**POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREE STATEMENT OF INTEREST**

The primary objectives of this statement of interest are:

1. For the candidate:
	* To propose an original research idea;
	* To demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the current state of the art in the relevant academic field;
	* To illustrate how the proposed research will contribute to this body of knowledge.
2. For the prospective supervisor and the board of admissions:
	* To evaluate the originality and general feasibility of the proposed research;
	* To assess the candidate’s analytical, synthetic, and academic writing skills.

This statement of interest should be no more than 3-4 pages long (excluding section 9), while also not being too brief that the above objectives cannot be fulfilled.

**Please note:** You are required to write this Statement of Interest without the aid of artificial intelligence tools. We will employ software to identify any such usage. The Law Faculty considers the use of these tools as a form of academic dishonesty.

**SECTION A: PERSONAL AND CONTACT DETAILS**

**NAME:**

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**HIGHEST QUALIFICATION AND INSTITUTION AT WHICH OBTAINED:**

Dept. of Public Law

PHD

M Phil

LLM

**APPLICATION FOR: Circle choice and include department**

**SECTION B: DESCRIPTIVE TITLE**

Provide a title of your research project that aptly describes the research you intend to undertake (30 words or less).

**SECTION C: STATEMENT OF INTEREST**

1. **Abstract of intended area of research**

Provide a brief description of the problem you would like to research, in no more than three brief paragraphs (200 – 300 words). You need not provide detailed conclusions at this point, but state the preliminary premise for your proposed research.

1. **Problem Statement**

Describe the scope of research and identify the major issues, problem, or gap in knowledge your research project intends to address (300 – 500 words).

1. **Main research question and sub-questions**

Formulate a research question, or cluster of interrelated questions, which invite an original piece of research.

1. **State of Art**

Identify existing academic literature on the subject of your research, and embedding your proposed research in the current state of knowledge (2 pages).

1. **Methodology**

Set out the approach and methods that will be used, and explaining how these will help to answer the research question(s). (200-300 words)

1. **Timescale and Feasibility**

Provide a breakdown of the research project in sections and a realistic planning that fits your professional situation. Please also detail the steps you have taken to ensure your availability to undertake this research project.

1. **Supervisor**

You need not have identified or made contact with a potential supervisor. If you have preferences or suggestions relating to who should supervise your proposed research, indicate this here.

1. **Additional information**

Please indicate any additional information the admissions committee may wish to know. For instance, if you have established contacts with organisations which may assist you in accessing research materials, or if you have previously researched the topic, then it is appropriate to provide evidence to that effect here.

1. **Main sources**

Please indicate the sources you have referred to in the drafting of your research outline. Please be as detailed as possible.