United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

CALL FOR PAPERS
CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN KENYA
2ND -4TH DECEMBER 2025

1. INTRODUCTION

Council of Legal Education (CLE) is pleased to invite submissions of abstracts and papers for consideration for presentation at the inaugural Conference on the Future of Legal Education and Training in Kenya. The conference theme is ***"Legal Education and Training for A Globally Competitive Lawyer: Reflecting on the Past and Charting the Future."*** The conference will be held from **2nd to 4th December 2025**, in Nairobi, Kenya.

The Conference is informed by the increasing globalisation of legal practice, rapid technological advancements, and evolving market demands, which have created an urgent need to re-evaluate how Kenya trains its lawyers. This re-evaluation is especially critical given the transformative developments reshaping legal practice worldwide. The rise of artificial intelligence in legal services, machine learning, the complexities of money laundering, the urgent challenges posed by climate change, and fundamental shifts in the international legal order all demand new skills from legal practitioners. These changes are not just adding new subject areas to legal education but fundamentally transforming how law is practised and enforced globally. It is in this context that CLE is organising this Conference to examine these issues with a view to reconfiguring legal education and training for the country's future lawyers.

The overall objective of the Conference is to bring together legal practitioners from all sectors to interrogate the state of Legal Education, examine emerging developments affecting legal education delivery, and proffer strategies to make the legal sector more responsive to societal needs.

2. CONFERENCE AND PAPER THEMES

We invite submission of abstracts in the following thematic areas of the Conference.

1. Assessing the current state of legal education and training across Eastern Africa, identifying strengths, gaps, and best practices in regulation, accreditation, and professional standards.

2. Promoting regional harmonisation of legal education standards under the East African Community (EAC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) frameworks to facilitate cross-border legal practice.

3. Building partnerships among regulators, academia, professional bodies, and development partners for sustainable capacity development in legal integrity education.

4. The role of legal education and training in enhancing the capacity of County and National Governments: Interrogating ways to strengthen legal education for devolved governance by examining how legal education can build specialized competencies for county governments in legislative drafting, intergovernmental relations, public Technology and innovation in legal education and training: The role of Artificial

5. Intelligence, machine learning and digital tools in revolutionizing legal learning and ethical innovation, finance management, and regulatory compliance among other areas.

6. Integrating Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) and financial-integrity education into university and bar curricula (informed by FATF Recommendations, Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) findings, and United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) Chapter II & III commitments).

7. Encouraging research collaboration between universities, bar associations, and UNODC in developing a sustainable African knowledge base on AML/CFT, asset recovery, and anti-corruption law.

Expression of interest to present and abreacts for the conference should be submitted by **5th November 2025.** The submitted abstracts will be reviewed, and successful authors will be asked to submit refined drafts for presentation at the Conference by **24th November 2025**. After the Conference, these papers will be further developed by the authors and reviewed by peer reviewers in partnership with CLE and the National Council for Law Reporting (NCLR) for publication.
At the Conference, presenters will have 15 minutes for each paper's oral presentation during the conference sessions.

3. INFORMATION ON THE SUBMISSION OF THE ABSTRACTS

a) The abstract should be between 500 to 1000 words.
b) Submissions should be accompanied by a profile of the author.
c) The abstracts and full papers should be submitted in both PDF and MS Word documents via ceo@cle.or.ke.
d) The editorial board will review submitted abstracts for relevance to the conference themes, scientific quality, and novelty.

The final paper for publication is expected to be between 8000 to 12,000 words.

4. IMPORTANT DATES

- 5th November 2025 – Receiving of the abstracts
- 7th November 2025 – Notification of acceptance of abstracts
- 24th November 2025 – Submission of Drafts for Presentation at the Conference
- 27th November 2025 - Feedback on the Submitted Draft.
- 2nd to 4th December 2025 – Conference.
- January 2026 – Submission of completed papers for Publication
- February 2025 - Peer reviews and Feedback
- March - Publication

For more information and regular updates on the Conference, kindly visit the Council of Legal Education website: https://cle.or.ke/ or contact Ms. Annah Konuche akonuche@cle.or.ke.