

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

I am Asmita Kar, an Indian national holding passport number S1138430, originally from Kolkata, West Bengal. I have completed my Bachelor of Arts integrated with Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from St. Xavier's University, Kolkata. With a strong desire to advance my legal education at a higher level and in an international context, I have enrolled in the Master of Laws (LL.M.) program specializing in International Commercial Law at the University of Limerick, commencing in September 2025. Pursuing this advanced degree abroad presents a valuable opportunity to engage with diverse legal systems, benefit from comparative jurisprudence, and acquire a comprehensive understanding of international commercial legal practices, which are indispensable in the increasingly globalized legal arena. The University of Limerick is distinguished by its industry-oriented curriculum, accomplished faculty, and robust connections with multinational corporations, all of which promise to provide an optimal blend of theoretical knowledge and practical skills. Such international academic exposure and specialized training in commercial law will furnish me with a distinctive competitive advantage, cultivating a global legal outlook that is less readily attainable through solely domestic education. The expertise and professional competencies gained through this program will significantly support my long-term objective of establishing a successful legal career in India. Accordingly, I respectfully request the issuance of a Student Visa to enable me to pursue this higher education opportunity lawfully. Upon completion of my studies, I intend to return to India, reside with my family, and contribute meaningfully to the development of the Indian legal sector by applying the advanced knowledge and skills acquired during my international education.

My Educational Background:

Throughout my academic journey, I have consistently demonstrated a commitment to academic excellence and intellectual rigor. I completed my secondary education (Class 10) at B.D. Memorial International School, Kolkata, in March 2018, achieving a commendable score of 83%. I subsequently pursued my higher secondary education (Class 12) at the same institution, graduating in July 2020 with an enhanced academic standing of 87.2%. Building on this solid groundwork, I pursued the integrated B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) programme at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, and successfully completed it in June 2025 with a cumulative score of 83%. This academic trajectory reflects not only my perseverance and disciplined approach to learning, but also my keen aptitude for legal studies. The integrated curriculum offered a unique blend of commerce and legal education, significantly enriching my analytical reasoning, deepening my understanding of legal frameworks, and refining my research and interpretive skills. Over the course of my undergraduate studies, my academic interests have increasingly gravitated towards international commercial law. This interest has been nurtured through a combination of coursework, internships, and independent scholarly inquiry. My exposure to the evolving dynamics of cross-border commercial transactions has further solidified my aspiration to contribute meaningfully to this field. The contemporary legal landscape in India is witnessing a growing demand for practitioners equipped with expertise in international commercial law, driven by the proliferation of transnational business engagements. Legal employers are actively seeking professionals with specialized knowledge and global academic exposure, often offering competitive remuneration to such individuals. In response to these emerging professional imperatives and in pursuit of advanced legal training, I have resolved to undertake postgraduate study in this discipline at the University of Limerick. Upon completion of the programme, I intend to return to India to reside with my family and leverage my international legal education to pursue a career aligned with my academic and professional ambitions.

My reasons to pursue an international degree that will set a pathway for my future professional career in my home country

India:

My decision to pursue an international postgraduate qualification is firmly rooted in my long-term objective of establishing a successful legal career within India. I have consistently aspired to obtain a globally recognized legal education that equips me to navigate the multifaceted and increasingly competitive legal landscape of the modern era. Having completed my B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) and developed a comprehensive understanding of the Indian legal framework, I have come to recognize the growing need for legal professionals who possess not only a robust domestic foundation but also advanced expertise in globally significant fields such as international commercial law. While my academic background has provided a strong platform, I am cognizant of the gaps in global exposure and specialized training that remain essential to address the evolving complexities of cross-border legal practice. An international master's programme particularly from a distinguished institution such as the University of Limerick offers far more than academic rigour. It provides immersion in contemporary commercial legal practice,

global legal systems, and comparative methodologies, thereby bridging the divide between theoretical knowledge and real-world application. In the Indian context, degrees from reputable international institutions are held in high regard, particularly in specialized areas such as legal compliance, international arbitration, and transnational corporate law. Employers increasingly seek professionals equipped with the skills to manage legal aspects of global business operations, and an education grounded in international perspectives is often considered a mark of professional distinction. Beyond academic and professional growth, studying in an international environment also offers invaluable personal development. It fosters adaptability, cultural intelligence, independent thinking, and time management all essential traits in today's globally integrated legal profession. Engaging with peers from diverse cultural and professional backgrounds will not only broaden my worldview but also enhance my ability to collaborate in multicultural legal contexts. I am confident that this international qualification will significantly differentiate me from my contemporaries upon my return to India. It will enable me to contribute meaningfully to the evolving legal sector and pursue the professional aspirations I have long envisioned. For these reasons, I am firmly committed to advancing my education through a Master's in International Commercial Law on an international platform.

The factors that influenced my decision to not pursue a master's degree in India:

Although India is home to several reputed law institutions, I have opted not to pursue my Master's degree here, as the specialization I am interested in particularly International Commercial Law and the level of international exposure I seek are relatively limited within the country. A few institutions worth mentioning include: -

1. The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (WBNUJS), Kolkata, offers an LLM program with specializations in fields such as Corporate and Commercial Law, as well as Constitutional Law: <https://www.nujs.edu/programme/llm/>
2. National Law University, Delhi (NLU Delhi), offers an LLM program with specializations in areas such as Constitutional Law and Criminal Law: <https://nludelhi.ac.in/llm.aspx>
3. NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, offers an LLM program with specializations that include Corporate Laws: <https://llm-ibl.nalsar.ac.in/>
4. The National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore, offers an LLM program with specializations such as Business Laws and Human Rights: <https://www.nls.ac.in/programme/llm/>

Additionally, when I compared the Indian education system with that of institutions abroad, I discovered several promising opportunities and advantages offered by international programs:

- India is home to several prestigious legal institutions such as NLSIU, NALSAR, and WBNUJS that offer postgraduate law programs; however, the availability of seats is extremely limited, and admission is fiercely competitive. Despite thorough preparation for entrance exams, only a small percentage of applicants secure admission, making entry into these top-tier institutions highly uncertain even for students with strong academic records.
- In contrast, international LLM programs such as the one in International Commercial Law at the University of Limerick—place a greater emphasis on experiential learning, practical case studies, and the application of legal principles in real-world scenarios. The Indian legal education system, by comparison, remains largely theoretical, with limited integration of internships, workshops, or industry exposure within the curriculum.
- Furthermore, many Indian law schools have curricula that have not sufficiently evolved to keep pace with the rapid changes in global commerce and international legal standards. Often relying on outdated case laws and traditional teaching methods, these programs contrast with foreign universities, which regularly update their syllabi to reflect recent legal developments, technological advancements, and market demands.
- The reservation policy in India also presents structural challenges, especially for general category students, sometimes restricting access and progression regardless of merit.
- Having completed my B.A.-L.L.B. (Hons.) from St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, I possess a solid theoretical legal foundation. However, my undergraduate program offered limited opportunities for practical engagement, such as structured internships and advanced research resources, which are integral parts of postgraduate legal education abroad.
- Pursuing an international LLM not only broadens legal expertise but also significantly enhances employability in India. It is often regarded by employers as a mark of strong analytical and communication skills, adaptability, and a global outlook. Graduates of foreign LLM programs frequently enjoy better job prospects and higher starting salaries compared to those with only domestic qualifications.

In light of these considerations, I have concluded that pursuing my Master's degree abroad—particularly at a globally recognized institution such as the University of Limerick—will offer a comprehensive and contemporary legal education. Moreover, it will significantly enhance my professional competitiveness within the Indian legal job market upon my return.

Why I chose Ireland for my studies in preference to other developed countries:

When I resolved to pursue my Master's degree abroad, Ireland immediately emerged as my preferred destination. As a law graduate holding a B.Com L.L.B. (Hons.) from St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, I sought an academic environment that would provide a globally esteemed legal education, emphasize practical skill development, and offer robust institutional support. Ireland distinguished itself through its reputation for delivering high-quality education that is internationally recognized, alongside its increasing popularity among Indian students.

A primary factor influencing my decision was Ireland's excellence in legal education, particularly in specialized areas such as International Commercial Law, which directly aligns with my professional goals. Institutions like the University of Limerick offer programs that are not only research-intensive but also industry-oriented, reflecting contemporary market needs. The curriculum is frequently revised to incorporate current legal trends, is delivered by seasoned faculty, and places strong emphasis on the practical application of legal theories within the context of global commerce. This combination of academic rigor and practical relevance was precisely what I sought.

In contrast, while countries such as the United States and Canada have well-established strengths in disciplines like management, engineering, and scientific research, their legal education frameworks present certain challenges. These include the necessity of additional standardized examinations such as the GRE or LSAT, substantially higher tuition and living expenses, and more complex admission protocols. Specifically, the U.S. legal education system is better tailored for research-intensive fields such as biotechnology and medicine, whereas Canadian universities focus predominantly on social sciences and public policy. Furthermore, Canada's harsh climate and the limited availability of specialized LLM programs increase the probability that international students might be directed toward diploma courses rather than full-fledged master's degrees in law.

Australia, despite its academic prestige and global rankings, poses financial constraints due to its elevated tuition fees and cost of living. Additionally, while Australia's legal education is commendable, it does not align as closely with European or international commercial legal frameworks—an alignment that is crucial for those intending to return to India and work within its rapidly evolving commercial law sector.

Ireland, by contrast, fulfills all my criteria: affordability, safety, world-class educational institutions, a student-centric atmosphere, and a curriculum that integrates theoretical knowledge with practical commercial legal applications. The Irish cities of Dublin, Limerick, Galway, and Cork boast vibrant multicultural student communities, advanced legal research facilities, and strong connections with multinational corporations and prominent law firms. Moreover, Ireland's reputation for inclusivity and respect, where students are valued for their ambitions irrespective of background, was a significant attraction. This welcoming social environment, combined with Ireland's rich legal traditions and cultural vibrancy, made it an ideal choice for both my academic and personal growth.

Following extensive research, participation in education fairs, consultations with academic advisors, and dialogues with university representatives, I am fully convinced that Ireland represents the optimal setting for my postgraduate studies. I am confident that obtaining an LL.M. in International Commercial Law from the University of Limerick will equip me with a competitive edge in the Indian legal market, enabling me to contribute effectively to the burgeoning demand for skilled legal professionals in the global business and corporate sectors..

My motivation for pursuing an LLM in International Commercial Law:

As previously noted, I hold a B.A.-L.L.B. (Hons.) degree from St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, where I built a strong academic foundation in commercial and corporate law, legal research, constitutional law, contract drafting, and business regulations. From early on, I have aimed to establish a successful legal career, with a particular interest in international commercial law. My undergraduate education has provided me with essential theoretical knowledge and practical skills, preparing me to pursue advanced specialization. While India offers reputable legal programs, I found that an LL.M. in International Commercial Law abroad—especially in Ireland—offers a more

comprehensive, contemporary, and globally relevant curriculum. I seek a program that balances academic rigor, practical exposure, and international perspective. The University of Limerick stood out as an ideal choice due to its market-driven legal courses tailored to today's business environment. In today's globalized economy, commercial law increasingly involves cross-border transactions. The rise of multinational corporations, international trade agreements, foreign investments, and digital commerce demands legal professionals who can navigate complex international regulations, dispute resolution, intellectual property, and corporate compliance. This LL.M. will equip me with the expertise to interpret international legal frameworks, develop litigation and negotiation skills, and provide effective legal counsel in diverse commercial matters. Upon completion, I will be well-prepared to contribute meaningfully in this dynamic field:

- Comprehend and interpret international commercial regulations, treaties, and conventions governing cross-border transactions.
- Tackle intricate legal issues encountered by multinational corporations and draft comprehensive international agreements.
- Offer strategic guidance on regulatory compliance, arbitration procedures, and corporate governance frameworks.
- Engage actively in international commercial dispute resolution mechanisms, including arbitration and mediation.
- Evaluate the legal risks and responsibilities inherent in international trade and investment law.
- Apply specialized knowledge of banking, finance, intellectual property, and corporate law within a globalized context.
- Effectively communicate with diverse stakeholders and articulate legal arguments with precision and clarity.
- Conduct thorough research, and draft and present coherent legal opinions and case studies.
- Remain informed about evolving international legal standards and emerging commercial trends.
- Collaborate efficiently within legal teams to address and resolve complex global legal challenges.

The rigorous one-year LL.M. program at the University of Limerick will significantly broaden my legal understanding while enhancing my analytical, research, and strategic skills. I am particularly interested in the module on international commercial arbitration, which is increasingly used worldwide to resolve business disputes efficiently. Additionally, I aim to deepen my knowledge of corporate governance and compliance, focusing on how companies uphold legal and ethical standards across multiple jurisdictions. These subjects are directly relevant to India's evolving business landscape, where demand for specialists in international commercial law is growing. The program's blend of theory and practical skills will prepare me to provide expert legal counsel in complex commercial matters. Upon completion, I will be well-equipped to pursue a respected career in corporate law firms, multinational companies, arbitration centers, or consultancy services in India, contributing meaningfully to the development of international legal practices in my home country.

Factors influencing my decision to study at the University of Limerick:

Selecting the most suitable educational institution in Ireland was a demanding process, given the presence of numerous globally acclaimed universities renowned for their outstanding academic programs, particularly in law. As an international student, I carefully considered several critical criteria in my decision-making, including the quality of education, availability of academic support, campus atmosphere, affordability, and prospects for future career development. I strongly believe that a solid educational foundation is essential, as it significantly influences one's long-term professional trajectory and success.

During my research, I identified multiple esteemed institutions providing legal programs aligned with my field of interest:

- Trinity College Dublin – LL.M. (International and Comparative Law):
<https://www.tcd.ie/law/programmes/postgraduate/llm/>
- University College Dublin – LL.M. (Commercial Law):
<https://www.ucd.ie/law/study/postgraduateprogrammes/llmincommerciallaw/>
- National University of Ireland Galway – LL.M. (International and Comparative Business Law):
<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/international-comparative-business-law.html>

Following a comprehensive assessment, I decided to undertake the LL.M. in International Commercial Law at the University of Limerick. What particularly attracted me to this institution was its integration of a contemporary

curriculum, distinguished faculty, focus on commercial and transnational legal education, and a supportive, student-centric atmosphere. The university fosters a balance between academic rigor and practical experience, equipping students to meet the challenges of international legal practice effectively.

The following are some of the principal reasons behind my choice of the University of Limerick as my academic destination:

- The School of Law at the University of Limerick is distinguished by its progressive and engaging pedagogical approaches. The LL.M. program in International Commercial Law encompasses critical subjects such as international trade law, corporate governance, commercial arbitration, and intellectual property law. This curriculum effectively integrates theoretical foundations with practical skill development, enabling students to competently address complex commercial legal challenges in real-world contexts.
- UL's academic qualifications are internationally accredited, and the university maintains a strong research focus in commercial law, international relations, and dispute resolution. Students are actively encouraged to participate in rigorous legal analysis and contribute to scholarly debates, enhancing their critical thinking abilities. Such global recognition significantly strengthens my professional credentials and boosts employability prospects upon my return to India.
- The university boasts a richly diverse student body representing numerous countries, fostering a vibrant multicultural educational environment. Additionally, UL cultivates a nurturing campus atmosphere where students have easy access to faculty and peers, facilitating open communication and collaboration—key elements in effective legal education.
- When compared to other prominent international education destinations such as the UK, USA, or Australia, Ireland offers superior legal education at a more accessible cost. Tuition fees and living expenses are comparatively affordable, rendering it an attractive option for Indian students seeking high-quality education without imposing undue financial strain.
- Furthermore, Ireland hosts numerous multinational corporations and global law firms, with Limerick emerging as an expanding center for legal and commercial professionals. Earning an LL.M. from UL will enhance my competitive standing in the Indian legal sector and provide pathways to careers in commercial litigation, arbitration, regulatory compliance, and advisory services.

In summary, following extensive research, participation in webinars, and consultations with academic advisors, I am fully assured that the University of Limerick offers the optimal environment for advancing my legal studies and cultivating the skills necessary to become a globally proficient legal practitioner. The university's ethos and academic offerings resonate strongly with my personal and professional objectives, and I eagerly anticipate making a valuable contribution to its scholarly community.

What are the potential career outcomes in my home country, India, following the completion of my higher education abroad—particularly in relation to the nation's economic trajectory, the availability of professional opportunities, and the expected compensation packages?

India's expanding presence in the global trade and commercial arena has significantly increased the demand for legal professionals with expertise in international commercial law. The surge in cross-border transactions, inflow of foreign direct investments, and the rise of international collaborations have created an urgent need for legal practitioners who possess not only domestic legal acumen but also international exposure and specialization in areas such as trade regulation, arbitration, intellectual property, and corporate compliance. As the Indian legal sector becomes increasingly sophisticated, law firms and corporate entities are prioritizing the recruitment of individuals capable of managing complex, multi-jurisdictional legal challenges. An internationally accredited legal education particularly from a globally esteemed system such as Ireland's offers a distinct advantage in this evolving market. The LL.M. in International Commercial Law at the University of Limerick will provide me with a rigorous academic grounding and practical competence necessary to navigate high-stakes legal environments. Through exposure to diverse legal systems, interaction with international peers, and immersion in comparative legal studies, I will enhance my capabilities in client advisory, contract drafting, dispute resolution, and cross-border regulatory compliance. Upon returning to India, I intend to pursue career opportunities with leading law firms and corporate legal departments that focus on commercial litigation, international arbitration, and strategic advisory services. Prestigious firms such as Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas, AZB & Partners, Khaitan & Co., Trilegal, and Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas, as well as the legal divisions of major multinational corporations like Reliance Industries, Infosys, TATA Group, Adani Group, ICICI Bank, and Hindustan Unilever, are increasingly seeking candidates with international academic credentials and a global legal outlook. I am certain that the comprehensive skill set and nuanced legal understanding I will gain through this LL.M. will enable me to

distinguish myself from domestically trained peers. This international qualification will allow me to offer a sophisticated and globally aligned approach to legal practice, particularly in handling cross-border legal matters, foreign investments, and arbitration proceedings. While Ireland provides exceptional academic and professional exposure, my long-term objective is to return to India not only to be close to my family and cultural roots, but also to contribute meaningfully to the development of India's commercial legal infrastructure. Unlike mature legal markets such as Ireland, where saturation can limit upward mobility, India's legal profession amidst economic liberalization and reform presents fertile ground for growth, innovation, and long-term impact. My professional ambition is to ascend to a senior role within a leading law firm or corporation and eventually engage in legal policy reform or academic contributions that further strengthen India's legal system. From a compensation perspective, professionals with an international LL.M. from reputable institutions are often offered starting salaries ranging from INR 15 to 20 lakhs annually markedly higher than the INR 10 to 12 lakhs typically offered to domestic graduates. With the added advantage of global exposure, practical expertise, and strategic insight, I anticipate being considered for roles that usually demand 5-6 years of professional experience, thereby accelerating my legal career trajectory in India.

My genuine commitment is to return to India and contribute meaningfully to the legal profession in my home country: -

As previously outlined, my foremost objective in pursuing a Master's degree in Ireland is to gain advanced, internationally oriented legal education and subsequently return to India to establish both my professional and personal life. My sole purpose for traveling to Ireland is academic in nature, and I am fully committed to returning to my home country upon the completion of my studies to actively contribute to its dynamic legal sector.

- India is undergoing significant economic transformation, marked by increased participation in international trade and commerce. This has created a substantial demand for legal professionals who possess a global outlook and are equipped to address the complexities of cross-border commercial transactions. By earning a postgraduate qualification in International Commercial Law, I will be uniquely positioned to meet this demand and play a meaningful role in India's evolving legal environment.
- Furthermore, my personal ties to India are deep and enduring. I come from a close-knit family and share strong emotional bonds with my parents, extended relatives, and lifelong friends. My parents, in particular, have been my greatest source of support and motivation. Their unwavering dedication to my academic success has been instrumental in shaping my journey, and I am deeply committed to remaining close to them to offer the same care, support, and companionship in return. The prospect of living far from them for an extended period does not align with my values or aspirations.
- While I recognize the immense value of gaining international exposure through education in Ireland, I have no intention of settling abroad. Rather, I view this as a time-bound academic pursuit aimed at enhancing my legal competencies. My goal is to return to India equipped with the specialized knowledge and global perspective necessary to thrive in a competitive legal landscape and seize high-caliber professional opportunities within my home country.
- In addition, practical considerations reinforce my decision to return. The financial implications of long-term residence in Ireland, including high living costs and taxation, coupled with the emotional strain of separation from family, make it clear that returning to India is both a logical and heartfelt choice. In India, I have a stable domestic environment, an established social support system, and promising career prospects that align with both my personal and professional goals. I am mentally, emotionally, and practically prepared to embark on the next chapter of my life in India, and I am fully committed to doing so after completing my studies.

In conclusion, my intention to reside in Ireland is entirely temporary and solely for the purpose of pursuing higher education. I am fully aware of the conditions associated with the student visa and affirm that all the information provided herein is truthful and composed in my own words. I respectfully seek your kind consideration in granting me the opportunity to pursue my LL.M. at the University of Limerick—an essential step toward realizing my academic and professional ambitions. I remain firmly committed to returning to India upon the completion of my studies, where I aim to contribute meaningfully to the legal profession and apply the expertise gained through this international academic experience.

Regards,

Asmita Kar