The Indian Society of International Law

NEWSLETTER

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For members only

EDITORIAL

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The escalating conflict around the Strait of Hormuz has rapidly evolved into one of the most serious maritime security crises, placing thousands of seafarers directly in harm's way. As hostilities spread across the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea and Black Sea, merchant shipping has increasingly become a target. Recent months have seen unacceptable attacks on commercial shipping and merchant mariners, prompting reactions from international maritime organizations and emergency discussions at the global regulatory level. Since the West Asia conflict began in February this year, 16 Indian seafarers have been killed in attacks on merchant ships, 33 injured and 3 remain missing; more than any other nationality. In the Red Sea, notable recent incidents include a Houthi missile strike on the vessel *Tihama* on 11 August 2026 that killed four seafarers and injured six.

Merchant seafarers are civilians. Nearly two million seafarers operate the world's merchant fleet. They are not combatants because they work aboard a commercial vessel. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 1982 provides the principal framework for maritime rights and navigation. Complementary to the law of the sea and operating under its framework are several conventions that have been adopted under the auspices of IMO, such as the 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (the SUA Convention) and its 2005 Protocol. The SUA Convention provides a basis for States to establish jurisdiction over acts of terrorism at sea, including, among others, the seizure of a ship by force or intimidation, and damage to ships from acts of violence against persons on board that likely endanger the safe navigation of such ships. The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) includes maritime security provisions, notably the mandatory application of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, which provides for ships and port facilities to have in place security plans approved by the flag State or national Administration and applied at varying levels of security threat risk, which is set by the national authorities for the ports and by the flag States for ships. In addition, under the 1949 Geneva Conventions, civilian workers must be protected during armed conflicts.

India is the world's second-largest supplier of seafarers, after the Philippines. For India which supplies over 12% of the global seafaring workforce, these crises have transformed maritime safety from an abstract freedom of navigation principle into an urgent human security priority. The primary domestic legislation governing Indian merchant shipping is the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, which replaced the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. The new law came into force on March 15, 2026, and aims to bring India's maritime framework in line with international conventions and standards. The Act applies primarily to Indian-registered vessels and contains several provisions concerning the safety, welfare and employment of seafarers. One important protection is repatriation. Section 67 gives seafarers the right to be repatriated at no cost to themselves in circumstances prescribed under the law. Ship owners of Indian vessels are also required to maintain financial security to ensure repatriation.

The DGMA has issued advisories on the security situation around Iran and the Gulf. In June 2026, it directed shipping companies and recruitment and placement service providers to restrict deployment of Indian seafarers to conflict areas until further orders, except for certain emergency crew changes with consent. It also required monitoring, reporting and communication with Indian missions. The government has also established emergency communication mechanisms and directed stakeholders to coordinate with Indian missions and consular authorities during distress situations. India's response has included repatriation. In the month of August more than 4,048 seafarers had been repatriated from the Gulf region following the West Asia crisis. The DGMA's current standard operating procedure for vessels and seafarers in maritime security risk areas brings together measures covering risk assessment, reporting, crew protection and coordination with naval and security authorities. The legal position is therefore layered. The Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 provides the domestic framework for employment, welfare and repatriation; the MLC, 2006 establishes international labour and welfare standards; and UNCLOS governs navigation and the rights of ships at sea.

India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, while addressing the inaugural meeting of the 'Group of Friends on Safety and Security of Shipping and Seafarers' in the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 25 September, has raised concerns over repeated attacks on commercial shipping and seafarers in the Gulf, Red Sea and Black Sea, saying that the attacks were no longer exceptional. He added that it is “completely unacceptable” that seafarers from India and other countries have lost their lives in these attacks. He announced a new initiative by India and Liberia together to draw greater attention to the safety and security of ships and seafarers. The initiative aims to establish a consultative framework to enhance maritime security and ensure that key stakeholders have a greater voice in discussions on the sector. It will also seek to keep the safety and welfare of seafarers high on the international agenda amid growing security threats to commercial shipping and major maritime corridors.

Prof. (Dr) Manoj Kumar Sinha
President, ISIL

UNCITRAL Finalizes Advisory Centre Statute and Adopts Supplementary ISDS Provisions

On July 3, 2026, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) declared that it had finalized two significant reforms concerning investor–state dispute settlement (ISDS) during its fifty-ninth session in New York. First, UNCITRAL finalized the draft Statute of the Advisory Centre on International Investment Dispute Resolution which will be submitted to the UN General Assembly for adoption. The draft Statute would establish an Advisory Center to assist states parties in preventing and managing investment disputes by providing legal advice before and during investment disputes, offering legal representation and training, helping government officials develop dispute prevention policies, and strengthening states' institutional and technical capacity. Second, it adopted the Supplementary Provisions on the Conduct of Proceedings to Resolve International Investment Disputes, in which these provisions establish additional procedural rules aimed to enhance the investor-state dispute settlement proceedings. The Supplementary Provisions establish procedural rules concerning matters such as burden and standard of proof, early dismissal of meritless claims, third-party funding, security for costs, states parties' counterclaims, damages and compensation, allocation of costs, and tribunals' general management of proceedings. It adopted the Supplementary Provisions as a standalone legal instrument which is used by disputing parties and states that are parties to investment treaties. The provisions are also described as supplementary, as they do not replace existing arbitration rules. Additionally, parties may agree to use the provisions alongside other procedural rules, such as the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules or the ICSID Arbitration Rules.

UNCITRAL Adopts Key Texts to Promote Electronic Arbitration Documents

On 6 July 2026, UNCITRAL adopted legal texts intended to facilitate the use of arbitral awards and notices of arbitration in electronic form. The Commission announced the development on 7 July 2026 during its 59th session in New York. The texts address the use of electronic arbitral awards and the electronic transmission of notices initiating arbitration proceedings. They form part of UNCITRAL's work on adapting international commercial dispute resolution to electronic communications. The UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, adopted in 1985 and amended in 2006, provides a legislative framework used by States to regulate arbitration proceedings. Prepared by Working Group II (Dispute Settlement) as part of UNCITRAL's project on dispute resolution in the digital economy, the package includes a recommendation on electronic arbitral awards under the New York Convention, revisions to the Model Law and its Explanatory Note, and additional practical guidance on organizing arbitral proceedings. These developments aim to enhance legal certainty, promote the use of electronic arbitration documents and ensure that international arbitration keeps pace with evolving digital practices. UNCITRAL's 59th session concluded on 10 July 2026, with further work covering dispute settlement and digital trade.

ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I confirms Court's jurisdiction in *El Hishri* case

In a significant decision for international justice and accountability in Libya, the International Criminal Court (ICC) Pre-Trial Chamber I has unanimously confirmed all 17 charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Khaled Mohamed Ali El Hishri.* On 15 July 2026, the Chamber firmly rejected a formal jurisdictional challenge mounted by the defense under Article 19 of the Rome Statute, which argued that the ICC lacked authority because Libya is not a state party. The judges ruled that the Court maintains valid jurisdiction under UN Security Council Resolution 1970, a referral from 2011 that remains fully operative and completely independent of Libya's subsequent 2025 declaration under Article 12(3).

Following this jurisdictional ruling, the Chamber concluded on 16 July 2026, that the Prosecution presented sufficient evidence under Article 61(7) to establish substantial grounds to believe that *El Hishri* committed the alleged atrocities. The charges against *El Hishri* stemmed from his actions as a senior commander within the Special Deterrence Forces (SDF/RADA), an armed militia that controlled Mitiga Prison in Tripoli. Between May 2014 and June 2020, thousands of conflict-related prisoners and political opponents rendered *hors de combat* were subjected to prolonged, unauthorized detention and systematic abuses strictly prohibited under international humanitarian law. The 17 confirmed counts encompass severe deprivation of liberty, torture, murder, rape, sexual violence, persecution, and the enslavement of individuals including the racialized forced labour of Black African migrants.

In addition, the Chamber dismissed pretrial defense objections regarding redacted witness statements and investigative impartiality. It ruled that using redacted witness statements did not cause undue prejudice to the defendant and noted that witness credibility and evidence weight would be properly examined at trial. The ICC underscored that this confirmation decision serves as a necessary procedural milestone to advance the case rather than a final determination of guilt or innocence. With the pretrial stage concluded, the case has moved forward to Trial Chamber VII, where the trial is scheduled to open on

May 4, 2027, and the Prosecution will bear the burden of proving *El Hishri's* guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Human Rights Groups File Lawsuit Challenging US Sanctions Against the International Criminal Court

On 15 July 2026, prominent human rights organizations filed a landmark federal lawsuit challenging U.S. executive sanctions targeting the International Criminal Court (ICC). The legal action directly contested the validity of executive orders authorizing broad economic sanctions and visa restrictions against ICC officials, judges, prosecutors, and affiliated civil society actors. The plaintiffs contended that these measures violate core constitutional protections, including First Amendment guarantees of free speech and association, by penalizing American advocacy groups and legal professionals engaged in international justice efforts.

The dispute stems from long-standing tensions between Washington and The Hague over the Court's jurisdictional reach. While the U.S. is not a party to the Rome Statute, past administrations have fluctuated between limited cooperation and open hostility toward ICC actions involving American personnel or close allies. Tensions escalated sharply when executive sanction regimes were implemented against the tribunal, threatening asset freezes, financial prohibitions, and severe criminal penalties for individuals or entities assisting ICC investigations. In their complaint, the human rights groups argued that the sanctions impose an unconstitutional chilling effect on independent advocacy, legal research, and victim representation. By penalizing organizations that submit evidence, consult with victims, or collaborate with ICC personnel, the government effectively criminalizes routine human rights work. The lawsuit further asserted that the sanctions exceed statutory executive authority, breach Fifth Amendment due process protections through unconstitutional vagueness, and severely compromise international mechanisms designed to hold perpetrators of grave crimes accountable. Through this legal challenge, the plaintiffs seek a formal judicial declaration stating the sanctions regime unlawful, alongside an injunction preventing its enforcement.

UNGA Resolution 80/295: Proclaiming 2028 the Year of International Law

On 24 July 2026, during the 106th plenary meeting of the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Resolution 80/295 titled *"Year of International Law, 2028"* was adopted by consensus. Initiated by Turkmenistan, the document was co-sponsored by 78 Member States, highlighting widespread international support for the proposal. The resolution underscores that adherence to international law, particularly the foundational principles of the United Nations Charter, remains an essential prerequisite for preserving international peace and security, advancing sustainable development, and sustaining effective multilateral cooperation. Further, the initiative emphasized the critical need to strengthen respect for international law's core principles across all UN Member States while encouraging wider global compliance.

Central to the resolution was a robust mandate to advance legal education, capacity-building, and technical assistance, specifically tailored to support developing nations, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing States (LLDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Recognizing the foundational contributions of existing UN frameworks in promoting legal literacy globally, the General Assembly invited Member States, international organizations, civil society, academia, and the private sector to organize coordinated public awareness and educational initiatives in observance of the Year. The text of the Resolution also explicitly promoted inclusive engagement through the meaningful involvement of women and youth, as well as the leveraged use of digital platforms, educational technologies, and multilingual resources to democratize access to legal knowledge. Finally, the Assembly welcomed the proposal of Turkmenistan to host a Global Forum on International Law in December 2028.

International Law Commission concludes its 77th session

The International Law Commission (ILC) concluded its seventy-seventh session on 30 July 2026 at the United Nations Office at Geneva, following 11 weeks of deliberations held from 27 April to 5 June and 29 June to 30 July 2026. Among the key outcomes, the Commission adopted, on second reading, 17 draft articles on *Immunity of State Officials from Foreign Criminal Jurisdiction*, recommending that the General Assembly consider elaborating a convention based on the text. It also adopted 12 draft conclusions on *General Principles of Law*. Further developments included the adoption, on first reading, of 12 draft guidelines on the settlement of disputes involving international organizations and 13 draft conclusions on subsidiary means for determining rules of international law. The Commission also provisionally adopted five draft conclusions on non-legally binding international agreements and advanced its work on piracy and armed robbery at sea. The session expanded the Commission's long-term agenda to include to its programme of work. The Commission's seventy-eighth session is scheduled for 26 April-11 June and 5 July to 30 July 2027 in Geneva.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

UN Committee Outlines States Parties' Obligation to Pursue Reparations for the Transatlantic Slave Trade

On 31 August 2026, the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) published General Recommendation No. 40 on "Reparatory justice for the harms and continuing consequences of colonialism, the trafficking in enslaved Africans across the Atlantic and other routes, and racialized chattel slavery." The General Recommendation serves as authoritative guidance for state parties regarding their legal responsibility to not only engage in historical recognition of the wrongs of the transatlantic slave trade but also to affirmatively pursue "reparatory justice for harms resulting from both direct and indirect involvement in the trafficking of enslaved Africans and racialized chattel slavery."This responsibility for state parties is based on CERD's interpretation of obligations under Article 5 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to "prohibit and to eliminate racial discrimination in all its forms." Through General Recommendation No. 40, CERD has recognized that the elimination of racial discrimination cannot be achieved without a recognition not only of the harms of the transatlantic slave trade historically but also of its manifestations in the present day. Some contemporary manifestations of the effects of the transatlantic slave trade include things such as racial disparities in states' criminal justice systems, structural inequalities which disproportionately affect those of African descent, and discriminatory laws, policies, or institutional practices. The issuance of General Recommendation No. 40 comes after CERD's thematic focus on "racial discrimination against People of African descent" in 2011, a general push by CERD towards an expansive understanding of reparations to address issues of discrimination under international law, and active engagement with dozens of interested parties.

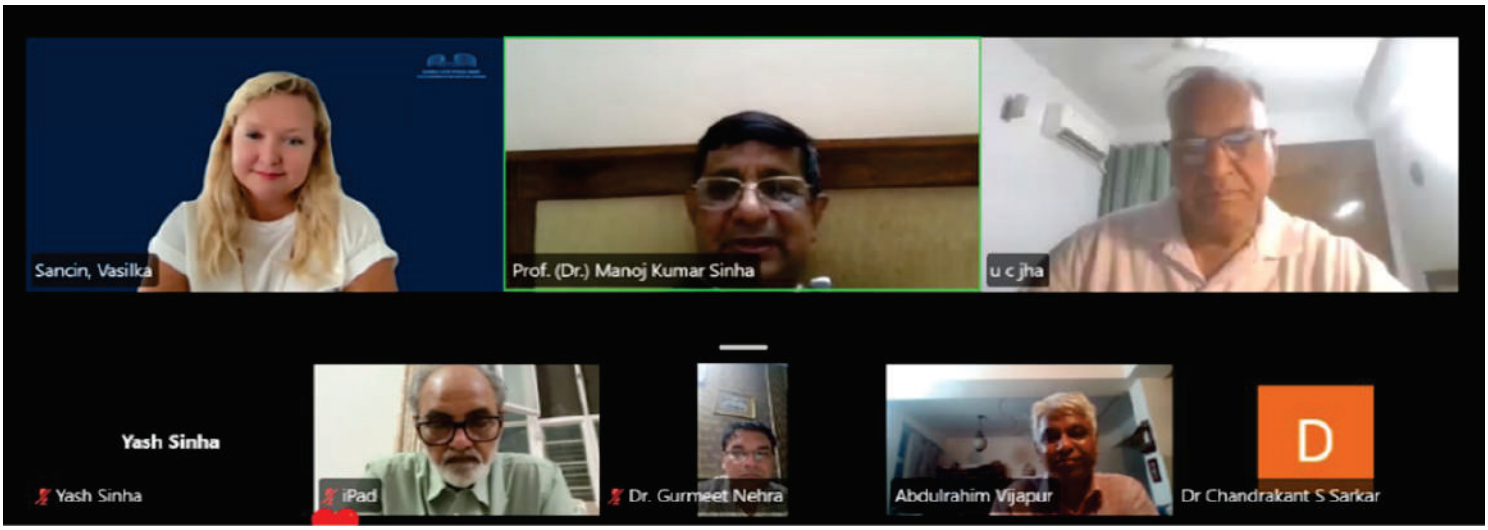
Indus Waters Treaty Arbitration Issues Award on Treaty Status

The Court of Arbitration, administered by the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), issued an award on 31 August 2026 in the *Indus Waters Western Rivers Arbitration (Pakistan v. India)* concerning the status of the Indus Waters Treaty, 1960, following India's decision to place the Treaty in abeyance in April 2025. The Court also issued an order on interim measures concerning the Ratle Hydro-Electric Plant. The Tribunal held that the Treaty remains fully in force and that India remains bound by its obligations, including those governing the design and operation of hydro-electric projects on the Indus, Jhelum and Chenab rivers. It rejected India's arguments that the Treaty's suspension or termination could be justified under the law of treaties or the law of State responsibility. In a separate, unanimous order, the Tribunal restricted specified concreting works on the Ratle project's dam wall and power intake structure until 90 days after the Neutral Expert's final decision on the project's compliance with the Treaty, expected in July 2027. It also required India to report changes to the project's construction schedule. The decision marks a significant development in international water disputes and treaty-based arbitration. India has rejected the Tribunal's authority and stated that it does not accept the award.

Kerala High Court Clarifies Procedure for International Arrest Warrants and Extradition

In *Rakhul Krishnan v. Union of India* (W.A. No. 350 of 2021; 2026: KER:68857), the Kerala High Court clarified the obligations of Indian authorities upon receiving an international arrest warrant issued by a foreign treaty State through Interpol. A Division Bench comprising Dr. Justice A.K. Jayasankaran Nambiar and Justice Preetha A.K. examined the relationship between international extradition obligations, the India-United Arab Emirates Extradition Treaty and the Extradition Act, 1962. Drawing on the Supreme Court's decision in *Abu Salem Abdul Qayoom Ansari v. State of Maharashtra* (2011), the Court highlighted extradition as a mechanism of international cooperation founded on reciprocity and the principle of *aut dedereaut judicare* (either extradite or prosecute), which seeks to prevent impunity for fugitive criminals. The Court distinguished formal extradition requests under Article 8 of the Treaty and Sections 4-8 of the Act from urgent provisional arrest under Article 9 and Sections 9 and 34-B. It held that the Indian nodal agency must simultaneously notify the Ministry of External Affairs for possible action under Section 34-B and inform the jurisdictional Magistrate for independent consideration under Section 9. The Court stressed that these mechanisms operate concurrently, while judicial authorization remains necessary for arrest. The appeal was disposed of, with the clarification intended to guide authorities in future cases.

Special Lecture on Recent Jurisprudential Developments before the ECtHR and the Court's Effort to increase its Visibility, Efficiency and Shared Responsibility



On 13 July 2026, ISIL organized a special lecture on *Recent Jurisprudential Developments before the ECtHR and the Court's Effort to Increase its Visibility, Efficiency and Shared Responsibility*. The lecture was delivered by Prof. (Dr) Vasilka Sancin, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights.

Monthly Seminar on Private International Law



From July 2026 to September 2026, the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) conducted a series of academic programmes under its Monthly Seminar Series on Private International Law. The seminars were organized in hybrid mode at the ISIL premises in New Delhi and formed part of ISIL's continuing institutional commitment to sustained engagement with emerging issues in private international law. On 29 July, Seminar on the theme, *Jurisdiction and Forum Issues in Cross-border Family and Child Relocation Disputes in Indian Family Law* was organized. The lecture was delivered by distinguished speaker Sr. Adv. Anil Malhotra on the topic *Jurisdiction and Forum in Cross-border Family and Child Relocation Disputes in Indian Family Law: A Contemporary Dilemma*.

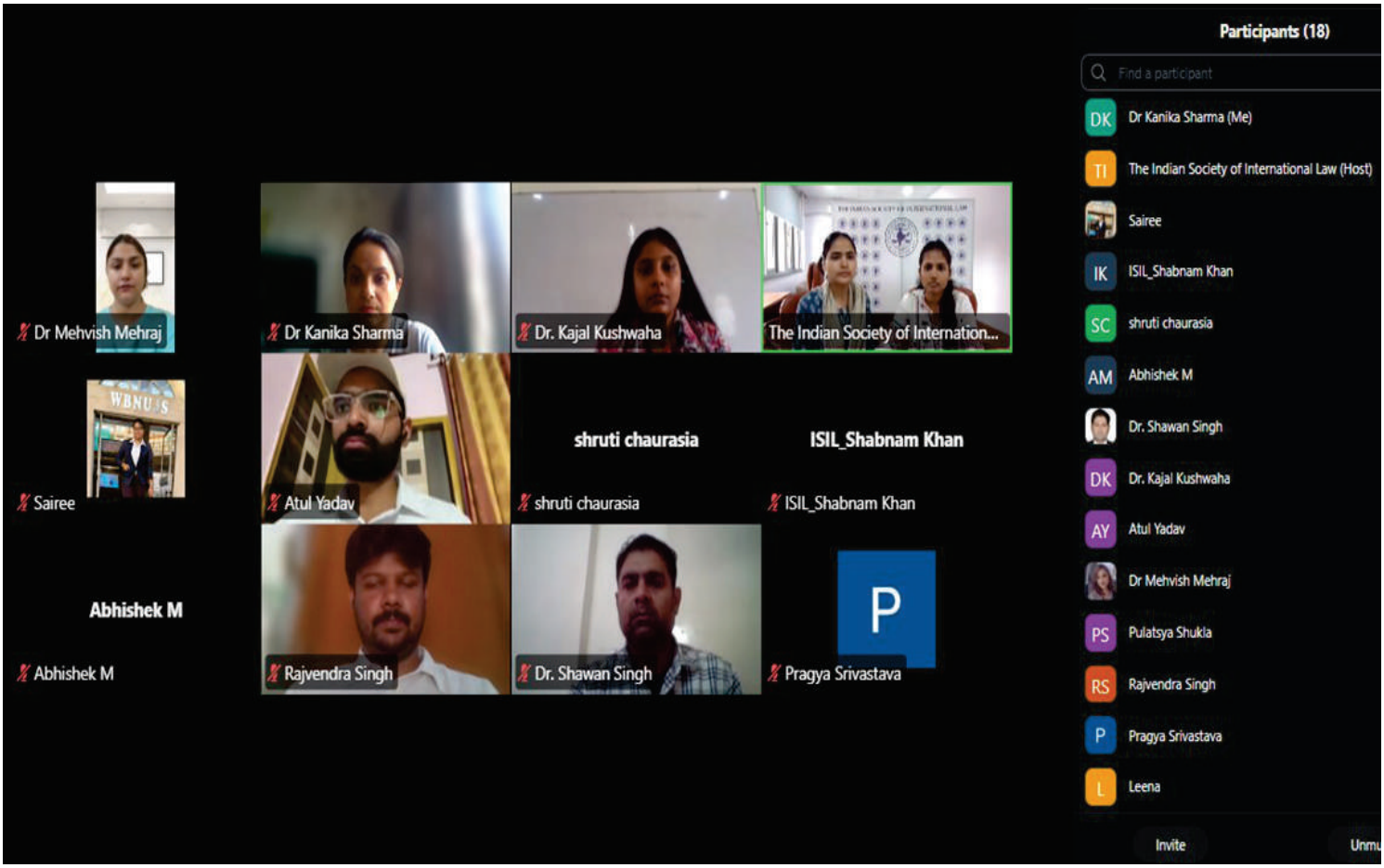


On 25 August 2026, Advocate Pradeep Rai, Executive Council Member of ISIL was felicitated for being appointed as President, Supreme Court Bar Association. On the same day under its Private International Law seminar series, ISIL organized a seminar on the theme *Question of Limitation: Procedural or Substantive? Perspective from Indian and European Laws* was organized. The lecture on *Limitation Period in Estonian Law and Comparative Perspective in Europe and Private International Law* was delivered by Dr (iur.) Martin Käerdi, Partner, Ellex Raidla, Estonia and Acting Head of the Private Law Department, Ministry of Justice. However, *Limitation Law in India: Procedural or Substantive? Key issues and Developments* were addressed by Dr G.G Hegde, Associate Professor, National Law School of India University, Bangalore.



On 30 September 2026, ISIL conducted Private international law seminar on the theme *Protecting Air Travelers Across Borders: Private International Law, Airline Liability and Compensation under Montreal Convention*. The lecture dealt with two aspects by two distinguished speakers. Firstly, Dr A. Sudhakara Reddy, Former Joint Secretary, Legal and Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, delivered the lecture on the topic *the International Legal Architecture of Cross-Border Air Carriage: From the Warsaw System to the Montreal Convention.* Secondly, Prof. (Dr) Benarji Chakka, Dean, VIT-AP School of Law, VIT-AP University, delivered the talk on *Protecting International Air Travelers: Airlines Liability, Damages and Compensation under the Montreal Convention.*

One Day Seminar on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Challenges to the Legal Regime



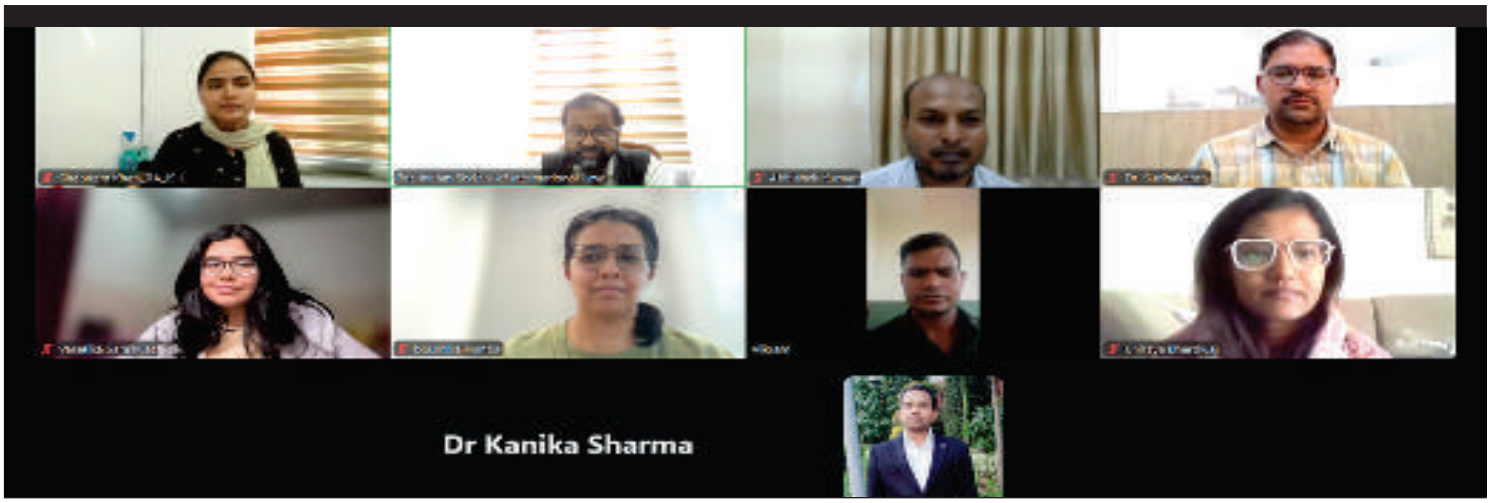
The Indian Society of International Law (ISIL), New Delhi, organized a one-day online seminar on "*Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Challenges to the Legal Regime*" on 1 August 2026. The seminar examined AI's evolving implications for international law, security, human rights, governance, judicial processes, intellectual property, and emerging technologies. The programme commenced with an inaugural address by Dr U.C. Jha, Secretary General, ISIL, followed by four technical sessions on AI, International Law, Security and Justice; AI Governance, Regulation and Public Policy; AI, Human Rights and Constitutionalism; and AI, Intellectual Property, Innovation and Emerging Technologies. The seminar featured Dr. Anna Bashir, Ms. Mehvish Mehraj, Pavan Kumar Varshney, Shabnam Khan, Yash Sinha, Dr. Vikesh Ram Tripathi, Atul Yadav, Dr. Vasudha Bali, Dr. Kajal Kushwaha, Dr. Sharwan Singh, Dr. Leena Kumari, Nabila Zehra, Pragya Srivastava, Prof. (Dr.) A.B. Jaiswal, Vishal Gupta, Rajat Srivastava, Dr. Balaji Naika B.G., Mrs. Amrita Verma, Afreen Afshar Alam, Kelly Amal Dhru, Rajvendra Singh, Dr. Kalindri, Pulatsya Shukla, Ayushi Verma, Nitesh Kumar, and several research scholars and students. The deliberations underscored the need for adaptive, accountable, and rights-based legal frameworks to address the opportunities and challenges arising from AI.

Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on International Humanitarian Law (ONLINE)



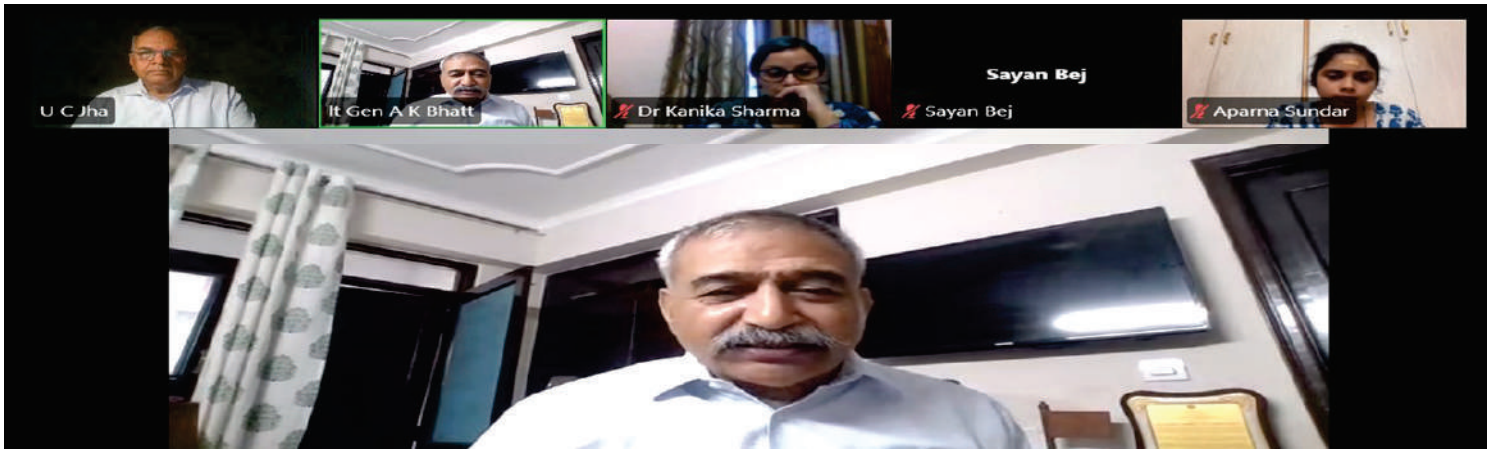
ISIL has conducted a Seven-Day (ONLINE) Faculty Development Programme on International Humanitarian Law from 03-09 August 2026. Hon'ble Mr.Justice Rajendra Menon, Chairperson, Armed Forces Tribunal inaugurated the programme. Dr U C Jha, Secretary General, ISIL welcomed the Chief Guest Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Menon; Prof. (Dr) Manoj Kumar Sinha, President, ISIL delivered the Keynote Address. The Inaugural Address was delivered by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Menon. Dr Kanika Sharma, Assistant Professor (Sr.) & FDP Coordinator delivered the formal vote of thanks. The programme covered various topics including Origin and Development of International Humanitarian Law, Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols; Classification of Armed Conflict; Outer space and IHL; IHL: Relations with International Human Rights Law and Refugee Law; Protection of the members of the Armed Forces/Shipwrecked; Protection of Prisoners of War, Water as means of warfare; Problems of Foreign Fighters; Protection of Civilians: Women and Children; Implementation of IHL in India; Duty to Respect and Ensure Respect for Geneva Conventions; Protection of Journalists and medical personnel in Armed Conflict; AI and IHL: Protecting civilians from harm caused by cyber operations during armed conflicts; Environmental protection during armed conflict; Prohibited Means and Methods of Warfare; Protection of Natural Environment and Cultural Property in armed conflict; New Military Technologies (Cyber capabilities, Autonomous Weapons, AI etc.,) and IHL and War Crimes and International Tribunals, International Criminal Court. Lectures were delivered by eminent speakers having expertise in the subject Prof. (Dr) Benarji Chakka, Dean & Professor, School of Law, VIT- AP University; Dr U C Jha, Secretary General, ISIL; Prof. T R Subramanya, Dean, School of Legal Studies, CMR University, Bengaluru; Prof. Rhishikesh Dave, Dean, Faculty of Law, Sharda University; Dr Umesh Kadam, Former Legal Advisor, ICRC; Dr Uttam Kumar Sinha, Senior Fellow, MP- IDSA; Gp. Capt. Kishore Kumar Khera, VM (Retd); Dr SangetaTaak, Asst Prof. RGNUL, Patiala; Ms Gunjan Chawla, Legal Adviser, ICRC; Prof Aftab Alam, Professor, Aligarh Muslim University; Prof Dr Rashmi Salpekar, Dean, VIPS (TC); Dr Anna Bashir, (Sr) Assistant Professor, Kashmir University; Dr Anuradha Saibaba, SRM University, Chennai; and Prof (Dr) Anupam Jha, Professor, Law Centre II, Delhi University.

One Day Seminar on Re-Imagining International Environmental Law



On 29 August 2026, ISIL organized a one-day Seminar (online) on *Re-Imagining International Environmental Law*. The Seminar focused on four themes includingClimate Change, Climate Justice and the Re-Imagination of International Environmental Law; International Environmental Law and Environmental Protection During Armed Conflict; Challenges in Protecting Ecosystem and Biodiversity conservation; Environmental Governance, Human Rights, Pollution and Emerging Regulatory Challenges. Dr Anwar Sadat, Associate Professor, ISIL, opened the seminar with his remarks on the topic "*Is International law direction changing from bilateral concerns to community interest*." Papers were presented by the scholars across the country. Prof. (Dr.) V.S. Mishra, Professor, Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Dr. Taniya Malik, Assistant Professor, ILI; Dr. Pooja Sangwan, Assistant Professor (Law), Maharaja Surajmal Institute; Atul Yadav, Ph D Scholar, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi; Chayan Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, Bikash Bharati Law College, Kolkata; Shivangi Mishra, Research and IPR Chair Scholar, NLU, Delhi; Alika Jain, Research Assistant, IPR Chair, IIT Indore; Dr. Santosh Kumar Upadhyay, Assistant Professor (Senior Scale) Faculty of Law, University of Delhi; Bhumika Nanda, Assistant Professor, School of Law, Bennett University; Dr. Priyansha Badoni, Assistant Professor, School of Law, DME, Delhi; Dr. Mukesh Kalwani, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, Dr. Vasudha Bali, Assistant Professor, VIPS; Dr. Abhishek Kumar, Assistant Professor of Law, CNLU, Patna Rajiv Kumar, Assistant Professor, IMS Unison University, Dehradun; Chhaya Bharadwaj, Associate Professor of Law, Jindal Global Law School; Dr. Sudhakaran, Associate Professor, IMS Law College, Noida.

Certificate Course on Space Law



On 5 September 2026, ISIL began its ONLINE certificate course on Space Laws: Policies and Principles. The course began with the inaugural lecture by Lt Gen AK Bhatt (Retd), PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM, Director General, Indian Space Association, New Delhi. The certificate course is comprised of five modules on various aspects of space law including Foundation of International Law and Space Law; The International Space Law Framework; Contemporary Challenges in Space Law; Militarization and Weaponization of Space and India's Approach to Space Law.

Convocation and Inaugural Ceremony



The ISIL organized the Convocation for awarding the PG Diploma Courses Certificates for the session 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 on 10 September 2026. The ceremony was also marked to inaugurate the Post Graduate Diploma Courses for the academic session 2026-2027 conducted by the Indian Academy of International Law and Diplomacy, a teaching wing of the Indian Society of International Law. The Chief Guest Hon. Mr. Justice Rajendra Menon, Chairperson Armed Forces Tribunal delivered the inaugural and convocation address on the occasion. Prof. Ranbir Singh, former Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi delivered special address. Prof. (Dr) Manoj Kumar Sinha, President ISIL, welcomed the Chief Guests and Students. Shri Pravin Parekh, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Shri Pradeep Rai, President, Supreme Court Bar Association and Vice President, ISIL also addressed the students. For the session 2024-2025, Ms Ishika Chaudhary received V. K. Krishna Menon Memorial Gold Medal for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course in International Law & Diplomacy; Ms. Sanjana Akhilesh Singh received K. Krishna Rao Memorial Gold Medal for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course in International Trade and Business Law; Mr Anjan Datta received Judge Nagendra Singh Memorial Gold Medal for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course in Human Rights, International Humanitarian & Refugee Laws; Mr Anjan Datta received Justice Rajinder Sachar Memorial Award Post Graduate Diploma Course in Human Rights, International Humanitarian & Refugee Laws; Mr Ankit Sorout received M. K. Nawaz Memorial Gold Medal in Post Graduate Diploma Course in Intellectual Property Rights Law and Mr. Adnan Khateeb Ansari received Merit Certificate for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course International Environmental Law.

For the session 2025-2026, Mr Alokesh Roy received V. K. Krishna Menon Memorial Gold Medal for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course in International Law & Diplomacy; Mr Sandeep Bhargava received K. Krishna Rao Memorial Gold Medal for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course in International Trade and Business Law; Mr Pavan Kumar Varshney received Judge Nagendra Singh Memorial Gold Medal for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course in Human Rights, International Humanitarian & Refugee Laws; Mr Pavan Kumar Varshney received Justice Rajinder Sachar Memorial Award Post Graduate Diploma Course in Human Rights, International Humanitarian & Refugee Laws; Ms Megha Bhandari received M. K. Nawaz Memorial Gold Medal in Post Graduate Diploma Course in Intellectual Property Rights Law and Ms. Pooja Sharma received Merit Certificate for securing highest marks in Post Graduate Diploma Course International Environmental Law.

Visit



On 30 September 2026, twenty-two students along with their faculty members from A.K.K. New Law Academy, Pune visited ISIL. Secretary General Dr UC Jha, Dr Anwar Sadat, Dr Kanika Sharma, Dr Meenakshi Harith Bhan, Shabnam Khan and Ms Yash Sinha interacted with the students and faculty members and highlighted the importance and role of international law and pursuing international law as career. Students and faculty members were informed in detail about the activities conducted at ISIL and were also encouraged to participate in the activities. Students also visited the library.

UPCOMING EVENTS

31 October - 1 November, 2026:	**52nd Annual Conference of the Indian Society of International Law**
20-22 November, 2026:	**25th Henry Dunant Memorial Moot Court Competition on International Humanitarian Law Jointly organized by The Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), New Delhi**
30 November-6 December, 2026:	**Faculty Development Programme on Legal Research, Writing and Publication in International Law**
09 December, 2026:	**5th Justice Rajindar Sachar Memorial Lecture**
04-08 January 2027:	**Winter Course on United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Naval Warfare and International Straits (Online)**