



UNIVERSITY OF TARTU

Cooperation with Japan at the University of Tartu: achievements and future perspectives

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Partnership agreements with universities in Japan

- ▶ Waseda University
- ▶ Kansai Gaidai Univeristy
- ▶ Kanagawa University
- ▶ Hokkaido University
- ▶ Gakushuin University
- ▶ International Christian University
- ▶ Sophia Univeristy

Inauguration of closer cooperation and partnership agreement with Osaka and Hitotsubashi Universities





Cooperation in different
areas and Faculties

Faculty of Medicine:

Kanazawa University (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Sports Sciences).

Faculty of Arts and Humanities:

Hokkaido University (Oriental Studies)

Waseda University (Japanese studies, religious studies, political science and economics)

Faculty of Social Sciences:

Sophia, Hitotsubashi and Kanagawa: (Political Science, Economics and Law)

Faculty of Science and Technology:

Tokyo Tech (Physics).



Scientific
cooperation:theoretical
physics laboratory

Tokyo Tech is the largest institution for higher education in Japan dedicated to science and technology and is generally considered one of the most prestigious universities in Japan.

The Department of Physics has two groups working on gravity and its applications to cosmology and astrophysics.

The recent collaboration between the Laboratory of Theoretical Physics, Institute of Physics, University of Tartu and Tokyo Tech is happening thanks to Sebastian Bahamonde who was a postdoc in Tartu, and in 2021 was awarded a JSPS grant to go to Tokyo.

Collaboration has intensified with the addition of new researchers and the publication of articles together.

Long-term cooperation and scientific publications

In the field of medical sciences, Eero Vasara has collaborated with Kobe University (application of transgenic technologies) and Pille Tabal with Nobutaka Hattori from Juntendo University (Parkinson's disease research).

In the field of science and technology, Ivika Ostonen (landscape ecologist) has been collaborating with group at Nagoya University, and the Lihhenology group has been working with the National Museum of Nature and Science in Tsukuba to study the moss fauna of Japan.

In the period 2019-2023, 310 scientific publications (Web of Science database) co-authored by UT researchers have been published, which are also linked to Japanese institutions.

The clusters with the highest number of publications are Genome Studies (30), Photoluminescence (21) and Environmental Sciences (18).

2022/23, there are 11 undergraduate students with Japanese citizenship studying at

Integrated bachelor's and master's degree (MA, BA level)

(HV, Estonian and Finno-Ugric Linguistics)

(3 MA (Semiotics, Folkloristics and Heritage Studies, Estonian and Finno-Ugric Languages), 3 LT (Information Engineering, Insurance and Financial Mathematics, Cyber Defence), 2 SV (International Relations and Regional Studies))

(D (SV, Political Science) Currently 2 foreign students (SV, BA level), both from Waseda University under an inter-university cooperation agreement.



Japanese Ambassador Hajime Kitaoka presents a letter of thanks at an event to mark 100 years since the beginning of official relations and mutual friendship between Estonia and Japan (2021).



An aerial night photograph of a modern building with a glass facade, illuminated from within. The building is situated next to a multi-lane highway bridge. The scene is lit with warm streetlights and the cool blue tones of the night sky.

Video lectures by renowned Japanese professors have been organised in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan:

2022 "Japan's Strategic Value in Europe: Importance of Strengthening EU-Japan Cooperation including FOIP", Prof Akihiko Tanaka, President of National Graduate Institute of Policy Studies;

2023 "Challenges and opportunities of Japanese corporate governance in the promotion of business ventures: Japan's structural and social issues in the acceptance of global talents", prof. Seijiro Takeshita (Shizuoka ülikool) ja Janne Funk (Kirimiri OÜ).



Japan-Estonia doctoral school

2018 „Japan and Estonia: contemporary challenges in the humanities and social sciences“

2019 „Challenges of the information society: a Japanese perspective“

2021 „Economy and Culture between the European Union and Japan“

2022 „Open and Closed Societies: historical causes and contemporary manifestations of inequality in Japan and Europe“

2023 „Textuality as social action in Shōwa era Japan“



Eri Miyano

Eri Miyano has been a lecturer of Japanese language at the Institute of Foreign Languages and Cultures, University of Tartu for 26 years.

Interest in Japanese has been growing year by year.

Since the academic year 2015/16, it has also been possible to study Japanese language and culture (including lecture courses on history, literature and society) in the study module "East Asian Languages and Cultures: Japan,,



Ene Selart

Ene Selart is a junior lecturer in the history of journalism at the Institute of Social Sciences. She has previously studied international relations and Japanese language in Japan.

Ene teaches a course on Japanese history at the Tartu University.

Ene has been an active promoter of relations between Japan and Estonia



Eva Liias

Programme Manager of the Master's programme in Contemporary Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

Eva is the developer of the CAMES Curriculum Module „Economics, Business and Business Diplomacy with a focus on Japan“

Her activities have supported the School of Economics and Business Administration research cooperation with Japanese universities.



Kairi Jets

Teaches Japanese Literature in the module "East Asian Languages and Cultures: Japan".

Kairi's contribution to promoting research relations between Japan and Estonia is primarily in the field of literary studies.



Further cooperation in
the future

- Student exchange
- Summer schools and conferences
- Joint projects
- Co-supervision of doctoral students
- Post-doctoral studies in Estonia

Possible areas for post-doctoral research:

- Innovation and global value chains
- Entrepreneurship and start ups
- Cross-cultural management
- International trade
- Foreign direct investments
- International politics: Japan's position on the geopolitical stage
- Relations between Japan and Estonia

Thank you!



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Tartu Asia Centre

