



LEXFINIS FOUNDATION

First ever Industry Training Partner, Legal Sector of MEPSC · Skill India Mission ·
Government of India
NITI Aayog Darpan Registration No. DL/2026/0994787
Chief Patron: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kurian Joseph, former Judge, Supreme Court of India



THE FIRST COLLABORATION OF ITS KIND IN INDIA · 2026 NATIONAL EDITION

A NATIONAL WRIT DRAFTING & ADVOCACY COMPETITION

RIGHT TO WRIT

In Public Interest — 2026

RULE BOOK

Organiser	LexFinis Foundation, New Delhi
In collaboration with	Solicitorsindia Law Offices
Skill Partner	Management & Entrepreneurship and Professional Skills Council (MEPSC), Government of India
AI Partner · Media Partner	Lejit.ai · Live Law
Edition	2026 · National Edition · Issued under Circular No. LFF/RTW/2026/01
Competition window	15 September 2026 to 26 November 2026

This Rule Book is binding on every registered participant. It must be read together with the Official Brochure, the Events & Timelines document and any clarification, corrigendum or circular published on the participant dashboard at www.lexfinis.org. Where any inconsistency arises, this Rule Book, as most recently amended, shall prevail.

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READ WITH THIS RULE BOOK

The Official Brochure · the Events & Timelines document · the LexFinis Representation Template · the annotated sample writ petition · and every clarification or circular published on the participant dashboard at www.lexfinis.org.

1. Administration

- 1.1. "Right to Writ — In Public Interest 2026" (the "Competition") is organised and administered by **LexFinis Foundation**, a not-for-profit legal finishing school registered with NITI Aayog (Darpan Registration No. DL/2026/0994787), New Delhi.
- 1.2. The Competition is conducted in association with the **Management & Entrepreneurship and Professional Skills Council (MEPSC)**, a Sector Skill Council under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding dated 21 August 2026. It is conducted **in collaboration with Solicitorsindia Law Offices**, with **Lejit.ai** as AI Partner and **Live Law** as Media Partner.
- 1.3. The Competition is held under the Chief Patronship of **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kurian Joseph**, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India.
- 1.4. The Competition is conducted online through the participant dashboard at **www.lexfinis.org**, save for the Final Rounds and the subsequent filing and appearance, which are conducted in such mode as the Organiser may notify.
- 1.5. The Organiser is responsible for all administrative matters and shall publish and disseminate all necessary information through the dashboard and the registered e-mail address of each participant.
- 1.6. The official address for all correspondence is **ceo@lexfinis.org**. No communication sent to any other address shall be treated as notice to the Organiser.

2. Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, in this Rule Book:

- 2.1. "**Organiser**" or "**Foundation**" means LexFinis Foundation, New Delhi.
- 2.2. "**Competition**" means Right to Writ — In Public Interest 2026.
- 2.3. "**Participant**" means an individual law student who has duly registered for the Competition in accordance with Rule 5 and whose registration has been verified. Participation is **individual**; there are no teams.
- 2.4. "**Participant Code**" means the unique alphanumeric code allotted to each Participant upon verification of registration.
- 2.5. "**Issue**" or "**Cause**" means the live public interest issue identified by the Participant under Rule 9.

- 2.6.** "Representation" means the written representation addressed to the appropriate government body or statutory authority, submitted under Rule 11.
- 2.7.** "Writ Petition" means the petition drafted under Article 32, 226 or 227 of the Constitution of India, submitted under Rule 12.
- 2.8.** "Panel" means the panel of judges and evaluators constituted by the Organiser under Rule 16.
- 2.9.** "Client" means a non-governmental organisation, institution, community group or natural person in whose name and on whose instructions a Track A Participant acts, as described in Rule 10.
- 2.10.** "Dashboard" means the Participant's account at www.lexfinis.org.
- 2.11.** These Rules are inclusive and not exhaustive. Any deviation may attract penalty or disqualification. All decisions of the Organiser in case of any dispute or doubt shall be final and binding.

3. Nature and Object of the Competition

- 3.1.** **This is not a moot court competition and not a simulation.** There is no moot proposition, no hypothetical set of facts, no Claimant and Respondent, and no memorials. Each Participant works on a **real** public interest issue of their own choosing.
- 3.2.** The object of the Competition is that a law student should learn, before leaving college, how a petition is actually researched, drafted, filed and presented in Court — and should do so on a cause that matters.
- 3.3.** **Training precedes drafting.** Structured training by practising advocates, including Advocates on Record of the Supreme Court of India, is delivered before each drafting stage. Participation is with knowledge.
- 3.4.** Selected Writ Petitions are presented before the Panel for admission and are thereafter **filed before the concerned jurisdiction's High Court or the Supreme Court of India**, depending on the facts and circumstances. The Participant may appear as party in person or may avail the assistance of the Foundation in arguing the matter.
- 3.5.** Every Certificate of Participation carries the authority of MEPSC, Government of India.

4. Eligibility

- 4.1.** All students duly enrolled in a bona fide three-year or five-year undergraduate law programme, or a postgraduate law programme, offered by any recognised college, university or institution in India and Lawyers with maximum 2 years of experience are eligible.
- 4.2.** Students of **any year** of study and Lawyers with maximum 2 years of experience are eligible. No prior moot court, litigation or drafting experience is required or expected.
- 4.3.** Participation is individual. Joint entries, team entries and co-authored submissions are not permitted.
- 4.4.** There is **no cap** on the number of entries from any one college, university or institution.
- 4.5.** A Participant may submit only **one** Representation and, if shortlisted, only **one** Writ Petition.
- 4.6.** Participating institutions are requested, by Circular No. LFF/RTW/2026/01, to nominate a **Faculty Coordinator**. Faculty Coordinators may also be nominated to the evaluation panel.

5. Registration and Fee

- 5.1.** Registration opens on **15 September 2026** and closes on **20 October 2026**. Registration is completed only at www.lexfinis.org, under Upcoming Events → Right to Writ → Register now.
- 5.2.** The one-time registration fee is **₹2,200/-** (Rupees Two Thousand Two Hundred only) per Participant. The fee is payable through the Dashboard and the transaction reference must be submitted for verification.
- 5.3.** The registration fee, once paid, is **non-refundable and non-transferable** under any circumstances, including withdrawal, non-attendance at training or non-submission.
- 5.4.** Each Participant must complete their profile with a photograph, the current college identity card and a Government-issued identity document for verification. Access to the Resources section unlocks only upon verification.
- 5.5.** Registration after 20 October 2026 shall not be entertained in any circumstance.

6. Participant Code and Anonymity

- 6.1.** Every verified Participant is allotted a Participant Code on the Dashboard.
- 6.2.** The body of the Representation and of the Writ Petition, as uploaded for evaluation, shall carry **only the Participant Code** in the upper-right corner of the first page. It shall not disclose the name of the Participant, the college, university or institution, or any faculty member, whether in the text, headers, footers, footnotes or file properties.
- 6.3.** Rule 6.2 does not apply to the details of the Client, which must be disclosed in the manner required by Rule 10, nor to the final, court-ready version prepared for filing under Rule 18, which shall bear the Participant's own name.
- 6.4.** Any breach of anonymity shall be penalised under Rule 19.

7. Structure of the Competition

The Competition proceeds in four stages, each preceded by training:

STAGE	WHAT THE PARTICIPANT DOES	OUTPUT	DEADLINE
I • Initiation	Identifies a live public interest issue and a jurisprudential gap; decides between Track A (with a Client) and Track B (in own name)	Chosen cause, recorded on the Dashboard	22 Oct 2026
II • Planning	Researches precedent and statute; drafts a representation to the appropriate government body or authority	Representation, up to 3 pages	30 Oct 2026
III • Execution	Shortlisted Participants draft a full writ petition under Article 32, 226 or 227, fit to be filed	Writ Petition, up to 16 pages	15 Nov 2026
IV • Adjudication	Selected Participants argue for admission before the Panel; petitions are then finalised for filing in Court	Oral presentation; petition filed	26 Nov 2026

- 7.1.** Advancement from one stage to the next is by selection only. The announcement of selected Representations is made on **6 November 2026** and of selected Writ Petitions on **20 November 2026**.
- 7.2.** The complete calendar is set out in the *Events & Timelines* document, which forms part of these Rules.

8. The Training Programme

- 8.1.** Training is the defining feature of the Competition and is **included in the registration fee**. The following sessions are conducted:

DATE	SESSION	CONTENT
22 Oct 2026	Training I Orientation & Issue Identification	The steps and flow of the Competition; how to identify a live constitutional gap; how to decide whether the Representation is made for a Client (an NGO, institution or real person) or in the Participant's own name
22 Oct 2026	Training I(A) Client Counselling (Track A only)	Specialised training for Participants acting for a Client: taking instructions, recording the client's account, authority and consent, conflict checks and confidentiality
23 Oct 2026	Training II Drafting the Representation	Conducted in two separate tracks , one for Client-backed Participants and one for Participants proceeding in their own name: structure, tone, evidence, annexures and the prayer
9 Nov 2026	Training III Writ Drafting	Choice of forum and jurisdiction; synopsis and list of dates; cause title; facts; grounds; prayer; affidavit; annexures; court fee; and common defects
23 Nov 2026	Training IV Filing & Oral Submissions	E-filing and physical filing; scrutiny and curing of defects; mentioning; and how to open, structure and close an admission argument

- 8.2.** Attendance at the training sessions applicable to a Participant's stage and track is **mandatory**. A Participant who has not attended the applicable session, live or through the recording released on the Dashboard, may be declared ineligible to submit at that stage.
- 8.3.** Recordings, slides and reading lists are released on the Dashboard under **Resources** within 48 hours of each session.

✦ WHAT EVERY REGISTERED PARTICIPANT RECEIVES

- All five training sessions, live and as recordings, by practising advocates and Advocates on Record;
- The **LexFinis Representation Template** (Representation to a Government Body);
- A **sample writ petition**, annotated clause by clause, released under Resources after Training III — provided as a model of form and structure only, never to be reproduced in substance;
- A drafting and formatting checklist, and a filing checklist;
- Legal research and drafting tools from the AI Partner, Lejit.ai;
- A Certificate of Participation carrying the authority of MEPSC, Government of India.

9. Stage I — Identification of the Issue

- 9.1.** Each Participant shall identify **one** live issue of public importance disclosing a **jurisprudential gap**: a real constitutional wrong, or a real failure of statutory duty, which the courts have not yet conclusively addressed.

► The three tests an Issue must satisfy

TEST	WHAT IT REQUIRES
Live	The wrong is continuing or imminent, not spent or academic. There must be an identifiable person, class or public interest presently affected.
Unsettled	The point has not been conclusively decided by the Supreme Court of India or by the High Court of the jurisdiction in which relief would be sought. A pending matter is not a bar, but must be disclosed.
Remediable	A writ court can grant a workable remedy — a direction, a mandamus, a quashing, a time-bound compliance or an audit. If no order of a writ court would change anything, the issue is not suitable.

► What does not qualify

- A purely private dispute: service matters personal to the Participant, contractual claims, family disputes, landlord and tenant matters, or recovery of money.
- An issue already conclusively decided by a High Court or the Supreme Court, unless the Participant identifies a genuinely distinct and unaddressed facet and says so expressly.

- A matter sub judice between the Participant, or the Client, and the proposed respondent.
- A demand for legislation in the abstract, unaccompanied by any identifiable constitutional or statutory duty already owed.
- An issue that cannot be supported by any material on record — speculation, rumour or unverified social media content.
- Any issue framed so as to target an individual, a community or an institution, rather than to secure a public remedy.

► Illustrative subject areas

The following are offered only as illustrations of the *kind* of issue that has worked well. Participants are free to choose any other cause, and originality of subject is rewarded.

- Non-implementation of accessibility standards for persons with disabilities in public buildings, transport or court complexes;
- Absence or non-functioning of statutory committees and grievance mechanisms mandated by law at the district or institutional level;
- Gaps in the framing of rules under a parent statute, leaving a right conferred by the statute unenforceable in practice;
- Non-compliance with environmental clearance conditions, waste management rules or noise standards in a defined locality;
- Conditions in shelter homes, observation homes, old age homes, or in the provision of statutory legal aid;
- Denial or delay in the delivery of a statutory entitlement — pensions, scholarships, maintenance, compensation schemes;
- Occupational safety and welfare of workers in a defined sector where a statutory duty already exists;
- Digital access, data handling or procedural fairness in the administration of a public welfare scheme.

ILLUSTRATIVE WORKED EXAMPLE — HOW AN ISSUE BECOMES A PETITION

The gap. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the rules framed thereunder require public buildings to conform to accessibility standards and require periodic accessibility audits. In a given district, the court complex, the sub-divisional office and three government dispensaries have no ramp of the prescribed gradient, no accessible toilet, no tactile guidance and no functioning lift; no accessibility audit appears to have been carried out, and the statutory grievance route has yielded no response.

Why it is live, unsettled and remediable. Persons with disabilities in that district are presently unable to reach a court or a dispensary without assistance; the specific failure in that district has not been adjudicated; and a writ court can direct an audit, fix a time-bound compliance schedule and call for a status report.

The constitutional and statutory hook. Equality before the law and the guarantee against discrimination; the right to life with dignity, of which meaningful access to justice and to public health facilities is a recognised facet; the directive to provide free legal aid and equal opportunity; and the specific statutory duties cast by the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 on the appropriate Government and local authorities.

Stage II — the Representation. Addressed to the Registrar General of the High Court, the District Magistrate and the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities: the facts, the statutory duty, the specific failures with dates and photographs, and a request for an audit and a compliance schedule within a stated period.

Stage III — the Writ Petition. Under Article 226 before the High Court of the concerned jurisdiction, seeking a writ of mandamus directing the respondents to carry out an accessibility audit, to complete the rectification within a time-bound schedule, and to place a compliance report before the Court — the unanswered Representation forming the cause of action and being annexed to the petition.

Note. This example is illustrative of method, not of merit. Participants must independently verify every statutory provision, rule and authority they rely upon. Reliance on any research or drafting tool, including the tools of the AI Partner, does not relieve a Participant of that obligation.

- 9.2. The chosen Issue shall be recorded on the Dashboard on or before **22 October 2026**, in not more than 100 words, together with the proposed forum and the track elected under Rule 10.
- 9.3. The Organiser may decline an Issue that does not satisfy Rule 9.1, that offends Rule 9's exclusions, or that is otherwise unsuitable, and shall permit the Participant to substitute another Issue within 48 hours.

- 9.4.** Two or more Participants may independently choose the same subject area. Evaluation is of the individual submission, and independent choice of the same subject is not a breach of Rule 15.

10. The Two Tracks

- 10.1.** At Stage I, every Participant elects one of two tracks. Both tracks are evaluated on the same criteria and compete for the same awards.

TRACK A · WITH A CLIENT	TRACK B · IN THE PARTICIPANT'S OWN NAME
The Participant acts for an NGO, institution, community group or natural person affected by the Issue.	No Client is attached. The Participant proceeds as a citizen acting in the public interest.
The Client must be disclosed at the time the Representation is submitted: name, nature, address and contact person.	No disclosure of a Client arises. The Representation is made in the Participant's own name.
A signed letter of authority or consent from the Client must be uploaded with the Representation.	A declaration of <i>bona fides</i> and of the absence of personal interest must be uploaded instead.
The Participant attends Training I(A) · Client Counselling and the Track A session of Training II.	The Participant attends the Track B session of Training II.

- 10.2.** A Participant in Track A owes the Client the ordinary duties of candour and confidentiality. No Participant shall hold out as an enrolled advocate, shall demand or accept any fee from a Client, or shall give any assurance as to the outcome of any proceeding.
- 10.3.** A change of track after 22 October 2026 is permitted only with the written permission of the Organiser.

11. Stage II — The Representation

- 11.1.** The Representation is a formal written communication addressed to the government body, statutory authority or public officer competent to redress the Issue. It is the foundation of the Writ Petition and, if unanswered, forms part of its cause of action.

11.2. The Representation shall not exceed **three (3) pages**, excluding annexures, and shall be drafted on the LexFinis Representation Template released under Resources.

11.3. The Representation shall contain, in the following order:

1. **Participant Code** (upper-right corner of the first page) and date;
2. **Addressee** — designation, department and full official address of the competent authority;
3. **Subject** — one sentence, stating the grievance and the relief sought;
4. **Reference** — the statutory provision, rule, scheme, circular or judgment under which the duty arises;
5. **Who makes this representation** — the Client and the Participant's capacity (Track A), or the Participant in their own name as a citizen (Track B);
6. **Statement of facts** — numbered paragraphs, chronological, each fact capable of being supported;
7. **The duty and its breach** — the provision, what it requires, and precisely how it has not been complied with;
8. **Material relied upon** — documents, photographs, RTI replies, official data, media reports, with an index;
9. **Prayer** — specific, workable, time-bound requests, numbered (a), (b), (c);
10. **Signature block** — name, designation or capacity, contact details, and the list of annexures.

11.4. The Representation shall be dispatched by the Participant to the addressee, and proof of dispatch (postal receipt, e-mail acknowledgement or online grievance registration number) shall be uploaded with the submission.

11.5. The Representation, the proof of dispatch and the letter of authority or declaration under Rule 10.1 shall be uploaded to the Dashboard on or before **30 October 2026**.

11.6. Selected Representations are announced on **6 November 2026**. Only selected Participants proceed to Stage III.

12. Stage III — The Writ Petition

12.1. The Writ Petition shall be drafted under **Article 32** (Supreme Court of India), **Article 226** or **Article 227** (the High Court of the concerned jurisdiction) of the Constitution of India. The choice of forum must be justified in the petition itself and must follow from the facts and circumstances of the cause.

12.2. The Writ Petition shall not exceed **sixteen (16) pages**, excluding the cover page, index, annexures and the vakalatnama or memo of party in person. It must be **fit to be filed**: a document that could, without material alteration, be presented at the filing counter.

12.3. The Writ Petition shall contain, in the following order:

1. **Cover page** — name and place of the Court; the Article under which the petition is filed; the petition number space; the cause title; and the Participant Code in the upper-right corner;
2. **Index** — with page numbers;
3. **Synopsis and List of Dates** — the narrative in brief, followed by dated events in chronological order;
4. **Cause title and memo of parties** — petitioner and respondents, with full descriptions and addresses;
5. **Statement of jurisdiction** — why this Court, under which Article, and why the alternative remedy, if any, is not efficacious;
6. **Statement of facts** — numbered paragraphs, each tied to an annexure where applicable;
7. **Grounds** — lettered (A), (B), (C), each a self-contained proposition of law applied to the facts, supported by authority;
8. **Locus standi and public interest** — the Participant's or the Client's standing, and the absence of personal gain;
9. **Declaration as to alternative remedy, delay and laches, and any pending proceedings** on the same subject;
10. **Prayer** — the writs and directions sought, numbered, precise and capable of being complied with;
11. **Interim relief**, if sought, separately stated with the reason for urgency;
12. **Affidavit in support**, in the prescribed form;
13. **Annexures** — serially marked (Annexure P-1, P-2 ...), each with a true-copy certificate; the Representation and the proof of its dispatch **must** be annexed;
14. **Court fee and filing details**, as applicable to the forum.

12.4. The Writ Petition shall be uploaded to the Dashboard on or before **15 November 2026**. Selected Writ Petitions are announced on **20 November 2026**.

12.5. An annotated **sample writ petition** is released to every registered Participant under Resources after Training III. It is supplied as a model of form, structure and language only. Reproduction of its substance, or of any part of it beyond ordinary formal expressions, is plagiarism within the meaning of Rule 15.

13. Formatting Requirements

13.1. Both the Representation and the Writ Petition shall comply with the following. Formatting is marked, and departures are penalised under Rule 19.

REQUIREMENT	SPECIFICATION
Paper size	A4 (210 × 297 mm), portrait, single sided
Margins	1 inch (2.54 cm) on all four sides
Body font	Times New Roman, 14 pt
Line spacing (body)	1.5 lines, justified alignment
Headings	Times New Roman, 14 pt, bold, upper case; sub-headings 14 pt, bold, sentence case
Footnotes	Times New Roman, 10 pt , single spacing; citations only, no argument in footnotes
Page numbers	Bottom centre, Times New Roman 12 pt, consecutive from the first page of the text
Paragraph numbering	Sequential Arabic numerals; grounds lettered (A), (B), (C)
Citation style	Bluebook (21st edition) or OSCOLA (4th edition) – one style, used consistently throughout
Language	English only. No handwritten submission is accepted in any circumstance.
Annexures	Legible copies, serially marked, indexed; not counted in the page limit
Prohibited	Decorative borders, watermarks, logos, photographs in the body, coloured text, and any mark identifying the Participant or the institution

14. Submission Protocol

- 14.1.** All submissions are made **only** through the Dashboard at www.lexfinis.org. Submissions by e-mail, post or any other means are not accepted and will not be evaluated.
- 14.2.** Every submission shall be uploaded in **two formats: PDF and .docx**. Where the two differ, the PDF governs.
- 14.3.** File naming convention, strictly observed:

DOCUMENT	FILE NAME
Representation	RTW2026_<ParticipantCode>_REP – e.g. RTW2026_RW1042_REP.pdf
Proof of dispatch	RTW2026_<ParticipantCode>_PROOF
Authority / declaration	RTW2026_<ParticipantCode>_AUTH
Writ Petition	RTW2026_<ParticipantCode>_WRIT
Annexures (combined)	RTW2026_<ParticipantCode>_ANNEX

- 14.4.** Every deadline expires at **23:59 hours Indian Standard Time** on the stated date. The time recorded by the Dashboard server is conclusive.
- 14.5.** **Late or incomplete entries are not accepted.** There is no grace period and no late-submission penalty in lieu of acceptance. Participants are advised to upload well in advance; connectivity failure is not a ground for extension.
- 14.6.** Document properties (author, company, comments) must be cleared before upload. Tracked changes and comments must be accepted or removed.

15. Originality, Plagiarism and the Use of AI

- 15.1.** Every submission must be the **original work of the Participant**, prepared for this Competition alone. Work previously submitted for academic credit, for another competition or for publication is not eligible.
- 15.2.** Quotation from statutes, rules and judgments is expected and is not plagiarism, provided it is clearly marked as quotation and properly cited. Uncited reproduction of another's expression is plagiarism.
- 15.3.** Each submission is screened for similarity. Penalties are applied on the following scale, calculated on the total word count of the document, excluding properly cited quotations, statutory extracts and the standard formal parts of a petition:

SIMILARITY FOUND	CONSEQUENCE
Up to 10%	No penalty
Above 10% and up to 15%	Deduction of 5 marks
Above 15% and up to 20%	Deduction of 10 marks
Above 20%	Disqualification
Reproduction from the sample writ petition supplied under Rule 12.5	Disqualification

- 15.4. Responsible use of AI.** Legal research and drafting tools from the AI Partner, Lejit.ai, are provided to every Participant and their use is permitted and encouraged. A Participant remains personally answerable for every word submitted.
- 15.5.** In particular, a Participant shall **independently verify every case, statute, rule, provision, citation and factual assertion** relied upon, from the primary source or a recognised reporter, before it is included in any submission. **A citation that does not exist, or that does not support the proposition for which it is cited, is treated as a failure of authenticity** and is penalised under Rule 19, and, if substantial, may result in disqualification.
- 15.6.** Each submission shall be accompanied by a declaration, generated on the Dashboard, that the work is original, that every authority has been independently verified, and that no confidential or personal information has been included without consent.

16. Evaluation and the Panel

- 16.1.** Every submission is read and marked by a Panel comprising former Judges of the Supreme Court of India, former Judges of the High Courts, Senior Advocates of the Supreme Court, senior legal educationists and members of the Foundation's Advisory Board. Participating institutions may nominate a faculty member to the evaluation panel.
- 16.2.** The broad criteria are Content and Clarity, Critical Thinking, Authenticity, Evidence-Based Argument, Logical Presentation and Topic Relevance, applied through the following marking schemes.

► **Stage II — Representation (100 marks)**

NO.	CRITERION	MARKS
1	Identification of the Issue and the jurisprudential gap; topic relevance	25
2	Factual foundation, material relied upon and its verifiability	20
3	Identification of the statutory or constitutional duty and of its breach	20
4	Structure, clarity and drafting quality	15
5	Prayer — specific, workable and correctly addressed	10
6	Compliance with formatting, citation and submission requirements	10
Total		100

► **Stage III — Writ Petition (100 marks)**

NO.	CRITERION	MARKS
1	Choice of forum, jurisdiction and maintainability, including locus standi	15
2	Synopsis, list of dates and statement of facts	10
3	Grounds — legal reasoning and application of law to facts	25
4	Research, use of authorities and evidence-based argument	20
5	Prayer and interim relief — precision and enforceability	10
6	Authenticity and originality, including verification of authorities	10
7	Language, drafting discipline, formatting and annexures	10
Total		100

► **Stage IV — Presentation before the Panel (100 marks)**

NO.	CRITERION	MARKS
1	Knowledge of law — provisions, principles and authorities	30
2	Application of law to the facts of the Participant's own cause	25
3	Ability to answer questions from the Bench	20
4	Structure of submissions and time management	15
5	Court craft, poise, courtesy and demeanour	10
Total		100

- 16.3.** The final standing is determined on the aggregate of Stage II (weight 20%), Stage III (weight 50%) and Stage IV (weight 30%). In the event of a tie, the higher Stage III score prevails; if the tie persists, the higher score under criterion 3 of Stage III prevails.
- 16.4.** Marks, evaluator identities and internal deliberations are confidential. Re-evaluation is not available, and the decision of the Panel is final and binding.
- 16.5.** Any attempt by a Participant, or by any person on their behalf, to contact a member of the Panel in relation to the Competition shall result in **immediate disqualification**.

17. Stage IV — The Final Rounds

- 17.1.** The Final Rounds are held on **26 November 2026**. Each selected Participant appears before the Panel and makes an admission-style submission on their own Writ Petition.
- 17.2.** Each Participant is allotted **fifteen (15) minutes**, comprising ten minutes of submission and five minutes for questions from the Bench. The Panel may extend the time at its discretion.
- 17.3.** The Participant should open by identifying the Court, the Article invoked, the parties and the relief sought; state the facts in brief; take the Bench through the grounds; and close on the prayer.
- 17.4.** A compendium of authorities may be placed before the Panel, if permitted, and must be indexed and paginated.

- 17.5. Dress code.** Court formals. Male Participants: white formal shirt, black trousers, black blazer and black tie. Female Participants: white formal shirt with black trousers or skirt and black blazer, or white solid, design-free kurta with black trousers and black blazer.
- 17.6.** Where a round is conducted online, the video must remain on throughout, the Participant must join from a quiet, well-lit and appropriately neutral setting, and must join at least fifteen minutes before the allotted time. Delay in appearance exceeding **five minutes** may result in the Participant forfeiting that round.

18. Filing and Appearance before the Court

- 18.1.** Following the Final Rounds, the Writ Petitions selected by the Panel are finalised for filing before the concerned jurisdiction's **High Court** or the **Supreme Court of India**, as the facts and circumstances require.
- 18.2.** The final, court-ready version shall bear the **Participant's own name**, and, in Track A matters, the name of the Client as petitioner. Anonymity under Rule 6 ceases to apply at this stage.
- 18.3.** The Participant may elect either to appear as **party in person** before the Hon'ble Court, or to avail the assistance of the Foundation and its collaborating counsel in the presentation of the matter. The election shall be recorded in writing.
- 18.4.** The Foundation facilitates filing, mentoring and, where the Participant so elects, representation. **The Foundation gives no assurance of admission, listing, interim relief or any particular outcome**, all of which rest exclusively with the Hon'ble Court.
- 18.5.** Where the Foundation, after professional advice, is of the view that a petition ought not to be filed in its existing form, it shall communicate its reasons to the Participant and shall afford an opportunity to revise. Nothing in these Rules obliges the Foundation to file any petition.
- 18.6.** Court fees and statutory charges relating to filing are borne by the Foundation, unless otherwise notified. Travel and personal expenses are borne by the Participant.

19. Penalties

NO.	VIOLATION	PENALTY
1	Exceeding the prescribed page limit	2 marks per page or part thereof
2	Violation of any formatting requirement under Rule 13	0.5 mark per violation, up to 5 marks
3	Disclosure of the Participant's identity or institution in breach of Rule 6	5 marks
4	Non-compliance with the file naming convention or submission in a single format only	2 marks
5	Citation of an authority that does not exist or does not support the proposition	3 marks per instance; disqualification if substantial
6	Failure to annex the Representation and proof of dispatch to the Writ Petition	5 marks
7	Plagiarism	As per the scale in Rule 15.3
8	Late or incomplete submission	Not accepted; the Participant does not advance
9	Non-attendance at a mandatory training session	Ineligible to submit at that stage
10	Contacting the Panel; misrepresenting a Client's instructions; holding out as an advocate; accepting a fee from a Client	Disqualification

- 19.1.** The imposition of penalties, including disqualification, rests solely with the Organiser, whose decision is final.

20. Awards, Certification and Publication

AWARD	VALUE	NUMBER
Winner	₹1,50,000	One — the highest rated petition
Runner-up	₹75,000 each	Four — total ₹3,00,000
2nd Runner-up	₹25,000 each	Five — total ₹1,25,000
State Winner	₹10,000 each	One per State, subject to participation thresholds
Best College	₹1,00,000	One — the highest performing institution

Total prize pool ₹10,00,000. Recognition is also conferred for **Best University** and **Best Faculty & Mentor**.

- 20.1.** Every Participant who completes Stage II receives a **Certificate of Participation** carrying the authority of **MEPSC**, Government of India. Certificates are issued to the registered e-mail address within six weeks of the Final Rounds.
- 20.2.** Winning petitions are published by the Media Partner, Live Law — a citation that stays on the author's record.
- 20.3.** Prize money is disbursed to the bank account notified by the Participant, subject to identity verification and to deduction of tax at source where applicable.

21. Miscellaneous

- 21.1.** Authorship of every submission remains with the Participant. By registering, the Participant grants the Foundation and the Media Partner an irrevocable, royalty-free licence to reproduce, publish and circulate the submission, in whole or in part, for the purposes of the Competition, for publication and for legal education.
- 21.2.** The Foundation may record the training sessions and the Final Rounds, and the rights in such recordings vest in the Foundation.
- 21.3.** Participants shall not include the personal, medical or identifying information of any individual without that individual's written consent, and shall redact such information where it is not necessary to the cause.

- 21.4.** Nothing in the Competition creates a relationship of advocate and client between a Participant and any person, or between the Foundation and any person, save as expressly recorded in writing.
- 21.5.** If any member of a Participant's institution is notified of any information concerning the Competition, the Participant shall be deemed to have been duly notified.
- 21.6.** The Organiser reserves the right to alter these Rules, and the schedule, at any time during the course of the Competition; any alteration shall be promptly communicated through the Dashboard and by e-mail.
- 21.7.** The Organiser reserves the right to interpret these Rules, and to decide any matter not covered by them; such interpretation and decision shall be final and binding on all Participants.
- 21.8.** Complaints concerning the conduct of the Competition shall be made only by e-mail to ceo@lexfinis.org, within seven days of the event complained of.

22. Contact

ORGANISING OFFICE

Ms Chandani Kaur Uppal, Chief Executive Officer

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ceo@lexfinis.org · +91 8860031712 · www.lexfinis.org

For all queries relating to registration, training, submissions and the Final Rounds, write to ceo@lexfinis.org quoting your Participant Code in the subject line. Queries received within 48 hours of a deadline may not be answered before the deadline expires.

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