

Initiative on Establishment of The Alliance of BRICS Law Universities

At the II BRICS Legal Forum successfully held on October 14-15, 2015 at East China University of Political Science and Law in Shanghai, China, more than 200 representatives of BRICS legal academia and professionals met under the theme of “Legal Cooperation: Towards a BRICS Community of Shared Destiny”, held in-depth discussions and reached consensus on the legal issues commonly faced by the BRICS countries, including the rule of law, financial cooperation, and dispute settlement mechanism. This Initiative is developed following thorough communication and consultation among all participants.

I. We, the representatives attending the II BRICS Legal Forum, recognize that against the backdrop of globalization with emerging opportunities and challenges, universities are playing an important role in social and political progress, economic development and cultural exchange both in the BRICS countries and across the world. To further promote cooperation among the BRICS countries, universities need to proactively strengthen their cooperation and communication in carrying out bilateral and multilateral dialogues, conducting scientific research programs, and improving the quality of education and their capabilities to offer policy advice and enlighten the population so as to provide the talent pool and intellectual services needed by the enhanced strategic cooperation among the BRICS countries.

II. As the BRICS Legal Forum system continues to develop, it becomes imperative to seek common ground for developing the comparatively better synergy among the legal orders of the BRICS countries and, where possible, building a set of commonly applicable rules. As an important member of the BRICS Legal Forum system, we hereby propose the establishment of the Alliance of BRICS Law Universities (“the Alliance”), by combining faculties and resources of renowned law universities in BRICS countries to provide high-caliber legal professionals and intellectual services for the benefit of comprehensive BRICS cooperation and development.

1. Legal Training. The Alliance will set up the “Training Program for Legal Talents in BRICS Countries” by expanding the cooperative education and training opportunities for students, lawyers, researchers, educators, and civil servants to jointly

cultivate high-level legal professionals that have global visions, are knowledgeable about international rules and able to handle international legal matters for governments, legal institutions, and corporations in BRICS countries.

2. Academic Exchange. Guided by the principles of “Equality, Collaboration, Openness, and Diversity”, the Alliance will enhance international cooperation and academic exchange by organizing bilateral and multilateral dialogues between law schools in all member states and lay a foundation for promoting the long-term development of the BRICS Legal Forum system by carrying out regular university presidents’ forums, and academic conferences and forums.

3. Exchange Programs. By signing agreements on cooperative training programs, the Alliance will facilitate international education cooperation to jointly upgrade the level of professional training focusing on student and faculty exchange in the forms of inter-university credit accumulation, curriculum exchange, faculty exchange visits, and student internships.

4. Think-tank Development. The Alliance will develop a think-tank to facilitate systematic and prospective legal research in the BRICS countries focusing on the legal theories and practical issues commonly encountered in the BRICS cooperation, to promote the exchange and cooperation among the BRICS countries and between the BRICS countries and other countries and regions of the world in legal research and education and, through enhanced resource sharing and decision-making advisory services, to provide advice for government bodies, legislative institutions, judicial departments, financial institutions, commercial organizations and other related establishments in the BRICS countries, and to function as an intellectual support to the development of the BRICS cooperative mechanism.

III. The Alliance welcomes the participation of all universities committed to promoting the BRICS law education and the legal research cooperation and communication to jointly work on developing the law education and legal research mechanism in the BRICS countries.

IV. The Alliance universities will establish a regular communication mechanism to exchange views on cooperation details and cultivate all-round and long-term strategic partnerships. The mechanism can take the forms of University Presidents Forum, to

be held annually alongside the BRICS Legal Forum, and exchange visits, to be hosted by universities in rotation themed with a special topic on a yearly basis or otherwise as seen appropriate.

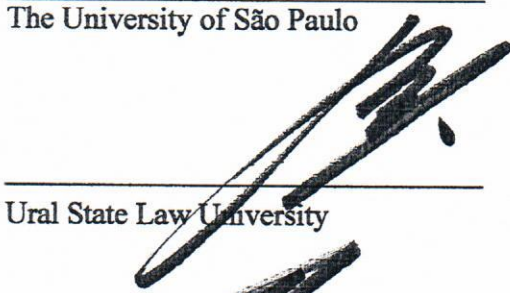
V. We will continue to explore and develop more innovative cooperation models and expand, as appropriate, cooperation areas for a sustainable development of the Alliance.

Date: October 15, 2015

Signed by:



The University of São Paulo



Ural State Law University



Kutub Moscow State Law University



Indian Law Institute



Amity University



East China University of Political Science and Law



University of Cape Town