

What Makes Criminal Justice Sustainable?

A Norwegian –Japanese Dialogue

Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU) and Royal Norwegian Embassy are pleased to invite you to our joint symposium entitled “What Makes Criminal Justice Sustainable?”

Both Japan and Norway have low levels of violence and low prison rates, and in both countries authorities and scholars aim for what they see as balanced and comprehensive approaches to criminal justice. Both countries maintain relatively peaceful societies, one with, and one without the death penalty.

One way to understand different criminal justice systems is to study what happens when they are confronted with the same kind of shocking event. In remembrance of the 77 murdered in Norway on 22 July last year, and the victims of the gas attack on the Tokyo underground in 1995, this symposium will address reactions in Norway and Japan to these extreme acts of violence, in order to learn more about our criminal justice systems as they are sustained or changed when confronted with terrible crimes. Can death penalty be seen as a necessary part of a morally sustainable criminal justice system in Japan, both in its national as well as international context? Can deeply felt justifications for death penalty in Japan, such as necessary atonement for gruesome deeds, be better understood?

The symposium is greatly honoured by the participation of three former Ministers of Justice; Mr. Hideo Hiraoka (2011-2012), Mr. Seiken Sugiura (2005-2006) and Mr. Knut Storberget, former Minister of Justice in Norway at the very time of the terror attack on 22 July.

Time:	13:00-18:00
Date:	1 June 2012
Venue:	Aoyama Gakuin University, Honda Memorial Hall (link) Building no. 17, 6th floor 4-4-25 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

We sincerely hope you are able to join this symposium. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Thank you for registering [online](#) (link) by 24 May.

Symposium programme

- 13:00-13:15** **Opening session**
Introduction by Prof. Osamu Niikura, Aoyama Gakuin University
Opening remarks by H.E. Arne Walther, Ambassador of Norway
Opening remarks by Ken-ichi Semba, President of Aoyama Gakuin University
Senior Researcher Lill Scherdin, University of Oslo and FAFO
- 13:15-14:45** **Session One: Reactions to extreme violence test justice system sustainability**
Moderator: Senior Researcher Lill Scherdin, University of Oslo and FAFO
Key note Speaker Mr. Knut Storberget (MP), Minister of Justice (2005-2011)
"Reactions to 22/7; Continuity or Change in Norway?"
Prof. David Johnson, University of Hawaii at Manoa
"Reactions to the Tokyo Sarin Gas attack; Continuity or Change in Japan?"
Comments by Mr. Hideo Hiraoka (MP), Minister of Justice (2011-2012)
Comments by Mr. Seiken Sugiura, Minister of Justice (2005-2006)
Discussion
Coffee break
- 14:45-15:45** **Session Two: Effective and just police work as the foundation of sustainability**
Moderator: Prof. Setsuo Miyazawa, Aoyama Gakuin University
Mr. Asbjørn Rachlew, Police Chief Superintendent, Investigator of the 22 July attack
"Can efficiency be combined with proper safeguards and human rights in Norway?"
Prof. Makoto Ibusuki, Seijo University
"How to dismantle miscarriage of justice: systematic and practical approach"
Discussion
- 15:45-16:45** **Session Three: Is death penalty morally sustainable viewed from within the system?**
Moderator: Prof. Setsuo Miyazawa, Aoyama Gakuin University
Mr. Iver Huitfeldt, Judge in Norwegian Court of Appeals
"A Norwegian judge, former prosecutor and prison warden: missing death penalty?"
Prof. Akira Kitani, Former Japanese judge, university professor and lawyer
"In the eyes of a Japanese judge, should death penalty be part of a Japanese future?"
Prof. Vidar Halvorsen, Philosopher of law at University of Oslo
"Is the death penalty morally sustainable?"
Discussion
Coffee break
- 16.45-17:25** **Session Four: The Japanese Criminal Justice System in a national and global context**
Moderator: Senior Researcher Lill Scherdin, University of Oslo and FAFO
Prof. Koichi Hamai, Ryukoku University
"Death penalty in context of Japanese society, fear of crime and confidence in justice"
Prof. David Johnson, University of Hawaii at Manoa
"Is the death penalty sustainable when Japan is seen in a regional and global context"
Discussion
- 17:25-18:00** **Closing Panel Session**
Moderator: Senior Researcher Lill Scherdin, University of Oslo and FAFO
Honorary panel with Mr. Knut Storberget, Mr. Hideo Hiraoka and Mr. Seiken Sugiura
Closing key note speaker Governor Bill Richardson
"The speed of change"
Closing remarks by Lill Scherdin, Setsuo Miyazawa and Osamu Niikura
- 18:00-** **Reception with refreshments**

Access to Aoyama Gakuin University Campus

Aoyama Campus is approximately 10 min by foot from Shibuya Station. (In the direction of Miyamasu-zaka) and approximately 5 min by foot from Exit B1 of Omotesando Station. The campus is located across the street from the United Nations University.



Access to Honda Memorial Hall

