberation in the field of public policy, and its allied subjects with a policy and application-oriented purpose.



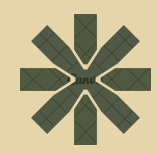
✱ ABOUT KAUTILYA SOCIETY, NLUO ✱

Kautilya Societies are student initiatives in universities across the country set up by Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy (‘Vidhi’) with the aim to widen access to legislative drafting and analysis, and to empower young minds to explore public policy as a career path. The Kautilya Society, NLUO Chapter has been set up at National Law University Odisha, in association with Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy.

The Kautilya Society initiative envisions providing opportunities to their students for successful careers in public policy and other related fields such as development, advocacy, consultancy, campaigning, financial analysis, economics and research. The vision of the society is to provide awareness and opportunities for students to nurture their interest in public service and policy as career options with a view to becoming good citizens of India.



EVENT DETAILS



OPEN THEME ON PUBLIC POLICY

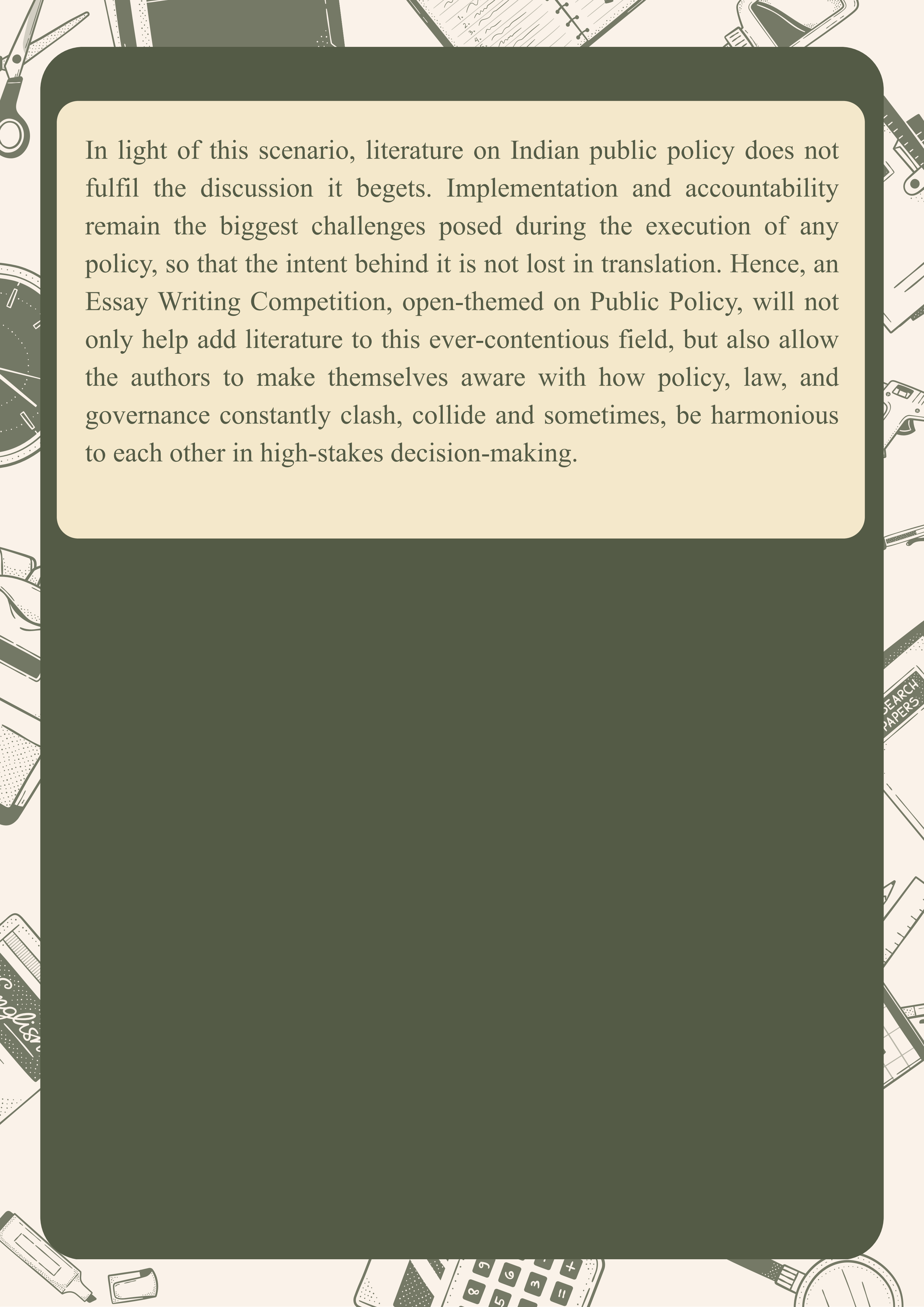


Public policy has been constantly posited as the framework through which the State translates its constitutional and welfare obligations into tangible outcomes for citizens, be it in healthcare, education, environment, technology, or economic regulation.

Policy is seen as providing a 'double solution', it firstly, helps bridge the gap between law as written and law as experienced, and secondly, it allows the State to respond to emerging challenges without having to wait for legislative overhaul.

However, it has been observed, and even, lamented upon, that the present policy-making process in India has not helped with any of the following. In fact, implementation gaps have posed to be a major roadblock to the 'effective' delivery of policy, with schemes and regulations often remaining unimplemented for years after their announcement.

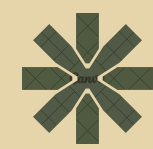
Such has been the case of policy in India, that as recently as 2023 and 2024, several flagship schemes and regulatory frameworks have faced criticism for poor last-mile delivery and inadequate stakeholder consultation.



In light of this scenario, literature on Indian public policy does not fulfil the discussion it begets. Implementation and accountability remain the biggest challenges posed during the execution of any policy, so that the intent behind it is not lost in translation. Hence, an Essay Writing Competition, open-themed on Public Policy, will not only help add literature to this ever-contentious field, but also allow the authors to make themselves aware with how policy, law, and governance constantly clash, collide and sometimes, be harmonious to each other in high-stakes decision-making.



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES



- Submissions shall be made in .doc/.docx format (Word 2007 or 2010 or 2013).
- The google form that will be used for submission will ask for the following:
 - Name
 - Email
 - Contact Number(s)
- The name of the file or the file in no place shall indicate the identity of the author(s). (For instance, write title of the submission and team code as the file name. Example: The arbitrability of tenancy matters_T001.docx to maintain confidentiality).
- Manuscript word limit: 1500-2000 (excluding endnotes)
- **Hyperlinking** shall be the preferred mode of referencing. If hyperlinking is not possible, then end-noting may be resorted to.
- Font: Times New Roman. Font size: 12. Line spacing: 1.5. All text should be justified.
- Each manuscript must contain an Abstract of 50-100 words (not inclusive within the total word count)
- The competition shall follow a strict plagiarism and AI policy. All articles must have a similarity index of less than 10% and 0% AI. Articles with false positives shall be duly read to ensure whether the piece is originally written or it has been written by an AI model.
- The essay should be error-free; grammar, spelling, punctuation etc.
- It is recommended that the authors visit the [Vidhi website](#) to get a better understanding on the type of submissions that the Editorial Board looks forward to receiving.



PLEASE NOTE



Manuscripts not in conformity with these guidelines may be rejected at the sole discretion of the Editorial Board. The Editorial Board reserves the right to send the manuscripts back to the authors for any modification(s) at any stage, in the event of non-conformity with any of the submission guidelines. The Editorial Board may, in its absolute discretion, waive any of the above rules or amend the process. In case of any dispute or ambiguity, the decision of the Editorial Board shall be final and binding.



ELIGIBILITY



- Students pursuing Five-Year/Three-Year LLB Discipline
- Students pursuing One-Year/Two-Year LLM Discipline
- Students who are not pursuing law but are interested in the subject-area are also allowed to participate.



PROCESS OF EVALUATION



All articles will go through a three-tiered editorial process. They are as follows:

A. First Stage:

This stage shall entail a preliminary check of the article, whether it follows the prescribed formatting guidelines such as being within the word count, not breaching the plagiarism limit, is not AI-written, etc. This stage is to undertake a clerical check of the article.

B. Second Stage:

This stage shall entail the editors to read through the articles, to assess whether the ideas are novel and original, to assess structure of the article and whether proper citations have been provided along with a grammar check.

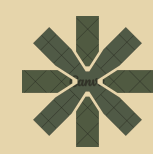
C. Third Stage (or the External Panel):

This shall be the final stage, where selected articles from the second stage will be forwarded to an External Panel of 3-4 members to decide the articles which shall be selected for publication on the Vidhi Blog as well as the Winners of the Competition.

Publication on the Vidhi Blog is upon the sole discretion of the External Panel.



PROCESS OF REGISTRATION



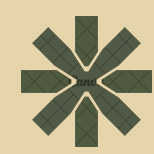
- Registration to be done via [this form](#) by the 13th of September, 2026.
- Registration fee (non-refundable) is as follows for the participants:

	Single Authorship	Co-Authorship
NLUO Students	Rs.200	Rs.300
Non-NLUO Students	Rs.300	Rs.500

- All participants are requested to pay the registration fee in the following way:
- Visit <https://eazypay.icicibank.com>
- Enter Institution Name as 'National Law University' and click on 'Go'
- Fill the details.
- Email id
- Mobile No.
- Amount
- Student Name (Enter your name)
- Roll or Enrolment No. (Enter your Roll / Enrolment number for NLUO students and enter 131 for others)
- Semester (Enter your Semester number for NLUO students and enter 11 for others)
- Year
- Payment Date
- Purpose (Mention KS Essay Writing Competition)
- Once required data is filled in click on 'Submit' after enter the captcha and OTP.
- After the payment you will get the auto generated payment receipt.



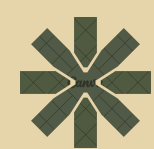
PROCESS OF SUBMISSION



- Team codes will be allotted after registration.
- The link for Submission shall be forwarded along with the Team Codes.
- Please ensure that details provided in the registration form is same as in the submission form.



TIMELINE



Last date for registration

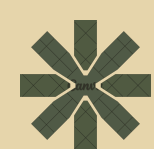
13.09.2026

Last date for submission

28.09.2026



PRIZES



Winners

Rs. 6,000

Runners-up

Rs. 4,000

Second Runners-up

Rs. 2,500

Winners will receive an internship opportunity at Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy. The top submissions will also be published on the Vidhi Blog subject to approval by External Panel.



CONTACT US



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STAY CONNECTED WITH US

