

RENKEI PAX School: *Enslaving the Mind*

Hosted by Ritsumeikan University (Kyoto, Japan)

on Wed. 14 – Fri. 23 September 2016

& University of Liverpool (UK) in August 2017

■ Introduction

Peace is not the prerogative of a few but a state of well-being whose structures must be maintained by all of us. This programme has selected it as a transdisciplinary grand challenge to bring together early career researchers from the U.K. and Japan from a range of disciplines. The programme suggested here for 2016 is intended as one of a series of post-graduate research endeavours which draws from the disciplines that contribute to *Peace, Arts, Culture and Science* (PACS = PAX = Peace).

We are facing the transformative change that is happening around the world in regard to peace and security. Nation states appear to be at a loss to deal with trans-border issues such as migration and para-statal terror and the call for collective security has grown stronger. Japan too is at an important crossroad, with the current government's proposed revisions to the post-war Peace Constitution tending to polarize public opinion. In the U.K. too, the nation is struggling to understand what breeds "home grown terror" which operates in distant lands overseas and is in the search for ways of dealing with it. Against this background, this programme will look at how structures of peace get enmeshed into structures of war, co-opting the public in the process. This is the underlying rationale for selecting "*Enslaving the Mind*" as the theme of the proposed 2016 RENKEI PAX SCHOOL programme.

■ Objectives and Scope

The objectives of the PAX School 2016 proposal are as follows:

1. To bring together early career researchers from the arts, humanities, social and natural sciences together to discuss a grand challenge that continues to plague human society;
2. To explore how engagement with civil society institutions and industrial partners can be fostered in executing the programme; and
3. To lay the foundations for reasoned advocacy and creative public engagement by early career researchers working collectively in a trans-border context

■ Date & Place

Wednesday 14 – Friday 23 September 2016 in Kyoto (Ritsumeikan University) & Nagasaki, Japan

■ Programme Contents

The PAX School 2016 consists of three parts with a two-day field visit to Nagasaki;

- **Part 1: LESSONS FROM THE PAST** (e.g. Review of the incursion of military ideology into Japan's pre-war educational system; the situations that led to the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki)
- **Part 2: THEATRES OF UNCERTAINTY TODAY** (Focus discussions on: (1) A major theatre of uncertainty, the Middle East and discuss the UK's and Japan's respective engagement in this region. (2) Sea lane security in the Indian Ocean, where the safe passage of resources and

goods (the maritime Silk Road of the 21st Century) is critical for shared prosperity in the Western and Eastern hemispheres

- **Part 3: SHAPING OUR SHARED FUTURE** (Participants will be divided into groups each of which will contain 2 teams. Each group will work on one out of several peace-related topics provided by the programme and the group will produce 2 different outcomes that have different aims, each team focusing on one of them; 1) create a virtual exhibition to pass down memories of the chilling build-up to war and destruction through the display of archival objects and 2) an analogue game to learn peacebuilding through experiencing dilemmas encountered in the passage to peace. The teams are expected to collaborate so that the group presents a unified portrayal of the two outcomes, the exhibition and the game. The participants will have access to the archival, exhibition and curatorial support resources of the Ritsumeikan Kyoto Museum of World Peace, the major venue for the programme, as well as Ritsumeikan University's Museum, Library and Archival support services).
- **Field Visits** (Take place in Part 1): To the atomic bombing location, Nagasaki (all participants), where participants are encouraged to think about the dramatic change in the mind-sets that underlie the transformation of this pre-war military port into a post-war pacifist commercial city. Lingering elements of the former ways of thinking nevertheless prevail in post-war Nagasaki too, as evidenced by the brutal assassination of Mayor, Ito, who stood for pacifism and the abolition of nuclear weapons. His predecessor, Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima was also shot but survived. Mayor Ito's blood-stained shirt is on display at Ritsumeikan's Kyoto Museum of World Peace.

■ Programme Schedule (subject to change)

Sep.	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Part 1				Part 2		Part 3		
AM		Open Session by Mr. Keiichiro Hirano & Discussion	Visit Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and lecture by an atomic bomb survivor	Sightseeing in Nagasaki, visit Urakami Cathedral, Nagasaki University Medical School Campus	Free time	Open Session by Mr. Raja Shehadeh	Lectures TBD	Workshop TBD	Workshop TBD	Group work for final presentation
									Discussion	
PM	Registration & Orientation	Move to Nagasaki	Lecture by Prof. Suzuki from RECNA (Nagasaki Univ. Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition)	Talk by Mayor of Nagasaki City	Site seeing in Kyoto Visiting near temples and shrine, etc.	Discussion	Discussion	Group work for final presentation	Group work for final presentation	Presentation session
	Visit Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan Univ.					Move to Kyoto	Group work			
EVEN.	Welcome Dinner									End of Programme
Accom.	Kyoto	Nagasaki	Nagasaki	Kyoto	Kyoto	Kyoto	Kyoto	Kyoto	Kyoto	Kyoto

■ Cost

<Cost to be covered by the RENKEI programme>

- Lunch on Fri 16th, Sat 17th, Mon 19th and Thu 22nd September and dinner on Wed 14th and Fri 23rd September.

- Transportation during the programme including transportation from Kyoto to Nagasaki
- Accommodation in Nagasaki

<Cost to be covered by participants>

- Transportation between your participants' place of residence and Ritsumeikan University
- Accommodation in Kyoto
- Meals not covered by the programme
- Any other personal expenses

For the accommodation in Kyoto, Ritsumeikan University will provide shared rooms in International House near the campus. 2 participants of different nationalities and universities are expected to share a room as part of the programme. The room rate is ¥1,800 a night (¥14,400 in total if you arrive on 14th September) + ¥500 bed linen fee. The rooms will be available from 13th September for those who are arriving early. There is a communal kitchen and a space with tables and chairs to relax. Meals are not served but there are some bakeries, supermarkets and many restaurants within a 10 minute walk.

- ◇ How to settle the payment for the accommodation: Please pay the total amount in cash upon arrival.

■ **Criteria for participating in this programme:**

- Applicants must be a Master's student, Ph.D. (doctoral) student or post-doctoral fellow of one of the 12 participating universities. (We can accept 2 participants from each RENKEI member university)
- Applicants must be enthusiastic about collaborative and interdisciplinary work, as well as having a keen interest in developing links with industry.
- Applicants must be able to commit fully to the programme in Kyoto and Nagasaki and must be able to travel to Japan.
- Applicants are expected to participate in the preliminary discussion via Skype and read relevant materials prior to the programme.
- As the programme will be conducted in English, applicants must be able to communicate in English, although competency in written English is less important.
- Applicants must be able to contribute to disseminating the outcome of the workshop to wider audiences in cooperation with RENKEI member universities and the British Council which is the secretariat of the RENKEI initiative.
- Applicants are expected to be able to participate in the related programme in Liverpool, the UK in August 2017. That workshop, in collaboration with the International Slavery Museum, will be titled "The Politics of Memory, Commemoration and Memorialisation" aims at reminding us that dealing with the past is a deeply political endeavor and of the need to constantly recognize and revisit political and other struggles of the past. Seen in relation to the challenges today, these reminders may be viewed as imperative for us to resist the "enslaving of our minds".
- Applicants must be able to bring their own laptop PC/Mac to work with in Japan.

■ **How to apply**

Please fill in the application form and send it to your institutional contact by **Friday 17th June 2016**.

About RENKEI:

RENKEI (Research and Education Network for Knowledge Economy Initiatives) is an international platform consisting of 6 Japanese universities (Kyoto University, Kyushu University, Nagoya University, Osaka University, Ritsumeikan University, Tohoku University) and 6 UK universities (University of Bristol, University of Leeds, University of Liverpool, Newcastle University, University of Southampton, UCL). It aims to create new forms of university-industry collaboration which benefit each sector as well as society as a whole and to promote the development of innovative solutions to challenges facing knowledge-based economies by bringing together talented individuals from the respective nations.

www.britishcouncil.or.jp/renkei