



International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2023

Revitalizing Trilateral Cooperation in the Post-Covid Era:
Communication, Connectivity and Community

Program Booklet



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TCS Secretary-General's Opening Remarks

TCS Secretary-General's Opening Remarks



On behalf of Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, I'd like to extend my warmest welcome to all of you to International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2023. My sincere gratitude goes to the governments of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, especially the three foreign ministries, as well as Shandong Provincial People's Government and Qingdao Municipal People's Government of China, for your enormous support in organizing the Forum.

As the first offline IFTC since 2020, the IFTC 2023 holds special significance at a moment when the world is undergoing accelerating and profound changes that has been unseen in a century.

China, Japan and the ROK are important members of the international community, and Trilateral Cooperation among the three countries is not only vital to the peace and stability in Northeast Asia, but also of great significance to the prosperity and development of the whole Asia and the world at large.

Trilateral Cooperation was born amidst crisis and consolidated amidst the course of turning crisis into opportunities. Since its inauguration at the cold current of Asian financial crisis over two decades ago, it has made steady progress despite complex changes in the international landscape. An all-dimensional cooperation framework has now been put in place, centering on the Trilateral Summit Meeting, consisting of 21 ministerial meetings, supported by more than 70 consultations and dialogues, and covering more than 30 fields of practical cooperation. It is the regional cooperation arrangement with the highest degree of institutionalization, the broadest coverage and the greatest influence in Northeast Asia.

The current international situation is undergoing complex and profound changes, with geopolitical conflicts and hotspot issues flaring up one after another, imposing new challenges on Trilateral Cooperation. Northeast Asia, where we live, is one of the most complicated regions in the world in terms of political and security situation. Nevertheless, it is also a region that has enjoyed the longest period of peace and stability since World War II, which mainly attributes to our determination for cooperation, rather than confrontation. The post-war development of Northeast Asia and the process of Trilateral Cooperation indicate that, in the face of complex situations, Trilateral Cooperation is not optional, but imperative. In particular, the more challenges we may confront, the stronger confidence we shall foster, and the greater efforts we need to put in.

Over the past year, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat has been dedicated to steering the course against instability and uncertainty, and giving impetus to the post-pandemic recovery in this region. We have been giving support to policy dialogues, and formed up a 'Trilateral

Visionary Group' composed of visionary people from various sectors, forging a platform for candid communications among the three countries. We have been advocating the win-win cooperation, and held numerous events, such as 'Trilateral Entrepreneurs Forum,' to facilitate the smooth implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, and safeguard the resilience of industrial chains and supply chains as well as the integrity of the international division of labor. We have been striving for a closer people-to-people bond, and invited cultural celebrities, internet influencers and journalists to visit the 'Culture Cities of East Asia,' giving strong incentive to the revitalization of trilateral face-to-face exchanges. We have been inputting much care to 'Generation Z,' and initiated a 'Trilateral Youth Exchange Network' to foster unity and integrity among youth of the three countries, for a better future of our next generations, and for a future-oriented Trilateral Cooperation from a long-term perspective.

Looking ahead, it is our high expectation that all stakeholders will uphold the original aspiration of jointly launching the Trilateral Cooperation and respect each other's core interests and concerns, consolidate the political will and elevate mutual political trust, strengthen the sense of community and work together to meet common challenges, so as to continuously promote the Lasting Peace, Common Prosperity and Shared Culture in this region, and make further contributions to peace and development of this region and the world at large.

Centering on 'Communication,' 'Connectivity,' and 'Community,' today's Forum gathers around 30 dignitaries, experts and scholars from China, Japan, the ROK and the United Nations, who are going to share their insights and wisdom on the revitalization of Trilateral Cooperation in post-pandemic era. Their voices will surely be important drivers to the steady and long-term development of Trilateral Cooperation.

I wish International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2023 a total success!



Secretary-General
Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat

About Secretary-General OU Boqian:

Secretary-General OU Boqian joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China (MOFA) in 1989. Over the span of her career as a diplomat, she has had extensive expertise in international and regional affairs by working in several regions around the world. She worked in the Department of African Affairs of MOFA and Chinese Embassy in Uganda from 1990 to 2000. From 2001 to 2013, she served as Counselor of Information Department of MOFA, Political Counselor at the Chinese Embassy in Australia, Counselor of Policy Planning Department, and Deputy Director-General of General Office of MOFA. She was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of China to Grenada and served the position from 2013 to 2017 before working as Vice President of Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs from 2017 to 2021. She was appointed Secretary-General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) and has executed the role since September 2021.

Secretary-General OU Boqian obtained her B.A. from China Foreign Affairs University in 1989, and Master of International Policy and Practice (MIPP) from Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University in 1997.





Congratulatory Messages from Media Partners

Making Media Contributions to People-to-People Bonds and Pragmatic Cooperation



On behalf of People's Daily, I would like to extend hearty congratulations on the opening of the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2023, and sincere regards to the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat for having long been committed to promoting Trilateral Cooperation in various fields.

Our world today is living through accelerating changes unseen in a century, and the international landscape is undergoing profound changes. We are facing unprecedented opportunities and challenges. As a media partner of the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation, People's Daily will work together with the Asahi Shimbun and Chosun Ilbo to further play positive roles of media organizations and contribute to deepening cultural and people-to-people exchanges, strengthening people-to-people bonds and promoting pragmatic cooperation.

I wish the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2023 a full success!

TUO Zhen
President
People's Daily
June 12, 2023

Congratulatory Messages for IFTC 2023



I am deeply pleased that the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) is being held in its complete form after four years, finally getting out of the long tunnel of the COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Secretary-General OU Boqian and all the officials who have made this gathering possible today.

Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat has been striving for the development of future-oriented relations among the three countries since its establishment in 2011. Cooperation projects have been adrift due to historical conflicts, and COVID-19 pandemic has caused difficulties in holding the forum. Also, this year, the regional situation remains uncertain. The United States and China are engaged in competition for technology hegemony, particularly in the semiconductor industry,

leading to an accelerated restructuring of global supply chains. Additionally, North Korea is leveraging these flows of the "New Cold War" to intensify its nuclear and missile development efforts.

However, amidst these challenges, there is also a ray of hope. Shuttle diplomacy between the leaders of the ROK and Japan has been restored after a 12-year hiatus, laying the groundwork for a new era of upgraded cooperation between the two countries. There is also a high possibility that the Trilateral Summit among China, Japan, and the ROK, which has been on hold since the 2019 Chengdu meeting, will be resumed by the end of this year. President Yoon Suk Yeol expressed during the Overseas Mission Chiefs' Meeting in March that "we will make efforts to reactivate the Trilateral Summit and work together for peace and development in the region."

The theme of this year's forum, "Revitalizing Trilateral Cooperation in the Post-Covid Era: Communication, Connectivity and Community," highlights the importance of cooperation among the three countries, more than ever. As the three countries collectively confront global environmental changes, it is crucial to establish forward-looking cooperation in various fields, including politics, economy, society, and culture.

China, Japan, and the ROK are no longer confined only to Northeast Asia. As nations that garner global attention, they have a responsibility to actively contribute to world peace and prosperity. This is the reason why the countries should overcome confrontation and conflicts and seek paths of cooperation and innovation together. By engaging in sincere and in-depth discussions among the leadership, governments, and citizens of the three countries, we can bridge the gaps and move closer to each other. I believe that former senior officials and scholars who have contributed to shaping the framework of trilateral cooperation will provide valuable insights into the direction of cooperation through this forum.

As Chosun Ilbo celebrates its 103rd anniversary, it takes great pride in serving as a media partner for the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, along with the People's Daily of China and the Asahi Shimbun of Japan, and in creating a valuable platform for dialogue over the past 12 years. As we mark this meaningful occasion to herald the end of the pandemic and open a new future, we hope to share shining wisdom and perspectives. Thank you.

BANG Sang-Hoon
Chosun Ilbo President
July 3, 2023

Congratulatory Messages for IFTC 2023



It is my great pleasure to congratulate the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) on holding the "International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) 2023" in Qingdao, China. I express my deepest respect again for the longstanding contributions that the TCS has made to the peace and stability of the East Asian region and the promotion of friendly trilateral relations.

The COVID-19 pandemic has lasted for more than three years and has drastically changed people's mindsets and lifestyles. Now, countries around the world are shifting their policy focus from infection control to economic activities to make up for lost time with an eye toward the "post COVID-19" era. At the same time, the framework of the international order is being shaken by Russia's prolonged military invasion of Ukraine even as global warming countermeasures are being called for. The importance of exploring and sustaining cooperation beyond national boundaries has never been higher. This Forum will discuss and explore the nature of Trilateral Cooperation from the perspectives of the role of mass communication in shaping public opinion, connecting an aging population to a digitalized world, and interaction among local governments. I strongly hope that this year's Forum will once again deliver future-oriented messages that will lead to the sustainable development of the three countries.

Although difficult political challenges lie among the three countries, grass-roots exchanges have not halted even during the pandemic, especially among the young people who easily overcome the barriers of language and culture with digital devices to enjoy the movies, TV dramas, fashion, and music of the other nations. Now that people are getting back in touch with other nations, this forum, which aims to revitalize communication among the three countries, is extremely significant and timely.

Finally, I would like to conclude my congratulatory remarks by wishing for the continued development of the TCS and the success of today's Forum. Thank you very much.

NAKAMURA Shiro
President and CEO
The Asahi Shimbun
July 3, 2023







About IFTC 2023

Agenda

Day 1: July 2, 2023 (Sun.)

All Day	REGISTRATION	Lobby, 1F, Shangri-La Hotel
18:30-19:30	WELCOMING DINNER	China Hall, 2F, Shangri-La Hotel

Day 2: July 3, 2023 (Mon.)

M/C: SU Yuting Bilingual Presenter & Senior Reporter, CGTN

08:30-08:50	SIGN-IN	Lobby, 1F, Shangri-La Hotel
09:00-09:30	COLLECTIVE MEETING (Invited only)	
09:30-09:35	GROUP PHOTO (Invited only)	
09:40-11:00	OPENING SESSION	
	OPENING REMARKS	<p>OU Boqian Secretary-General, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat</p> <p>LU Zhiyuan Deputy Secretary of the CPC Shandong Provincial Committee Secretary of the CPC Qingdao Municipal Committee</p>
	VIDEO MESSAGES	<p>PARK Jin Minister of Foreign Affairs, the ROK</p> <p>HAYASHI Yoshimasa Minister of Foreign Affairs, Japan</p>
	REMARKS	<p>WANG Yi Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee</p> <p>KANG Chang Hee Chairman, Woonkyung Foundation Former Speaker, National Assembly of the ROK</p> <p>KONDO Seiichi (Online) Former Commissioner, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan Director, Kondo Institute for Culture and Diplomacy</p>
11:00-11:10	TEA BREAK	
11:10-12:30	SESSION 1 Public Diplomacy and Mass Communication: Mutual Perception among China, Japan and Korea	
	MODERATOR	<p>SHI Ding Executive Editor-in-Chief, Global Times Online</p>

	<p>WU Hailong President, China Public Diplomacy Association</p>
SPEAKERS	<p>KIM Gheewhan (Online) President, Korea Foundation</p>
	<p>FUJISAKI Ichiro (Online) Advisor for International Affairs, Nakasone Peace Institute of Japan</p>
	<p>WANG Wen (Online) Executive Dean, Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China</p>
DISCUSSANTS	<p>PARK Byung Han Newsroom Business Director, YTN of the ROK</p>
	<p>IJUIN Atsushi Lead Economist, Japan Center for Economic Research</p>
Q & A	
12:30-13:50	BUFFET LUNCHEON
14:00-15:45	SESSION 2 From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World
MODERATOR	<p>YAMAMOTO Naoko Professor and Director, Global Medical Cooperation Center, International University of Health and Welfare of Japan</p>
	<p>CAI Fang Academician and Chief Expert, National Think Tank, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences</p>
	<p>KIM Mi Gon President, Korea Labor Force Development Institute for the Aged</p>
SPEAKERS	<p>KOMAZAWA Osuke Senior Director, Japan International Cooperation Agency</p>
	<p>Ganbold Baasanjav Head of Office (East and North-East Asia Office), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)</p>
DISCUSSANTS	<p>REN Yuan Professor, Fudan University of China</p>
	<p>CHOI Moon Jeong Head, Graduate School of Science and Technology Policy, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology</p>
	<p>SAKAMOTO Haruka Associate Professor, Tokyo Women's Medical University of Japan</p>
Q & A	<p>Napaphat Satchanawakul Social Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)</p>

15:45-16:00	TEA BREAK	
16:00-17:30	SESSION 3 Mutual Perception Improvement: From the Lens of Local Community Exchanges	
	MODERATOR	PARK Soojin Director of Asia Center, Professor of Department of Geography, Seoul National University of the ROK
	SPEAKERS	YUAN Mindao Vice President, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries KO Yunju Ambassador of International Relations, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province of the ROK YOSHIDA Hitoshi (Online) Professor, Faculty of Glocal Policy Management and Communications, Yamanashi Prefectural University of Japan
	DISCUSSANTS	PAN Feng Director General, Culture and Tourism Bureau of Qingdao, China HWANG Ho Yoon Director General, Planning Department, Local Government Officials Development Institute, Ministry of the Interior and Safety of the ROK WASHIO Eiichiro (Online) Member, House of Representatives of Japan Deputy Secretary-General, Liberal Democratic Party of Japan Former State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
	Q & A	
17:30-17:35	CLOSING SESSION	
	CLOSING REMARKS	OU Boqian Secretary-General, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat
18:30-20:00	FAREWELL DINNER	China Hall, 2F, Shangri-La Hotel

Day 3: July 4, 2023 (Tue.)

All Day FIELD STUDY, SITE VISIT

*Program is based on China Standard Time (UTC+8)

* Program and speakers are subject to changes



Speakers' Biographies

OPENING SESSION

Opening Session



Speaker

WANG Yi

**Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist
Party of China (CPC) Central Committee
Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs
Commission of the CPC Central Committee**

WANG Yi, male, Han ethnicity, a native of Beijing, was born in October 1953. He began his first job in September 1969 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in May 1981. WANG graduated from the Department of Asian and African Languages of Beijing Second Foreign Languages Institute. He also holds a Master of Economics degree.

WANG Yi is currently a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee.



Speaker

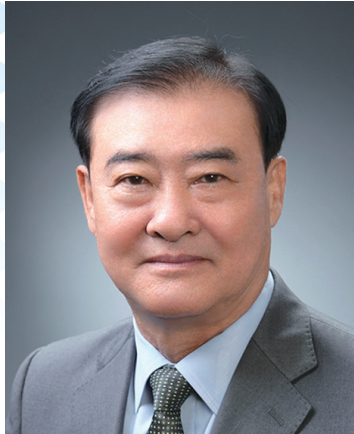
LU Zhiyuan

Deputy Secretary of the CPC Shandong Provincial Committee

Secretary of the CPC Qingdao Municipal Committee

Mr. Lu Zhiyuan, an ethnic Han, was born in August, 1964. He is a member of the Communist Party of China and holds a doctoral degree in economics. He is a member of the 20th CPC Central Committee and serves as Deputy Secretary of the CPC Shandong Provincial Committee and Secretary of the CPC Qingdao Municipal Committee.

Opening Session



Speaker

KANG Chang Hee

Chairman, Woonkyung Foundation

Former Speaker, National Assembly of the ROK

Hon. Kang Chang Hee is the former speaker of the 19th National Assembly of the Republic of Korea and currently serves as the chairman of the Woonkyung Foundation.

Hon. Kang began his political career as a member of the 11th National Assembly in 1983. He served for 6 non-consecutive terms, in the 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 19th National Assemblies.

Not only has he actively worked in the legislative branch, but his work continues in the executive branch, as well. He served as the chief of staff to the prime minister in 1983 and as a minister of science and technology in 1998.

After completing his term in the 19th National Assembly, he shifted his focus to those fields that require the most attention: climate change and leadership education. He served as the chairman of the Climate Change Center and works with NGOs to find resolutions for the problems of climate change. In addition, with his belief in the importance of finding and training leaders for the next generation, he served as chair professor at universities, teaching classes and giving lectures on leadership on various occasions.



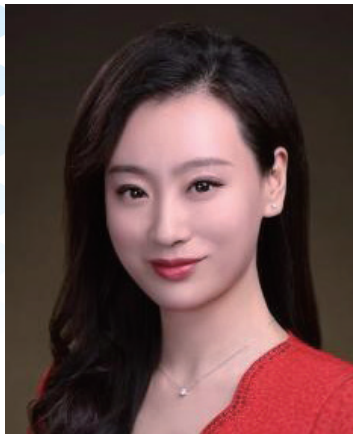
Speaker

KONDO Seiichi

**Former Commissioner, Agency for Cultural Affairs,
Government of Japan**

Director, Kondo Institute for Culture and Diplomacy

Mr. Kondo's other responsibilities have included Deputy Secretary-General of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) in Paris, Minister at the Embassy of Japan in the US, Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO and Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark. Since retiring, in addition to holding teaching positions at the University of Tokyo, Keio University and other institutions, he has contributed to the development of culture and the arts and promoted international exchange as a visiting professor at the Tokyo University of the Arts and in other roles. In 2019, he was appointed President of the Professional Institute of International Fashion. He is a recipient of many awards including the Gold and Silver Star of the Order of the Sacred Treasure (Japan) and a chevalier of the French Légion d'Honneur.



Master of Ceremony

SU Yuting

**Bilingual Presenter & Senior Reporter,
China Global Television Network (CGTN)**

Su Yuting is the global news anchor and senior reporter for CGTN. She hosts the flagship programs on China Global Television Network, such as The World Today, Global Watch and Asia Today. She started her career as the chief political and foreign affairs reporter, covering hundreds of state visits to China by foreign Heads of State and Heads of Government, and Chinese leaders' state visits to foreign countries. She has conducted one-on-one exclusive interviews with nearly 100 Presidents and Prime Ministers, and more than 100 provincial and ministerial officials from home and abroad, as well as dignitaries and celebrities from various fields of military, business, academic, arts and culture and sports, including annual one-on-one interviews with former Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister WANG Yi for two consecutive years in 2019 and 2020. She has been invited as the bilingual host to moderate many major international events sponsored by central agencies and international organizations, including Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Development Research Center of the State Council, National Radio and Television Administration, National Development and Reform Commission, the People's Government of Beijing Municipality, China Public Diplomacy Association, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Boao Forum for Asia, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, OECD, and the Bill Gates Foundation etc., she has also been specially invited many times by Chinese Foreign Ministry as the representative of Chinese media to deliver speeches at various international summits and conferences.



Speakers' Biographies and Summaries

SESSION 1

Public Diplomacy and Mass Communication:
Mutual Perception among China, Japan and Korea



Moderator

SHI Ding

Executive Editor-in-Chief, Global Times Online

Shi Ding, Executive Editor-in-Chief of Huanqiu.com and Director of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs. In 2007, he co-founded Huanqiu.com and helped it become one of the most influential news websites in China. In more than 20 years of working in traditional media and new media, he has accumulated rich experience in news management and international communication. He is the initiator of the "Belt and Road" Multilingual Service and International Communication Alliance and the Director of the "Belt and Road" Multilingual News Report Online Platform of People's Daily. Editor-in-Chief Shi Ding has been actively building platforms for non-governmental and economic exchanges between China and foreign countries. In 2012, he founded a large-scale public diplomacy event called "China's Internet Celebrities Seeing the World", which has won the support of diplomatic agencies of nearly 20 countries. Since 2017, the "Belt and Road Economic Cooperation and People-to-People Exchange Forum" has been organized in many countries to promote the implementation of international economic cooperation projects and exchanges with media think tanks. In 2022, he jointly initiated the "China-ASEAN Internet Celebrity Conference", which has become an innovative platform for online cultural exchanges between China and foreign countries.

Session 1

Public Diplomacy and Mass Communication: Mutual Perception among China, Japan and Korea



Speaker

WU Hailong

President, China Public Diplomacy Association

Ambassador Wu Hailong joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China (MFA) in 1978. During his diplomatic career, he has worked in several international organizations and regions around the world and built an extensive expertise in international and multilateral affairs. From 1978 to 1996, he worked in the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of MFA, then at the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations. From 1996 to 2004, he served as Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in the State of Israel, then as Deputy Director-General of the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of MFA and Deputy Commissioner of MFA of the People's Republic of China in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. From 2004 to 2006, he was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations and other international organizations in Vienna, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), then served as Director-General of the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of MFA before working as Assistant Minister of MFA of China from 2009 to 2011. From 2011 to 2016, Ambassador Wu was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Head of the Mission of the People's Republic of China to the European Union, then Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland. From 2016 to 2019, he served as President of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Wu was appointed President of CPDA and has executed the role since October 2019.



Speaker

KIM Gheewhan
President, Korea Foundation

President KIM was appointed to his current position on September 16, 2022. He served as Consul-General at the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in New York from April 2015 through December 2017, and Minister of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the USA from August 2011.

His former positions include Director-General for Multilateral Trade, Deputy Director-General for the FTA Policy Bureau, Director of the Trade Dispute Settlement Division, and Director of the Emerging Markets Division, where he was responsible for directing and coordinating Korea's foreign trade policies and trade negotiations.

He also served as Counsellor at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as well as Counsellor of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Russian Federation. In 2007, he was appointed as head of the task force for hosting the Expo 2012 Yeosu. His earlier career roles included Coordinator of ASEM Vision Group, Director of the North Korean Refugee Support Division, First Secretary of the Korean Embassy in the Sultanate of Oman, and Second Secretary to the Korean Permanent Mission to the UN Office and International Organizations in Geneva.

President KIM graduated from Seoul National University with a major in law (LL.B.) in February 1981 and joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in 1983. He also received his Master of Law degree (LL.M.) from the University of Cambridge.

Session 1

Public Diplomacy and Mass Communication: Mutual Perception among China, Japan and Korea



Speaker


FUJISAKI Ichiro
Advisor for International Affairs,
Nakasone Peace Institute

Ichiro Fujisaki is advisor for International Affairs of Nakasone Peace Institute (NPI). He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1969, and went on to serve as Deputy Director General for Asian Affairs, Political Minister at the Embassy of Japan in Washington, DC, Director General for North American Affairs, Deputy Foreign Minister, and Ambassador to the UN and WTO in Geneva. He served as Ambassador to the United States from 2008 until 2012. He was president of NPI from 2018-2023. He is also the president of the America-Japan Society, Inc.

Presentation Summary

The people of Japan, China and South Korea have deep interests into the culture of one another, and those interests are on the increase. It is often pointed out recently that Japanese pop culture, such as animated films and manga, attracts attention of quite a number of the Chinese and Korean people. Many people experience them directly when they visit Japan, and even more make access to them via internet. In the same token, Japanese people have deep rooted interests in the cultures of China and Korea: just one example is the huge crowd of young men and women gathering at stores in Tokyo in order to purchase goods of Korean singers and artists; many Japanese love to read novels with the background of the ancient history of China, such as the Three Kingdoms.

In public diplomacy governments face people of other countries directly, rather than through the counterparts of the other governments. One of the important roles of public diplomacy is to enhance and promote the kinds of mutual interests and sense of respect among the people which are described above. There are issues, between the governments of Japan on one hand and China or Korea on the other, which are difficult to solve or to agree in the short term. In public diplomacy what is necessary is for the governments not to



amplify unnecessarily those difficult issues by focusing too much on them; rather, the governments should focus on the long-lasting emotional attachment on the people's level, when they face directly the people of other nations.

The same is true with the roles of mass communication. It is mainly carried out by and through news media and social network services these days, and it is increasingly important that they do not increase or incite unnecessary antipathy between people of different countries. Particular attention is needed in the case of groundless and extreme opinions, which tend to appear particularly in the world of social networking services. Rather, what those media can do is to help readers and viewers to make sound judgment and decent decisions; it may be a good way in order to do so to discover and make public untold stories of friendship and amity, mutual help and relationship of dependency between the people of Japan, China and Korea. Because of the geographical closeness and long historical exchanges of people, there will be a number of stories which are yet unknown to the public but symbolize and strengthen the ties between our three nations.

The governments' roles when conducting public diplomacy and the media's roles in mass communication have in common, thus, the need of thoughtfulness. Neither will not work well and do good to us without conscious and continual attention paid.

Session 1

Public Diplomacy and Mass Communication: Mutual Perception among China, Japan and Korea



Discussant

WANG Wen

Executive Dean, Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China

Wang Wen, Executive Dean of Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China, Vice President of Silk Road College, Distinguished Professor, Doctoral Supervisor, Executive Director of China-US Humanities Exchange Research Center (Ministry of Education), Secretary-General of Green Finance Professional Committee of China Society for Finance and Banking, a researcher at the Financial Research Center of the Counselor's Office of the State Council, a director of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs, a director of the European and American Scholars Association, and a visiting professor at more than 10 well-known universities at home and abroad, including Moscow State University and Lanzhou University. Wang Wen is the author of more than 40 books, including "Changing Situation in a Hundred Years" and "The Long March to a Strong Country: Looking Back at China's Rejuvenation and the Future of the World after Surveying Hundred Countries". Wang Wen visited nearly 100 countries (including the South Pole), and the research reports he wrote have been approved and affirmed by party and state leaders for many times. He is a consulting expert for many ministries and commissions. Famous scholars and "four batches" talents, won the National People's Congress "National High-end Think Tank" Construction Advanced Individual Award for three consecutive years from 2019 to 2021, and the 2020 National "Ten Thousand People Plan" Philosophy and Social Science Leading Talents. In 2016, General Secretary Xi Jinping presided over a symposium on philosophy and social sciences, and Wang Wen was one of ten speakers.

Discussion Summary

At present, the cooperation between China, Japan and the ROK has encountered the most difficult moment in many years. The three countries should strive for the long-term interests of their own people, starting from planning in the long-term, paying attention to details and breaking through the interference of countries outside the region. People-to-people and cultural exchanges of the three countries should also enter into the post-pandemic era, increase personnel exchanges, promote mutual understanding, and truly contribute to the next stage of Trilateral Cooperation.



Discussant

PARK Byung Han

Newsroom Business Director, YTN of the ROK

Journalist PARK Byung Han entered Yonhap News in 1988 and moved to YTN (Yonhap Television News) in 1995. From 2004 to 2010, he served as associate director in department of political affairs, and later was appointed to director in department of economic affairs and served the position from 2010 to 2013. He also worked as editor from 2013 and later assigned as senior journalist (deputy director) in 2019. Mr. PARK was one of executive member of Kwanhun Club in 2019 and worked as a panel of judges in Korean Bar Association in 2022.

Journalist PARK Byung Han graduated Kyunggi High School in 1981. Mr. PARK obtained his B.A. from Department of Political Science & International Studies in Yonsei University in 1985 and obtained M.A. there in 1987.

Discussion Summary

The culture exchange between three countries seems to be growing bigger than ever.

In May 2021, Lee Jun-seok, the leader of the People's Power at the time, gave current ROK president Yoon three silk pouches, which was very hot topic among middle-aged men in ROK. It was a parody of event in Chinese famous novel, 'Three Kingdoms', and almost all Koreans know about the 'three silk pouches' event, in Chinese called '錦囊妙計'. The Japanese animated films, 'Slam Dunk' and 'Suzume' were top two films that hit the box office this year, each highlighting 4.6 million and 5.4 million audiences just in ROK. This year, more than 2 million Korean visited Japan. The popular Korean idol group BTS is actually more popular in Japan and China than it is in South Korea. At least in South Korea, Chinese and Japanese novels, food, movies, and fashion are accepted as part of the shared-Eastern culture.

Looking at such increase in culture exchange, CJK governments seem to have little less to worry about in terms of public diplomacy. What seems to concern is occasional reports or news made in field of politics and media, which stimulates public sentiments of three countries, distorting friendly atmosphere among CJK. Not only governments, but also companies should also actively contribute to public diplomacy as well, as its success will ultimately lead to benefits of companies as well.

Session 1

Public Diplomacy and Mass Communication: Mutual Perception among China, Japan and Korea



Discussant

IJUIN Atsushi

**Lead Economist,
Japan Center for Economic Research**

Mr. IJUIN Atsushi is the Lead Economist at the Japan Center for Economic Research (JCER), where he previously served as the Director of the International and Asian Research Department. Prior to JCER, Mr. IJUIN had an extensive career in journalism at the Nikkei Inc. (known for The Nikkei), having served as Chief of the Seoul Bureau, Deputy Manager of Political News Department, China Headquarter Chief and senior staff writer. His research focuses on the politics and economies of China, ROK, and Japan as well as the international relations of East Asian countries/economies in a boarder context.

Mr. IJUIN earned a Bachelor's degree from Waseda University in Japan. He has also served as a visiting scholar at George Washington University and Director at Tsinghua-Nikkei Institute of Media Studies at Tsinghua University (Beijing).

Recent publication includes "Economic Security in Asia" (Co-author/Editor) and "The Latest Risk Analysis of East Asia" (Co-author/Editor).

Discussion Summary

The mass media, especially news organizations, have a role to play in promoting international understanding among their own citizens through international event projects, in addition to their main business of reporting news. Its role is particularly important in Asia, where citizens have diverse values and ideas. The Nikkei Inc. Group, to which I belong, has developed the following international events and activities to promote mutual understanding in the Northeast Asian region, and has achieved results.

- Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum
- Japanese Speech Contest for Students in China
- Tsinghua-Nikkei Media Research Institute
- Supports to Dunhuang Institute



Speakers' Biographies and Summaries

SESSION 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion:
Connecting the Digitalized World



Moderator

YAMAMOTO Naoko

**Professor and Director, Global Medical
Cooperation Center, International University of
Health and Welfare of Japan**

Dr. Naoko Yamamoto brings nearly 30 years of experience working on health-related issues. She served as Senior Assistant Minister for Global Health in Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. In this capacity, she was heavily involved in Japan's global health leadership by hosting and organizing the International Conference on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in 2015, and supporting the compilation of the G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health and Kobe Communique of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in 2016. Prior to this role, she served in numerous health-related positions within the government of Japan, including as Director General of the Hokkaido Regional Bureau of Health and Welfare, Director of the Health and Medical Division at the Ministry of Defense, and Counsellor to the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations. From 2017 to 2022, she served as the Assistant Director-General of Division of UHC/Health Systems (in 2017) and Division of UHC/Healthier Populations (2018-2022) in the World Health Organization (WHO).

From Dec. 2022, she is professor of the International University of Health and Welfare.

From 1 April, she is also Director of global medical cooperation center.

She holds a medical degree, a Ph.D. in epidemiology, and a Master's degree in Public Health. She was the Chair of UN Nutrition from Jan. 2021 to Nov. 2022.

Session 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World



Speaker

CAI Fang

Academician and Chief Expert, National Think Tank, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Professor CAI Fang is an academician of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and serves as the chief expert of the National Think Tank at CASS. He also holds a position as a member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the People's Bank of China. Professor Cai has previously served as the Vice President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Director of the China-Africa Institute at CASS. He was also a member of the standing committee of the 11th, 12th, and 13th National People's Congress (NPC) of China, and the Vice Chairman of the Rural Affairs Committee of the 13th NPC.

His research focuses on various aspects of China's economy, including economic reform and development, population and labor economics, economic growth, income distribution, and poverty reduction. He has published extensively on these topics.

Among his recent publications are "The Era of Population Decline" (CITIC Press, 2023), "China's Economic Development: Implications for the World" (Taylor & Francis, 2023), and "China's Economic Growth Prospects - From Demographic Dividend to Reform Dividend" (Edward Elgar, 2016).

Presentation Summary

Steering Digital Technology to Tackle the Challenges of Aging

In 2021, China's population peaked and began decline afterwards, while its elderly population of 65 and older made up 14.2% of the total. As a result, China became aged society by international criterion.

The shrinkage and aging of the population impose severe challenges to China's economic growth. From supply-side perspective, labor shortage, slower improvement of human capital and productivity, and diminishing return to capital all lead to the slowdown of potential growth rate. From demand-side perspective, aged society tends to have weaker ability and propensity to consume.

China has been deployed to implement a proactive national strategy in response to population aging, including all aspects relating to population development. Steering digital technology to help tackle the challenges imposed by aging should be given its priority.

Economic history indicates that economic growth, globalization, and technological progress do not automatically generate trickledown effect – namely, while making bigger economic pie, they do not guarantee distributing the pie evenly among population groups. Likewise, digital technology tends to create a digital divide, particularly discriminatory against the elderly.

Therefore, with policy guidance, digital technology should be innovated, applied, and nudged to help the aged population in consumption and the older labor force in employment so that the aging population can play its active role in China's growth from both demand side and supply side.

Session 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World



Speaker

KIM Mi Gon

**President, Korea Labor Force Development
Institute for the Aged**

M.G. KIM joined the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA) in 1988 and served as a senior research fellow until 2020. Over the span of his career as a researcher at KIHASA, he mainly researched poverty and inequality, publishing over 100 reports on the minimum cost of living and social integration. He served from 2020 to 2021 as a director of the Sejong Social Service Center. Since then, he has been working as a president of the Korea Labor Force Development Institute for the aged.

President M.G. KIM graduated from Konkuk University in 1983 and received a master's degree in economics from the graduate school in 1985. In 2011, he obtained a doctorate in social welfare from Sungkyunkwan.

Presentation Summary

The Socio-Economic Effect of the Senior Employment and Social Activity Support Program in Korea

Korea is the most active country in the world in implementing national-level Senior Employment and Social Activity Support Program (hereinafter “SESAP”). SESAP is a system that provides various job opportunities for the elderly, enabling them to lead vibrant and healthy lives in their later years.

The background for the introduction of SESAP is the high rate of elderly poverty and rapid aging of the population. The elderly poverty rate (less than 50% of median income) is gradually decreasing but is still at a high level (38% in 2022). The aging rate increased from 7% (an aging society) in 2000, to 14% (an aged society) in 2017, and is estimated to reach 20% (a super-aged society) in 2025. Major initiatives include the provision of social services such as Senior-to-Senior Care, support in the private sector like senior internships, and support for public facility services. Additionally, the program educates seniors on how to use technologies like smartphones and kiosk.

SESAP, which started in 2004, has been increasing its participants and budget each year. The number of participants has increased 35 times, from 25,000 in 2004 to 883,000 in 2023. Over that period, the budget increased approximately 72 times, reaching around 3.1 trillion won.

The socio-economic effects of SESAP are very positive. For participants, it reduced the poverty rate by 10.2% and cut annual healthcare costs by 850,000 won per person. It also has a significant impact on increasing employment rates and reducing unemployment. Additionally, it greatly reduced feelings of depression among participants (from 32.3% to 7.2%), and research indicates that it significantly increased self-satisfaction and overall life satisfaction.

Session 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World



Speaker

KOMAZAWA Osuke
Senior Director,
Japan International Cooperation Agency

Dr. KOMAZAWA Osuke is the Senior Director of the Human Development Department at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). With a background as an ear, nose, and throat surgeon, he has held several key positions in the healthcare field. Previously, he served as the Chief of the Research Planning Office at the National Institute of Infectious Diseases of Japan where he was concurrently assigned at the COVID-19 Response Task Force of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (MHLW).

He also brings his expertise as the Special Advisor to the President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and as the Deputy Director of the Vital, Health and Social Statistics Office at the MHLW. Prior to joining the MHLW, he served as an Associate Professor at the School of International Health Development of Nagasaki University.


Throughout his career, Dr. KOMAZAWA has accumulated extensive knowledge and experience in various healthcare-related fields. During his tenure at ERIA, he made significant contributions through the publication of books and reports addressing population ageing, long-term care, and care workers. He also underwent specialized training in epidemiology, demography, and human ecology during his PhD course. His doctoral dissertation focused on analyzing the community effect of long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets, utilizing the data collected through a health and demographic surveillance system established in western Kenya in collaboration with Kenya Medical Research Institute and Nagasaki University.

Dr. KOMAZAWA is currently on loan to the JICA from the MHLW, further highlighting his dedication to international cooperation and his commitment to advancing healthcare on a global scale.

Presentation Summary

Digitalization and Social Connectedness of Older People in Japan: The Role of Digitalization in Promoting Social Inclusion

Humanity has always yearned for eternal youth, as exemplified by the legendary tale of Xu Fu's quest in the



3rd Century BCE in search of the elixir of life. Over the past two millennia, advancements in public health and biomedical sciences have brought us closer to realizing this dream. Life expectancy has increased dramatically, and the quality of health in later years has also improved. Digital technology presents a unique opportunity to complement the physical and mental abilities of older adults, foster social inclusion through telecommunications, and enhance productivity, enabling them to actively participate in economic and social activities as they age.

Numerous studies conducted in Japan highlight the importance of social inclusion for older people. Nationally representative samples showed that loneliness was associated with higher mortality rate among older adults in intergenerational co-residence arrangements¹. Another study revealed that the use of cell phones was related to lower levels of depressive symptoms, particularly among women². Furthermore, Internet access has been found to be positively associated with older adults' social participation, such as volunteering and sports engagement, although Internet usage varies depending on demographic factors such as age, income, and educational attainment³.

The Japanese government established the 'Digital Agency' in 2021 to accelerate the creation of a digital society where diverse forms of happiness are realized and everyone benefits from digitalization. Notably, efforts to promote social inclusion of older people include providing digital literacy training courses and developing smart transportation systems, including automated driving, to enhance mobility. Collaborative projects between the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare (MHLW) and the Digital Agency focus on integrating personal health records, developing information sharing-systems for decision-making of the beneficiaries of long-term care (LTC) insurance, and promoting the use of ICT in telemedicine.

Efficient and effective service provision is crucial in the field of LTC to prevent the deterioration of older adults' abilities. The MHLW has undertaken various projects to disseminate LTC-related innovative technologies, such as development of robotics and ICT utilization among LTC workers. Some of these technologies have been incorporated into Japan's unique LTC insurance system. By incentivizing service providers to adopt innovative technologies, these advancements can be widely implemented throughout the country, benefitting the aged population.

The Japanese government also promotes cross-border cooperation to enhance social inclusion of older people in the digitalized world, particularly through the projects of the Japan International Cooperation Agency. In 2017, the government launched the Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative, fostering regional collaboration in creating vibrant and healthy societies where individuals can enjoy long and productive lives.

As contemporary individuals enjoy longer lives, we bear the responsibility of showcasing practical models that enable us to harness this precious and miraculous demographic dividend. The key lies in fostering the social inclusion for older people. China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, possessing the largest population of older people, the most aged population structure, and the lowest fertility rate, as well as the most advanced digitalized societies globally, are uniquely positioned to lead the world in creating a promising future of happy ageing. This noble mandate assigned to the Trilateral Cooperation carries the potential to benefit all of humanity.

Session 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World



Speaker

Ganbold Baasanjav

**Head of Office (East and North-East Asia Office),
United Nations Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)**

Dr. Ganbold Baasanjav is the Head of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) East and North-East Asia Office based in Incheon, Republic of Korea.


Prior to joining ESCAP in 2019, Dr. Ganbold worked extensively for the government of Mongolia as a career diplomat, serving as Ambassador to the Republic of Korea (2013-2018) and Vietnam (2004-2008), and more recently as the Ambassador-at-large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Sustainable Development. Earlier he served as the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Director-General of the Departments of Public Affairs and Asia and the Pacific respectively, and in the Embassy of Mongolia in Pyongyang, DPR of Korea.

He earned his BA in International Relations from Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO), Russia, MA in Political Science from University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA, and PhD in Law from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Republic of Korea.

Presentation Summary

Digital Innovation Collaboration : Public, Private and Civil Society Roles

China, Japan and the Republic of Korea are technologically developed economies with high R&D intensity for the East Asia subregion with significantly changing demographics. This changing demographic profile has necessitated increases in productivity which has largely been accomplished through digitalization and automation.



This significantly increases the need for older persons to receive continuing education to improve digital literacy and ensure that they are able to interact with their family and society, especially in light of the recent COVID-19 pandemic. However, digitalization and automation covers many areas that affect the elderly and we would like to highlight three key areas, in which public, private and civil society contributions make a programme work.

The first is in healthcare with the rise of internet hospitals like the upgraded Zhengzhou Internet Hospital network in China and remote tele-diagnosis and healthcare visits as also demonstrated in Japan, which will significantly help to improve elder health care as well as improve healthcare system responses in the event of an emergency by having better integrated medical history networks between hospitals. The use of common digital ID and cloud based systems are areas where countries in the region are well poised to trial and develop having comprehensive national ID systems that could be integrated into the medical network.

The continued development of technologies that assist in long term care and living as particularly seen in Japan such as the use of communal housing matched with advances in sensors and AI to detect when elderly need assistance but otherwise able to live independently in care communities can also be used to accelerate the development, trial and certification of technologies to make assisted living easier and more engaging for older persons.

In terms of employment, the rise of digital means of work that is not physically demanding also means that the elderly with some reskilling can continue to contribute even as society and the economy shifts towards the digital space. Startups such as Everyoung in Korea, show that this is possible and collaboration in job matching older persons who are still interested in working can be engaged as shown in Korea's examples. Time bank systems such as Fureai Kippu in Japan also show a means by which community driven engagement with private and public sector recognition can also help to drive increased caring engagement in a community, which could potentially increase interaction between the generations and potentially help to combat ageism.

These sample cases demonstrate that digitalization can bring many benefits when entities collaborate to work with each other, each bringing their own distinct strengths and capabilities to a program to make it succeed. While some programs are digital upgrades of existing care and services. Many rely on the wealth of data collection and insights that were scarcely possible 20 years ago but are very much implementable with newer machine learning and AI analysis tools to help support large scale programs.

Session 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World



Discussant

REN Yuan

Professor, Fudan University of China

REN Yuan is a professor at Fudan University's School of Social Development and Public Policy, a senior researcher of Institute of Population Research (IPR), previously served as Vice Director of University's Humanities and Social Sciences Research Office, Vice Director of Yangtze River Delta Research Institute, and etc. He was the recipient of 2012 New Century Scholar Award from National Ministry of Education. He was a former Fulbright recipient (2015-2016). His recent publications include China's Population Development Report 1949-2018 (2019), China's Next Urbanization (2018), Post-Demographic Transition (2016).

Discussion Summary

One common perspective from this session is that speakers generally have positive and optimistic discourse towards population aging and digitalization. At the same time, the negative challenges posed by technological development in the context of population aging also compose the core theme of the session. In this aspect, concerns may arise on how the elderly might become disconnected from the digital world, leading to a digital divide and new forms of social inequality.

To address the digital divide, three types of digital divides and their respective solutions are addressed as follows: The first is the "have or haven't" divide, which pertains to whether older people have access to internet infrastructure and intelligent devices. The second is the "know or not know" divide, which refers to the elderly's knowledge of ICT technology. The third is the "use or not use" divide. Consequently, the focus should not solely be on encouraging older people to learn and connect with technology, but on making technology more accessible, adaptable, and relevant to their lives. Building an inclusive life for older individuals is crucial to reducing the digital divide.

Furthermore, it is important to note that we should not adopt overly radical technological changes in order to increase the inclusion of the elderly in the digital world. We should take a two paths approach of maintaining the offline world and the online digital world together, and achieve social evolution in a gradual manner.



Discussant

CHOI Moon Jeong

**Head, Graduate School of Science and
Technology Policy, Korea Advanced Institute of
Science and Technology**

Dr. CHOI is a tenured Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Science and Technology Policy at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST). She has founded and run a research group called Aging and Technology Policy Lab (<http://aging.kaist.ac.kr>) since 2014. Her research group focuses on examining the mechanisms of social problems related to population aging and new technologies. She provides policy analysis and recommendations on these issues to promote evidence-based policy-making.

Dr. CHOI serves as a consultant to the United Nations Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (UN APCICT), developing a virtual academy module on ICT Development and Active Ageing. She was the Scientific Program Chair of the 2022 World Congress of Gerontechnology (ISG 2022). She is also an Associate Editor of *Frontiers in Public Health* and is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, the *British Journal of Social Work*, *Journal of Transport & Health*, and the *Journal of Technology in Human Services*.

Dr. CHOI has an interdisciplinary training and educational background. She earned her bachelor's degree in Biochemistry from Yonsei University in 2003, and master's and doctoral degrees in Social Welfare with a concentration on Gerontology from Seoul National University in 2005 and Case Western Reserve University in 2010. In her spare time, she enjoys drawing and painting.

Session 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World



Discussant

SAKAMOTO Haruka

Associate Professor,

Tokyo Women's Medical University of Japan

Haruka SAKAMOTO, MD MPH, PhD is a primary care physician and associate professor at the Department of International Health and Tropical Diseases, Tokyo Women's Medical University. She got her M.D from Sapporo Medical University and worked as a physician at St Luke's International Hospital in Tokyo for several years. She then got a scholarship from the World Bank and got her MPH at the Harvard School of Public Health and got PhD in public health from the University of Tokyo in 2021. From 2011-2013 and 2016, she worked at the international cooperation department, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, where she was deeply involved in health policy activities in Japan. Her current research focuses on health system strengthening, health care financing, and politics in global health. She's currently working as a consultant at the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, project researcher at Department of Global Health Policy, Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo, senior fellow at Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research, senior fellow at National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), and senior fellow at Health and Global Policy Institute (HGPI).

Discussion Summary

One of the current initiatives of the Japanese government to promote healthy aging involves encouraging older adults to actively participate in their local communities. It is of utmost importance for older adults to engage in community activities, not only to prevent isolation and loneliness, but also to maintain their physical and mental well-being. However, there are instances where limited mobility restricts their ability to participate in community events, especially in remote areas. Additionally, with the COVID-19 pandemic shifting most activities online, the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare (MHLW) introduced the "online salon" application. This app not only facilitates online communication among older individuals but also provides recommendations for walking routes, diet plans, and exercise videos to encourage physical activity. Local governments and organizations are organizing lectures and seminars to educate older adults on smartphone usage, thereby promoting smartphone adoption. Furthermore, to make the applications more user-friendly for older adults, gamification elements and interactive features are being incorporated.

Furthermore, MHLW is presently implementing a system known as LIFE (Long-Term Care Information system For Evidence). This system collects and analyzes data from long-term care facilities and local governments across Japan, offering feedback on the quality of care services provided. By compiling and analyzing nationwide data, the system aims to ensure that no older person is left behind, providing appropriate services to those with the greatest needs. Just as evidence-based policymaking is gaining traction in the healthcare sector, the field of population aging is also witnessing a push towards evidence-based long-term care policymaking, which is crucial for social inclusion of all the older adults.

Session 2

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Connecting the Digitalized World



Discussant

Napaphat Satchanawakul

Social Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Mr. Satchanawakul works on population and development issues, including research, capacity-building and intergovernmental support on population dynamics, with a special emphasis on population ageing and its linkages to sustainable development. He has recently been engaged in exploring the intersection of climate change and population dynamics in Asia and the Pacific. He has also been involved in ESCAP initiatives aimed at enhancing digital literacy and digital inclusion for older persons in the region.

Prior to joining the United Nations, he served as a faculty member at the Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand. He contributed to research on ageing in place and Universal Health Coverage as a response to rapidly ageing societies in Asian contexts. He has published in peer-reviewed journals on population ageing, health systems and social policy, and provided services to various governmental and multilateral agencies.

Mr. Satchanawakul has a Ph.D. in Public Policy from King's College London, a Master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Bristol, a Master's degree in Gender and Development Studies from the Asian Institute of Technology, and a B.A. in Political Science from Thammasat University.

Discussion Summary

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) supports its member States in achieving the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. Importantly, this includes ensuring that no one is left behind, including older persons.

The interplay between two parallel megatrends –rapid population ageing and accelerated digitalisation – warrants our immediate attention. The digital transformation has left many older persons increasingly vulnerable to social exclusion and limited their access to essential services. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these trends.

ESCAP is currently implementing a project on digital literacy of older persons in the region. The project aims to identify capacity-building needs of older persons and develop training materials that address their learning needs. Importantly, it also acknowledges the gender-digital divide and strives for gender-sensitive solutions. ESCAP intends to work closely with older people associations in countries throughout the region. These associations are often the ones with direct contacts with older persons and government offices. Lessons from the Trilateral Cooperation and from China, Japan and the Republic of Korea are used to inform this project.

The project's ultimate goal is to empower older persons who face an increased risk of marginalisation without essential digital competencies. The project intends to bridge the age-related digital divide. We invite your support in implementing this project.

Speakers' Biographies and Summaries

SESSION 3

Mutual Perception Improvement:
From the Lens of Local Community Exchanges



Moderator

PARK Soojin

Director of Asia Center, Professor of Department of Geography, Seoul National University of the ROK

Soo Jin Park is professor at the Department of Geography, Seoul National University, and working as the director of Asia Center since 2017. Main research interests include environmental issues in developing countries, modeling land use and cover changes using multi-agent systems, and mapping natural hazard and social vulnerability. Before joining his current position, he graduated with a doctorate at Oxford University and worked for the Center for Development Research (ZEF, Bonn), International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and Department of Soil Science, Madison, Wisconsin. He has been involved in various scientific activities for both international organizations (e.g. UNCCD, CBD) and national and local governmental agencies.

Session 3

Mutual Perception Improvement: From the Lens of Local Community Exchanges



Speaker

YUAN Mindao

Vice President, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

1966	Born in Henan Province
1988	Graduated from Beijing Foreign Studies University
1988-1995	Official of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
1996-1998	Third Secretary of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Japan
1998-2011	Deputy Division Chief and Division Chief of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
2011-2016	Deputy Director General and Director General of the Department of Asian & African Affairs, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
2016	Director General of the Department of Japanese Affairs, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
2017-2019	Vice Governor of Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province
2019-2020	Director General of the Department of East Asian Affairs, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
2020-2022	Secretary General of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
2022	Vice President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

Presentation Summary

Separated by a strip of water, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea are each other's important partners, who share common cultures and enjoy a time-honored history of friendly exchanges. China always attaches great importance to developing relations with Japan and the Republic of Korea. The trilateral friendly and practical cooperation has not only brought enormous interests and benefits to the three countries and their peoples, but also made important contribution to the peace, stability, development and prosperity of Asia and the world at large.



Speaker

KO Yunju

**Ambassador of International Relations, Jeju
Special Self-Governing Province of the ROK**

Ambassador Yunju Ko joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of the Republic of Korea in 1995. He was appointed the Ambassador for International Relations of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province in December 2022. Prior to assuming his current position, Ambassador Ko served as the Director for FTA Goods division and Director-General for North American Affairs Bureau of MOFA. He also worked at the Office of National Security as Deputy Secretary in 2018. He was appointed Deputy Chief of Mission and Minister for Political Affairs at the Korean Embassy in Washington DC in 2021 and his previous overseas postings include Baghdad, and Xian.

Ambassador Ko received his B.A. and M.A. in Economics from Yonsei University, an M.A. in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts University and a Master of Laws from George Washington University. He received Order of Service Merit (Green Stripes) in 2013.

Session 3

Mutual Perception Improvement: From the Lens of Local Community Exchanges



Speaker

YOSHIDA Hitoshi

**Professor, Faculty of Glocal Policy Management
and Communications, Yamanashi Prefectural
University of Japan**

He worked at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation as a Deputy Chief Program Officer from 1990 to 1995. He also served for the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a researcher at the Consulate-General of Japan in Shenyang, China from 1996 to 1998, later on proceeding a career as a researcher at the Tokyo Foundation. He specializes in regional development and development economics through tourism. He participated in the planning and operation of the Yamanashi Regional Interpreter Guide (National Qualification) system under the Japan Tourism Agency.

In 2000, he received the Mainichi Newspaper "Economist Award", and the 1st Fujita Future Management Award. In addition, he has received 12 awards through his research and teaching.

He received his M.A. in International Studies from the University of Tsukuba in 1990 and his Ph.D. in Academics from the Tokyo Institute of Technology in 2013.

Presentation Summary

First of all, it is important to note that the modern diplomatic system was born in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries in the autonomous Italian cities. Harold Nicolson, in his world-renowned book "Diplomacy" states as follows: Autonomous Italian cities repeatedly engaged in international alliances in order to protect their autonomy and regional interests from war. In the process, they developed a modern diplomatic system consisting of foreign affairs offices, diplomatic missions, and diplomats. Historically, international exchange and cooperation have been essential policy tools for local governments. The goal was to promote regional peace and development through mutual understanding.

Currently, significant changes are underway in local governments in Asia. However, it is not well known that mutual understanding among the people of China, Japan, and Korea is also changing significantly, under such circumstances. The major reason for this is that attention has focused only on "sister city" exchanges. Indeed, there are 547 sister city ties existing among China, Japan and Korea. In Japan's perspective, that

is 30% of the total number of sister city ties in Japan, making China and Korea the second and third largest partners for sister city exchanges.

However, this has delayed the understanding and utilization of new business partnerships that do not match the definition of a “sister city”. The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs refers to these new types of partnership as “agreements, memorandums of understanding, etc.” In this forum, I will call this new form of cooperation a “partnership agreement”.

This form of cooperation began in Japan after 2000, and the total number of such partnerships amounts to 346 (as of 2018). Using this method, Japanese local governments have freely initiated business partnerships with foreign central governments, private companies, universities, research institutes, and private organizations. In particular, this partnership has been utilized in the tourism sector, contributing significantly to economic development and cultural exchange. For example, Yamanashi Prefecture has developed new tourism projects in partnership with Indonesia's royal family, Indonesian Airlines Garuda Indonesia and the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism.

In addition, in utilizing the “Partnership Agreement” with China, Yamanashi Prefecture has proposed reconstruction projects through hot springs and implemented international cooperation projects after the Sichuan Earthquake in 2008. The project was adopted as an ODA project by the Japanese government. And we implemented technical cooperation for hot spring utilization and environmental conservation in Chengdu, China. Through this, we have deepened mutual understanding on how to utilize hot springs. We are also considering a licensing program with a Korean university. Through a one-year exchange program at the Yamanashi Prefectural University, we aim to educate students to be National Government Licensed Guide Interpreter (地域通訳案内士) in Japan. If this concept is realized, we will be able to share mutual educational institutions.

Yamanashi Prefecture is a small municipality with a population of 800,000. However, even such a small municipality can realize a variety of “partnership agreements”. The world is calling to focus on commonalities, not differences. And we are looking for mutual understanding and ways to work together while maximizing historical and spatial continuity.

Therefore, I hope that this Forum may contribute to conducting fact-finding surveys for “partnership agreements” and encourage such initiatives through drafting a “model agreement” and promoting its use. Through the efforts listed above, it is hoped that further exchanges and cooperation will be lead, transcending national differences and taking advantage of cultural and geographical connections.

Session 3

Mutual Perception Improvement: From the Lens of Local Community Exchanges



Discussant

PAN Feng
Director-General,
Qingdao Culture and Tourism Bureau of China

Mr. Pan Feng graduated from the Department of Chinese Language and Literature of Fudan University with a PhD in Ancient Chinese Literature. He once served as Deputy Director and Researcher of the Cultural System Reform and Development Office, Deputy Director of the General Administration Division for State-owned Cultural Enterprises, and Full-time Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee of the Publicity Department of the CPC Shandong Provincial Committee, as well as (interim) Deputy Secretary of the CPC Jiaozhou Municipal Committee, and Deputy Secretary of the CPC Shinan District Committee of Qingdao.

He has led the drafting of the Three-Year Action Plan for Improving Tourism Quality in Qingdao, the Implementation Opinions of Qingdao Municipal People's Government on Promoting the High-Quality Development of Culture and Tourism Industries, and the Several Policies for Promoting the High-Quality Development of Film and Television Industry in Qingdao. By virtue of his paper Research on Digital Integration into Local Tourism Marketing and Destination Image - Taking Qingdao as an Example, he has won the first prize in Excellent Research Achievements of Shandong Provincial Culture and Tourism System.

Discussion Summary

Since its selection as the "Culture City of East Asia", Qingdao has adhered to the principle of "East Asian Consciousness, Cultural Integration and Mutual Appreciation" and the consensus of "Synergy · Innovation · Harmony" and made strenuous efforts to build itself into a livable and pro-business tourism city by the bay and a socialist modern international metropolis in the new era.

Based on the building of the "Culture City of East Asia", efforts have been made in three aspects. First, the protection of cultural resources and historical heritage of the city is strengthened. Second, international exchanges and cooperation are enhanced, further improving the level and capacity of opening up. Third, international cultural exchanges are continuously deepened to raise the city's influence.

Session 3

Mutual Perception Improvement: From the Lens of Local Community Exchanges



Discussant

HWANG Ho Yoon

**Director General, Planning Department, Local
Government Officials Development Institute,
Ministry of the Interior and Safety**

Mr. Hwang Ho-yoon currently serves as the Director General of the Planning Department at the Local Government Officials Development Institute (LOGODI), which operates under the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) in Korea. He assumed this position in January 2022. Prior to that, from 2020 to 2021, he held the position of Dean at the International Intellectual Property Institute, an organization dedicated to providing education on intellectual property (IP) in Korea, under the Korea Intellectual Property Office (KIPO).

From 2016 to 2020, Mr. Hwang worked as a Director at the Seoul Government Complaints Center and Government Complaints Counseling Center, which are part of Korea's Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission (ACRC). It was during this time that he began to develop his expertise in civil service matters. He started his career at the ACRC in 2014 when he successfully passed Korea's 1st Local Civil Service Examination and was appointed as an Administrative Manager. From 2014 to 2016, he served as the Manager of the ACRC's Complaints Investigation Planning Division.

Mr. Hwang holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law (LLB) from Jeonbuk National University, South Korea, and a Master of Laws (LLM) from the University of Missouri's Law School in the United States.

Discussion Summary

The exchange activities between Korean local governments and cities in China, as well as between Korean local governments and cities in Japan, have experienced a substantial increase since the 1990s. By 2022, these exchanges accounted for approximately fifty percent of Korea's total exchanges with cities worldwide. However, some point out that there is room for improvement as a significant portion of these arrangements has predominantly revolved around ceremonial administrative exchanges or human exchanges, with a focus on formalities.

While interstate diplomacy often deals with sensitive matters, exchanges and cooperation between local governments emphasize practical aspects such as the economy, culture, and tourism. As a result, they have the potential to act as catalysts in improving interstate relations. Moreover, increased cooperation between local governments is vital for empowering them to take the lead in addressing the issues within their jurisdiction and utilizing their expanded authority. In Korea, the legal framework for cooperation between its local government and those of other countries has been established through the enactment and revision of the "Local Autonomy Act."

For the continued promotion of amicable exchanges between local governments, it is essential to: (i) expand opportunities by revitalizing various coalitions, (ii) increase the engagement of civic organizations and private organizations to enhance mutual understanding, and (iii) foster more exchanges in areas that have not yet witnessed significant activity, such as cultural, youth, or technical exchanges.

We could also explore the possibility of establishing a mutual responsive system.

The revitalization of exchanges and cooperation between local governments cannot be achieved through the efforts of a single country alone. Therefore, it is crucial to maintain continued interest and support from all three countries involved.

Session 3

Mutual Perception Improvement: From the Lens of Local Community Exchanges



Discussant

WASHIO Eiichiro

Member, House of Representatives of Japan

Deputy Secretary-General, LDP of Japan

Former State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

January 3, 1977	Born in Niigata City, Niigata Prefecture
March 1995	Graduated from Niigata High School
September 2001	Graduated from Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo
October 2001	Joined Ernst & Young ShinNihon
September 2005	Elected to the House of Representatives for the first time (44th General Election)
August 2009	Reelected to the House of Representatives (45th General Election, second term)
October 2012	Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
December 2012	Reelected to the House of Representatives (46th General Election, third term)
December 2014	Reelected to the House of Representatives (47th General Election, fourth term)
October 2017	Reelected to the House of Representatives (48th General Election, fifth term)
September 2019	Chairman, Committee on Environment, House of Representatives
September 2020	State Minister for Foreign Affairs(Suga Cabinet)
October 2021	Reelected to the House of Representatives (49th General Election, fifth term)

Hobbies: Boxing and fitness

Qualifications: Certified Public Accountant, Certified Public Tax Accountant, and Certified Administrative Procedures Legal Specialist

IFTC Chronicles and Organizers Introduction

About IFTC

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) is TCS' annual flagship event that brings together eminent scholars/policy makers to share and offer new insights into the political climate, economic cooperation, and socio-cultural ties among China, Japan and the ROK. IFTC is held on a rotational basis among the three countries, targeted at participants of government dignitaries, experts, scholars, business leaders, journalists and civil society leaders from the three countries. The inaugural IFTC was in 2011 to commemorate the launch of the TCS. The TCS has succeeded the initiative and organized the IFTC since 2012. In 2015, IFTC has been changed to be held on a rotational basis in the three countries.

• Past Events

No.	Date	Venue	Theme	Keynote Speakers
N/A	October 19 2011	Seoul, ROK	Toward a New Era of Peace and Common Prosperity in Northeast Asia – Commemorating the Launch of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat	(ROK) LEE Hong-koo, Former Prime Minister (Japan) HATOYAMA Yukio, Former Prime Minister (China) TANG Jiaxuan, Former State Councilor
1st	October 15 2012	Seoul, ROK	2012: Year of Transition and the Trilateral Cooperation	(ROK) KIM Sung-hwan, Foreign Minister (Japan) NAKAGAWA Masaharu, Former Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (China) LU Shumin, Vice President of Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs
2nd	April 15 2014	Seoul, ROK	The Unity in Diversity – Fostering East Asian Identity & Spirit of Community	(ROK) KIM Sung-hwan, Chair of SNU Institute for Global Social Responsibility/ Former Foreign Minister (Japan) OGURA Kazuo, Advisor to the Japan Foundation/ Former Ambassador to the ROK (China) ZHAO Jinjun, President of China Foreign Affairs University
3rd	April 3 2015	Tokyo, Japan	Challenges and Opportunities – Ushering into a New Era	(Japan) FUKUDA Yasuo, Former Prime Minister (China) LI Zhaoxing, Former Foreign Minister (ROK) HAN Seung-soo, Former Prime Minister
4th	April 29 2016	Beijing, China	Deepening Dialogue and Communication, Pushing Trilateral Cooperation to a New Level	(China) XU Jialu, Vice-Chairman of the 9th and 10th NPC Standing Committee (ROK) GOH Kun, Former Prime Minister (Japan) NIKAI Toshihiro, Chairman of General Council, Liberal Democratic Party/ Former Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry

IFTTC Chronicles and Organizers Introduction

5th	April 18 2017	Seoul, ROK	Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation in the Face of New Challenges	(ROK) HAN Sung-joo, Former Foreign Minister/ Professor Emeritus at Korea University (Japan) OGURA Kazuo, Former Ambassador to the ROK/ President of the Nippon Foundation Paralympic Support Center (China) LI Zhaoxing, President of the China Public Diplomacy Association/ Former Foreign Minister
6th	April 18 2018	Tokyo, Japan	The Opening of a New Chapter for Trilateral Cooperation – The Past 10 Years, the Coming 10 Years	(Japan) KOMURA Masahiko, Vice-President of Liberal Democratic Party (China) DAI Bingguo, Former State Councilor (ROK) MOON Hee-Sang, Member and Former Vice Speaker of the National Assembly/ Former President of The Korea-Japan Parliamentarian's Union
7th	May 10 2019	Beijing, China	Trilateral Cooperation 3.0 – Charting New Pathways to Shared Vision	(China) ZHAO Qizheng, Former Minister of the State Council Information Office (ROK) CHUNG Sye-kyun, Member and Former Speaker of the National Assembly/ Former Representative of the Democratic Party/ Former Minister of Commerce, Industry and Energy (Japan) KAWAMURA Takeo, Member of the House of Representatives/ Former Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology/ Former Chief Cabinet Secretary
8th	April 27 2021	Seoul, ROK	In Light of the TCS 10-Year Anniversary: The New Trilateral Partnership in the Next Decade	(ROK) BAN Ki-moon, 8th United Nations Secretary General/ Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the ROK
9th	June 14 2022	Seoul, ROK	Future-Oriented Trilateral Cooperation: Lasting Peace, Common Prosperity, Shared Future	(Japan) HIROSE Katsusada, Governor, Oita Prefecture (China) ZHANG Ping, Former Vice Chairman, National People's Congress Standing Committee (ROK) KIM Hwang-Sik, Chairman, Ho-Am Foundation; Former Prime Minister

About Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat

The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) is an inter-governmental organization established with a vision to contribute to lasting peace, common prosperity, and shared culture in Northeast Asia. Upon the agreement signed by the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Japan, the TCS was inaugurated in Seoul in September 2011.

The TCS consists of a Consultative Board and four Departments. The Consultative Board, the executive decision-making body, is comprised of a Secretary-General and two Deputy Secretaries-General, who are appointed on a two-year rotational basis. The four Departments, Departments of Political Affairs, Economic Affairs, Socio-Cultural Affairs, and Management and Coordination, are composed of officials seconded by the three governments and officers recruited through open competition from the three countries.

About China Public Diplomacy Association

China Public Diplomacy Association (CPDA), established in March 2013 as a juridical association with 64 founding members, is a nationwide non-profit organization comprising experts and scholars, celebrities, and relevant institutions and enterprises in the field of public diplomacy. Dedicated to providing professional consultation and coordination services, mobilizing and coordinating social resources and making the best of people-to-people channels in international exchanges, CPDA strives to advance the development of China's public diplomacy, enhance mutual understanding and friendship between China and the rest of the world, project to the world a positive image of China that is civilized, democratic, open, and progressive, and create an international environment conducive to China's peaceful development.

About Qingdao

Located by the Yellow Sea on the southern end of Shandong Peninsula, Qingdao covers a land area of 11,000 km² and a sea area of 12,000 km². The city has jurisdiction over seven districts and three county-level cities and has a resident population of 10.3421 million. In 2022, the GDP of Qingdao reached 1.492075 trillion RMB yuan, up by 3.9%.

IFTC Chronicles and Organizers Introduction

According to the city master plan approved by the State Council in January 2016, Qingdao is an important coastal center of China, a well-known tourist destination, an international port city, and a city steeped in rich historical and cultural heritage.

As an important coastal center of China, Qingdao boasts a prosperous and vibrant economy. It has a solid foundation for the real economy, the manufacturing industry in particular. A number of distinctive industrial clusters have been formed in smart home appliances, rail transit, automobile manufacturing, marine equipment and other fields. Cultivating a host of internationally renowned companies and brands including Haier, Hisense, CRRC and Tsingtao Beer, Qingdao has earned itself the reputation as a “Capital of Brands” in China.

As a well-known tourist destination, Qingdao sits by the mountains and the sea and has a coastline of 817 kilometers, 49 bays and 120 islands. Its unique landscape is characterized by “red roof nestling in green foliage, and blue sea meeting the azure sky”. It is a much-visited holiday resort destination for sightseeing and tourism with 101 A-level scenic areas. Qingdao has been recognized by the United Nations as one of the most livable cities in the world.

As an international port city, Qingdao is well-positioned in shipping and logistics. Qingdao Port now serves 220 shipping lines with connections to more than 700 ports around the world. In 2022, the port handled 658 million tonnes of cargo and moved 25.67 million TEUs of containers, ranked the fourth and fifth respectively in the world. Jiaodong International Airport, a 4F-class airport, has 244 air routes to 169 cities. These have made Qingdao an international hub city for comprehensive transportation.

As a national historic and cultural city, Qingdao offers a blend of history and modernity. There is no shortage of European-style architecture and buildings combining Chinese and Western features in the city, collectively known as the “World Architectural Exposition”. Qingdao also captures wide attention as a Sailing City, a City of Music, and a UNESCO City of Film.

As one of the first coastal cities opening up to the rest of the world in China, Qingdao’s investment and trade cooperation has gone far and wide to over 230 countries and regions. In 2022, the city’s goods import and export value totaled 911.72 billion RMB yuan; the actually utilized FDI was 5.5 billion US dollars. Qingdao has attracted a total of 384 projects invested by Fortune 500 companies, and it has formed sister-city or friendly-cooperative-city relationship with 86 foreign cities. Qingdao has also been named a Gold Medal City in China’s investment climate by the World Bank.

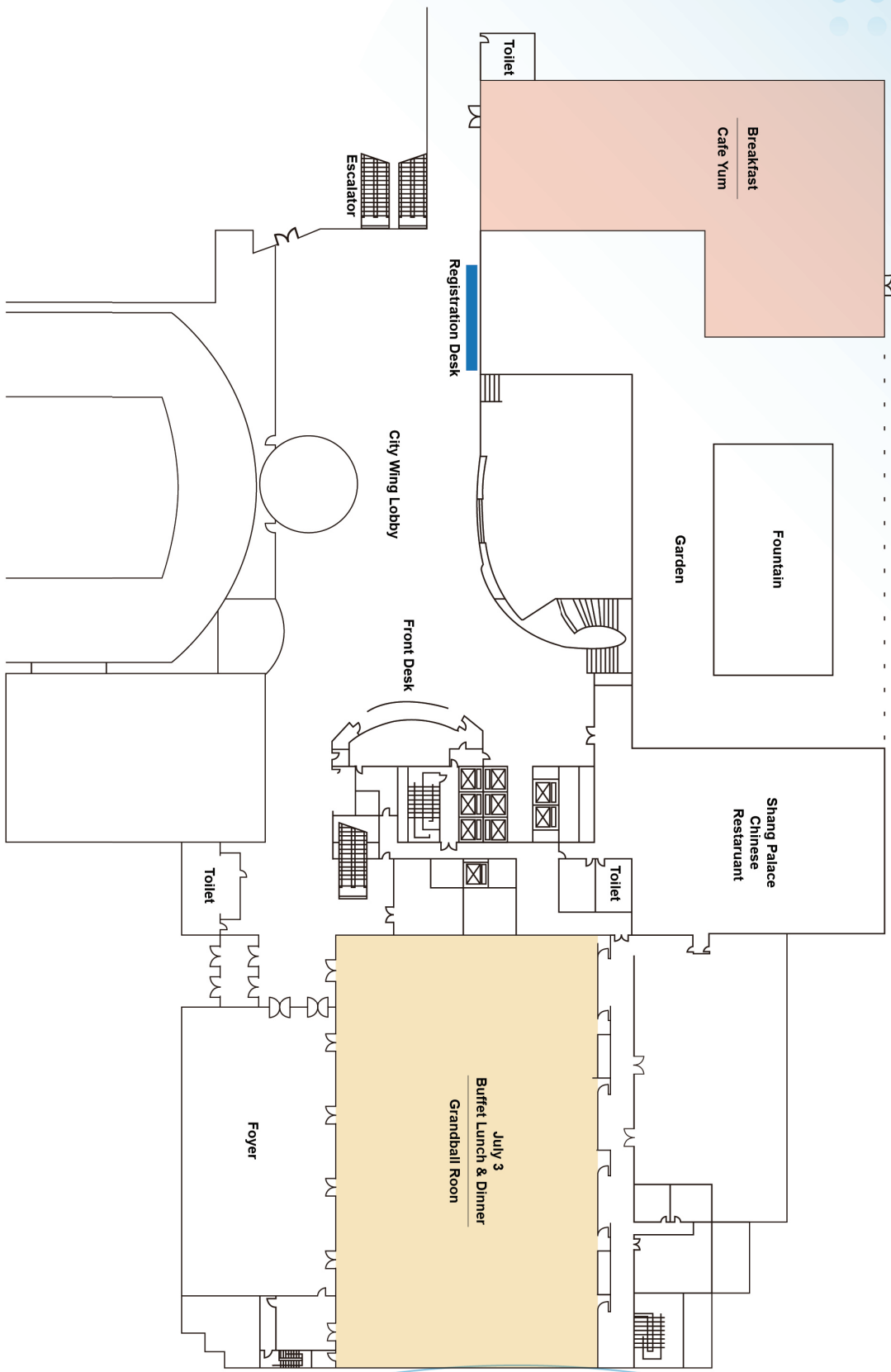


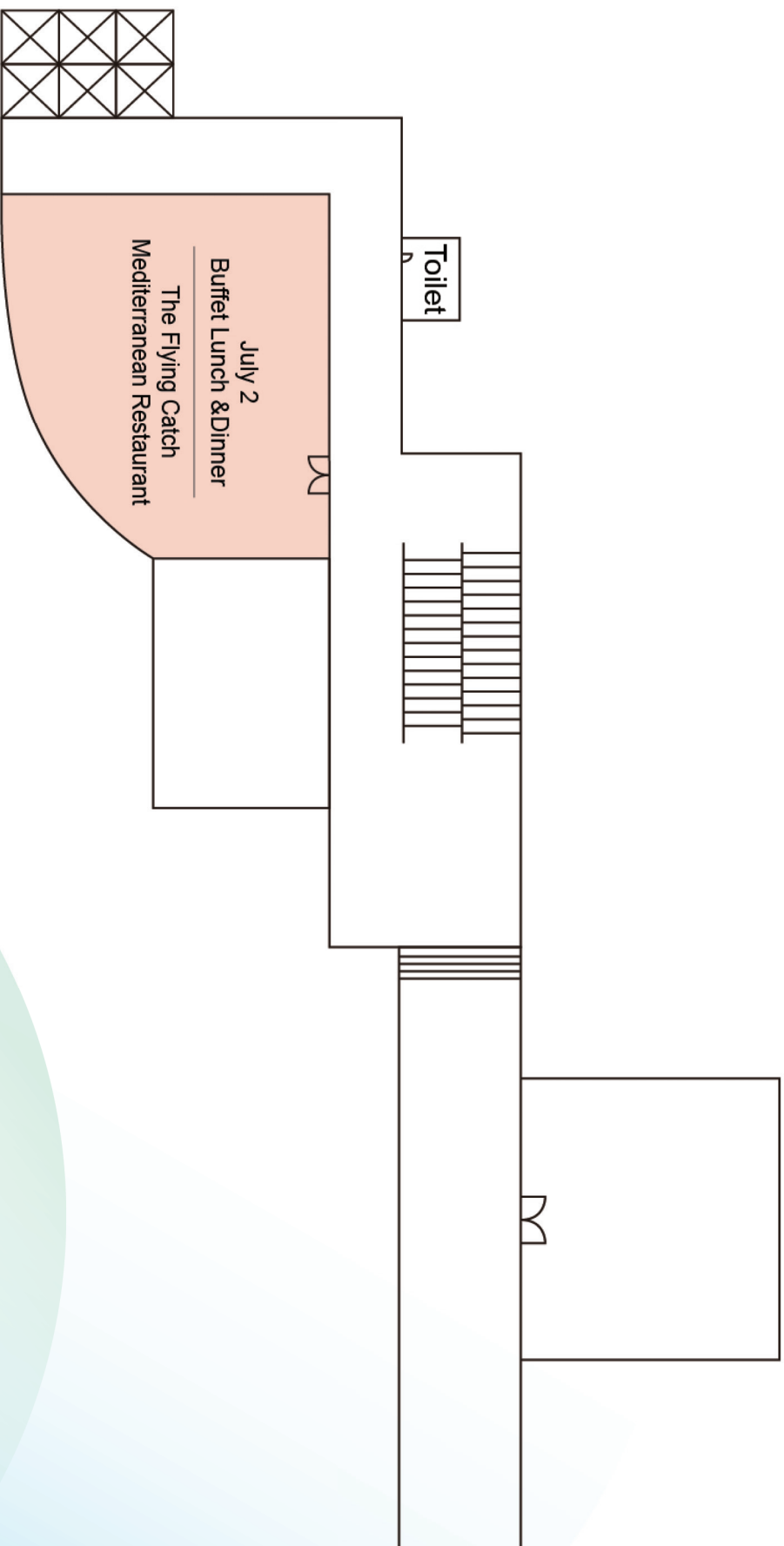




IV **Floor Plan**









Trilateral
Cooperation
Secretariat



IFTTC

International
Forum for
Trilateral
Cooperation