23-25 November 2020
Kobe University Rokkodai Campus

Polar Law Symposium comes to Kobe, Japan!

Polar Cooperation Research Centre (PCRC) of Kobe University is proud to join the Polar Law Institute (University of Akureyri, Iceland), the Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law – Arctic Centre (University of Lapland, Finland), the University of the Arctic and its Arctic Law Thematic Network (Finland) to host the 2020 Polar Law Symposium. This will be the first time the event is being held in Asia in its 13-year history.

Academics, students, indigenous representatives and practitioners from around the world will attend and participate in this event, which will discuss on the implications and challenges faced by both the Arctic and the Antarctic for international law and policy. 2020 PLS Kobe is under the main theme of "The Rule of Law in the Polar Regions" with distinctively bi-polar and "mid-latitude" perspectives. The symposium will focus on the following themes (with additional proposals) and be discussion oriented:

- International rule of law in polar regions
- Policy-law-science nexus in polar regions
- Protecting marine/terrestrial polar environments
- Humans and human security in polar regions
- Resources and industries in polar regions
- The law of the sea and the polar regions

Call for abstracts now open!

Abstract deadline: 31 March 2020
Travel assistance requests by: 31 March 2020
Early bird registration: 1 June - 31 August 2020
Program Overview

23 November (Monday)
13:00– Opening ceremony
13:15– Plenary session
15:15– Parallel panels
19:00– Welcome reception

24 November (Tuesday)
09:00– Special session
10:30– Plenary session
13:30– Parallel panels
18:15– Conference dinner
(Sake brewery restaurant)

25 November (Wednesday)
09:00– Plenary session
11:00– Parallel panels
17:30– Closing

For details, including travel assistance for early-career/indigenous scholars, please see 2020 PLS Kobe webpage.
Please note that Arctic Circle Japan Forum and 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial will be held in Tokyo, 20-23 November 2020.

Venue and Access

IDEMITSU SAZO Memorial Rokkodai Auditorium, Kobe University Rokkodai Campus

Access time
From Tokyo to Shin-Kobe, by bullet train: 3 hours
From Kansai International Airport to Sannomiya, by limousine bus: 1 hour
From Sannomiya to Rokkodai campus, by train and bus: 30 min

Venue

Convenor of the 2020 PLS Kobe:
Akiho Shibata, Director, Kobe PCRC

Advisory Committee:
Gudmundur Alfredsson (University of Akureyri, Iceland)
Timo Koivurova (University of Lapland, Finland)
Julia Jabour (University of Tasmania, Australia)

Planning Committee:
Akiho Shibata, Chair (Kobe PCRC)
Hiroyuki Enomoto (National Institute of Polar Research, Japan)
Kentaro Nishimoto (Tohoku University, Japan)
Nikolas Sellheim (University of Helsinki, Finland)
Indi Hodgson-Johnston (University of Tasmania, Australia)

2020 PLS Kobe webpage:
www.2020polarlawsymposium.org
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