



**INSOLVENCY
LAW ACADEMY**

An Indian Institute of Excellence in Insolvency



**EMERGING
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An Insolvency Law Academy Initiative



PATRICK ANG
**ILA INTERNATIONAL
SHORT STORY CONTEST**
ON INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY LAWS



THE CONTEST IS NOW OPEN
SUBMIT BY
30 SEPTEMBER, 2026



Conceived as an innovative initiative, the ILA Short Story Contest was envisioned as a platform to explore creative expression within the nuanced framework of insolvency law in India. Over the years, it has evolved into a distinguished forum, drawing a diverse and talented cohort of writers, alongside an ever-growing community of discerning readers. Through its thought-provoking themes, evocative narratives, and the stewardship of an esteemed jury, the contest has come to occupy a unique and respected position at the confluence of law and literature.

Now in its 5th edition, the contest promises to be its most compelling and enriching, yet continuing to celebrate imagination, intellectual engagement, and the profound interplay between legal thought and storytelling.

From this year onwards, the contest is dedicated to the cherished memory of **Late Patrick Ang Peng Koon**, and shall henceforth be known as the **Patrick Ang ILA International Short Story Contest on Insolvency & Bankruptcy Laws**. Late Patrick Ang Peng Koon, was an eminent figure in the field of insolvency and restructuring, widely admired for his exceptional acumen, unwavering integrity, and far-reaching contributions to cross-border insolvency practice. His work significantly influenced the evolution of restructuring frameworks across the Asia-Pacific region, and his insights enriched both practice and jurisprudence in meaningful measure. Beyond his professional accomplishments, he was deeply respected for his generosity of spirit, mentorship, and commitment to nurturing the next generation of practitioners. His legacy is one of quiet excellence, intellectual depth, and enduring impact.

OBJECTIVE

Literature has long served as a powerful medium to sensitize minds and cultivate awareness, transcending the boundaries of technical discourse. Among its many forms, storytelling holds a unique capacity to engage, evoke, and endure—leaving a profound and lasting imprint on its audience. Stories not only reflect lived experiences and societal perceptions but also generate valuable insights into the ways in which complex legal frameworks, such as insolvency and bankruptcy, are understood, perceived, and internalized. Their enduring recall value renders them an especially effective tool for shaping discourse and influencing thought.

In this spirit, original short story submissions are invited for the Contest, in accordance with the prescribed Guidelines for Participation and Submission. The story may be curated around any of the following themes:

- Reimagining the role of courts, tribunals and judges in the insolvency process
- Insolvency of natural persons, small enterprises, and consumer debt default
- Group insolvency of multinational corporations
- Turnaround as focus of hybrid restructuring mechanisms
- Approach to insolvency in enterprises operating complex sectors of economy

A Jury comprising eminent persons from around the world will select the winner for the award and the collection of stories.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The Contest opens on **17th April 2026**.
2. The contest is open to persons above **20 years of age**.
3. The Contest closes on **30th September, 2026**. Only entries received before midnight on that date will be considered. No entries will be accepted after the submission deadline has passed, unless the deadline is extended by ILA.
4. All entries must be submitted online in .doc format only at **submissions@insolvencylawacademy.com**. Do not put your name, phone number and email address on the short story. Please mention it as part of your email.

5. Stories must be written only in English. It should range between 2500 to 3000 words. Stories must not exceed 3000 words (excluding footnotes).
6. Stories must be typed in 12-point font with 1.5-line spacing. Margins should be one inch on all sides, and each paragraph should be indented by 3 to 5 spaces. Illustrations or images must not be included in the manuscript. Fancy or script fonts should not be used, except for character thoughts, which should be in italics.
7. The story should be easy to read, with proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling. Each page must be numbered, and the title of the story must appear at the top of each page.
8. Only one entry per person is admissible. If a person submits more than one entry, all entries will be rejected and attract disqualification. The individual submitting the entry must be the author or a co-author of the story. Submissions on behalf of others or of stories not authored by the participant are not permitted.
9. The short story should involve any or many elements of corporate insolvency or bankruptcy, as understood or perceived in common parlance or in its technical form. Insolvency or bankruptcy may either be a central or a dominating theme, or a turning point in the story. The use of legal jargon or technical language is not required. Name of real persons or insolvency cases should not be used. Entries must be in good taste.
10. Stories must not have been already published on any social platform or in any book or otherwise, or should have featured amongst the winners in any competition.
11. Once submitted, stories cannot be altered or withdrawn. Submissions will not be returned, so authors are advised to keep a copy for their records. There will be no correspondence regarding submitted stories until the jury's decision is announced.
12. Any plagiarized work will be disqualified along with any other work submitted by the entrant.
13. The ILA staff, members of Jury, Pre-Jury and ESG Chairs are not eligible to enter the competition.
14. A Jury will select the winner for the award and the collection of stories without being influenced by gender, caste, religion, and nationality of the entrant or any criterion or factor.
15. A Pre-Jury comprising of internal and external resources identified by ILA shall shortlist entries for review by the Jury.
16. All entries will be considered anonymously by the members of Pre-Jury and the Jury. In the absence of consensus, the decision of Jury shall be taken by majority. In the event of a split, the chairperson/President ILA shall have the casting vote. The decision of the Jury shall be final and no queries or challenge will be entertained in that respect thereof.
17. A story selected by the Jury for award and/or publication shall be the copyright of the author.
18. By submission of entry, the participant is deemed to have given consent to ILA and the publisher to publish the story on any platform or mode at the sole discretion of ILA or use the story for screenplay or script for any documentary, film or TV/OTT series. No royalty or payment will be paid by ILA or publisher for publishing the story. ILA is not bound to publish the stories if the Jury is of the view that there are not adequate number of stories that qualify to publish a book.
19. If a story is selected by the Jury, the author will not publish the story on any other platform, book, website, social media or any other public platform without prior express written consent of ILA. Such consent shall not be granted by ILA before the book is published.
20. ILA has the absolute discretion to modify, amend, alter or withdraw and terms of the short story contest. ILA may withdraw, re-schedule, cancel or postpone the short story contest, or reject any story received, without assigning any reason.
21. All disputes shall be subject to jurisdiction of courts in New Delhi, India.