

# Project WCP 2023

the 25th  
World Congress of Philosophy

## Japanese Federation of Philosophical Societies (JFPS)

The Japanese Federation of Philosophical Societies (JFPS) is a member of FISP.  
It consists of the following six academic societies, each engaged in their respective philosophical research.

- The Philosophical Association of Japan
- The Japanese Society for Ethics
- The Japanese Society for Aesthetics
- Japanese Association for Religious Studies
- The Japanese Association of Indian and Buddhist Studies
- The Sinological Society of Japan

Tokyo, Japan

*Toward a Pluralized  
World Philosophy*



## Letter of Invitation

Dear National Delegates of the 24th World Congress of Philosophy,

As President of the Philosophical Association of Japan (PAJ), on behalf of the Japanese Federation of Philosophical Societies (JFPS), I would like to ask for your full support for our hosting in Tokyo the 25th World Congress of Philosophy (WCP 2023). Following on from the great success of WCP 2018, we are firmly determined to make our ideal of "World Philosophy" a reality.

I am also deeply confident that we would meet your high expectations in a more than satisfactory manner. For not only is Tokyo safe and easily accessible from most parts of the world, but also people and institutions here have a deeply sympathetic view towards philosophy and would heartily welcome the participants of the Congress.

We have many ideas that we expect to make the Congress exceptional:

- (1) We will provide sufficient support for accommodation and dietary requirements so that all delegates can maintain their daily habits, ensuring that all participants are comfortable no matter their gender or cultural background.
- (2) We will ensure to the best of our abilities that all facilities comply with universal design, and pledge to act in an environmentally conscious way.
- (3) We will introduce IT technology in user-friendly ways, especially to facilitate multi-lingual communication in a more efficient way for the benefit of all participants.

We promise to dedicate all of our resources and skills in order to provide an ideal agora where everyone present can enjoy a renewed and more developed World Philosophy.

Sincerely,

加藤 泰史 Yasushi Kato

President of the Philosophical Association of Japan



## Project WCP 2023 Tokyo - our three ideas

### Seoul, Beijing, and Tokyo - Diversity in Asia

WCP was held outside of Europe and North America for the first time in Seoul. This year we gather in Beijing to discuss "Learning to be Human." We want to welcome you next to Tokyo to engage in "World Philosophy" together. You will experience the wide diversity of Asian cultures first hand. Japan has a unique culture, such as tea ceremony and the aesthetics of "wabi-sabi," which forms the basis for our life, art and thought in accordance with nature. For our part, philosophy in all its diversity will flourish even more in Japan by hosting WCP here for the first time.

### 1500 years, 150 years, and Now -Tradition/Modern

Japan has both an incredible depth and tremendous breadth of philosophical traditions. Buddhist and Confucian philosophies entered Japan around 1500 years ago. They reacted with native thoughts, later Shintoism, to form original Japanese thinking. For 150 years Japanese thinkers have engaged with Western philosophical thought from Plato to Post-modern and Analytic Philosophy. It is our tradition to integrate different cultures and philosophies. Contemporary cultures and high technologies encourage our thinking on living well in the 21st century. Learning from the past informs our present. In this way, we believe that Japan can be a catalyst for interactions and the integration of diverse traditions in philosophy.

### Philosophical Dialogue - Toward a Pluralized World Philosophy

Our world and philosophies face divisions caused by the differing opinions of disparate political and cultural camps. This is why we sincerely wish to create a forum where people from every background can enjoy discussions focusing on the diversity of our cultures and philosophical disciplines. Our aim is to establish a new "World Philosophy," which includes multiple traditions and provides a universal ground for philosophical dialogue. It reconsiders "world," to include all aspects of our existence; from our daily lives, to the universe itself. It renews the understanding of "human" in the light of virtual reality, robots, and AI. It liberates "philosophy" and opens it up to the public and the world, making this Congress a universal platform for all people engaged in philosophy.

## Proposed Venue & Date

**Venue** The University of Tokyo, Komaba Campus and Hongo Campus

**Date** August 2023