



CDIPR
Centre for Development of Intellectual
Property and Research
बौद्धिक संपदा एवं अनुसंधान विकास केंद्र



NAOVINA
Development of
Intellectual
Property and
Research Foundation
Centre for Development of Intellectual Property and Research

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Centre for Development of Intellectual Property and Research
Naovina Development of Intellectual Property and Research Foundation
(A Section 8 Non-profit Organisation registered under the Companies Act, 2013)

2nd South Asian Global Intellectual Property Summit, 2025

South Asian Symposium on Cybersecurity & Digital Rights, 2025

In Collaboration with



IGF Internet
Governance
Forum



ELECTRONIC FRONTIER FOUNDATION

About the Symposium

The *South Asian Symposium on Cybersecurity & Digital Rights, 2025* is a landmark international forum under the *2nd South Asian Global Intellectual Property Summit, 2025*; Organised by the *Centre for Development of Intellectual Property and Research (CDIPR)*, *Naovina Development of Intellectual Property and Research Foundation* in collaboration



**South Asian
Symposium
on Cybersecurity
& Digital Rights
2025**

with the *United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF)* and the *Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF)*, USA. This symposium is more than a scholarly event—it is a regional initiative to reflect, critique and intervene in the changing dynamics of digital governance, surveillance, data justice, and internet rights in the Global South. It brings together digital rights advocates, legal scholars, technologists, policy researchers, and students to collaboratively rethink how societies in South Asia and beyond can safeguard civil liberties in the digital age. Set at the convergence of law, technology, ethics, and human rights, the symposium amplifies efforts to build a secure, inclusive, and accountable digital ecosystem that is people-centered and rights-respecting. It is an urgent response to rising online censorship, predictive surveillance, data commodification, AI bias, and state overreach in cyberspace. It is the academic and policy research forum, convening experts from across disciplines to critically examine the foundations

India's First Non-Governmental Research Organisation dedicated to Intellectual Property Rights

Offices: Wadhwa Complex, Laxmi Nagar, New Delhi - 110092 (**Delhi**)

Sri Nagar Colony, Tetri Toli, P.O./P.S. Namkum, Ranchi, Jharkhand - 834010 (**Jharkhand**)

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of cybersecurity, privacy law, algorithmic governance and digital freedom through a South Asian lens.

In a world increasingly shaped by invisible infrastructures of control—from facial recognition systems to metadata surveillance—this conference foregrounds human rights as central to digital futures. It fosters a strategic and interdisciplinary space to interrogate state and corporate practices, legislative architectures, and civic responses across South Asia. With participation from global thought leaders, law schools, civil liberties organizations, and open-internet movements, the symposium aims to build new knowledge and inspire regional digital governance grounded in democracy, equality, and justice.

Symposium Objectives

- *To explore critical issues in cybersecurity law, digital privacy, AI regulation, and internet freedoms through scholarly, policy-based, and experiential lenses.*
- *To promote cross-disciplinary and regional dialogue on surveillance practices, data protection, and algorithmic decision-making in the Global South.*
- *To offer a platform for emerging voices, especially from youth, civil society, and underrepresented communities working on digital rights.*
- *To contribute to the development of open, accountable, and inclusive digital infrastructures rooted in constitutional and human rights values.*

Symposium Date & Format

- **Dates:** 15th July, 2025
- **Format:** Virtual Mode

Key Themes and Sub-Themes

Participants are invited to submit papers engaging with the following thematic tracks:

1. Cybersecurity, National Security and Human Rights

- *Comparative cybersecurity law and policy in South Asia*

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- *Protection of critical digital infrastructure*
- *Government surveillance and legal oversight*
- 2. Data Protection and Privacy Law**
 - *The DPDP Act (India), GDPR and emerging frameworks*
 - *Consent, profiling, and data localization*
 - *Privacy rights in biometric and Aadhaar-linked systems*
- 3. Surveillance, Sovereignty and AI Ethics**
 - *Predictive policing, facial recognition, and mass surveillance*
 - *Algorithmic bias and AI accountability*
 - *Digital colonialism and geopolitical control of data*
- 4. Internet Freedom and Platform Regulation**
 - *Online censorship and social media moderation*
 - *Hate speech, misinformation, and intermediary liability*
 - *Constitutional interpretation of the right to be online*
- 5. Children, Gender, and Intersectional Digital Rights**
 - *Online safety, child rights, and surveillance capitalism*
 - *Gender-based digital violence and algorithmic exclusions*
 - *Caste, class, and access in the digital divide*
- 6. IP Rights, Cybercrime, and Innovation**
 - *Cyber-infringement of IP in creative industries*
 - *Software piracy, licensing, and enforcement*
 - *Digital creators, NFTs, and new-age intellectual property models*

Format and Presentation

The symposium will be conducted **virtually** to allow accessible participation across geographies. Selected authors will present their papers in live sessions before an international audience comprising scholars, professionals, and civil society leaders.

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Recognition & Awards

Selected contributors will receive:

- *Publication in the International edited Volume titled “Surveillance, Sovereignty, and Speech: South Asian Perspectives on the Digital Future”*
(To be published and distributed across 17 nations, with international editorial and institutional collaboration.)
- *International Certificate of Presentation*
- *Best Papers to be Featured in the Global Digital Rights Research Blog*
- *Eligibility for Best Paper and Emerging Scholar Awards*

Call for Papers Timeline

- **Abstract Submission Deadline: 8th July 2025**
(Abstracts should be between 250–300 words, clearly indicating the research question, methodology and relevance to the Symposium themes.)
- **Notification of Abstract Selection: 10th July 2025**
(Selected authors will be notified via email and invited to submit full papers.)
- **Full Paper Submission Deadline: 13th July 2025**
(Full-length papers should be 3,000–4,000 words and follow the Symposium’s *Submission Guidelines*.)
- **Presentation Confirmation by Authors: 14th July 2025**
(Selected participants must confirm attendance and complete registration.)
- **Date of Conference: 15th July 2025**
Mode: Online

Abstract Submission Form: <https://forms.gle/wBkowUz1J6dW8Z2c8>

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Submission Guidelines

Categories:

- Research Article: 4,000 to 6,000 words
- Policy Paper / Legislative Analysis: 3,000 to 5,000 words
- Case Studies / Legal Commentaries: 2,000 to 4,000 words

Format and Structure:

- **Font:** Times New Roman
- **Body Text:** 12pt, Justified Alignment
- **Headings:** 14pt, Centre Alignment
- **Subheadings:** 13pt
- **Footnotes:** 10pt, Left Alignment
- **Citation Style:** Bluebook 21st Edition
- **Spacing:** 1.5
- **Language:** English only

Abstract: Each submission must include a concise abstract not exceeding **300 words** summarising the core ideas of the paper with 5 keywords.

Originality:

- Submissions must be entirely original and unpublished.
- Plagiarism should not exceed **10%**, and **AI-generated content is not allowed**.

Submissions violating these guidelines will be rejected.

Co-Authorship: Papers may have up to **two authors**.

Review Process:

- A **two-stage internal review** will assess submissions.
- Authors may be required to revise their papers based on feedback regarding content, structure, or formatting.

Why Participate?

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- Share your ideas at one of South Asia's most timely symposiums on digital rights.
- Present to an international audience of scholars, policymakers and civil society leaders.
- Be published in a globally distributed book co-curated with the *United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF)* and the *Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF)*.
- Connect with IGF partners, research institutions and innovation networks.

Abstract Submission Form: <https://forms.gle/wBkowUz1J6dW8Z2c8>

Contact Details

For direct communication, email us at: events@cdipr.ac.in



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