

## Students' Reports

## **Leadership and Tolerance as a Global Citizen**

**Aoyagi Risa**  
**Ochanomizu University**

I had many good experiences and learned many things in this forum. Even among those, I will write about leadership and tolerance as a global citizen.

First, this forum was so significant for me to learn about leadership. I was the chief of Tokyo tour. We Ochanomizu university students did all things to make plans, reserve and guide foreign students. Of course, any teacher didn't come to the tour. Tokyo tour has 3 courses (Asakusa Furin, Asakusa Kaminariokoshi and Shinjuku samurai). As the chief, I made small three groups and left each plan to them. I thought it good because every member could contribute to the tour and each person had different ideas and so the tour was much more interesting. In this way, I made others contribute to Tokyo tour. Moreover, I sometimes guide foreign students to some places after school for example, Imperial place, Nakagin capsule tower in Shiodome and Roppongi. In Tokyo, Subways or other transportation system is too complicated and I thought it a little bit hard for international students to go to somewhere. Thus, I led foreign students to famous or good place to sightseeing and I thought I gave them a lot of extra memories.

Second, I learned how important to be tolerant when we get along with international people. In this forum, all foreign students were so tolerant to try hard to understand my poor English. In addition, they spoke English slowly and used easier words when they chat with me. Apart from that, you have to be tolerant about their custom. In the farewell party, foreign students began to drink before making a toast. I thought it was rude, though it is natural in their countries. You need to think things from various perspectives. Today people move across the border and you have much more chance to communicate with foreign people. I think it very important to try to understand each other through this period.

In this way, I made so many good memories and learned many things. Thank you.

**How I contributed to the forum**

I was a member of the team that organizes the farewell and welcome party. Among them, I hosted the welcome party held in 8, February. We have prepared for the party from last December, 2017 because we should order the dishes we would provide in the party. We should not only think about the meal balance and volume, but also consider about the international student who have allegedly or who are vegetarians. Because I have never lived in overseas, I have never met a vegetarian. So thinking about people who have different culture was a fresh experience to me and this forum was a good opportunity for me to think about multicultural symbioses.

In the welcome party, I hosted the party.

It was the first time for me to host something in English. I was very nervous because I am not good at English and pronunciation. But both of students, Ochanomizu University students and international students, tried to understand my broken English with nodding. So I could be relaxed and enjoyed the party with them. In the party, we held "introduction of someone else" game and Bingo game and so on.

At the start of the party, everyone looked nervous, but at the end of the party, their faces became smile. I was so glad to help them to get better each together through the games.

In addition to the welcome party, we made presents for international students. The presents were picture frames. We decorated pictures by photos that we took during the forum and messages that Japanese students wrote. We gave it to international students at the end of farewell party. It was hard for us to make presents during the forum. But we felt a sense of accomplishment because all international students looked so happy. Also, one of them moved and cried.

**New ideas that I learned during the forum**

I learned a lot about population movement in the forum. In the first day, we learned about the history of Japanese immigration at JICA. I was surprised that many Japanese had gone outside to Japan because my image of Japanese is conservative. I felt the globalization started from before than I had thought and the globalization was more dynamic and wider.

Also, I thought that if we learn about immigration or other countries, we can feel familiar with people who have different backgrounds.

## What I learned from the International Student Forum

**Rikako Imai**  
**Ochanomizu University**

I have interest in movements of people, especially immigrants. Fortunately, the theme of the forum this year was “Population Movements”, and because I wanted to deepen my knowledge about it and also wanted to interact with foreign students, I decided to take part in this forum as a volunteer. My role was to organize 1 day Tokyo Tour, and especially, I was in charge of Shinjuku group. What I did in concrete was to make a schedule and a guide of Shinjuku course, to reserve Samurai Museum, and to take command that day. Although we had some troubles too, it was a good experience for me, since I learned two important things. First is that it is sometimes good to have no reservation. This time, we could not find a restaurant which accepts 10 people, and we did not reserve any, but because of this, I was actually really worried about lunch. However, this turned out good that we could get separated into two groups and meet foreign students’ request for meal. The other is that it is sometimes important to be flexible. At first, we were planning to visit Ninja House, but we changed our plan to go to the Metropolitan Office, and also, we added our plan that day to make our tour better. I was happy when every student seemed to be satisfied, and also, it was a nice experience because I made a new discovery of Tokyo too.

On 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of February, we had a symposium. I was actually looking forward to these two days because I had interest in population movements and wanted to know it in worldwide base. Although I knew that there are many factors in “movements of human”, in a sweeping statement, I strongly realized it because every presenter was focusing on different issues related to their countries. European countries seemed to be more concerned about immigrants from Islamic countries, though Brazil had a large number of immigrants since past, so a problem of it was in its countries rather than between foreign countries. Since I learned that there are so many points of view to see a problem of population movements, I am now especially interested in Japanese descents, *Nikkei*. I would like to deepen my interest which I gained during this forum in my following school life.

## Learning through the Forum

**Chihiro Kosaka**  
**Ochanomizu U Student**

The forum was a challenge for me, but it gave me a valuable experience. In fact, I had hesitated to take part in it, but I think it was a good decision that I joined the forum.

I contributed to the forum as a leader of welcome and farewell party team. I worked for participants to enjoy those events. My job can be separated to three parts. First, I prepared materials for the orientation: living tips in Japan for international visitors and made a presentation with Keika and Yuna. I searched a lot of information in English, so it was hard for me, but it gave me an opportunity to get new vocabulary. I didn't have confidence to speak English, so it was hard for me. I hope foreign students were able to understand the contents. Second, I prepared goods and venue for welcome and farewell party. For example, I ordered dishes and bought drinks and snacks, though the menu of meals was decided by all members in our group. In addition, I set tables with our members. Third, I made gifts for foreign students with my team members. We didn't have much time to make them, but foreign students were pleased with it. It made me relieved. To conclude, I was behind the scenes staff of the forum. I had a lot of things to do, but they were all important work, and I'm proud of them. I have some regrets about the work, but I'm glad that I contributed to the forum.

Through the forum, I learned again that people have moved for various kinds of reasons since the age when travel was difficult. In addition, I learned that population movement was very involved in history of the country. Learning population movement gives us an opportunity to get deeper knowledge of our history. Furthermore, it also makes us be focused on "other" people. For example, it was the first time that I have learned the issue about Philippine Nikkeijin Diasporas. In the perspective, it contributes to make people tolerant to multicultural people. Therefore, it will be helpful to grow the global citizenship.

To conclude, this forum gave me a lot of opportunity. It was a valuable experience.

## **Looking Back on My First Participation in the International Student Forum**

**Shiho Takiguchi**  
**Ochanomizu University**

In this forum, I mainly took charge of arranging and guiding for the Tokyo tour, as a volunteer. We, the team of Shinjuku course had changes in schedule just before the tour day, but finally we accomplished our mission. We could make really good relationships with overseas students, by coordinating the schedule flexibly in accordance with their wishes. I also went out with overseas students after the daily program and helped them to have various experiences during their stay in Japan.

As to an academic side, I learned about population movement from the three main aspects. First, I learned about population movement of leaving Japan for the world, in Japanese Overseas Migration Museum or the lecture about Philippine Nikkeijin Diasporas. Second, in the symposiums, I could think about the population movement inside Japan, such as International marriages and evacuation caused by the earthquake. Last, I also knew the situation of acceptance of immigrants in each country. When I combined my learning from these three, I got some new points of view about migration in Japan. What I come to consider most is the tendency in Japan that people emphasize the distinction between themselves and people who moved from outside of their community sensibly. This tendency seems to cause bullying, discrimination and also assimilation to Japanese society. I also remembered my own experience of taking with a foreign wife in the countryside in Japan and she said she did not teach her native language to her son because she did not consider it becomes an advantage to him. In the current situation like that, can the Japanese policy for accepting foreigners or refugees make progress in the near future? In other countries, there are some issues about migration, like debate on approaches to immigrants between qualitative or quantitative ones, refugee's forced repatriation because of the lack of the protective policy toward them, inequality of employment between the citizens and the others, insufficient linguistic support, lack of respect for migrants' specific culture, and arguments about humanitarian visa. Those difficulties are waiting us in the future, if Japan changes the policy for immigrants fundamentally. Actually, in terms of accepting migrants, Japan is quite backward country. So, the core of the matter in current situations in Japan doesn't reach the level of other developed country still. Then, what should we do to make migrants feel our country as "home"? The Japanese emigrants toward the Philippines or South America once fenced with many serious problems there, but there have been quite a lot of people and their descendants who regard each country as their home. I think the variety of ethnicity is one of the factors which enable them to fit in with the host country relatively easily. As a first step, we may need to reconsider our sticking to the fixed way of thinking about drawing a borderline between inside and outside of our community, which we set without any reasonable grounds.

## What I learned through The 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum

**Sumika Machida**  
**Ochanomizu University**

In the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum, I presented about “The problem of *Ijime* toward the pupils from Fukushima” with Hikaru Kinjo. I mainly present about two things: One is the background about the Great East Japan Earthquake and the accident in Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. I collected data from official surveys and used photographs to show how devastating the disaster was. The other is about *Ijime* the pupils from Fukushima experienced. We use the term “*Ijime*” to emphasize the feature of Japanese bullying. We collected data from the official Web sites of the Japanese government, TV news programs, and Newspapers. Then, we analyzed them by comparing with other countries.

Also, I worked as the deputy leader. Before the forum starting, I edited the handbook for the participants. I collected the articles from other members, and laid them out adding some information like the map of the university. Also, as a resident of International Student Dormitory, I supported the international students’ life. For example, I picked up the International participants in Ikebukuro student, and led them to the dormitory. Then I explained about how to use the facility and helped the communication between the office staff and them. After that, I helped them with carrying their baggage. After starting the Forum, I attended them to university, and gave some advice to them. When we use the train, I explained how to purchase the IC card and the way to the university.

Through this Forum, I learned many things not only about academic knowledge, but also cultural differences. For example, it was surprising that there were some anti-immigrant policies in some Eastern Europe countries, because I thought that many other countries are positive for accepting refugees. However, I also learned that there are some NPO groups are working hard for solving the gap between them and local people. Also, even in my presentation, there were many facts I did not know before the forum, and we received many questions and opinions after our presentation. For example, the concept of *Ijime* especially attracted audience’s attention, and the discussion about it was a very meaningful thing for me. From these experiences, I got new points of view about the problem in Japanese society which I took for granted, and it gave us the tips to solve the problems.

## **My role and what I learned through International Student Forum**

**Saki Yamashita  
Ochanomizu University**

I was a member of the Tokyo Tour group. In this Forum, we had a Tokyo Tour on Sunday, February 11, 2018. Our job had mainly two things. One was to make plan and the other was to take International students to some places where they can experience Japanese. First, we looked for some places where International students can enjoy Japanese culture and foods by using the Internet with Tokyo tour member. We also investigated how much they are, how long time it takes. On February 7, I went to Ikebukuro station to meet International students with a friend, and went to the Oyama dormitory. On February 8, Opening ceremony, Orientation and Welcome party were held. I do not have any jobs in these ceremonies, so I only explain some things to my buddy. On February 9<sup>th</sup>, we went to Japanese Overseas Migration Museum and On February 10<sup>th</sup> we went to The Tokyo Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park. On February 11<sup>th</sup>, we had Tokyo Tour. I was a member of the Furin-Tour grope. I enjoyed drawing on Furin with my buddy and the other students. I live in near Myogadani station, so I met two international students, and went to Okatimati station with them. We had International Student Symposium on February 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. On 14<sup>th</sup> there was also a lecture by Prime Minister of Norway.

Before joining this forum, when I think about population movements, I only conceived immigration. However, through this forum, I knew that there were many types of population movements, such as population movements by disaster, population movements by war, population movements by economy. I also realized that people have continued to move from long time ago through visiting Japanese Overseas Migration Museum and International Student Symposium. That is, the population movement beyond imagination has been done and the reasons of the movement are different. Especially, I think that the population movement by disaster may relate to me mostly because it is said that the earthquake may occur at any moment. The movie we watched at the Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park told me not only population movement by disaster but also what happens because of the population movement. Through this forum, I knew there are many kinds of population movements, and effects they cause. I had studied little about this field, but I want to continue to study about population movements.

## **Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum (The Importance of Mutual Cooperation)**

**Yuna Shimbo  
Ochanomizu University**

I belonged to Opening and Closing Ceremony team and prepared for many recreations except two study tours and Tokyo tour. Especially I remember that I had done MC in Opening Ceremony with Chiemi Shima, an Ochanomizu student. When I wrote a draft of this MC, I tried to use English words which are easy to understand not only for International students but also for Japanese students. It was harder than I had expected, because I should paraphrase the expressions in plain English. It appeared that the party was in full swing when we played introduction of someone else game or bingo game. I realized that we can get on well more easily when play some games together, because people feel easy to talk with each other by following some rules. I feel so happy to have heard that many students enjoy our parties.

My buddy belongs to King's college, but she is actually from Norway. So I heard that welfare policies which Norway's Government adopts are one of the best in the world. I could learn why she thinks so by listening to a speech of the Prime Minister of Norway. I was very impressed by knowing that Norway has prepared mutual cooperation system. For example, the whole society has tried to fulfill gender equality. The Prime Minister emphasized that the "functions" are important. And Japan tends to build companies without deciding its functions. A company without definite functions is easy to do bankrupt, because it inclines to lose sight of its goal. I think that the same is true of this forum. We, both Ochanomizu students and International students have decided their own functions. Functions mean parts. Thanks to this, we succeeded in managing this forum. In order to cooperate with each other comfortably, it is important that people ascertain proper role for them, with understanding that the ability varies from person to person.

I could learn the role of Japan or university students or even I in the International community. So I was delighted to have had the opportunity to discuss social issues with International students. I should continue to discuss the matter of migrations because we, young persons, are requested to solve social challenges through mutual cooperation.

## **Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum**

**Ayane Mimori**  
**Ochanomizu University**

I participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum. Firstly, let me write about how I contributed to the forum. Through the 7 days program, mainly I involved in the management of the forum. To be specific, I wrote the moderator manuscript and worked as a host on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the forum. Also, I supported the presenters and the questioners to make the forum go on smoothly and took photos and videos of the presentations. In addition, since before the forum period, I had kept close contact with our buddies and helped them while they were staying in Tokyo.

Secondly, I will write about the new ideas that I learned during the forum. At first, I was very happy to hear that many International students had a lot of concerns about the Fukushima's problem. I have worried about the problem of the refugees from Fukushima, especially Ijime problem, for a long time because I am from Fukushima prefecture and experienced earthquake disaster. This forum was very good opportunity to make International students have knowledge about Fukushima's present condition. In addition, through this forum, I learned that there are a lot of refugees in the world because of the many reasons such as disaster and war, and they are troubled with labor market after they migrate. In fact, it is said that Japan is safe country and far from war, and Japan do not accept immigrants, therefore most of Japanese do not have enough knowledge about these problems, including me. I learned that not only the barrier of language but also religion and prejudices interrupt their lives. I was very shocked that some female refugees get married to the local person to get the nationality. However, I also learned that there are many kinds of solutions to remove these barriers in many countries. In every respect such as supports to find the jobs, nations try to improve their lives. I was very impressed to hear that education is very important aspect for the refugees, and many countries do educational supports to them especially children. It is necessary for the people who could not get enough education because of their hard situation before they emigrated to learn and understand the culture, and that will help their situation and future.

This forum was very good experience for me. I want to say thank you for all participants.

## **The fruitful experiment of 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum**

**Machiko Mizuki  
Ochanomizu University**

First of all, I joined the 6<sup>th</sup> international student forum last year, so I was able to inform the way the volunteers did last year to participants. It might interfere with reforming the forum. However, I hope it helped other volunteers to image the situation that would be happened during the days.

I had 3 roles during the forum. First, I was a leader who arranged the meeting at Ikebukuro station. And also I was a leader of the team for symposium that included only 3 members, Shiho KASAI, Ayane MIMORI, and me. At first, I divided jobs for each person. Preparing microphone for the lecture by Professor Iijima and the presentation day, reminding Japanese students to tell their buddy to hand in their abstraction and slide, in addition, writing a guide page were my jobs. To be honest, our team was confused when we collected or sent a reminder of international students' data through Japanese students because Mr. Matsuda sent international students remainder as well. So we were not able to grasp the situation, such as who received the reminder and who already sent their data. I think it should be better to determine the border between the things that students do and teacher did in advance. In addition, I was a buddy of Lee Jookyung who was from Busan University of Foreign Studies. Being the buddy of Jookyung was the most memorial stuff. On the first day it means the day she came to Japan, she forgot her backpack at the Narita airport. I was woken up by her message and I was worried about that so much. In the end, her backpack was found very soon, however, I contacted Mr. Matsuda and Ayane who was the buddy of the other Korean student at the same time, so I was convinced wrongly that they might have finished the procedure to let the airport service send backpack to university. After two days or more when I noticed that they haven't finished it, I did my best to return the bag to Jookyung as soon as possible. I was very sorry about that at the time. My buddy often lost the way to university or classroom, so I always contacted her and helped her spend life in Japan more comfortable. I'm happy to have kept in touch with her so far.

The new thing that I had never known before is that there was a restriction for Japanese people who wanted to work in some other foreign countries long time ago. I think that sounds like the way Mr. Trump does to Mexican people who want to emigrate to America. Since I believed that Japanese people have had better rights to immigrate from Japan to other places, I was so surprised to know that my thought was opposite to the real situation.

## Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum

**Hikaru Kinjo**  
**Ochanomizu University**

I am not a student from Global Studies for Inter-Cultural Cooperation but I would like to study about population movement and use English with International students. That is why I have decided to participate in this forum. To my surprise, I was a leader of this Forum in 2018. First of all, I have never experienced to join international class and to be such an important role ever. So I tried to communicate with participant for everything goes well.

### <My role and job>

- Supporting Tokyo Tour chief Aoyagi-san.
- Making a reservation for Furin tour and Lunch place.
- Taking a Furin group to Okachimachi and Asakusa Area.
- Supporting to enter dormitory for International students and housemother.
- Going to University with Oyama dormitory residents.
- Cooperating with Machida-san for making presentation.
- Making leaflet cover.
- Helping preparation for welcome party and Farewell party
- Experienced a seismic intensity of 7 on the Japanese scale with my buddy at Tokyo Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park.

### <New idea from population movement>

#### "The Problem of Ijime toward the pupils from Fukushima"

I have already known about this topic. But we could not know every case of Genpatsu Ijime and deal with them. I expected that population movement was only immigrants and emigrant. So it made me recognized that Japanese people also move to domestic Japan. I think we should search about it more because we have to live in Japan where earthquake happens a lot and no one knows when great earthquake might happen again like a great East Japan Earthquake.

#### Busan University of Foreign Studies

##### "Refugees in Korea"

I really wanted to know this topic personally because we often watch the biggest news about North Korea and kind of covered in a veil of mystery country for me. It was easy to understand their topic and great presentation. Now I understand what South Korea government helps immigrants.

#### Ochanomizu University "Hypergamy through international marriages in Japan- The way to a better life?"

At first, I could not believe it because it sounds human traffic or the slave trade in Japan. Japan has to cope with international marriage and mixed parentage to refer to other country's precedent.

## **My Contribution and learning During 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum**

**Miho Goto  
Ochanomizu University**

I belonged to the welcome and farewell party team and we mainly discussed the contents of the parties. We talked about the programs and the food and drinks to prepare, considering our budget. Other than those, we also decided the contents of the orientation and the course of campus tour. We had much more work than I had expected, so we tried to equally divide the work among all members. My biggest work during the forum was making the slide show video which showed at the farewell party. We wanted to give something special to the international students other than message boards, and we decided to make the video. Therefore we needed to collect as many pictures as possible during the forum, especially from study tours and Tokyo tour. Thanks for not only the help of the team member but also all the Ochanomizu students, hundreds of pictures were collected and I was able to choose the best ones, though it was a little hard to decide which we actually use. Because of the character of the work, I can only complete the video the night before the farewell party, so I had only a little time to prepare. It relieved me a lot that many of the students liked the video.

I was not very familiar with the theme of this forum, but I became more interested in refugees and immigrants. First, it is not easy to become officially refugees and they need several steps from applying to evaluation, which surprised me. Second, some countries which seem to welcome refugees and immigrants do actually not really positive about receiving them. Some problems such as political parties or leaders' policy and their religious thoughts are related, which makes the issue complex. The biggest problem is their life as refugees or immigrants, having different backgrounds than the citizens. They often suffer from discrimination or bullies at school or workplace. It is even hard for them to get jobs because of not only discrimination but also the education they had in their own country. The education systems are different from country to country, so they sometimes cannot satisfy the companies' employment conditions.

A week was really short, but I had a precious experience and got new nice connection with people from other countries, especially Europe which I never been to and where I did not have friends.

## **What I've learned and my role for the International Student Forum**

**Misaki Shioya**  
**Ochanomizu University**

In this forum, I studied about migration, refugee, disaster, globalization and relationships with people who have various backgrounds, and talked with International students a lot. On 7<sup>th</sup>, I took them including my buddy to their dormitories from Tokyo station. In the opening ceremony, orientation, campus tour and welcome party on 8<sup>th</sup>, because I didn't take charge of anything, I enjoyed these with International students. In the study tour in Yokohama and Odaiba on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, we studied about migration and disaster. In Yokohama, some of us ate shabu-shabu and it was good, and we could become nice to each other. On 11st, we had the Tokyo one day tour. We were separated to three groups, and my group visited to Asakusa. For this tour, I planned with the other members of Tokyo study tour and decided where, when and how we were going to go sightseeing. Also, I decided the restaurant for lunch with other members. We could make Kaminari-okoshi and Hurin in Asakusa and could experience samurai in Shinjuku. My group could make Kaminari-okoshi. I wrote a brief about it for leaflet and made a reservation at the shop we could do it before that day. On from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, we had a lecture and an International student symposium. The closing ceremony and the farewell party were held on 15<sup>th</sup>, and I decorated the room and prepared meals for them.

Through this forum, I learned disaster and population movement, and I could see that there was a close connection between them. When I visited the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum, I learned that a lot of people had gone over to South America as migrant workers. I thought that this event was a man-made disaster. Because their salaries were lower in Japan than those in South America, we could think that they had no choice but to go there because of a decline of the salaries in Japan. This is population movement by disaster. Also, about the problem of bullying that was caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster, we can say that a movement of people who had no choice to do it caused the new man-made disaster in a community, namely the problem of bullying. As I have explained, there is a close connection between disaster and population movement.

In this forum, I could study a lot enjoying with International students. I'd like to continue considering this topic and maintain relationships with them from now on.

## Report for the 7th International Student Forum

**Shiho Kasai**  
**Ochanomizu University**

There were two main reasons for participating in this forum this time. The first reason was because I learned about immigrants living in France in the class at the university, so I felt I wanted to know about immigrants living in other areas. The second reason was because I expected that I could learn about Nikkei as pre-training for the short-term program in Brazil during this spring vacation.

In this forum, I deepened my understanding of immigrants in areas not covered in university classes, such as Puerto Rico and the Central Europe. Also, as there were few opportunities to hear stories about victims of disasters or that of A-bomb, *hibakusya* from the viewpoint of foreign people, so the presentation by Smith University was very fresh for me. Also, I learned a lot about Nikkei in the lecture of Professor Naoko Iijima. Despite having a deep relationship with Japan, there are not so many opportunities to study about Nikkei. I thought that we must improve upon this problem. Among the categories of "immigrants", I learned that there were various reasons and backgrounds of immigrants, such as domestic and foreign mobility, semi-compulsory migration by disaster and war, movement by marriage, movement by migration and so on. Under such circumstances, a lot of regions of the world, I found that there were many problems, such as prejudice against immigrants or the wrong information or images are broadcasted by the social media. I have heard from the news that many countries, including Japan, are plagued by these immigration problems. For us, now is the time to face these issues, isn't it?

I had a very valuable opportunity to listen to the lecture of the prime minister of Norway. In this forum, I did not only deepen the knowledge about immigrants, but also make more overseas friends. Also, as all the programs were in English, I think that the English operation ability has improved slightly. It was a very fulfilling week for me. Thank you.

## **The 7th International Student Forum**

**Keika Kawagoe**  
**Ochanomizu University**

I was a member of welcome and farewell party member and I acted the master of ceremony. I was really satisfied because both international students and Ochanomizu University students looked enjoyed themselves at the party. The international students looked happier than we had expected when they received the present that our massage and pictures put in. Our team made the present for them, so we were glad to see their smile. On the other hand, there were some points which I should have done better. I wanted everyone to talk freely. Some students tried to talk with lots of students whereas others did not. I think it is better to prepare a game or activity to interact with others.

Before the forum, we have discussed for a long time and considered what we should have done to make international students happy. I think that other member and I mainly obeyed the suggestion from our leader, Ms.Kosaka in many cases. She did a lot of work and she said it is difficult for her to assign tasks to us. I regret not having helped her enough. She was a great leader at any rate. So I did trivial things such as cleanup after the party to contribute to our team. I did not regard our task as heavy because our teachers and other friends helped us a lot.

We visited JICA museum in Yokohama and learned about the history of Japanese immigrants. I didn't know the fact that some Japanese immigrants fought as American soldiers during the world war II. I have never heard about them and their family and the story was really impressive for me. I also learned the importance of taking measures against disaster at the museum in Toyosu. I did not think deeply about those who are forced to leave their home due to the disaster before. In the presentation, I had difficulties a little bit in understanding international students' English because they talked at high speed whereas they are pay attention to us when they talked to us. I got various new perspectives from their presentation.

In conclusion, this experience broadened my horizon. I felt it difficult for me to make me understood in English and I felt irritated it. I was stimulated by international students' attitude toward the discussion. I decided to keep learning English and this theme.

**The 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum**  
**-The best program for learning Japan culture-**

**Joo kyung Lee**  
**Busan University of Foreign Studieds**

It was the first time to participate the international forum. The forum was really well organized and I truly enjoyed staying in Japan. The schedule was made for international students and it helped me to understand Japanese culture. I am really happy to have my own buddy, Machiko. She helped me from the beginning that I lost my bag in Narita express terminal. I could converse with her easily because she could speak and understand English well. The schedule included Tokyo tour and study tour. So I went to many sites such as museum and earthquake training center. I saw Japan's always ready for emergency situation. When I visited Samurai museum, I learned many kinds of Samurai costume during edo period and meiji period. I saw the performance of handing knives and tried to wear the tradition clothes of samurai. After the tour, I heard the lecture of prime minister of Norway and she talked about gender equality and how females can be equally contributed to the politic industry. It was impressive and I thought the perspective of world should be changed. The main subject of this forum was "Disaster and the movement". I prepared the presentation about refugee in Korea with my partner. I also really wanted to hear other student's opinions about this. Everyone listened intently and gave questions a lot. Every student gave me lots of information about each country's migration policies. I learned the history of migration of many countries and how they prepared for refugees. I also interacted with friends from the USA, Brazil, Florida, Japan, Austria, Norway, England, Czech and Singapore. They were really kind and into Japanese culture deeply. I saw different points of views about migration and attitude of migration policies of Japan. The last of the forum, everybody congratulated for international students and prepared gifts and letters for each students. It was really touching and thoughtful. If I had a chance to participate again, I definitely join again. Thank you for all the support for international students and it was really useful program to understand Japanese culture heartily.

## **Report | 7th International Student Forum**

**Martina Kovářová**  
**Charles University**

My name is Martina Kovářová, a student of Charles University in Prague and I am in my second year of Master's degree study. In February 2018, I was given the possibility to participate in the International Student Forum at Ochanomizu University, dealing with the issue of migration caused by disasters. Since I have been studying migration and development as a major, I considered myself to have a good knowledge of this issue before going to Japan. Yet we discussed some very specific issues I hadn't known about till then. Each topic was discussed in relation to migration and its consequences – Fukushima disaster and bullying of Japanese children, natural disasters in Central America, migration crisis in Europe and different political approaches of European countries, etc.

This was the very first time for me to visit Japan and I found the participation at Forum very enriching – because of its educational benefits and cultural experience. Since the Forum was held in English, we were lucky to have the chance to talk to students from all around the world. We could also share our point of view with people from different academic background, which is extremely important for us to think in context. Moreover, we now have this unique opportunity to raise awareness among students, experts and later – hopefully – in our society. I found visiting Yokohama's Migration Museum very useful since it helped me to understand historical background of Japanese overseas migration. Surely my picture of Japan has changed a lot. Although I was a bit familiar with the cultural background of the country, its customs and traditions, we got a great chance to get to know Japanese culture by ourselves. Since we spent a lot of time with students, academic professors or locals, we experienced Japan on a daily basis and in the most casual way. We learned behavioral patterns, tasted local cuisine and most of all and we appreciated the willingness of Japanese people. I have never seen people treating each other with such respect - regardless of age, nationality or social status - as I saw Japanese people to do so.

From my point of view, participation in the Forum was a lifetime experience. I feel more confident about cross-cultural communication. I have definitely improved my presentation skills and critical thinking and learned a lot about specific migration issues that individual countries all around the world have to deal with. I am grateful for being invited by Ochanomizu University to this event and I am looking forward to visiting Japan again.

## **Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum**

**Jonáš Suchánek  
Charles University**

I consider this forum to be a significant part of my migration studies. I have been interested in Japanese geographical, socioeconomic and cultural areas for a long time. Thus, this forum helped me to extent my views upon all these key sectors as well as in migration history and current situation. I really enjoyed the fact that this forum was rather separated into two different categories – cultural and historical events and trips and the forum in a form of individual presentations itself. We had the opportunity to hear a lot of useful information about many different countries from all over the world from a variety of perspectives, mainly focused on refugees and migration by disasters. However, since I study migration as a major at the Charles University in Prague, I probably did not learn so many new things as other international students, who for example, study Japanese studies, nevertheless they, on the other hand, most likely to have a more profound knowledge of Japanese history and culture.

Nonetheless, I learned new things, not only about migration history in Japan, but in general overall subjects as well. I met a lot of new young people with diverse study and national background, yet similar intentions, ideas and goals in the long run. It was a pleasant experience and I hope I will return to Japan eventually again to share new ideas and solutions.

In this last paragraph I would like to express my gratitude towards the Ochanomizu University for providing me with a scholarship and Mr. Matsuda Derek and all Japanese students who helped to organize such event. I believe it will help me with my future studies and I intend to focus on Japanese migration, hopefully when I continue to study Ph.D. at my Alma Mater.

## **Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum** *“Helping me Develop Global Awareness”*

**Silje Undlien**  
**King’s College London**

When applying to attend, I stated quite frankly that, *out of all the exciting reasons for which I wished to participate in the 7th International Student Forum* at Ochanomizu University, it was the prospect of interacting with students from all over the world, about an important transnational issue, that excited me the most. By engaging rigorously with the topic of ‘disaster and the movement of people’ with students from different backgrounds – politically, culturally, and academically – the International Student Forum, and Ochanomizu University, helped me develop my global awareness. The opportunity to engage with people from different backgrounds gave me unique insights into their lives, perspectives, and opinions, and has made me consider important issues from different viewpoints. The best way to engage with a problem can be discovered by working as part of a team. This, I believe, is also how we will find a solution to the problems we face in the global community today.

In addition to the Student Symposium, moreover, I thoroughly enjoyed the lecture/seminar given by Professor Mariko Ijima on Philippine “Nikkei-jin” and Japan. Despite my research history and interest in Japanese and East Asian history, I knew little about the situation of these “Nikkei-jin” prior to the International Student Forum. Furthermore, I thought the links found today between Japan and countries Japanese migrated to were especially interesting to learn about. The International Student Forum, furthermore, has prompted an interest to learn more about Japan and migration in a more contemporary setting. From the Ochanomizu University students’ presentations I did learn about Japan’s more conservative policies concerning migration; however, how, and why, did those conservative policies, considering the Japanese history of migration, develop? In all, attending the International Student Forum has broadened my sense of understanding of Japan, as well as a range of other countries, both culturally and more relating to important issues of migration and migration policies. By engaging with one topic rigorously I have developed my academic skills, language proficiency, cultural understanding, and expanded my theoretical knowledge of a topic that is highly relevant to my undergraduate research in War Studies and what will perhaps be a career in journalism someday.

## **Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum**

**Alias Afiq FITRI BIN  
King's College London**

It was my fifth time to Japan although for completely different travel reasons. I used to go to Tokyo every December by myself to escape the oppressive heat in Singapore and just to enjoy a city close to my heart. This time, it was an intensive academic trip and I enjoyed it thoroughly for two reasons. Firstly, I was able to learn about Japanese culture from the perspectives of young and intelligent university students as well as exchanging ideas with other well-informed international students from a diverse range of countries. The study tours with this diverse group were a great way of understanding how the narrative of Japanese migration history is officially represented in museums and in daily architecture. This included the Yokohama migration museum and a concomitant tour of the area and trips to Asakusa and other parts of Tokyo off the beaten track. The trip learning how to make traditional Japanese rice snacks was a fun and different way to learn about a part of Japanese culture.

Moving on to the academic side of the forum, I particularly enjoyed the lecture by Professor Mariko Ijima on the transnational histories of migration between Japanese and the Philippines. It was illuminating to learn about the contestations that existed between the two diasporas and their complex sociopolitical relations with one another. Her segment on the legacy of the Pacific War on the people and politics of Okinawa was new to me and as a student of East Asian security I really appreciated learning about the oft-forgotten human aspect of global conflict. In a similar vein, the conference was a fantastic opportunity to hear independent research from both Japanese and international students on the politics of migration from historical and theoretical frameworks.

One of the presentations that really stood out was Quinones Zuheily's work 'Five Months After Maria' which was an important reminder that long after the news cycle has lost interest in Puerto Rico, and there is still much to be done in rebuilding a society devastated by the environment and partisan politics. The other was Saranya's informative and well-researched work on hypergamy via international marriages in Japan and how again, transnational movements of people play an integral role in Japanese identity. In all, I thoroughly enjoyed the 7th International Student Forum and reaffirmed by belief that the history of human civilisation is a history of migration.

## **Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum (Migration to the richest country in the world)**

**Wistveen Lena  
Norwegian University of Technology and Natural Science**

Please write your report within 400 words in "Time New Roman", font size "12" and single space. For Ochanomizu University students, write about how you contributed to the Forum, what was your role and what kind of job you did. And at last, please write about new ideas that you learned during the forum about population movement. For International students, please write how the forum was and if your image of Japan has changed or if you got new ideas about the migration history of Japan, please let us know about it.

The forum for me was educational, adventurous and meaningful. Beforehand I did not know much about Japanese migration and was surprised to discover the big numbers behind it; I was also surprised about the migration to South America, as I only knew about migration from Japan to USA and Europeans to South America. We did not learn much about Japan and Asia in school except from superficial facts from WW2, so getting hands on information with pictures and artifacts from the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum in Yokohama was a meaningful experience. I even saw similarities between Japanese and European migration. It was also very interesting to learn about other countries migration issues besides from what I heard in the media and wished I had more time to hear and talk about this with the other students. I liked that the Forum offered both practical information such as museum, and theoretically such as the lecture with Dr. Mariko Ijiima, I also liked that she brought question and discussion into her lecture. When it comes to improvements, I personally would have preferred more discussion between the students, not necessarily the whole day, but a couple of hours. I felt that a lot of the students were eager to discuss, both Japanese migration and migration in their own country.

My image of Japan beforehand was a country with strict social and work routines and advanced in technology, but also known for its courtesy and rich culture. After my trip my image of Japan has changed for the better and is very positive, everyone I met showed much kindness and willingness to help. Even though some did not speak very well English they did their best to help. Overall I am very pleased with experience of the Forum and the information they provided me of Japanese migration.

## **7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum Reflection**

**Liz Nagy  
Smith College**

While the JASSO conference was not my first venture in Japan, it was a very informative and thought-provoking experience. I was interested in the conference for two reasons: I have held a strong interest and research background since the 2011 Fukushima disaster and wanted to present some of that work, and I also saw a valuable opportunity for international cultural exchange. This forum delivered on both fronts, providing me a platform to share and build upon my global knowledge of different cultures and migration situations.

The buddy system was a great part of the forum, as it allowed me to make a strong connection with a college student around my age I could share ideas with. My buddy and I spoke a fair bit about our backgrounds and our plans for the future, and comparing my upbringing and aspirations to hers helped give me perspective on what some of my peers in Japan want (and are told to want) after high school. In visiting the museum and disaster center I also learned a lot about domestic awareness of Japan's international communities, and their far-reaching spread of communities in South America and what prompted those migrations. I have studied Japanese culture in depth over the past four years given that it is my major, but you can't learn about what is taught in school or how people react to certain information. Seeing how little the buddies knew about Japanese emigration and its history was very informative, and it did change my view of Japan a bit. Based on that interaction I asked about some more sensitive topics, such as marginalized communities, and found a general lack of awareness. My resulting perception isn't bad, and I'm just more conscious of how sensitive or arguably controversial material isn't a common conversation topic in Japan. It's a common phenomenon, and selective teaching is a sad fact, but I have a more grounded basis for knowing about its prevalence in Japan.

The buddies and out selected tours also showed me how receptive my peers are to learning about new and controversial topics, demonstrated through daily conversations and some of the reflections we all had after the migration museum or the talk on Japan's history in the Philippines. The forum also showed this; some of the conversations on bullying, racism and marginalization sparked from various presentations were engaging and showing a willingness to learn and discuss new/global ideas on disasters, migrations and other communities.

Overall the forum was an extremely enjoyable and relatively informative experience to learn about responses to disasters and migration across the world. From the formal teaching content to the opportunity to speak with and befriend students from Japan and elsewhere, I have fortified my fondness for and understanding of Japan, as well as some other countries represented through this forum. It was a truly gratifying experience, and I am grateful to JASSO for organizing the conference and funding some of my stay there.

## **Ochanomizu 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Student Forum Report**

**Elizabeth Pendlebury  
Smith College**

Overall, I had a great time at the forum. I had a few minor issues regarding the housing situation, though. For example, I wish we had been told more about the international house because if I had known I needed to bring my own towel or bath slippers, I would've packed my own. However, I had to spend unnecessary money on a towel and bath slippers because I didn't realize I needed them, which was sort of frustrating. Other than that, everything was fine.

I thought the study tour days were really fun, especially the day in Asakusa. I was in the group that made kaminari no okoshi, and it was probably my favorite experience of the forum. The immigration museum was also really interesting, and I had great time learning about "Nikkeijin" around the world. I'm glad that we were given a lot of free time to explore on our own- that gave all of us time to explore Tokyo and get to know it on more personal terms instead of just as tourists.

I don't think my image of Japan changed at all during the forum. I have already studied abroad in Japan for a year in 2016 and got a good idea of what the country was like. Being in Tokyo just solidified the ideas I already had about Japanese culture. That being said, I didn't know much about migration in Japan before the forum, so I ended up learning a lot about that and it was very interesting. It was also great to see all the presentations from other groups and learn about migration problems across the world. It's not a topic I've studied about before the forum, so the last two presentation days acted as a comprehensive look at migration all over the world, and I thought it was really well done and informative.

# **Report for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum**

## **Europe as a multinational state**

An examination of the historical interactions and their contemporary consequences

**Anna DUMITRU**  
**TU Wien**

Previous to my participation in this Forum, I have had little knowledge about the migration of Japanese inhabitants overseas. I found that by highlighting the problematic and vastly undocumented history between the Japanese state and the Philippines, the planning committee did not only manage to open the Forum with an impressive presentation but also showed that critical discussion and examination of past interactions were well-received and required. Undoubtedly, every participant had a different perception of Japan, so having the possibility to freely ask our peers about their opinions on the daily routines was exceedingly helpful in order to understand their mentality. Throughout the Forum, I have become more familiar with the nuanced emigration categories and their achievements as well as their struggles they faced when trying to establish themselves in the immigration country. Here I found similarities to my personal experiences, especially considering the preservation and celebration of their individual heritage. In my opinion, the number and diversity of the participants contributed to a consistent sharing of information, and each one of us had the possibility not only to get a general overview but to inquire about certain topics of interest. It is with complete certitude that the scheduled expeditions not only served as a good modality to visit and learn about specific place-bound characteristics, moreover they offered an intuitive way of getting in touch with the culture. The program was elaborate, although it gave us time for personal exploration, which in my opinion is unquestionably very important. Also, I want to highlight that together with our professor Mr. Matsuda the local Ochanomizu students assigned to be our buddies were very helpful and made our whole stay most enjoyable. Not only were they most forthcoming, they also guided us skillfully when we needed. I think it is safe to say that we got along very well and even some friendships were able to start. To put it simply, it was the perfect mixture of educational training and self-improvement.

## **My first impression of Japan**

**Sara Pieńkowska  
University of Warsaw**

Just as I had hoped, I was very glad to have gotten this chance, to come to Japan for the first time in my life. It was well-worth the eleven hour plane flight though I had to go through while coming down with a sickness. The Student Forum was extremely interesting and I feel ashamed that I could not participate in all of the activities due to my health issues. The presentations I was able to watch were all eye-opening. I admired each one of the presenters for their courage to speak out in public and I applauded their urge to educate themselves and our listeners on important global issues such as the problem of bullying or forced migration. I also enjoyed very much the educational trips we took, especially to the Disaster Prevention Center where I almost cried during that deeply moving animated movie. I was so glad that I got to see the beautiful city of Tokyo for myself. I experienced the modern aspect of it as well as some of the historical heritage in the Samurai Museum in Shinjuku. Finally, I was amazed at how hospitable and just all around nice people in Japan were. When I was feeling sick, I was not only taken to the pharmacy by one of our buddies but even offered an electric pillow for keeping me warm at night. When I complained about the dryness of the air connected with the air conditioner, I was given an air humidifier by a buddy. All those acts of pure kindness really moved me. My fellow international students were also some of the friendliest and warmest people I have ever gotten the pleasure of being acquainted with. All in all, I found this Forum an enriching experience and would like to thank everyone involved for allowing me to create all those wonderful memories together.

## **The 7<sup>th</sup> International Student Forum - an unbelievably fruitful experience**

**Krukowska Agata  
University of Warsaw**

Before the beginning of the Forum I was slightly nervous as it was to be my first time coming to Japan and I was not sure what I should have expected. I was worried if I would make a good representative as I wanted to contribute to strengthening cooperation and bonds between our universities as much as possible. Therefore, I was truly relieved when I managed to become friends with my “buddy” as well as with other Ochanomizu University’s and international students. I am especially grateful for all Japanese students and teachers, starting with Mr. Matsuda, who made every effort to provide us with sufficient care and thoughtfully help us to feel comfortable in their country. I sincerely believe that while getting to know one another better, we gained invaluable knowledge about our cultures which we would not be able to obtain from simple workbooks. Moreover, even though we were able to spend only ten days together, I am utterly convinced that we will treasure our friendship.

Furthermore, what I also found very memorable and rewarding was everything I learn about Japanese culture and history thanks to several museum trips provided by our Japanese friends and Mr. Matsuda. I had not been aware of many things about Japan before I heard about them there. The migration history of Japan occurred to be much more complex than I had expected. Having learned that, I feel much more capable of comprehension of nowadays Japanese society. During the Symposium as well – not only I could deepen my knowledge about countries of other international students, but also I could listen to a few presentations about Japan which made it easier for me to truly understand its current issues

Finally, I was delighted to live Japanese student’ everyday life even if it was for such a short time. The time spend together in the dormitory or at the university, going out at the evening to eat some traditional Japanese food or doing some simple grocery shopping - all those little things ensured me that I want to come back there as an exchange student in the future.

To conclude, I find my participation in the Forum unbelievably fruitful. It was an unforgettable journey that made me love Japan even more than before.

## **7th International Student Forum Report**

**Zuheily Keilyn Quiñones  
Vassar College**

The 7th International Student Forum was a pivotal experience for me. I was able to meet students from all over the world and share knowledge that I otherwise would never have encountered. The topic of the forum, Disaster and Forced Movement of Populations, was a very meaningful topic for me as both are issues that my family has had to confront in the past as first generation Puerto Ricans in the continental United States and that we continue to experience even today after Hurricane Maria ravaged the entire island of Puerto Rico. Being able to tell this history and be acknowledged was extremely empowering, considering that in the United States the situation that Puerto Ricans have been facing since September 20th has never really been seen as worthwhile news. I am grateful to everyone who listened to my presentation and left with an awareness of my home that they may not have previously had.

The other presentations all served to provide an insight I did not possess as an American undergraduate student. I was able to learn about such varied topics as Ijime in Japanese schools, how the Syrian refugee crisis affected various European countries, international hypergamy, and the immigration history of Brazil. I was also able to attend the Prime Minister of Norway Erna Solberg's lecture on gender equality and learn about the implemented policies that led to Norway becoming the most gender equal country in the world, a status that I previously had no knowledge of. At the diverse museums and historical sites we visited on the study tours in Yokohama and Odaiba, I saw the unique history of Japan's immigrants, learned the protocol for surviving a natural disaster, and was able to enjoy meeting Honda's Asimo robot. Throughout each day, the support that all the Japanese students provided the international students, and the support my own buddy Chiemi Shima gave me, made each experience all the more remarkable. I also greatly appreciated the opportunity to practice my Japanese speech, since there is much that I can improve on.

After completing all of this work and study surrounding immigration, I was rather surprised to discover that Japan does not actually have a policy for accepting non-marriage, school, or work related immigrants. Perhaps as more people study these topics, that will change in time.