



Participants

In the past, participants have included prospective leaders from Airbus Japan K.K., The Asahi Shimbun, Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA), Daimler AG, Deutsche Bank AG, Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Deutsche Post DHL, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), German Metal Workers' Union, Hitachi Ltd., The Japan Foundation, Japan Science and Technology Agency, Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), Japanese Trade Union Confederation (RENGO), Jiji Press, Merck KGaA, Mitsubishi Research Institute, Munich Re, Munich Security Conference (MSC), Panasonic Corporation, RIKEN, Siemens AG, DIE ZEIT and various other institutions, companies and top universities.

Contact

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»I believe that the experiences I made during the German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum 2015 are a great asset for my current and future career. By entering into intensive discussions with participants from various backgrounds from both Germany and Japan, I learned a lot about the differences in culture, history, and ways of thinking, the importance of diversity and mutual understanding.

The annual alumni meeting also gives us a great opportunity to meet up again with fellow participants and broaden our perspectives through discussions on critical global issues.«

KANZAWA Tarō, Participant 2015
Siemens K.K.



German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum

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In 2006, the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB) established an annual German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum in cooperation with the Robert Bosch Stiftung.

Program Goals

The Young Leaders Forum is a future-oriented program that intends to inform prospective leaders from Germany and Japan about socially and politically relevant issues and viewpoints. It offers a forum for intense discussions, thereby seeking to promote and deepen mutual understanding. Over the long term, personal contacts shall be developed to strengthen networks between Germany and Japan.

Structure

The annual program is held alternately in Germany and Japan. After an intensive summer school workshop with eminent leaders and experts, the program continues with further political talks, visits to institutions and companies as well as a cultural program.

The Target Group

The program addresses young prospective leaders from various professions (8 Germans and 8 Japanese). These should be recommended by key persons from private companies or public

»What a great opportunity it has been to deal with an exciting topic in such an interdisciplinary and profound way! I have particularly enjoyed the open and lively debates and the high level of expertise. The many contacts which have evolved from this excellent program are very rewarding.«

Dr. Elise GRAUER, Participant 2015
Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

institutions in the fields of politics, business, research, media or administration. They should be between 25 and 35 years old and speak English fluently.

Funding

The program is organized by the JDZB and in 2017 funded by B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co., the oldest private bank in Germany with an unbroken tradition of family ownership, founded in 1674. Basic expenditure during the Young Leaders Forum will be met by the organizers (accommodation, meals, transport, etc.). Allowances for travel costs can be granted on request.

The Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB) is a non-profit foundation and was established in 1985 to promote and deepen Japanese-German and international cooperation in the fields of science and culture. It is supported by the German Federal Foreign Office, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the State Government of Berlin.

Alumni Association

In 2011 the alumni of the program established an alumni association which actively contributes to the contents of the program. The commitment of alumni demonstrates the sustainability of the networks created during the summer school.

This remarkable program offers participants, i.e., young leaders from Japan and Germany, the valuable opportunity to learn together, share their thoughts, and establish networks built on mutual trust. Our two countries share basic values and face a number of common challenges. The further expansion of our friendly relations is of great importance not only for both countries, but also for the respective regions and the world as a whole. I would encourage the participants from both countries to take advantage of the experience gained here to participate even more in the future development of Japanese-German relations.



YAGI Takeshi, Ambassador of Japan to the Federal Republic of Germany

The German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum is an invaluable program that fosters the constant revitalization of our close bilateral ties. It convenes a diverse group of prospective leaders from both countries to consider global challenges, share their various viewpoints and develop joint perspectives. Together they generate new ideas for common action on current issues such as economics, security policy and demographic change. The deep understanding and friendship built among participants of the program and subsequent alumni activities enable a new generation of bridge-builders to emerge and provide fresh thinking.



Dr. Hans Carl von WERTHERN, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Japan