

Memorandum of Understanding

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National Law University, Tripura

and

M/s. Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy



This Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU")

is made at Tripura

on 27th January, 2025 ("Effective Date")

Between

The National Law University, Tripura, a premier National Law University situated in Agartala, Tripura ("University", which expression shall, unless repugnant to the subject and context hereof, be deemed to mean and include its affiliates, successors and permitted assigns);

And

The Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, a not-for-profit company registered under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013, having its registered office at A-313, 1st Floor, Defence Colony South Delhi, New Delhi- 110024 ("Vidhi", which expression shall, unless repugnant to the subject and context hereof, be deemed to mean and include its affiliates, successors and permitted assigns)

Each of Vidhi and the University may be hereinafter referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties".

WHEREAS:

- (i) Vidhi is an independent legal think-tank whose mission is to achieve good governance in India through impactful legislative and regulatory design.
- (ii) The University is a premier national law university providing legal education to students.
- (iii) Vidhi proposes to set up or renew, as the case may be, a 'Kautilya Society' in the University to carry out activities described in the 'scope of work' below.
- (iv) The Parties are desirous of recording, through this MoU, the mutual understanding and terms and conditions concerning the Kautilya Society in the University.

THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

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Preliminary Clauses

1. OBJECTIVE

1.1. The objective of this MoU is to establish a Kautilya Society in the University to enable students to undertake various activities related to law & public policy enlisted in the Scope of Work, and to ensure that students of the University are able to actively engage with law & public policy through internships and career opportunities.

2. TERM

- 2.1. This MoU shall be valid for a period of three years from the Effective Date.
- 2.2. This MoU may be renewed or terminated in the manner described in clause 11.

Setting up the Kautilya Society

3. CONSTITUTION OF THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY

- 3.1. The procedure for selection of the members of the Kautilya Society may be determined by the University in consultation with Vidhi and may include the submission, by students, of statements of interest and/or writing samples, followed by an interview conducted by the Faculty Advisor.
- 3.2. The number of members in the Kautilya Society shall ordinarily be seven, which may be increased if the University deems it necessary.
- 3.3. Any modification to the procedure for selection may be made in consultation with Vidhi.
- 3.4. The Faculty Advisor shall keep Vidhl informed at all times of any changes in the membership of the Kautilya Society.
- 3.5. The Kautilya Society shall be constituted, as far as practicable, at the beginning of the academic year in the University.

4. TENURE OF THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY

4.1. A Kautilya Society constituted under clause 3 shall continue in office for one calendar year from the date of its constitution.

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Functionaries of the Kautilya Society

5. CONVENOR OF THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY

- 5.1. After the Kautilya Society has been constituted in accordance with clause 3, the Faculty Advisor shall appoint, from among the members of the Kautilya Society, a 'Convenor' and if deemed necessary, a 'Joint Convenor'.
- 5.2. The Convenor and the Joint Convenor shall serve at the pleasure of the Faculty Advisor or until the expiry of the term of the Kautilya Society, whichever is earlier.

6. FACULTY ADVISOR OF THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY

- 6.1. The University shall designate a member of its faculty as the 'Faculty Advisor' of the Kautilya Society.
- 6.2. The Faculty Advisor designated under this clause shall assist the Kautilya Society in undertaking the activities under this MoU, coordinate with the University to ensure that the Kautilya Society is able to achieve the same, and act as a mentor and advisor to the members of the Kautilya Society.

7. PROGRAMME MANAGER FOR THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY

- 7.1. Vidhi shall appoint a Programme Manager for the Kautilya Society who shall be the coordinator for this MoU for and on behalf of Vidhi.
- 7.2. The Programme Manager shall provide all assistance and cooperation to aid the Kautilya Society in technical and operational matters.
- 7.3. The Programme Manager shall be the point of contact between Vidhi and the Kautilya Society, and shall undertake the necessary coordination with the University, the Faculty Advisor, the Convenor, or the Joint Convenor, as the case may be.

Functioning of the Kautilya Society

8. ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY

8.1. The Kautilya Society shall, as soon as practicable after it has been constituted, prepare a tentative Activity Calendar in consultation with the Faculty Advisor and the Programme Manager.

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- 8.2. This Activity Calendar shall consist of the activities which the Kautilya Society proposes to undertake during its term.
- 8.3. The Activity Calendar may include items such as the setting up of a journal/blog/newsletter, creating a video/podcast series, organising symposia/seminars/conferences/workshops, producing original or engaged research on any area of law & public policy in the form of white papers/policy briefs/reports/public comments, and any other related activities which the Kautilya Society wishes to undertake.
- 8.4. The Activity Calendar shall be shared with the Programme Manager as soon as it has been prepared.
- 8.5. The Faculty Advisor, the Convenor, and the Joint Convenor shall ensure that the Activity Calendar is followed as far as practicable.
- 8.6. The Activity Calendar may be modified as many times as necessary in course of the tenure of the Kautilya Society in consultation with the Faculty Advisor and the Programme Manager.

9. FUNDING & REIMBURSEMENTS TO THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY BY VIDHI

- 9.1. Whenever a particular activity enlisted in the Activity Calendar involves any financial outlay on the part of the Kautilya Society, it may prepare a brief Funding Proposal for the same in consultation with the Faculty Advisor and the Programme Manager.
- 9.2. This Funding Proposal shall include a tentative budget along with particulars.
- 9.3. The Funding Proposal shall be submitted to the Programme Manager as soon as it has been prepared.
- 9.4. Any payment to be made to the Kautilya Society pursuant to the Funding Proposal shall be at the sole discretion of Vidhi.
- 9.5. Vidhi may also provide reimbursement at actuals upon the production of necessary invoices.

10. COLLABORATION WITH EXTERNAL PARTNERS BY THE KAUTILYA SOCIETY

10.1. In the course of undertaking its activities, the Kautilya Society may choose to collaborate with external partners, including but not limited to: research centres which may have been set up in the University, Kautilya Societies which may have been

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established in other Universities, Ministries/Departments of the Central/State Governments, the Supreme Court, the High Court, tribunals, regulatory agencies, law firms, think tanks etc.

10.2. Before undertaking any such collaboration, the Kautilya Society shall ensure to inform and consult the Programme Manager.

Miscellaneous Clauses

11. MODIFICATIONS, RENEWAL, & TERMINATION

- 11.1. This MoU may be modified only in writing, and only if such modification is authorised by the Parties.
- 11.2. This MoU may be renewed with the mutual consent of the Parties.
- 11.3. This MoU may be terminated by either Party after providing the other Party with thirty days notice.

For and on behalf of Vidhi	For and on behalf of the University
Alyah.	Prof. (Dr.) Yogesh Pratap Singh
Dr. Arghya Sengupta	Prof. (Drhatogester Huing Sing Hours.
Research Director	Vice-Chancellor, NLU Tripura