

**INSOLVENCY
LAW ACADEMY**

An Indian Institute of Excellence in Insolvency

EMERITUS FELLOWS

THE CLASS OF 2024

www.insolvencylawacademy.com

INSOLVENCY LAW ACADEMY

FELLOWSHIP

PROGRAMME

The ILA Fellowship Programme is the first of its kind initiative from India for the recognition of the leadership, public service and contributions in the field of insolvency. The Emeritus Fellowship is conferred on the most distinguished public servants, judges or professionals having a proven statement of experience, leadership, invaluable contribution to insolvency law or practice and having a reputation of maintaining the highest standard of ethics, character, integrity, professional expertise and leadership.

Objective

ILA Fellowship Programme recognizes distinguished professionals, changemakers, and young leaders, for their leadership, public service, work and contributions in the fields of restructuring, turnaround, insolvency and related areas, as well as their integrity.

The Fellowship programme also seeks to employ the talents, resources and goodwill of its Fellows to improve approaches to national and international practice, promote professional excellence, collegiality and scholarship. They form key resources in ILA programmes and projects.

Exclusivity

The Fellowship is exclusive and reserved for the most distinguished professionals in all its categories.

Classes of Fellows

Fellow Emeritus

A distinguished lawyer, policymaker, public servant, judge or professional who has attained the age of at least sixty (60) years, who has a proven statement of minimum twenty-five years of experience, and has provided extraordinary leadership and made invaluable contribution to insolvency law, practice or in any related field, and their integrity.

Fellow

A lawyer, academic or other professional, who has a proven statement of a minimum of fifteen years of experience and has made outstanding service or valuable contribution to insolvency law or practice or in any related field.

Junior Fellow

A lawyer, academic or other professional, who has a proven statement of minimum five years of experience that highlights his/her potential to make a contribution and provide leadership in insolvency law or practice or any related field. A junior fellow can be invited as ILA Fellow after five years.

Selection Criteria

- The highest standard of professionalism, ethics, character, integrity, professional expertise and leadership in contributing to the enhancement of restructuring, turnaround, bankruptcy and insolvency processes;
- Sustained evidence of scholarship, teaching, lecturing or writing on bankruptcy or insolvency;
- Commitment to elevate knowledge and understanding of the profession and public respect for the practice.

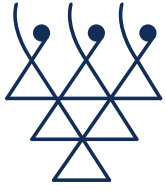
Selection Process

The Fellowship is on an invitation only basis. The selection guidelines can be viewed on our website.

The Emeritus Fellows are selected by the Global Advisory Board.

To find out about the benefits attached with grant of Fellowship, please visit our website.

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EMERITUS FELLOWS

CLASS OF 2024



Dr. Justice D Y Chandrachud

Former Chief Justice of India

Dr. Justice D Y Chandrachud is the Former Chief Justice of India, having retired on 10 November 2024. He graduated with Honours in Economics from St Stephen's College, New Delhi; obtained his law degree from Campus Law Centre, Delhi University, and LLM degree and a Doctorate in Juridical Sciences (SJD) from Harvard Law School, USA.

Dr. Chandrachud was designated as Senior Advocate by the Bombay High Court in June 1998, being only 38 years old—this designation is rarely given to advocates below the age of 40. He served as Additional Solicitor General of India from 1998 until appointment as a Judge of the Bombay High Court from March 2000 until appointment as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court a decade later. He was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of India in 2016. He is Visiting Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law at the University of Mumbai; and Visiting Professor at Oklahoma University School of Law, USA.

In under eight years, Justice D Y Chandrachud wrote over 600 Judgments and was a part of 1211 Benches. His most impactful Judgments were written in cases dealing with Constitutional (68) issues. He has authored numerous judgments on insolvency since 2018, which form the bedrock of insolvency jurisprudence. Pertinently, the seeds of many important jurisprudential principles, which were elaborated in known cases, were sown by him in one of the earliest judgments on Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 authored by him, in *Chitra Sharma & Ors. v. Union of India & Ors.*



Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul

Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

A Former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul graduated in Economics (Hons.) from St. Stephens College, Delhi University in 1979. He obtained his LL.B. Degree from the Campus Law Centre, Delhi University in 1982. Justice Kaul became an Advocate-on-Record at the Supreme Court in 1987. He was appointed Senior Counsel for the Delhi High Court and the Delhi University. He served as the Additional Senior Standing Counsel for the Delhi Development Authority.

He was designated as a Senior Advocate in December, 1999. Justice Kaul was elevated as Judge of the High Court of Delhi in 2001; as the Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court in September 2012; and appointed as the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court in 2013 followed by his appointment as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court in July 2014. Justice Kaul was appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on in 2017 from where he retired in 2023.

Justice Kaul authored over 160 Judgements, and has been a part of 565 Benches during his tenure so far. He has also authored important judgments on insolvency law.

A former President of INSOL India, and an attendee of many INSOL International Judicial Colloquiums since 2002, Justice Kaul played a crucial role in shaping the narrative of need for insolvency reform in the decade preceding the enactment of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code in 2016. During his term as President of INSOL India, he set up a committee to recommend reforms needed in the organisation to play a meaningful role in the new eco-system introduced with enactment of the Code. This paved way for the leadership of INSOL India transferring from sitting judges to the market professionals.



Dr. Bob Wessels

Professor Emeritus, International Insolvency Law, University of Leiden, Leiden Law School, The Netherlands

An Emeritus Professor of Law, Dr. Bob Wessels is an expert advisor to the European Commission of the EU regarding matters of Bank and (International) Corporate Restructuring and Insolvency. He is also the Chairman of the Conference of European Restructuring and Insolvency Law (CERIL, independent legal think tank), and a Mediator at the INSOL International College of Mediation.

Dr. Wessels has 45 years of experience as an independent legal counsel, deputy justice, academic, advisor and arbitrator. For over 25 years, he served as a deputy justice in the Court of Appeal in The Hague. From 1988 to 2014, he was a professor of law at the Vrije University in Amsterdam and the University of Leiden. He has served as a Member of the Joint Board of Appeal of the three European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs; ESMA, EBA and EIOPA respectively); Arbitrator and Chair Standing arbitration committee Achmea (life- and pension insurance policy's); Chair of the International working group to assist the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) in its programme to renew U.S. Bankruptcy Code's Chapter 11; Chairman of the Netherlands Association for Comparative and International Insolvency Law (NACIIL); Chairman of the Academic Forum of INSOL Europe; Member of the Ministry of Justice's Committee to renew the Dutch Bankruptcy Act; Director of the Board of International Insolvency Institute.

On matters of business rescue and insolvency, Dr. Wessels served as consultant to IMF (Indonesia), World Bank (Georgia), the U.S. Federal Reserve System (Fed) and the Dutch Ministry of Justice.

He has been the first Commerzbank Visiting professor at the Institute for Law and Finance, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt (2003). Other visiting professorships included University of Pretoria (2004), St. John's University, New York (2006–2011), Riga Graduate School of Law, Latvia (2008–2012). In 2011, he served as INSOL International Scholar for Europe, and in 2016 as External Scientific Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Procedural Law, Luxembourg.

Dr. Wessels is Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He has over hundreds of published articles in leading legal journals and has authored over thirty books, seven of which were written in English with professors, judges and insolvency practitioners from China, Germany, Spain, the UK and the USA. He is also the author of *Wessels Insolventierecht* (Wessels Insolvency Law), a 10 Volume series in Dutch, which started in 1999 and presently is in its 5th edition. Many of these projects were externally financed with sponsors such as, the American Law Institute, International Insolvency Institute, European Commission of the European Union, INSOL Europe, European Law Institute and Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences.



Neil H. Cooper

Past President, INSOL International, London

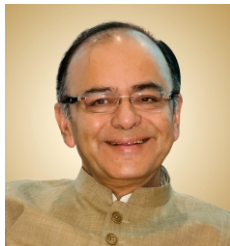
Neil Cooper is a renowned expert in asset recovery and cross-border insolvency whose experience spans decades, with notable cases involving multinational recoveries and high-profile disputes including the Carian Holdings Group, Hong Kong - a case that involved over 2,000 banks.

Neil's expertise in forensic accountancy and asset tracing has been instrumental in numerous successful outcomes. He has served as a liquidator, administrator, and expert in various jurisdictions, including the UK, Africa, the Pacific Rim, North America, Australasia, and continental Europe. His contributions to the field extend beyond individual cases, as he has been actively involved in shaping international insolvency law and standards.

Neil's involvement with the United Nations Commission for International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) has been pivotal in developing the Model Law on Cross-border Insolvency and related instruments. He has also contributed significantly to the World Bank's efforts to establish insolvency principles and guidelines.

Recognised for his expertise and leadership, Neil has served as Past President of INSOL International, the global association of insolvency professionals, and is an Honorary Life President of INSOL Europe, as well as an Honorary Professor at Nottingham School of Law, Nottingham Trent University.

CLASS OF 2022



Late Shri Arun Jaitley

*Former Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs
(Posthumously)*



Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman

Former Judge, Supreme Court of India



Justice Manmohan Sarin

*Former Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh;
Founding President, INSOL India*

CLASS OF 2023



Late Dr. Bibek Debroy

Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India



Dr. T. K. Viswanathan

*Chairman, Bankruptcy Law Reforms Committee;
Former Union Law Secretary*



Mr. Patrick Ang

*Managing Partner of Rajah & Tann, Singapore;
Vice-Chairman of Rajah & Tann Asia*

ABOUT

INSOLVENCY LAW ACADEMY

The Insolvency Law Academy was founded as an Indian institute of excellence dedicated to insolvency. An independent think tank, the Insolvency Law Academy contributes to robust policymaking and the enhancement of standards on the insolvency industry through cutting-edge research, innovation and development of best practices.

Another key hallmark of the academy is to develop a community in pursuit of education, research, and scholarship in the field of insolvency in India. As a knowledge development institution, it seeks to inform and educate its participants regarding international best practices in insolvency law and policy through its programmes.

GLOBAL ADVISORY BOARD



Justice A.K. Sikri

Chairman; Former Judge, Supreme Court of India; International Judge, Singapore International Commercial Court



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Executive Director, International Monetary Fund; Former Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India; Professor, Finance, Indian School of Business, USA



Mahesh Uttamchandani

Practice Manager for Digital Development in East Asia & the Pacific, The World Bank Group, USA



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Founding Vice-Chancellor, O.P. Jindal Global University, India



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Advocate; Former Distinguished Professor, National Law University Delhi; Former Chairperson, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India



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Former Member (Technical), National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, India



Sumant Batra

Insolvency Lawyer; President, Insolvency Law Academy, India (Ex-officio)