

NEWSLETTER

January 2026

Learn from yesterday, live for today,
hope for tomorrow

~Albert Einstein

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM DESK OF DEAN



Happy New Year to Everyone!

With a New Year we all have a fresh start. I am pleased to bring you the year's first Newsletter for the Year 2026 i.e. January 2026, Department of Law(IIJS), University of Engineering and Management, Kolkata capturing the momentum and achievements of our vibrant legal community.

This edition captures the energy, commitment, and scholarly engagement that define our Department which is marked by impactful events, meaningful academic initiatives, and commendable achievements by our students and faculty after a good winter holiday.

During this period, the Department had its Flagship International conference E-Hacon the 7th Ethical Hacking Conference 2026. There was a Student Seminar where the students shown their interest in collaborating to be a researcher.

Along side there was International Book Fair where the students engaged themselves with the public in general by organizing different game shows for them at the book fair.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who contributed towards making this month productive and memorable. I also encourage our students to continue participating actively and making the most of the opportunities the Department provides.

My heartfelt thanks to Hon'ble Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for their unfettered support and encouragement to take the department to greater heights

PROF.(DR.) SHAMBHU PRASAD CHAKRABARTY

MESSAGE FROM EDITORIAL BOARD

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the JANUARY 2026 edition Newsletter of Department of Law(IIJS), University of Engineering and Management, Kolkata.

We, the team of 4 members (1 Faculty and 3 Obedient Musketeers) are thrilled to have everyone as a part of our vibrant academic journey for the month of January 2026. This issue is specifically crafted to keep the students and the faculties informed, inspired, and connected and happy at the same time.

This first segment of our 2026 is a mixture of Conduction of International conference and Student Participation in Student seminar, some reality check around the World and India, and loads of game with the strangers at Kolkata International Book Fair.

Stay tuned, stay involved, and let's make this a space for collaboration and celebration in the coming year as well.



Prof. (Dr.) Alice Dey



Esha Singh



Ishita Das



Aaman Ahmad

ACROSS THE GLOBE

1. Major Geopolitical Tensions and Davos Summit

In January 2026, global geopolitics took center stage at the 56th World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland (19–23 Jan), where leaders discussed contested global cooperation, economic growth, innovation, and climate action. Tensions between the United States and European nations, especially over trade and security, shaped much of the diplomatic discourse. Key issues included trade friction linked to Greenland and diverging policies on climate and technology regulation. The summit highlighted rising geopolitical competition and the challenge of balancing global cooperation with national interests in an increasingly fractured world.



2. Iran's Nationwide Protests and Internet Blackout

January saw large-scale protests in Iran, triggered by economic hardship and political grievances, making it one of the country's most significant uprisings in years. Demonstrations spread across major cities, leading to a harsh government response. Authorities imposed a nationwide internet and communication blackout starting around January 8 to curb coordination and coverage of protests, drawing international attention and concern from human rights groups. The situation represented both a severe internal crisis and a notable development in digital censorship and civil liberties debates.

ACROSS THE GLOBE

3. Global Economic Outlook & Structural Risks

In January, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released its World Economic Outlook Update, January 2026, projecting global economic growth at around 3.3 % for 2026 and 3.2 % for 2027. While growth remained broadly steady, the report highlighted diverging forces like inflationary pressures, geopolitical tensions, and uneven recovery across regions. At the same time, the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2026 underscored rising geoeconomic confrontation and economic risk as top short-term global threats, reflecting uncertainty in trade and international cooperation.



4. Climate and Environmental Risk in Focus

Climate and environmental concerns remained a key global theme in January 2026. Reports such as the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report stressed extreme weather and environmental risks as dominant long-term threats, driven by climate impacts and ecosystem stresses. Simultaneously, scientific and policy communities continued to spotlight climate change's effects, including discussions at high-level summits and in risk analyses. These developments underscored the growing urgency of climate mitigation, adaptation, and global cooperation to address environmental challenges.

EHACON'2026





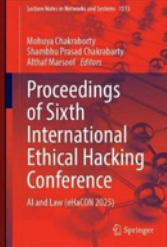


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The Two-Day International Seminar held on 9th and 10th January 2026 brought together distinguished academicians, researchers, legal professionals, and students for an intensive exploration of the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in law, governance, security, and sustainable development. Over the course of two intellectually enriching days, participants engaged in thought-provoking panel discussions, research paper presentations, and interdisciplinary dialogues that examined both the promises and perils of emerging AI technologies.

The sessions highlighted AI's application in rural water governance and groundwater salinity forecasting in the Indian Sundarbans, demonstrating its potential in environmental sustainability. Deliberations on AI-driven ethical hacking, digital forensics, and synthetic identity fraud reflected the growing complexity of cybersecurity and the evolving legal landscape. Critical concerns such as AI-generated child sexual abuse material (AIG-CSAM), human trafficking, predictive policing, and the right to privacy prompted serious reflection on ethics, human rights, and regulatory safeguards. Discussions also addressed regulatory gaps in AI-driven robotic surgery, emphasizing the need for robust oversight in healthcare innovation.

The seminar successfully fostered scholarly exchange, encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration, and provided a comprehensive roadmap for addressing contemporary challenges at the intersection of artificial intelligence, law, and society.

EHA CON'2026

A Galleria From The Event



GALLERIA FROM THE BOOK FAIR



From 23rd to 31st January 2026, a structured series of daily engagement activities was conducted, featuring four participants each day. Every session mandatorily included a Quiz, ensuring consistent knowledge-based interaction throughout the week. Alongside the quiz, varied activities such as Memory Game, Extempore, Riddles, Rapid Fire, Guess the Song, Guess the Movie/Actor, and Who Am I were organized to promote creativity, quick thinking, and teamwork. Several participants appeared on multiple days, encouraging continuous involvement. The schedule reflects a well-planned, diverse, and interactive program aimed at enhancing communication skills, general awareness, confidence, and active participation among members.

STUDENT SEMINAR

On 30th January 2026, the Department of Law, IIIJS, at the University of Engineering and Management (UEMK), under the IEM-UEM Group, organized a Student Seminar on “Reimagining Legal Framework for Sustainable Development.” Coordinated by Dr. Shrabana Chattopadhyay and Mr. Victor Nayak, the seminar began at 2:30 PM. Out of 17 registered teams, 9 were shortlisted for paper presentations. Judges included Prof. Dr. Rabin Majumdar, Assistant Prof. Shelly Ghosh, and Mr. Prithwijit Chakraborty. Participants presented on environmental justice, AI accountability, CSR, and criminal liability. Winners were Sanchari Das and Anushka Majumdar (4th year), and Phusparna Das (4th year) with Aqsa Nadeem (2nd year).



STUDENTS CORNER

COLONIALITY AND DECOLONIALITY

Argha Sar; Batch 2024

Colonialism was not only a political and economic system of domination but also a cultural and epistemic project. Even after the formal end of empires, its logic continues to shape global structures. This enduring influence is known as coloniality. It refers to the persistence of racial hierarchies, Eurocentric knowledge systems, and economic inequalities that were established during colonial rule. For instance, universities worldwide often privilege Western theories while marginalizing indigenous perspectives, reflecting how coloniality operates beyond territorial control.

In response, scholars and activists advance the project of decoloniality. Decoloniality is not simply about rejecting the past; it is about creating new futures by delinking from Eurocentric frameworks and affirming diverse ways of knowing and being. It challenges the supposed universality of Western modernity and seeks to recover suppressed epistemologies, whether indigenous, Afrocentric, or other marginalized traditions.

Coloniality was first conceptualized by Latin American scholar Aníbal Quijano, who argued that it informed the European colonizer's use of power and served as the very basis and justification for exploitation of the world. Coloniality was the fount of European colonialism, which in turn was rooted in the colonizer's religious beliefs that gave birth to a sense of racial superiority. This worldview placed the Christian White European colonizer at the top of the global order. It was this sense of superiority—treated as both a divinely ordained right and a scientific fact—that led to the creation of racial hierarchies across the world.

Coloniality reshaped the very concept of history and time through constructs such as modernity and rationality, terms which are often used in contemporary everyday conversations without awareness of their colonial origins.

Colonization, as understood by scholars, refers to the process by which people belonging to a nation establish colonies in other societies while retaining their bonds with the parent nation, exploiting the colonized societies to benefit both the parent nation and themselves. Simply put, the process of establishing colonies is called colonization, and the policy of using colonization to expand one's footprint is called colonialism.

At least four forms of colonialism are recognized: exploitation colonialism, settler colonialism, surrogate colonialism, and internal colonialism. The first two are the most well-known. In exploitation colonialism, the colonizing group treats the colonized territory primarily as a resource to further its economic growth and expand dominion without actually settling in the colony. In settler colonialism, the colonizers not only retain their bonds with the parent nation but also settle in large numbers in the colony, taking over all aspects of the colonized society and reducing the natives to a secondary status.

Conclusion

Coloniality reminds us that the end of formal colonial rule did not dismantle the structures of domination it created. Racial hierarchies, Eurocentric knowledge systems, and economic inequalities continue to shape the modern world. Decoloniality, therefore, is not merely a rejection of colonial legacies but a transformative project that seeks to build inclusive futures by affirming diverse epistemologies and ways of being. By critically engaging with coloniality and advancing decoloniality, societies can move toward a more equitable world—one that values plurality, justice, and the dignity of all peoples.

We pay our homage to



Dr. Prof. Satyajit Chakrabarti

(Jul 12, 1947 - Dec 19, 2024)

-- Chancellor --

IEM - UEM GROUP

**CELEBRATING HIS LIFE
AND ACCOMPLISHMENT**