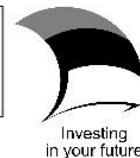


International Conference and Seminar "Japan and Estonia: Contemporary Challenges in Humanities and Social Sciences"

"Japan is far away / Estonia further still / so whisper the winds"
(Estonian poet Juhan Viiding)



We invite you to an interdisciplinary conference that talks about issues affecting our societies. How technology, modern literature and legislation all have a role to play. We talk about the Struggles of an ever-changing world, looking at Japan and Estonia.

Thursday, 27 September 2018

Conference day 1: main building of the University of Tartu, Ülikooli 18, Senate Hall

08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:30	Introductory remarks by Dr Elo Süld, Head of UT Asian Centre Opening address by the Rector of the University of Tartu Prof. Toomas Asser Welcome and greetings by the Ambassador of Japan H.E. Ms. Yoko Yanagisawa Welcome and greetings by Dean of Faculty of Arts and Humanities Prof. Margit Sutrop Welcome and greetings by Director of the Law School Dr. Peep Pruks
09:30–10:30	Keynote lecture by Prof. emer. Kazuto Matsumura (University of Tokyo) <i>"Four decades of Estonian Studies for me and in Japan"</i>
11:00–12:00	Keynote lecture by Prof. Hiromi Komori (Waseda University) <i>"From Estonian studies to comparative historical studies: A view of a Japanese scholar"</i>
12:00–13:00	<i>Lunch break</i> for participants
13:00–15:00	Session 1 "The impact of innovation and technology on society" Reelika Alunurm (University of Tartu, PhD student) Prof. Yoko Gotoh (University of Kanagawa) <i>"Innovation and the role of the national government in Japan"</i> Prof. Kazunobu Oyama (University of Kanagawa) <i>"Technological Innovation as the Forbidden Fruit"</i> Prof. Urmas Varblane (University of Tartu)

“Estonia: On the Road Towards Knowledge Economy”

- 15:30–17:00** **Session 2 “Contemporary literature in Japan and Estonia”**
- Agnes Neier** (University of Tartu, PhD student)
- Prof. Toshiko Ellis** (University of Tokyo)
“Globalization and Imagination: Literature, Culture and the Media in Contemporary Japan”
- Indrek Ojam** (University of Tartu, PhD student) *“Globalization and Varieties of Estonian Historical Novel in the 21st Century”*
- 17:00–18:00** **Seminar for PhD students. Workshops:**
1. “Innovation and technology in Japan and Estonia”
 2. “Contemporary literature in Japan and Estonia”
- 18:30–21:00** **Reception hosted by the University of Tartu and the Embassy of Japan at the University of Tartu Art Museum** (for PhD students and guests)

Friday, 28 September 2018

Conference day 2: Social Sciences Building, Lossi 36, room 215

- 08:50–09:00** Opening (Dr Elo Süld, Head of UT Asian Centre)
- 09:00–11:00** **Session 3 “Video games and digital humanities”**
- Maarja Ojamaa** (University of Tartu, Centre for Digital Humanities)
- Prof. Akinori Nakamura**, (Ritsumeikan University, Center for Game Studies)
“Media-mix in Japan and the role of digital games ”
- Mikhail Fiadotau** (Tallinn University, PhD student)
“Indie and dōjin games: exploring cultural heterogeneity in small-scale game production”.
- Karl Jaagola** (University of Tartu, PhD student)
“Video Games as a Storytelling Medium”
- 11:30–13:30** **Session 4 “Challenges for working life in a changing society”**
- Prof. Merle Erikson** (University of Tartu)
- Prof. Hiroya Nakakubo** (Hitotsubashi University)
“The “work style reform” in Japan: what does it mean and how will it affect the society?”

Seili Suder (University of Tartu, PhD student)

“How to regulate the future of work? The case of Estonia.”

Annika Rosin, PhD (University of Turku, Postdoctoral researcher)

“Working through online platforms - a modern way of working or a new form of employment mediation?”

13:30–15:00

Lunch (for registered participants)

15:00–16:00

Seminar for PhD students. Workshops:

1. “Video games and digital humanities”
2. “Challenges for working life in a changing society”

After discussion, *cake and coffee* for PhD students

Saturday, 29 September 2018

16:00

Wa League (Japanese traditional taiko ensemble)
University of Tartu Assembly Hall, Ülikooli 18

The workshop is co-organized by the University of Tartu Asian Centre, Institute of Cultural Research, and the Estonian Graduate School of Culture Studies and Arts, School of Law, School of Economics and Business Administration. The event is financed by the University of Tartu ASTRA Project PER ASPERA (European Regional Development Fund), Japans Embassy in Estonia and the Faculty of Social Sciences.