

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Japanese-Israeli FoS and Japanese-French FoS Symposiums

Application Guidelines for Discussant

April, 2023
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

1. Purpose

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) holds Frontiers of Science (FoS) Symposiums for the purpose of contributing to the pioneering of new interdisciplinary domains through cross-disciplinary discussions advanced by excellent young researchers and for fostering future generation of leaders who possess wide interdisciplinary perspectives.

2. Implementation

Cosponsored by counterpart organizations, FoS symposiums will be held in 2024^{*1} as follows.

	Japanese-Israeli Frontiers of Science (JIFoS) Symposium	11th Japanese-French Frontiers of Science (JFFoS) Symposium
Partner Organization	Israeli Ministry of Innovation, Science & Technology: MOIST	National Center for Scientific Research: CNRS
Venue	Japan	Strasbourg, France
Symposium dates	18-21 February, 2024 (4 days)	24-27 May, 2024 (4days)
Travel period	18-21 February, 2024 (4 days)	23-28 May, 2024 (tentative)
Session subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life Sciences/Medical Science • Chemistry/Materials Science/Physics • Earth Science/Environment/Astrophysics • Mathematics/Informatics • Social Sciences/Humanities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology/Life Sciences • Chemistry/Materials Science • Earth Science/Geosciences/Environment • Mathematics/Informatics/Engineering • Physics/Astrophysics • Social Sciences/Humanities
Participants	40 (20 from each country)	60 (30 from each country)
Japanese participants*2	<u>Discussants: 7 or 8</u> Planning Group Members: 5 Introductory Speakers: 2 or 3 Speakers: 5	<u>Discussants: 15</u> Planning Group Members: 6 Introductory Speakers: 3 Speakers: 6

^{*1} The 5th Japanese-American-German FoS Symposium is scheduled to be held in 2024, but as the details are yet to be decided, a separate call will be issued.

^{*2} Planning Group Members are chosen by the JSPS FoS Symposium Advisory Board and introductory speakers and speakers are jointly chosen by the Planning Group Members of Japan and counterpart country(s). So, there is no open recruitment for these positions.

1) Full participant involvement

All excellent young researchers who will lodge together during the symposium. Irrespective of their own fields of specialization, each participant will attend all of the symposium sessions. The

Japanese participants will engage in active discussions in English with the participants from the other countries.

2) Topics

Five or Six sessions will be held during the symposium in the subject areas, such as Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Mathematics, Physics and Social Sciences. In each session, all of the participants will engage in vigorous and free discussions, which overarch their individual fields, on leading-edge, high-interest topics chosen in each subject area.

An introductory speaker will kick off each session and speakers will pilot the discussion. They will give presentations that describe their topic's attractiveness and feasibilities as leading-edge science, while touching upon problems and obstacles they encountered in advancing their research. They are to bear in mind throughout the session that the session members are not specialists in their specific fields and gauge their language accordingly.

* For past topics, please refer to the JSPS website: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fos/index.html>

3) Unique format

Differing from general symposiums in which summaries are compiled and conclusions sought, FoS symposiums are not oriented to a specific direction. Rather, they seek to foster free thinking and creativity in excellent young researchers by having them engage each other in discussions that crisscross their various fields of specialization, while encouraging them to challenge novel ideas that can lead to new genres of science.

3. Working Language

English

4. Fields of Participants

All fields of humanities, social sciences and natural sciences

5. Targeted Applicants

This open recruitment is targeted to young researchers who participate as "Discussants" on the Japanese side in the JIFoS/JFFoS symposium. Their roles will be to participate in discussions and give poster presentations.

In addition to the discussants who apply via these Guidelines, other discussants will be nominated by the JSPS FoS Symposium Planning Group Members.

6. Applicant Eligibility

As a rule, young researchers* who hold a doctoral degree, belong to one of the below-listed research institutions and who meet all of the following conditions are eligible. Persons who have already participated in a FoS symposium are not eligible.

Conditions:

- 1) Have an excellent record of research
- 2) Have excellent ability to hold discussions in English
- 3) Be able to display leadership
- 4) Have a wide interest in research that transcends one's own field of specialization
- 5) Be able to participate in all of the days of the symposium

Eligible research institutions:

The applicant's institution must be one designated under Article 2 of the “Rules for the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research” (issued by the MEXT). They are as follows:

- 1) Universities and inter-university research institutions
- 2) MEXT facilities and other institutions engaged in scientific research
- 3) Technical colleges
- 4) Institutions designated by the Minister of MEXT

*Young researchers: 45 years old or younger or have received their doctoral degree within the past 15 years as of 1 April 2023 for JIFoS Symposium and 1 April 2024 for JFFoS Symposium.

If the applicant's home institution acknowledges that the applicant has interrupted her/his research activities for a total of at least three months due to childbirth or childcare, she/he may apply up to 47 years of age or less with a doctoral degree, or 17 years or less after obtaining her/his doctoral degree.

7. How to apply

Application is made via the applicant's affiliated institution.

8. Funding

JSPS and the counterpart sponsoring organizations will cover the cost of the participants' roundtrip travel from/to their affiliated institution and the symposium venue and their meals and lodging during the symposium, according to the rules of the sponsoring institutions.

9. Application Procedure for JIFoS/JFFoS Symposiums (2024)

1) Documents to be submitted by applicant's institution

- Form 1 List of Applicants (the cover letter for the other Forms)
- Form 2 Basic Information of Discussant Applicant
- Form 3 Short CV of Discussant Applicant
- Form 4 Recommendation Letter for Discussant Applicant

2) Document preparers

Form 1 is to be prepared by the admin office of the applicant's institution, Form 2 and 3 by the applicant, Form 4 by the Recommender.

3) Submission Methods

Applicant's institution submits the below-listed forms to JSPS. JSPS receives applications only from institutions (not directly from individuals). The forms should be submitted as electronic data using the file transfer system “Proself.” JSPS will provide information on using this system to applying institutions upon receiving a request via e-mail.

(Form submission process)

	Document preparer	Submission method (Proself)
Form 1	Applicant's institution	Submit in Excel (Official Stamp not required)
Form 2	Applicant	Submit in Excel and PDF
Form 3		Submit in Word and PDF
Form 4	Recommender	Submit in Word and PDF

If the content of the Excel/Word document differs from that of the PDF, the PDF takes precedence.

10. Receipt deadline

Applicants

Applicants should submit Form 2, 3 and 4 by their institution's deadlines.

* Deadlines may vary by institution, so please check with yours in advance.

Applicant's institution

Applicant's institutions are to upload their set of forms to "Proself" within the following period:

Monday, 29 May to Friday, 2 June 2023 (no later than 17:00)

11. Selection

Selection of all discussants are made by the FoS Symposium Advisory Board, established within JSPS.

12. Notice of Selection Results

Issued around November 2023 to the applicants' institutions.

13. Other Points to Bear in Mind

- 1) Documents should be prepared using prescribed formats. (Available on the JSPS website)
- 2) After documents are submitted, they cannot be changed or amended.
- 3) Submitted documents are not returned.
- 4) Inquiries regarding selection results are not accepted.
- 5) JSPS bears no responsibility for accidents, injuries or illnesses that occur during the period of the symposium or during travel to and from it.
- 6) Depending on the situation with the new coronavirus, it may be necessary to change the format for holding the symposium and/or its program.

14. Others

1) Measures against the Misuse of Funds and Misconduct in Research Activities

JSPS will take appropriate measures (e.g. cancellation of the participant's selection) in cases of misuse or research funds, specific research misconduct (e.g. fabrication, falsification, plagiarism), unjustifiable acts (e.g. discrimination, harassment), or violation of laws. For reference regarding the handling of funds misuse and misconduct, see the "Rules for Responding to Misconduct and Misuse of Funds in Research Activities."

2) Handling of Personal Information

With regard to personal information contained in application materials, it shall be strictly controlled in accordance with the "Act on the Protection of Personal Information" and JSPS's own regulations for protecting personal information. JSPS will use such information exclusively for implementing its programs. (This may involve the provision of personal information to external companies commissioned to electronically process and manage program-related data.)

If selected for this symposium, discussants should note that their name, title and affiliated organization may be given public access.

3) Security Trade Control

Much research on cutting-edge technology is being conducted in Japan's research institutions. Along with Japan's advancing internationalization, there has been an increase in the number of foreign students and overseas researchers residing in Japan. This has increased the risk of advanced

technologies and research materials and equipment leaking out and for them to be used in the development and production of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Research institutions are to take systematic measure to keep research results and products that can be diverted to military use out of the hands of WMD developers, terrorist groups, and other persons whose activities are suspect.

In Japan, export controls (*) are carried out under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (Act No. 228 of 1949) (hereinafter referred to as “Foreign Exchange Law”). Therefore, in principle, in order to export (provide) cargo and technology regulated by the Foreign Exchange Law, it is necessary to obtain permission of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry.

Starting with the Foreign Exchange Law, Researchers must follow all of Japan’s pertinent laws and ordinances, guidelines, and directives. If research is conducted in violation of these laws and ordinances, measures and penalties prescribed in them may be enforced along with the termination of the Researcher’s research funding or his/her scheduled allocation of research funding.

(*) Export controls

Japan’s Security Export Control System established on the basis of international agreements mainly consists of (1) “List rules” which require permission of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry in principle when exporting cargo or providing technologies that carry specifications and/or functions higher than certain levels, such as carbon fiber and numerically controlled machine tools, etc., and (2) “Catch-all regulation” which requires permission of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry when exporting cargo or providing technologies that are not subject to regulation under the List rules but do fall under certain regulatory requirements (application requirements, consumer requirements and/or informed requirements).

Not only export of cargo but also provision of technology is subject to regulation under the Foreign Exchange Law. When providing a “List rules” technology to nonresidents or providing it within a foreign country, prior permission for the provision is required. “Provision of technology” includes not only providing technical information such as design drawings, specifications, manuals, samples, and prototypes via storage media such as paper, mail, CD, DVD, USB memory, but also providing work knowledge and technical assistance at seminars via technical instruction, skill training, etc. Researchers should be aware that there may be cases in which technologies subject to regulation by the Foreign Exchange Law are involved when mentoring foreign students and/or conducting joint research activities with overseas groups.

Information about the Security Export Control is posted on the website of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. Please see the following website.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/englishpage.html>

4) Registration of the Researcher Information in researchmap

“researchmap” (<https://researchmap.jp/>) is, as a general guide to Japanese researchers, Japan’s largest researcher information database. Registered information on research results can be openly disseminated over the Internet using researchmap. As researchmap is linked to e-Rad and many university faculty databases, it allows registered information to be accessed by other systems. Furthermore, the Japanese Government plans to further utilize researchmap, so please register your researcher information on the researchmap site.

5) Registration on JSPS-Net

JSPS-Net is a social networking service that facilitates new collaborations within a worldwide researcher community. It is mainly aimed at Japanese and overseas researchers residing in Japan or abroad, overseas researchers scheduled to come to Japan, and the international programs staff of universities and other institutions.

As JSPS-Net provides functions in supporting the establishment of researcher communities, it's hope that you will take good advantage of its support when expanding your own circle of colleagues.

<https://www.jsps-net.jsps.go.jp/>

15. Making Inquiries

Frontiers of Science Team

International Research Cooperation Division I

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URL: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fos/index.html>