

International Diploma in *Mental Health, Human Rights & Law*

2024–2025

CMH Centre for
Mental Health
Law & Policy



63
COUNTRIES

153
GRADUATES

www.cmhlp.org

CENTRE FOR MENTAL HEALTH LAW & POLICY

ILS would like to thank

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and

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About ILS and CMHLP

The International Diploma in Mental Health, Human Rights & Law was launched in October 2008 and is a collaboration between the World Health Organization, Geneva, and Indian Law Society (ILS) Pune, India.

This is a one-year Diploma course offered by the Centre for Mental Health Law & Policy, ILS, Pune.

The Diploma course draws its fundamentals from the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and provides guidance on its implications in relation to mental health legislation, policy, services, and practice.



Indian Law Society



The Indian Law Society is a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, and the Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950. The Society was established in 1923 by renowned personalities in law. The objective of the Society is to impart professionally desired and socially relevant legal education on a scientific basis.

The Indian Law Society considers legal education as liberal education and emphasises on the professional aspects of legal education. The Society is committed to impart education that serves the eternal principles of justice, liberty, and equality.

The mission of the Society is to prepare socially responsible lawyers who will uphold the values of the rule of law and democratic principles.

In order to fulfill Indian Law Society's commitment to its mission and aims, Law College, Poona, now known as 'ILS Law College, Pune', was established in 1924.

The Society also established the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS), a Research Institute to support the Society in fulfilling its mission. IALS promotes research in law and legal awareness among lay people to strengthen a legal culture supportive of the rule of law.

Centre for Mental Health Law & Policy



The Centre for Mental Health Law & Policy (CMHLP) was founded as a unit of Indian Law Society (ILS) in 2007. Since its inception, CMHLP's mission has been to strengthen and transform the mental health of our communities to be holistic and responsive in addressing individual and collective well-being.

The objectives of CMHLP are in line with the Constitution of ILS: to promote the dissemination of the knowledge of law among the public, to undertake research around legal rights, and provide aid to the public to access their legal rights in accordance with India's Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 and the Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which has been ratified by India.

To meet these objectives, CMHLP works closely with State Governments and Community Based Organisations to promote evidence-based policy reform and implementation of projects to improve mental health care and for suicide prevention.

CMHLP's team comprises of young, dynamic, multidisciplinary professionals located across offices and field sites in Pune (Maharashtra), Mehsana (Gujarat) and other locations.

2 | Course Description

Objectives of the Diploma

- 1 To equip students with the knowledge and understanding of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and other international human rights conventions, instruments, and standards related to persons with psychosocial disabilities.
- 2 To apply these international human rights instruments to mental health legislation.
- 3 To understand the role of legislation in promoting and protecting the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities.
- 4 To understand how mental health policy and services can work to improve the human rights of people with psychosocial disabilities.
- 5 To equip students with knowledge and skills to actively support their countries in drafting, amending, and implementing mental health laws and policies, in line with the UNCRPD and other international standards.

The Diploma aims to impart appropriate knowledge and information on the role of the legislation in promoting and protecting the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities, as well as how mental health policy and services can work to improve human rights standards within the sector.

Relevant case law and examples of existing legislation will be used as teaching tools throughout the course.

Diploma structure & details

The International Diploma in Mental Health, Human Rights & Law is a one-year course that entails two on-site residential sessions, self-study and a final project submission.

Upon confirmation of admission, in October 2024, students are expected to go through Module 1 and 2 of the course content. These cover the basics of mental health and law. Students will receive access to these modules housed on an open-source learning platform, Moodle, via email. They are required to go through the course work notes and respond to quizzes based on these notes.

Residential Session 1: The first residential session will start on 11th November 2024 and end on 23rd November 2024. During this session, students shall attend campus lectures and workshops. These lectures are conducted at the Indian Law Society, Pune, Maharashtra.

Self-study: Between the two residential sessions, students return home and are required to complete studies with an estimate of one module per month, including assignments. During the self-study period, participants will have access to the open-source learning platform, Moodle. This space allows for students to easily access all course modules and complete the quizzes and other online assignments. Students may reach out to faculty members responsible for providing guidance, answering queries pertaining to their respective modules, and marking homework assignments.

Project Submission: Students are required to complete one project based on a topic related to mental health, law and human rights. They begin their project work after the first residential session. They are expected to invest two to three working days per month for eight to nine months to successfully complete the project. Each student is assigned an Advisor to help with the selection of a project area and provide ongoing support.

Residential Session 2: The second residential session will be held towards the end of the Diploma programme in November 2025. This session is usually around 4 - 5 days long. During this period, students are required to complete their project-related viva and other assessments.

Modules

The Diploma consists of 12 modules developed by experts in the field of mental health & law.

<div>MODULE 1</div> <div>A basic understanding of mental health conditions and mental health care</div>	<div>MODULE 2</div> <div>An introduction to basic legal concepts and systems</div>	<div>MODULE 3</div> <div>Context building: mental health and human rights</div>	<div>MODULE 4</div> <div>Policy and legislative framework for mental health</div>	<div>MODULE 5</div> <div>Access to mental health care</div>	<div>MODULE 6</div> <div>Capacity, competence & Supported Decision-Making, and institution-based care</div>
<div>MODULE 7</div> <div>Regulatory and review mechanisms</div>	<div>MODULE 8</div> <div>Criminal justice and mental health conditions</div>	<div>MODULE 9</div> <div>From exclusion to inclusion: rights in the community</div>	<div>MODULE 10</div> <div>Drafting, adopting, and implementing mental health legislation</div>	<div>MODULE 11</div> <div>Special topic—rights of children with mental health conditions</div>	<div>MODULE 12</div> <div>Special topic—rights of ‘persons with psychosocial disability’ during humanitarian emergencies</div>

Teaching methods

The Diploma uses a wide variety of teaching methods that include in-person lectures, workshops, small group discussions, learning through documentaries and presentations, during the residential sessions.

During the self-study period, participants will have access to the open-source learning platform, Moodle. This space allows for students to easily access all course modules and complete the quizzes and other online assignments. They may also reach out to the course faculty on email for queries regarding the course content/project discussion.



Eligibility

The Diploma is ideal for mid-career professionals from the fields of law, human rights, mental health policy, and service-delivery.

Entry requirements

- Minimum graduate qualification from a recognised university in any of the following subjects: law, medicine or psychiatry, nursing, psychology, social work, social science, natural science.
- We encourage individuals with psychosocial disabilities and their caregivers/ families to enrol as they are critical players in reform, and can be effective advocates for change. The minimum qualification for such applications is a graduate qualification in any discipline from a recognised university.
- The selection of students is based on their experience, and statement of purpose.
- Priority will be given to students who are likely to have an impact in the field of human rights for people with psychosocial disabilities and law/policy in their respective countries.

Assessments

Students will be assessed and awarded the Diploma Certificate based on the following criteria:

- Online Assignments
- Quizzes
- Project Submission
- Viva Voce

Students must complete the above as well as obtain a satisfactory score to be awarded the Diploma Certificate.

Faculty

The Diploma has a rich & interdisciplinary teaching faculty that comprises of professionals from national and international organisations as well as service users and people with lived experience.

Abhijit Nadkarni



Associate Professor,
London School of Hygiene
& Tropical Medicine

Charlene Sunkel



Founder/Chief Executive
Officer of the Global Mental
Health Peer Network

Dovilė Juodkaitė



President of Lithuanian
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Itzhak Levav



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Hon Secretary, Indian Law Society;
Director (Academics), ILS Law
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3 | Course Details

Admission procedure

The application form is available online on [this link](#). You may also download the application form using [this link](#).

The form can be filled online, or a printed copy may be completed and sent by post to the Indian Law Society. In case of sending the form by post, it must be accompanied by relevant documents that include:

- 1. A written Statement of Purpose not more than 250 words
- 2. A letter from the sponsoring organisation (if applicable)

Timetable for admission

Date	Particulars
5 February 2024	Prospectus & application form available on website
30 June 2024	Last date for receiving applications
30 July 2024	Final confirmation of admission
15 August 2024	Last date for payment of fee
1 Oct 2024–30 Oct 2024	Module 1 & 2 to be completed (ONLINE)
11 Nov 2024–23 Nov 2024	Residential Sessions at ILS Law College Campus, Pune

Fee and funding

Tuition fee for international students: USD 5933 + 18% tax (GST) = USD 7000.

A limited number of students, of Indian origin and residing in India, will be offered a substantially reduced tuition fee.

Tuition for Indian students: INR 95,000 + 18% tax (GST) = INR 1,12,100.

Tuition fee includes access to live sessions, course material and project supervision.

Please note: We strongly encourage participants from low- and middle-income countries to apply for this course. Please let us know in your Statement of Purpose if you'd want us to consider a fee reduction for your application.

The tuition fee must be paid within fifteen days of confirmation of admission. The fee may be refunded only if cancellation of admission is done within thirty days of the confirmation of admission. 10% of the fee amount will be deducted from the refund as administrative expenses. The refund amount will be calculated in INR and then converted into USD at the prevailing market rate.

4 | Residential Sessions



About Pune

Pune, previously known as Poona, is one of the most important industrial and educational hubs of India. The city boasts of several world class educational institutions and is therefore widely regarded as 'Oxford of the East'. It is a multicultural city with students from all over the country and abroad. Pune has a large student population with about 30% of all international students. It is also the cultural capital of Maharashtra. Pune is a nature lover's paradise since it is surrounded by several hills and lakes.

Once referred to as a 'pensioner's paradise', it is now home to many software and Information Technology companies. The local language is Marathi, but the cosmopolitan nature of the city means that people generally speak many languages, including English and Hindi.

Accessibility

Pune is located in the western Indian state of Maharashtra and is the eighth-largest urban agglomeration in India, with an estimated population of 7.4 million. It is situated just 100 miles (160 km) from Mumbai and is nestled at an altitude of 560 meters above sea level, which provides for fine and pleasant weather throughout the year.

Pune is well-connected by road, rail, and air to major cities in India such as Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Delhi, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Indore, and Chennai. Furthermore, Pune Airport has become an international hub with flights connecting to Singapore, Frankfurt, and Dubai.

Environment

Pune experiences three distinct seasons: summer, monsoon, and winter.

As November marks the start of winters in India, the city experiences a mix of warm and cool weather. In November, maximum temperatures are likely to range from 32-35 degrees celsius, while minimum temperatures are in the range of 18-22 degrees celsius.

Due to its high altitude, nights in Pune are significantly cooler compared to most other parts of this region.

Affordable living

Pune has the charm of a small city along with the facilities of a bustling metropolis, making it a perfect place for students. Almost everything, from eateries to cafes, is available at an affordable price. The city has a range of options for public transport, and the general cost of transportation is relatively low.

Travel and accommodation

There are limited international flights to Pune, primarily from Singapore, Dubai, and Frankfurt. Therefore, we recommend that you fly to Mumbai (which is approximately 160 km from Pune) or Delhi, both of which are well-connected with international flights from numerous destinations. From Mumbai or Delhi, you can take a domestic flight to Pune (a 30-minute and 2-hour flight, respectively).

Alternatively, land transportation from Mumbai airport to Pune is reasonably frequent and of good quality. It may help reduce your travel and transportation costs.

ILS usually negotiates preferential rates with a few hotels and service apartment providers located near the campus. Once your admission for the course is confirmed, the course coordinators can provide you with this information.

To know more about the International
Diploma in Mental Health, Human
Rights & Law, please visit our website.

In case of any queries, please write to
us at idmhhl@cmhlp.org



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