

ESSAY COMPETITION 2022



About The Chair on Consumer Law:

The Chair on Consumer Law has been established at the National Law University, Delhi by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India in the year 2019. The Chair was set up to act as a Think Tank for Research and Policy related issues on Consumer Law & Practice, and to develop Consumer Law as a distinct subject of study both at Under Graduate & Post Graduate levels. To attain these objectives, the Chair undertakes advocacy and capacity building activities with targeted stakeholders such as students, academics, professionals, government officials, members of consumer fora, Voluntary Consumer Organizations (VCOs)/ NGOs etc. The Chair also periodically organizes legal aid and awareness camps, as part of its community outreach initiatives. The Chair also offers short duration Certificate Courses in Consumer Law & Practice to build capacities of professionals, besides equipping them to deal with new age consumer challenges. The Chair conducts research in the area of consumer law & policy, and provides inputs to policy makers. The Chair reviews draft legislations and rules in this area and provides its comments. The Chair also analyses various judicial pronouncements in the field to ascertain trend analysis, to provide inputs to policy makers to make the legal architecture robust in light of experience gained and difficulties faced. The Chair publishes its biannual Newsletter encapsulating latest legal developments and judicial pronouncements, besides reporting global updates.

About the Essay Competition:

The Chair is organizing an Essay Competition in view of the upcoming World Consumer Rights Day, 2022 which is celebrated worldwide on 15th March every year. World Consumer Rights Day was inspired by President John F Kennedy, who gave the famous speech in the US Congress on 15th March 1962, in which he formally addressed the issue of consumer rights. The Essay Competition endeavours to stimulate interest and foster growth amongst students to explore and engage with contemporary and seminal issues in the field of consumer law. *The names of the winners shall be announced by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Government of India during its event for celebration of World Consumer Rights Day, 2022.*



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Indicative Themes

- E-commerce & Consumer Protection
- New Features of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019
- Product Safety
- Data Protection and Consumer Protection
- Use of ADR/ ODR for Redressal of Consumer disputes
- Legal Metrology Law & Consumer Protection
- Food Safety & Standards Law & Consumer Protection
- > The above themes are **only indicative** and the participants are free to choose any other topic under the broad theme of consumer protection.

Eligibility

To ensure wider reach and opportunity, the Competition will be open to all - including students, academics, professionals, government officials, members of consumer fora, Voluntary Consumer Organizations (VCOs)/ NGOs *etc.*

Submission Guidelines

- The essay must be written in English and submitted in Microsoft Word document format (.doc/.docx).
- Co-authorship up to a maximum of two authors is permitted.
- Only one submission is allowed per author/team. Submissions, both as co-author and single, will be treated as multiple submissions and will be disqualified as an entry to the competition.
- The following formatting specifications need to be strictly adhered to: Main Body: Font Times New Roman, Font Size – 12, and Line Spacing – 1.5; Footnotes: Font – Times New Roman, Font Size – 10, and Line Spacing – 1.0; Margins should be 1 inch or 2.54 cm on all sides.
- The word limit is 2500-3000 words excluding footnotes. Footnotes must follow the Bluebook system of citation (Harvard, 20th edition).
- The essay must contain an abstract, not exceeding 250 words (which would not be counted in the word limit for the essay). It must indicate the theme/topic.
- All submissions should be made in an electronic form at <u>consumerchair@nludelhi.ac.in</u> under the subject heading "**Submission: Essay Competition 2022**" by 20 February 2022, 23:59 hours.



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- The essay must be accompanied by a separate document containing the following: (i) full details of the participant viz. name, institution affiliation; phone number, email ID *etc*; (ii) theme/topic chosen; (iii) A declaration that: "The Essay is an original work of the author(s). I(We) certify that my(our) submission is original, has not been published elsewhere, and is not under review or consideration elsewhere."
- Incomplete or plagiarized submissions shall be summarily rejected. The similarity limit is 15% (excluding footnotes).
- The final publication of all submissions shall be subject to changes by the Editorial Board. The Board reserves the right to summarily reject or return the submission to the author/authors without feedback for non-compliance with these guidelines. In case of any dispute, the decision of the Board shall be final and binding.
- The opinion/thoughts/ideas or any view of the author expressed and published on the essay are respective views of the authors. The Chair or the Board shall not be held responsible or accountable for the opinion expressed by the author on the essay.
- The Chair reserves the right to cancel the competition without notice, in case suitable/quality entries are not received in the competition or in case of any other event outside our reasonable control.

Prizes & Certificates of Merit

- Winner: ₹ 4000 & Certificate of Merit
- **Runner up**: ₹ 2500 & Certificate of Merit
- Second Runner-up: Certificate of Merit

The best entries will also be published in the next issues of the Newsletter of the Chair on Consumer Law.

Important Dates

Submission Deadline: 20 February 2022

Announcement of Results: 15 March 2022

Contact Information

For inquiries, please email us at <u>consumerchair@nludelhi.ac.in</u> or visit our website at <u>https://consumerchairnlud.wordpress.com/</u>
