



Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence



**SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, PUNE**

**SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)**

(Established under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A' grade (3.58/4) | Awarded Category - I by UGC

**Symbiosis Centre for International and Comparative Child Rights Law**

## 1. Introduction

Symbiosis International (Deemed University) is built on the principles of Vedic Principle of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" and is resplendent with the activities of the students from several countries. The students come from large number of countries and find this to be home away from home. SIU was conferred with the Deemed University status (vide MHRD notification No. F.9-12/2002.U-3 (A) dated 6th May 2002). SIU has been reaccredited by the National Assessment Accreditation Council (NAAC) with 'A++' grade. SIU also has MOUs of collaboration with several renowned universities of the world and encourages students and faculty to participate in its programs.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) represents the highest aspirations for a bright future for the world's children and is a crucial opportunity to realize the rights of the child worldwide. It provides a clear framework for implementation and aims to improve children's lives through a universal agenda with clear goals and targets. Fulfilling children's rights is a prerequisite for realizing the 2030 Agenda of sustainable development. A universal, integrated approach is needed throughout the world to implement the 2030 Agenda in a manner which protects and promotes children's rights, recognizing the relevance of all SDGs to all children, their rights, wellbeing and development in all countries at all stages of their childhood.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is an international treaty that recognizes the human rights of children, defined as persons up to the age of 18 years. The Convention establishes in international law that States Parties must ensure that all children – without discrimination in any form – benefit from special protection measures and assistance; have access to services such as education and health care; can develop their personalities, abilities and talents to the fullest potential; grow up in an environment of happiness, love and understanding; and are informed about and participate in, achieving their rights in an accessible and active manner.

The interlinked nature of the rights of the child under CRC and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda has been clearly established-highlighting that all SDGs and targets, while not explicitly naming children, are linked to protecting and promoting children's rights. . Therefore, respecting, protecting and fulfilling children's rights under CRC also means achieving universal sustainable development. Adopting best practices from different countries and regions, amending legislation, standards and policies is necessary to ensure that they are not discriminatory – either directly or indirectly, considering that children are at greater risk of being left behind. For children in many countries, the pursuit of justice remains hampered by a lack of access to equitable and child friendly justice systems and authorities that will make decisions in their best interests.

It is in this context that the Symbiosis School of law has established the Centre for International and Comparative Child Rights & Laws. The Centre will provide international and comparative research, finding statutes and cases of individual countries, and private international law treaties. Working on international and comparative domestic relations, teaching and training, law reform, child advocacy opportunities so that equitable justice systems, access to justice and other forms of child protection are provided to children. *promote equitable access to justice for all children whose rights have been violated*, whether they are offenders, victims or witnesses. It will promote new and more child friendly access to justice for all children around the globe. The center/clinic is relevant for students with a particular interest in children's issues as well as for students interested in social change.

## 2. Objectives

The Centre aspires to achieve the following objectives:

1. Global and comparative legal research and analysis of substantive and procedural children's rights and laws from a child friendly justice perspective.
2. To ensure access to justice to all children through international and comparative legal perspectives.
3. Capacity Building of all stakeholders in the child justice system
4. Child advocacy
5. Community Education
6. Legislative & Policy Reform

### **3. Events**

#### **Poster making competition for SYMPHORIA 2024**

The Symbiosis Centre for Advanced Legal Studies and Research (SCALSAR), Symbiosis Centre for International & Comparative Child Rights in collaboration with Human Rights Cell (HRC) and Community Legal Care and Literacy Cell and Pro Bono Club organised a Poster Making Competition for Symphoria 2024 with the aim to raise awareness on the rights of children, and various interesting areas of exploitation experienced by them while encouraging thought on methods to redress this grievous issue.

The event invited participants to create posters to highlight critical issues such as child exploitation. The theme of the event was "Exploitation of children and remedies for their protection", allowed students to explore various components of child rights and make students more aware regarding this topic. This competition not only fosters artistic expression but also encourages participants to deal with important social issues and empowerment of children.

The event was held on 17<sup>th</sup> of October, the second day of Symphoria between 6:30 P.M and 8:30 P.M. Along with the main theme there were multiple sub themes also such as ;

- A. Child Rights and Environmental Protection
- B. Child Abuse and Neglect: Labour, Hunger, and Homelessness
- C. Begging and Exploitation of Children
- D. Barriers to Education for Children
- E. Child Soldiers: Innocence Lost to Conflict
- F. Stateless Children: Rights in Limbo
- G. Protecting the Rights of Children with Disabilities

Objectives of the event were to

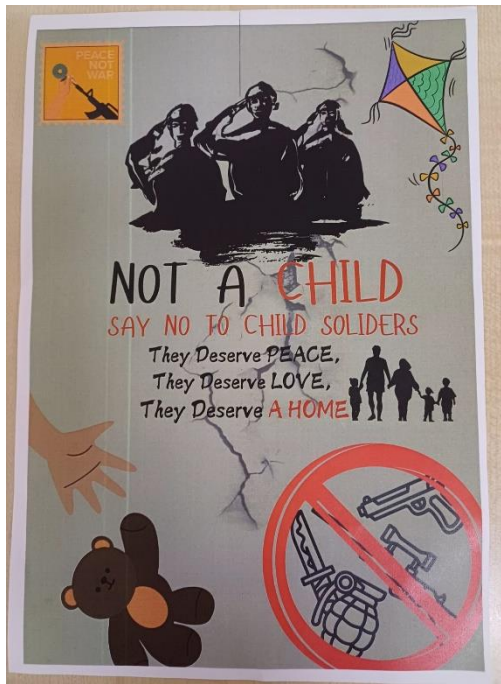
1. Raise awareness,
2. Encouraging advocacy
3. Promoting legal literacy
4. Encouraging creative solutions
5. Fostering engagement with social issues
6. Recognizing excellence

The participants could draw anything they wanted within the scope of the theme provided, they may attach a brief description or artist statement along with their poster. The event lasted for 120 minutes and the event was held offline. The decisions of the judges would be final and binding and the participants were asked to bring their own stationary and paints.

The contestants were marked on the adherence to theme, originality and creativity, visual appeal, capturing audience attention, prize distribution and memoirs.

The outcomes achieved through this event were achievement of an ability to communicate complex ideas through artistic expression, learning to social issues and advocate effectively for child rights, deepening of knowledge pertaining to child rights and legal frameworks that protect them.

This session made the event of Symphoria 2024 more educational and memorable and contributed towards a more learned and aware student community at Symbiosis Law School Pune.



### 4. Research and Publication

As of 2024, there are SLS Pune has had a number of publications and research in the are of child rights ranging from education, child soldiers, child pornography, juvenile justice and childhood abuse.

**List of Publications (2022-2024) aligned within the scope of child rights centre**

<b>Name of Faculty</b>	<b>Publishing Year &amp; Month</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Journal</b>	<b>Index</b>
Aditi Mane & Dr. Shashikala Gurpur	Apr-22	Education Under Attack: Right to Education of children in the Red Corridor Region, India	International Journal of Early Childhood Special Education (INT-JECSE) -ISSN: 1308-5581	WoS
Aditi Suresh Mane, Dr. Shashikala Gurpur	Jun-22	An uneven Battlefield where Gender Matters: A Critical Analysis of the Reintegration Programme of Girl Child Soldiers in Global Armed Conflicts	Journal of Positive School Psychology <a href="http://journalppw.com">http://journalppw.com</a> 2022, Vol. 6, No. 3, 8636–8641. SCOPUS International	Scopus International
Purba Das, Dr. Manika Kamthan	Apr-23	Impact of Polygamy on Indian Women and Children: A Critical Study	Res Militaris E-ISSN:2265-6294-Published/publié in Res Militaris(resmilitaris.net), vol.13,n°3, March Spring2023	Scopus
SHOBHANA SANJAY SINGH, DR. SAPNA BANSA: PROF. KARTHI AYANI	Jul-24	INDIA, INTER-COUNTRY PARENTAL CHILD REMOVAL AND THE LAW	INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS with the ISSN [2582-6433]	NA
Aashish Deshpande Trupti Manish Rathi Arpita Kulkarni Sakshi Singh	Sep-24	Child pornography in India - issues and challenges	"Multidisciplinary Science Journal	Scopus

**List of PhD Candidates working in the area of Child Rights:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>Guide</b>	<b>PRN</b>	<b>Topic</b>
2022-2023	SHAUNAK SAKHARAM GOKHALE	Dr Sujata Arya	22019001007	Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 Reforms in Children Homes
2023-2024	KIRTI SINGH	Dr. Anuradha Vinod	23019001021	Childhood Abuse and Victimization