**2nd KIIT National Conference on International law**

**(13th of January-15th January, 2017)**

The School of Law, KIIT University (Bhubaneswar, Odisha) in association with International Law Students Association (ILSA) [KIIT Chapter] announces the second edition of National Conference on International Law, to be held from 13th – 15th January, 2017.

**Objective of the Conference:**

The objective of the conference is to provide a platform to students of various law schools(under graduate/ post-graduate students) to hone their skills of negotiation and diplomacy. We hope this conference generates interest not only in international events that are organised around the world but also develop awareness in International Relations and its dynamics. It will also provide the students a chance to interact with students of other law schools, legal luminaries and the diaspora dedicated to International Law. It is an opportunity to observe the intricacies and nuances of diplomatic negotiations and be involved in them on a first-hand basis.

**Events:**

I. SYMPOSIUM ON INTERNATIONAL LAW

* + Student Delegates will present papers on predetermined areas of International Law.
  + A distinguised group of panellists will adjudge the best paper on determined parameters.
  + Presentation of Best Researched Paper Award.

The following areas of International Law have been decided upon to be covered in the SYMPOSIUM

• International Criminal law

• Law of the Sea(s)

These are two broad themes, students are welcome to present papers on specific sub-themes chosen under these heads.

II. ESSAY COMPETITION

An online essay competition will also be organised as a part of the Conference.

Submissions are invited based on the fields of:

1. Extrajudicial killings and Jurisdiction of ICC
2. Military Intervention

III. TREATY NEGOTIATION COMPETITION (TNC)

Treaties are a serious legal undertaking in international law. Once in force, treaties are legally binding on the parties and become part of international law. The law on treaty-making process is governed by the Vienna Convention on Law of Treaties whose preamble clearly stipulates that codification of treaties promote the development of friendly relations among nations along with international peace and security.

The format of TNC is based on the workings of various bodies and agencies of United Nations as well as other independent organizations which cater to the treaty negotiation process in various global spheres. Participants will be given a draft Treaty which will contain the issues which necessitates deliberation during the oral rounds. The key objective of TNC is to inculcate in participants the sense of innovation along with negotiation skills which are essential in every lawyer.

The theme of the competition will be **“GRAINS CONVENTION"**.

* + Teams will be allotted specific countries
  + Teams are required to prepare framework agreements for their respective countries(Rules and other details will be provided upon selection of teams)
  + Teams [comprising of 2 students ] will be allowed to discuss on their proposed submissions during the oral rounds

**Submission guidelines for the TNC:**

For the Treaty Negotiation Competition, the following case study has been provided. Interested participants are to submit a write-up within a word limit of 1000 words for each question. On the basis of the write-up further selections will be made for allotment of Countries which the teams will represent in the 'Oral Rounds'. It is to be noted that this case-study is not a part of the actual materials for the Treaty Negotiation Competition. It is only for the purpose of selection/scrutiny of the teams for the aforementioned competition. The background of the treaty and the rules for the same shall be provided later.

**CASE STUDY**

Rare earth element (REE) have become vital components in the production of glasses, petrol, television, laptops, satellites, energy saving light bulbs, jet engines and wind turbines. It is a group of 17 minerals, some with unusual names such as gadolinium and praseodymium. Production of electric cars and military hardware such as jet fighter electrical system, missile guidance system and satellite power and communication system depends on them which involve as many as eight of these REE. Due to its increasing usage in military hardware, many countries believe that continuous supply of REE is crucial to the national security, the global demand for which is expected to increase than ever before.

According to a Geological survey conducted by the United States of America (USA), it is estimated that there are 110 million tons of these minerals found across the globe. As the distribution is uneven in earth’s crust, some counties have more deposit than others. Most reserves are found in China, which is estimated to be 55 million tons of world’s total reserve. The second is the common wealth of independent states which is made up of twelve countries with 19 million tons, but, out of those Russia and Kyrgyzstan have the most rare earth reserves. USA ranks third with 13 million tons. Even though these minerals are found in many countries other than those mentioned above, their mining presents a problem. These elements are found in such concentrated form that it is difficult to exploit them economically.

During the 1980s, with China’s economic modernization rising,its government recognized the importance of this market and invested heavily in machinery and labour training for mining REE. Cheap labor and soft environmental law proved to be economic advantageous in comparison to USA. The impact of this is prominent as China has increased its share of global production from 27 % to 95% over the last two decades .This entry of China has led to a sharp fall in the global prices of REE, in turn forcing major rivals out of the production.

Now China has almost absolute monopoly over the supply of REE. Further, it also dominates the four steps of the supply chain and is the only exporter of commercial quantities of rare earth metals. Moreover, there is a requirement of these elements in many of the products that it manufactures. Additionaly, Chinese companies have started investing in other coutries for REE production.

In order to regulate the market and maintain sustainability in production, Chinese government has increased the export from 25% to 30% and further lowered the export quota from 28417 to 7976 metric tons.

This Chinese near-monopoly coupled with increased demand as well as the protectionist policies used by China for these elements has raised concerns about the security on REE supply chain especially on account of those countries which are completely dependent on China for its supply of REE.

Another factor to be taken into account is that the production of REEs by China resulted in a huge after effect in the form of pollutants generation. The output generated along with itself double the amount of pollution which directly affects the water bodies. Such bodies traverse through different nations causing further trans-boundary harm. The rivers would quickly turn black. Chemical indicators of water quality showed that the waters contained heavy amount of chemicals making the water unfit for consumption and generating algal bloom. Chemicals released in the process also contributed to atmospheric deposition on the layers of water sources. Several dead zones have resulted due to such conditions.Such products also seep into the adjacent land areas thus destroying the fertility of these lands undermining any economic benefits that the nations could derive. A major hurdle is that these are mostly agrarian nations.

Provisional measures (a temporary proscription on the manufacture of such REEs) directed to be implemented by China were disregarded.

USA and Japan have raised strong objections that China’s policies are in violation of W.T.O rules of fair trade. China, however, contends that these export quotas are justified because these measures ensure that there is no excessive environmental degradation. Moreover certain measures have also be taken by the national legislature to ensure that the domestic producers

do not over exploit the natural resource but the effectiveness of such domestic law is highly doubted. In 2010, USA along with Japan and other nations including China’s neighboring countries have filed a formal complaint with the WTO against China’s protectionist policies as well for economic and environmental damage. A Special Environmental Chamber was constituted by the ICJ to deal with the prospective issue.

Is it going in favour of China? Whether or not China chooses to follow the verdict?

No conclusion has been reached since 2010.

1. Determine a plausible reparation for the damage induced and frame the decision of the ICJ based on general principles of international law.
2. Is it likely that China will be able to maintain its domination in international REE market in a time of its rising global prices . The graph has been provided for reference:

**Submission guidelines for Symposium and Essay Competition:**

* All papers should be sent via email to [**klsils@kls.ac.in**](mailto:klsils@kls.ac.in)in .doc or .docx format.
* The body of the manuscript should be in Times New Roman, size 12 in 1.5 spacing, 1 inch margin on all sides. The footnotes should be in Times New Roman, size 10 in single spacing.
* An uniform system of citation style should be followed.
* Author(s) have to send an abstract of the Paper **within 300 words.** Names, affiliated college, email id and contact number of the author (s) to be furnished at the end of the Abstract.
* The length of the Paper should not exceed the limit of **6000 words. Word limit for the essay is 1500 – 2000 words.** Authors are requested to stick to the word limit. Violation of this rule will attract deduction  of marks.
* Co-authorship of **maximum two authors** per Paper is allowed. Co-authorship for Essay writing competition is not allowed.
* The author(s) will send a separate **Cover Letter** with their final papers incorporating details like name(s), affiliated college, full postal address, email id and contact number along with the title of the Paper. The Paper should not contain any biographical references of the author (s).
* All Papers must be an original work of the author(s). Plagiarism will lead to cancellation of the Paper.

**STRUCTURE OF THE ABSTRACT**

* Title: Font – Times New Roman; Size – 18; Line Spacing – 1.5; Alignment – Center;Uppercase; Bold face
* Body: Font – Times New Roman; Size – 12; Line Spacing – 1.5; Alignment – Justified; Margins – 1 inch on all sides;
* Details of the Author(s): Names, affiliated college, email id and contact number to be furnishedat the end of the Abstract;

**STRUCTURE OF THE FINAL PAPER**

* The first page of the Final Paper must be the Abstract without the contact details of the author(s)
* The length of the Paper should not exceed the limit of 6000 words (exclusive of footnotes).
* Authors are to stick to the word limit. Violation of this rule will attract deduction of marks.
* All the pages of the Final Paper will have Margin of 1 inch on all sides;
* Main Title of the Paper: Font – Times New Roman; Size – 18; Line Spacing – 1.5; Alignment – Center; Uppercase; Bold face
* Body: Font – Times New Roman; Size – 12; Line Spacing – 1.5; Alignment – Justified;

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR TREATY**

Interested participants are to submit a write-up within a wordlimit of 1500 words for both questions. On the basis of the write-up further selections will be made for allotment of Countries which the teams will represent in the 'Oral Rounds'. It is to be noted that this case-study is not a part of the actual materials for the Treaty Negotiation Competition. It is only for the purpose of selection/scrutiny of the teams for the aforementioned competition. The background of the treaty and the rules for the same shall be provided later

**REGISTRATION FEES**

 Symposium: Rs.500/- (per person)

 Essay writing competition: Rs.250/- (per person)

 Treaty Negotiation Competition: Rs500/- (per person)

 Accommodation (including food): Rs.1000/- (per person)

All payments should be made in the form of a Demand Draft drawn in favor of “KIIT”, and

payable at Bhubaneswar (stating the name of the participant and the institution at the reverse side of the demand draft), addressed to:

Dr. Ananya Chakraborty, Faculty Convenor, 2nd KIIT National Conference on International Law, 2017, School of Law, KIIT University, Patia Bhubaneswar, Odisha – 751024

 The Registration Fee is non-refundable and non-negotiable.

 Dress Code – The participants are expected to follow a strict dress code of western formals.

 Awards and Certificates – All the participants will receive a Participating Certificate for the Conference during the Valedictory Function. The prize winners for different events will receive a separate certificate commemorating their achievement along with the trophies, monetary prize and other benefits.

 The details of the Structure of Framework Agreements and the Oral Round of the Treaty Negotiation Competition will be conveyed to the selected teams by 30th November 2016.

 Guidelines of the Conference should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof can attract penalties or disqualification.

**Deadlines:**

* Last date for submission of TNC- 3rd December, 2016
* Notification of selected teams for TNC: 6th December, 2016 (23:00 hours)
* Last date for abstract submission for Symposium: 5th December, 2016
* Notification of selected abstracts: 7th December, 2016
* Last date for registration and payment: 9th December, 2016
* Last date for essay submission: 15th December, 2016
* Last date for submission of final papers for selected abstracts: 5th January, 2016
* Last date for Framework Agreement submission for TNC: 10th January, 2017

**Awards**

**Winners will get:**

Cash prizes upto Rs 70,000 INR

Books worth Rs 15,000 INR from SCC Online and

6 free courses from Rostrum Legal

**Registration fees**

Symposium: Rs.500/- (per person)

Essay writing competition: Rs. 250/- (per person)

Treaty Negotiation Competition: Rs.500/- (per person)

Accommodation (including food): Rs. 1000/- (per person)

**Registration form:**

[**https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSclxicBoDGd4hC-X6YfLCev4rLmDdv6VyOYMcztLL-Mb-0M5w/viewform?c=0&w=1**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSclxicBoDGd4hC-X6YfLCev4rLmDdv6VyOYMcztLL-Mb-0M5w/viewform?c=0&w=1)

**Travel form:**

[**https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceZlcv-6xEeMCJPmr7KH4TKG1PYQcnZfFXhsJ6Ui\_Mhc9V-A/viewform?c=0&w=1**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceZlcv-6xEeMCJPmr7KH4TKG1PYQcnZfFXhsJ6Ui_Mhc9V-A/viewform?c=0&w=1)

**Knowledge and Resource Partner: SCC Online**

**E-learning Partner: Rostrum Legal**

**Online Media Partners: Live Law and Lawctopus**

For queries related to the symposium please contact:

Subhasmita Routray – +91 7205368823

For queries related to the TNC, contact:

Swetapadma Mahapatra - +91 9438620954

For any other general queries, contact:

Sarthak Singhdeo-+91 7751024506

Anshuman Bose-+91 9088201595