



**Centre for Intellectual  
Property Rights**

*and*

**Centre for Child and  
Woman Studies**

*organises*



**TWO-DAYS MULTIDISCIPLINARY  
CONFERENCE**

*on*

**WOMEN & INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY: ACCELERATING  
INNOVATION & CREATIVITY**

**WORLD  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
DAY**

April 26-27, 2023 (Hybrid Mode)

Himachal Pradesh National Law

University, Shimla

# **ABOUT HPNLU**

The Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU), Shimla was established by an Act of the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha in the year 2016 (Act 16 of 2016). In the seven years of its foundation, HPNLU, Shimla has seen tremendous growth and has undertaken a good number of innovative measures to enhance its academic potential. Led by the visionary scholar of law, the Vice- Chancellor Professor (Dr.) Nishtha Jaswal, the University has been proactive in organizing a series of events encompassing a wide spectrum of socio-legal issues. Despite the spread of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing lockdown, HPNLU, Shimla has been at the forefront of using digital platforms to raise awareness about issues as far spread as Fundamental Duties, Reproductive Rights of Women, Human Rights and Access to Justice etc.

# **CENTRE FOR** **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY** **RIGHTS (CIPR)**

CIPR is a newly established centre in the HPNLU family. IPR is a burgeoning research field. The scope of Agriculture-IPR, Sports, Health, and Music Industries, GI, Traditional knowledge, trademarks is very wide in the northern region of the country. Hence, there is an abundant need of Education, Promotion, and Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in a globalized, competitive world.


HPNLU aims to create an enabling environment by modernizing the IPR infrastructure and implementing various programmes to raise awareness among professionals and the public will be a stepping stone to success. Any academic/research activity necessitates quality human resources to manage the research positions in terms of financial and technical support to conduct any substantive research using a multidisciplinary approach in the field of Intellectual Property, and HPNLU is the ideal institution in this regard. Therefore, HPNLU aims to conduct research in the intellectual property field on various socio-legal and socio-economic parameters, social strata, technological fields, R&D trends, and more such developments.

# **CENTRE FOR CHILD AND WOMAN STUDIES (CCWS)**

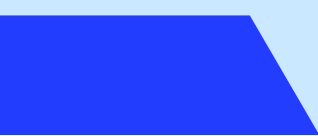
Centre for Child and Woman Studies, a specialised Centre, established by Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, for conducting socio-legal research in the field of rights of women and children. The centre aims at understanding and analysing policies pertaining to women and children rights and it serve as a research and training centre in the field of laws relating to women and children. It further aims to initiate and promote regional, national as well as international collaboration. The centre since its inception has conducted various programmes at the grassroots level to inculcate awareness among the women relating their rights and laws. Recently, the centre has conducted a round table conference on *Rights of Muslim Women-Reviewing Muslim Personal Laws* in collaboration with National Commission for Women, New Delhi and has also submitted the report to National Commission for Women recently.


# **WOMEN & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:** **ACCELERATING INNOVATION &** **CREATIVITY**

Women are making significant contributions to various fields and industries, including science, creativity, and business. In the field of science, women are driving breakthroughs and leading important research studies. For example, Dr. Jennifer Doudna, a biochemist and molecular biologist, won the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for her work on the CRISPR gene-editing technique. Women are also setting new creative trends in areas such as fashion, design, and art. For instance, Anna Wintour, the Editor-in-Chief of Vogue, is a highly influential figure in the fashion industry and has helped to launch the careers of many designers. Moreover, women are building businesses and transforming industries by introducing new products, services, and business models. One example is Sara Blakely, the founder of Spanx, a highly successful shapewear company that she built from the ground up. Through their contributions, women are pushing the boundaries of what is possible and driving progress in our world. However, despite these achievements, women still face significant barriers and inequalities, such as the gender pay gap and underrepresentation in leadership positions.





However, the underrepresentation of women in the intellectual property (IP) system is a significant issue that requires attention. Despite the importance of the IP system for promoting innovation and creativity, research indicates that women are significantly underrepresented in this field. This underrepresentation can be attributed to various factors, including social and cultural norms, limited access to education and resources, and biases within the system itself. The underrepresentation of women in the IP system has significant consequences as it limits the potential benefits that they can derive from their ideas and innovations. Women's exclusion from the IP system means that they cannot fully realize the economic, social, and cultural benefits that can result from their creative and innovative contributions. This situation has implications not only for women, individual careers and incomes but also for broader societal progress. The process of encouraging more women to use the IP system to protect and add value to their work can lead to a multitude of benefits. By doing so, we can foster the development of innovative and inclusive technologies that benefit everyone, while also cultivating thriving businesses led by women. Additionally, this effort can support economic recovery and help promote a better future. Thus, it is crucial to empower and equip women with the knowledge and resources needed to effectively use the IP system, ultimately leading to a more equitable and prosperous society.






Women have the same legal rights as men to protect their intellectual property, including patents, trademarks, and copyrights. However, women may still face challenges in accessing legal representation and resources needed to protect their IP rights, particularly in low-income countries. Additionally, women may experience cultural and social barriers to asserting their IP rights, such as negative attitudes towards women's innovation or reluctance to challenge male-dominated industries. IP law can have a significant impact on women's innovation and creativity. On one hand, IP protection can provide women with the legal framework necessary to monetize and protect their creations, potentially leading to financial and professional success. However, IP law can also create barriers to innovation and creativity, particularly for women who may face challenges in accessing the resources needed to enforce their IP rights or who may be subject to bias and discrimination within the IP system. Several studies have examined the issue of gender bias in the patent system. One notable study was conducted by the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) in the United States, which found that women were less likely to obtain patents than men, even after controlling for factors such as patent quality and funding.





Another study, published in the journal *Science* in 2018, analyzed the patent approval rates of over 4 million inventors in the US and found that patents granted to women were more likely to be cited as irrelevant or non-patentable compared to those granted to men. This suggests that gender bias may be present in the patent review process. There is also a significant gender gap in legal representation in the field of IP law, with women being underrepresented as both lawyers and judges. This gap can result in biases and barriers to justice for women seeking to protect and enforce their IP rights. Strategies to address this gap include increasing access to education and training in IP law for women, promoting diversity and inclusion in the legal profession, and improving the representation of women in leadership positions within the IP field. The intersection of IP law with other legal areas, such as employment law and discrimination law, can also impact women's IP and innovation. For example, workplace discrimination or harassment may discourage women from pursuing careers in innovative fields, or limit their ability to create and innovate. Similarly, gender-based discrimination within the IP system can result in biased decisions or unequal access to legal resources. It is crucial to consider these intersections and their impact on women's ability to create, innovate, and benefit from their creations.





# THEMES

## **1. IP Policy :**

- a. Examining the legal and policy frameworks that impact women's IP and innovation
- b. Advocating for policy changes to better support women's IP and innovation
- c. The role of IP in promoting women's economic empowerment and human rights
- d. The intersection of IP and gender equality in international developments.

## **2. Traditional Knowledge and IP:**

- a. The role of traditional knowledge in women's innovation and creativity
- b. Strategies for protecting and preserving traditional knowledge in IP systems
- c. The impact of IP on traditional knowledge and Indigenous women's rights
- d. Best practices for engaging with traditional knowledge holders and respecting Indigenous women's IP rights.

## **3. Women, IP and the Law:**

- a. The legal framework for protecting and enforcing women's IP rights
- b. The impact of intellectual property law on women's innovation and creativity
- c. Examining the gender gap in legal representation and strategies to address it
- d. The intersection of IP law with other legal areas, such as employment law and discrimination law, and their impact on women's IP and innovation.

#### **4. Innovation in IP amongst women entrepreneurs:**

- a. Examining the participation of women in Patents and Trademarks
- b. Studying the contribution of women entrepreneurs in specific IP areas
- c. Examining the gender disparity in community-based industries related to IPR and women's entrepreneurship
- d. Women as Primary patent Holder

#### **5. Competition Law and IP Rights:**

- a. Critically examining the link between competition law and IP concerning women's rights
- b. Studying the goal of IP rights to encourage innovation by women
- c. The impact of competition law on women's IP rights

#### **6. Copyright and Entertainment industry:**

- a. Examining the relationship between the filmmaking process and IP in relation to women's involvement and rights
- b. IP Rights in the music industry and the participation of women
- c. Gender disparity in copyrights and other related rights
- d. Studying the creative trends in Fashion, design and art-related IP and women's contribution therein.

#### **7. Geographical Indications :**

- a. Role of women recognized in the legislative definitions of GI
- b. GIs , Social development and Women
- c. Cosmetic industry and women

#### **8. Women's IP rights and IT Law:**

- a. Interplay between IT Law and women's IPR
- b. Contribution of women towards link between IPR and IT Law

***\*THE TOPICS ARE NOT LIMITED TO THESE ABOVE MENTIONED THEMES.***

# **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

The title of the paper should be followed by Name, Designation, Name of the Organization / University / Institution, Email address and contact details along with an Abstract not more than 300 words. It is mandatory to mention Email addresses, as all future correspondence will be through it. Name and details of Co-author (Co-authorship is allowed up to a maximum of 2 authors), if any.

- The paper should be in doc./docx. format.
- The paper must be in a single-column layout with margins justified on both sides.
- The subheading should be in font size 12, bold and Times New Roman, left-aligned.
- The main text should be in font size 12, Normal, Times New Roman, 1.5 spacing and justified.
- The length of a paper should not be less than 3500 words (excluding footnotes).
- All references must be in the form of footnotes with font size 10, Times New Roman, 1.0 spacing and should be according to the HPNLU Citation Style.
- The submissions should not have more than 10% Similarity Index.
- All the submission should be made via Google Form Link <https://forms.gle/8H5CbZGKK1mLDdP1A>
- Any submission violating the above stated guidelines will be rejected. So, it is advised that the author(s) must stick to the mentioned guidelines.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Students, Academicians, Research Scholars and Professionals from related fields are eligible to participate in the conference.

## **IMPORTANT NOTE**

- Certificates will be awarded to the registered participants who will attend the full Conference.
- In case of co-authorship, each author is required to register and pay the registration fee individually.

## **REGISTRATION FEE**

Students/Research Scholars: 500 INR

Academicians/Professionals: 1000 INR

## **ACCOMMODATION**

*\*Accommodation has to be made by participants themselves. In case of any assistance relating to list of nearby budgeted hotels, you may contact our Student Convenors. (contact details are provided below)*

## **PAYMENT DETAILS**

- **A/c holder's name** – Registrar Seminar & Conference  
a/c HP National law university
- **Account no-** 14100110051955
- **IFS Code-** UCBA0001410

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

<b>SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT</b>	<b>10th April, 2023</b>
<b>SELECTION OF ABSTRACT &amp; FEE PAYMENT</b>	<b>12th April, 2023</b>
<b>SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPT &amp; PPT</b>	<b>18th April, 2023</b>
<b>CONFERENCE DATE</b>	<b>26th – 27th April, 2023</b>

## **PATRON-IN-CHIEF**

Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sabina  
Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Himachal Pradesh  
Chancellor, HPNLU, Shimla

## **PATRON**

Prof. (Dr). Nishtha Jaswal  
Vice-Chancellor, HPNLU, Shimla

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Dr. Pushpanjali (Co-Coordinator)  
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cipr@hpnlu.ac.in or contact on the above mentioned  
numbers.*

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