



THE MOOT SOCIETY  
NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA



The 8<sup>th</sup>

IMAM

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME  
ARBITRATION MOOT 2021

8<sup>TH</sup> - 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2021

NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA



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# NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA

National Law University Odisha (NLUO) was established in the year 2009 by Act IV of 2008 of the State of Odisha. NLUO is an unparalleled addition to the Indian national law universities. Located in Cuttack, a city dating back to over a thousand years, it boasts a rich legal heritage with the seat of Orissa High Court situated here. It is, thus, no surprise that some of the finest lawyers and judges, including two of the former

Chief Justices of India, trace their roots back to this city.

Within a short period, NLUO has made its mark as a university engaged in teaching and research in law. It aims at imparting world-class education with relevance to the practical world. NLUO has made a name for itself by earning laurels with the excellent performance of its students in various tournaments and competitions, especially in the moot court competitions.







The stunning performance of the University in some of the most reputed international moot court competitions like Oxford Price Media Law Moot, Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot, Ian Fletcher International Insolvency Law Moot, etc. stand as a testament to it.

NLUO has also excelled in the national mooting arena by winning some of the most prestigious national moots like the 11th and 12th editions of NUJS-HSF Corporate Law Moot Court

Competition, 9th P.N. Bhagwati International Moot Court Competition 2019, 4th B.P. Saraf National Tax Law Moot Court Competition 2018 and many more.

With similar enthusiasm, the university has been successfully organizing its flagship moot “International Maritime Arbitration Moot (IMAM)” for seven consecutive years to attract some of the brightest minds and honing their advocacy skills in the thriving fields of maritime law and arbitration.



# INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ARBITRATION MOOT (IMAM)

Ever since its inception in 2014, the National Law University Odisha – International Maritime Arbitration Moot (IMAM) is proud to hold the distinction of being the first in India and the third in the world to have maritime law as its principal subject area. The moot aimed to enhance research and advocacy skills of students in the area of Maritime Law and International Commercial Arbitration.

So far, the moot has witnessed seven successful editions with the enthusiastic participation of teams from all across the country. The event observes the participation of teams from all the premier law institutions of the country. What makes IMAM one of the best maritime arbitration moots in India is the quality of moot propositions, the judge's profile and the calibre of the participating teams in the competition.





Odisha is the country's hub for marine activities and operations. Thus, it is no surprise that several well-known legal scholars have drafted the previous moot propositions for this competition which not only encourages intellectual discourse in the field of maritime law but also brings in harmony with the stature of Odisha. The University endeavors to provide its participants with a more challenging dispute with every successive edition to scale new heights.

The former editions of IMAM have witnessed the presence of revered and esteemed legal luminaries like Dr Proshanto Mukherjee, Professor Emeritus at the World Maritime University and Mr Ashwin Shanker, Partner at Law Chambers of George Rebello. The problem for the last edition was drafted by Ms Jananidivya Soundararajan and Mr Tom Copland, from Maersk Line Fleet Management and Technology India Pvt. Ltd.



“ Being an alumni of NLUO, I can obviously be considered biased here but then again, when we speak about Moot + Maritime Law in India, there is nothing better than IMAM. Having successfully conducted it for 7 years, shows the deep faith of University, Organisers and Sponsors in this moot. Able to bring the best of the best for judging each and every round of this moot is surely an insightful experience for every participant. If you are someone who is interested in pursuing your career in Maritime Law or want an exposure of this subject then surely you should aim to participate for this moot.”

**Deven Choudhary**

*Legal Manager, Campbell Johnston Clark*



**Rishabh Saxena**

*Associate, Bose & Mitra & Co.*

“ IMAM has grown by leaps and bounds over the years and has created its own special place within the maritime community. The format of the competition ensures that a participant approaches the problem as a practitioner would and this in turn allows the rounds to parallel a real arbitration as opposed to a mere moot competition. The last edition conducted virtually but flawlessly has further solidified IMAM's stature and on a personal front, I cannot wait to be a part of the upcoming experience.”

## THE FIRST VIRTUAL IMAM: 7<sup>TH</sup> IMAM, 2020

The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of IMAM was conducted virtually from 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020. A total of twenty teams were shortlisted to take part in the virtual oral rounds of the moot after rigorous memorial qualifier rounds which were introduced to the competition for the first time. The oral rounds of the moot were initially scheduled to be held from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

However, due to the prevailing health emergency, the oral rounds were postponed sine die. After months of uncertainty and being in a state of quagmire as to the possibility of conducting the oral rounds, the Organising Committee resolved to conduct the oral rounds virtually.







Conducting a virtual moot for the first time was a herculean task. The occurrence of the event in itself was dubious, but the sustained efforts and sheer dedication of all the members of the Organising Committee made it not only possible but also robust. The Organising Committee worked round the clock and dedicated more than twenty hours in participant's and judge's briefings, familiarising them with the functioning of the platform and addressing their grievances. It also provided internet assistance to the teams and judges to ensure steady internet connectivity and smoothly conduct the event.

The Organising Committee has been successful in conducting 7<sup>th</sup> IMAM 2020 gaining the reputation of being one of the first virtual international moot court competitions successfully conducted during the unprecedented health situation. The precision and expertise of the Organising Committee had made it a worthwhile and memorable experience for everyone. It was only feasible to carry out this event successfully because of the exuding the patience and coordination of the participants and judges. Its success speaks volumes about the University's mission and its endeavor to take the mooting experience to its zenith.



“

I took part as member of the Arbitrator's Panel for the Final Rounds of the Moot Society, National Law University Bose & Mitra & Co. International Maritime Arbitration Moot (IMAM) 2020 organised in association with the Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law (IISTL), Swansea University. The finals of the moot were held on 23 August 2020, and conducted over Zoom. The case study which formed the matter in arbitration was a most interesting one and I was very impressed with the mooting skills of all the participants, who presented cogently and articulately, and coped well with some very searching questions from the panel. Both myself and the IISTL look forward to being involved, through Zoom, with the IMAM for 2021.

”

### Professor Simon Baughen

*Professor of Shipping Law, Athro Cyfraith  
Llongau.*

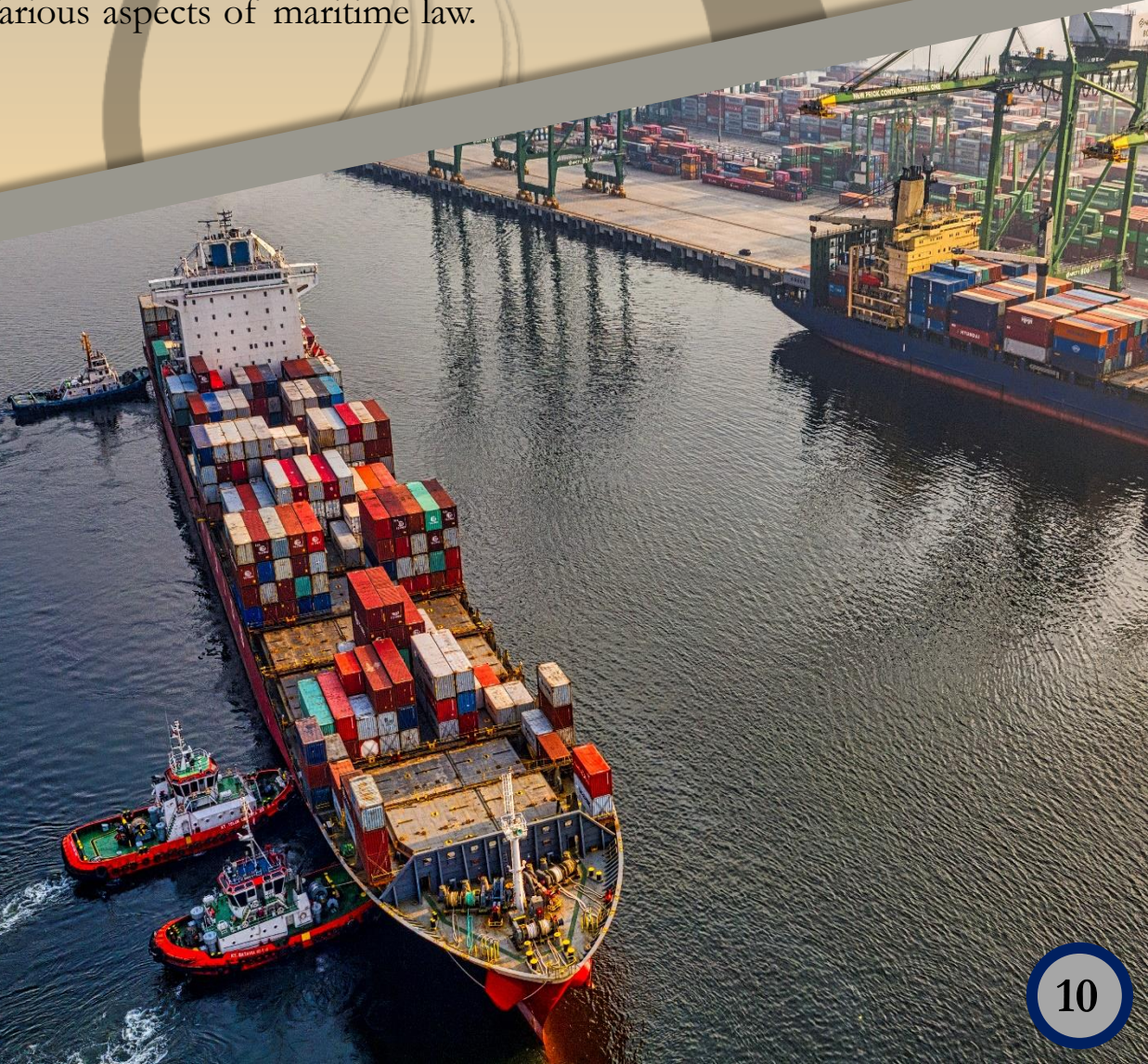




# INTRODUCING THE 8<sup>TH</sup> NLUO BOSE & MITRA & CO. INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ARBITRATION MOOT, 2021

IMAM 2021 seeks to make strides in the experience by ensuring that the teams are met with a challenging problem related to the contemporary areas of maritime law and have the opportunity to face a veteran and engaging panel of judges. Owing to the developing interest in the field of maritime law, the competition, as has always been, will be dealing with multifarious aspects of maritime law.

The competition case study of 8th International Maritime Arbitration Moot is being drafted by our Associate Partner- The Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law, Swansea University.





The competition is tentatively scheduled to be held from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021. We are hopeful of the possibility of conducting the moot on campus and provide the participants with an unsurpassable mooting experience yet are pragmatic and wary of the compelling circumstances which may eventually lead to the moot being conducted online.

We pride ourselves on running a friendly but intellectually rigorous competition which gives a real insight into this fascinating and vital area of law while honing the advocacy skills of the student teams.

An amiable social program, online or on campus, shall accompany the competition to enable students to forge contacts with students from other law schools and meet with senior members of the profession and the maritime industry.



# OUR PARTNERS FOR THE 8<sup>TH</sup> IMAM, 2021

## BOSE & MITRA & CO.

Bose & Mitra & Co. is one of the oldest and largest steadfast law firms in the field of maritime law in India which has established its niche in the shipping, commodities and insurance industries. They have been ranked as

a band 1 law firm by Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners in the field of shipping. Recently, they received an award for excellence in “Maritime Jurisprudence” by the Indian Corporate Counsel Association.

## STATEMENT FROM OUR TITLE SPONSOR



**Amitava Majumdar**

*Managing Partner, Bose & Mitra & Co.*



“ It has been my pleasure to have collaborated with the National Law University Odisha in conducting the International Maritime Arbitration Moot over the years. With every successive Moot, I have seen the levels of competition advance tremendously in terms of participation, critical analysis of complicated maritime issues, and the overall atmosphere of learning. The last edition, which keeping with the times was conducted virtually and that too, without a glitch, speaks volumes about the hosting and organisation of this Moot. I, along with my entire team at Bose & Mitra & Co., are proud to have collaborated with the University and look forward to the IMAM attaining newer heights in the coming years. Godspeed! ”





They were also awarded the “Maritime & Shipping Law Firm of the Year Award” by The Legal Era Magazine and the “Shipping & Maritime Maritime Law Firm of the Year Award” by The Indian Business Law Journal. Bose & Mitra & Co. embodies a team of renowned and eminent lawyers. Mr Amitava Majumdar (Raja), the Managing Partner at Bose & Mitra Co. has an experience of over 20 years in the maritime industry. He was instrumental in setting up Bose & Mitra & Co., Mumbai in 2004 (a spin-off of an 85-year old firm – Bose & Mitra & Co., Kolkata) which has grown to become one of the most thriving shipping law firms of India over the past 15 years.

He has also been ranked as a Band 1 lawyer by Chambers & Partners, and also finds a place in Who’s Who Legal. It has always been the belief of the firm that imparting training to students in the form of extracurricular activities such as moot court competitions, not only builds up an asset reserve for the profession but also helps the students to get a glimpse of the various intricacies of practising law. In furtherance of this objective, the company has collaborated as a “Title Sponsor” with NLUO to host the 8th Edition of NLUO - Bose & Mitra & Co. International Maritime Arbitration Moot 2021.

# THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING AND TRADE LAW, SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

The Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law (IISTL) was established in 2000 as a specialist research and professional training centre within Swansea University's School of Law. IISTL promotes research and teaching of the highest standard in the fields of international shipping and trade law; and fosters

cooperation with other academic institutions and professional, commercial, shipping, insurance and business organisations. Over the last two decades, the IISTL has gained a worldwide reputation for its contribution to research, policy-making, professional training and teaching in these areas.

## STATEMENT FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PARTNER



**Professor Baris Soyer**  
*IISTL's Director*



“We are delighted and proud to be associated with the National Law University Odisha-Bose & Mitra & Co. International Maritime Arbitration Moot again in 2021. This event provides an excellent opportunity for the young generation of lawyers to develop themselves.

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# THE ASIAN INSTITUTE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (AIADR)

The Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR) is the first not-for-profit member-based institute for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) forum. AIADR is endorsed by the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organisation (AALCO) and was launched in April 2018 by His Excellency Prof Dr. Kennedy Gastorn, Secretary General of AALCO.

AIADR is dedicated to promote the practice of ADR through affordable and accessible education and professional developments in the Asian and African continents reaching out across the globe. AIADR also endeavours to spur the economic growth by avoiding or reducing disputes through creating awareness, networking among users of ADR services and practicing professionals. AIADR is the all-inclusive think-tank of the future for support the development of jurisprudence related to swift and private settlement of disputes.



ASIAN INSTITUTE OF  
ALTERNATIVE  
DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION  
Delivering Excellence in ADR

## OUR RESOURCE PARTNER

AIADR is established primarily for “Promoting Global Trade and Delivering Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution Forums” worldwide other than resolution by courts, as well as: –

1. Promoting commerce, industry and investment climate by preventing and resolving disputes through ADR;
2. Promoting social cohesion and mutual assistance amongst practitioners and non-practitioners in the ADR forum;
3. Promoting education and research in the ADR field;
4. Provide for the accreditation of ADR Practitioners throughout the world; and
5. Collaborate with other Institutions to achieve its objectives.

# THE SINGAPORE CHAMBER OF MARITIME ARBITRATION (SCMA)

The Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA) is a specialist arbitration institution for the resolution of maritime and international trade disputes. It is guided by its principal aim of providing a comprehensive set of non-administered arbitration rules with optional features. SCMA offers the maritime and international trade communities a neutral, cost-effective and flexible framework to resolve their disputes fairly and expeditiously.



## OUR GLOBAL PARTNER



# AWARDS FOR IMAM 2021

*Total Prize Money*

₹2,00,000

*The Winning Team (Best Team Award)*

₹1,05,000 as prize money and three internship slots at *Bose & Mitra & Co.*

*The Runners-up Team (2<sup>nd</sup> Best Team Award)*

₹60,000 as prize money and three internship slots at *Bose & Mitra & Co.*

*Best Oralist*

₹20,000 as prize money and one internship slot at *Bose & Mitra & Co.*

*Best Memorial*

₹15,000 as prize money

# CONTACT US

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सत्ये स्थितो धर्मः

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