



**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE
UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON
THE LAW OF THE SEA**

ILS LAW COLLEGE

5TH -6TH MARCH, 2016.

Organised by,

The Centre for International Law

ILS Law College, Pune.

CALL FOR PAPERS

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Often referred to as a Constitution for the Sea, the UNCLOS is the only comprehensive document that enshrines all the oceanic rights of States. 167 States have ratified this Convention since it came into force in 1982. This popular ratification took place because it brought stability to oceanic activities and protected States from unwarranted incursions into their territorial waters. However, recent events have shown that the convention has left loopholes that are open to interpretative misuse by States and certain vital questions have only ambiguous answers.

Nearly 34 years after coming into force, the Convention has not evolved with the changing times. Climate change and consequential rising sea levels will bring about a fundamental shift in the way UNCLOS is interpreted. The current power vacuum in global politics has also led to a scramble for access to oceanic resources. China is building artificial islands in the South China Sea and claiming territorial waters based on the concept of 'historic rights,' a term that has not been defined by the Convention. Polar States are engaging in a battle for the resources of the Arctic, more accessible now than ever before because of melting ice caps. The lack of a truly effective dispute settlement mechanism reemphasises the need for States to engage and redefine certain aspects of the convention to provide answers to these questions of immense strategic importance to them all.

Taking into consideration these developments, the Centre for International Law at ILS Law College has decided to organise a national conference on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea from **5th-6th March, 2016** and call for articles.

The theme of the Conference is '**Contemporary International Issues on the Law of the Sea**' with the following sub-themes:

- Arctic Council Geopolitics
- The Enrica-Lexie Incident
- The Somali Pirate Issue
- The South China Sea Dispute
- The Impact of Climate Change on International Baselines

The authors of the selected articles shall be invited to present them at the Conference. The Centre welcomes articles on UNCLOS that are not on the issues specified in the sub-themes.

Submission of Articles:

- Word Limit: 1500-2000 words (Excluding Endnotes)
- Font: Times New Roman, 11
- Mode of Citation: OSCOLA
- To be submitted to cilpune.editor@gmail.com
- Please write your names, the details of your course and college

Submission Deadline: 13th February, 2016

Selection Notification: 18th February, 2016

For further information please contact:

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