

Special Lecture on Japanese Politics

20 December 2023 (WED), 16:00 – 18:00 c.t.

Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1, 80539 Munich, Lecture Hall M 105

Prof. Mari MIURA, Ph.D., Sophia University, Tokyo

Toward Gender Parity in Japan Political Barriers, Women's Activism and Cultural Shift

Japan's progress in closing its gender gap continues to lag despite government attempts in recent years to promote women's empowerment in the economic activity. The Global Gender Gap Index by the World Economic Forum ranked Japan at 125th out of 146 countries in 2023, its worst result since the inception of the Index in 2006. Women's participation in politics remains remarkably low, which, in turn, accounts for the lack of substantial legal advancements in fostering gender equality across various domains. To address this persistent issue, the Gender Parity Law was enacted in 2018 and substantially revised in 2021. As an expert who was directly involved in the legislative process, Prof. MIURA, Ph.D., will talk about the impact and limitation of the law and address the way in which women's recent activism is making a cultural shift in gender norms and practices.

Prof. Mari MIURA, Ph.D., is Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Law at Sophia University. Her research interests cover comparative welfare state theory, contemporary Japanese politics, and gender and politics. Prof. MIURA, Ph.D., regularly advises national and local state institutions on topics of gender equality and diversity.

