

ベロニカ・テイラー ワシントン大学アジア法センター兼任教授／オーストラ
リア国立大学教授

書簡要約

国際交流基金米国諮問委員会（AAC）として、国際交流基金の持つ独自性
や重要な任務、そして40年の長きに渡って行われてきました活動について、
改めて考慮していただきますよう、謹んでお願い申し上げます。

具体的に、AACとして下記のことを重要視しております。

- 米国内における政策、教育、民間公益団体間での「国際交流基金」の知名度
は非常に高く、日本の価値あるブランドの象徴となっている。
- 国際交流基金の信頼性は、その非営利という地位、そしてその時々政府の
政策や方針に囚われない自由で学術的な探求や創造的な活動を支えているこ
とと密接に結びついている。
- 国際交流基金は、機微かつ複雑な日米関係と両国間の知的対話とをサポート
できる外交的で専門性を持つ組織として、米国内のみならず国際的に高く評
価されている。

国際交流基金の持つこれらの素晴らしい特質のいずれも、利益指向、観光客
誘致を目的とする観光局業務と共存するとは思えません。これらの理由から、
JNTOとの合併には問題があり、非常に望ましくないとの見解でAAC内の
意見の一致をみました。

14 February 2012

Minister Koichiro Gamba
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-chome Kasumigaseki
Chiyoda, Tokyo 100-0013 JAPAN

Dear Minister Gamba

**Proposed Merger of Japan Foundation and
Japan National Tourist Organization**

I am writing to you as Chair of the American Advisory Committee (AAC) of the Japan Foundation. At our 41st annual meeting in New York last week, Japan Foundation President, Ambassador Hiroyasu Ando, reported on the Japanese Cabinet directive to study the feasibility of merging the Japan Foundation and the Japan National Tourist Organization (JNTO).

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the key points of the American Advisory Committee deliberations. The AAC members are distinguished scholars who have devoted their professional careers to strengthening US-Japan relations. We are fully aware of the financial challenges that Japan faces and we understand your government's need for administrative efficiency. However, the AAC respectfully asks you to consider the unique and important mission of the Japan Foundation, and the demonstrated impact of its work over the last 40 years.


In particular, the AAC members emphasized that:

- The name recognition of 'The Japan Foundation' in policy, education, and non-governmental circles in the United States is very high and represents a valuable brand for Japan;
- The Foundation's credibility is tied to its non-profit status and its support of free scholarly enquiry and creative work, regardless of the government or the policy of the day;
- The Foundation's professional capacity as a diplomatic organization, able to support sensitive and complex US-Japan policy and intellectual debate, is highly respected in the United States and internationally.

None of these valuable attributes of the Japan Foundation is compatible with the profit-oriented, pro-visitor mission of a tourist organization. For these reasons, the AAC was unanimous in the view that a merger with the Japan National Tourist Organization would be both problematic and highly undesirable.

In studying the feasibility of such a merger, we ask that you take into account the real costs of confusing the identity and mission of the Japan Foundation and diminishing the important role that it plays in US-Japan relations.

Respectfully yours,



Veronica L. Taylor
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レイン・ラウド ヨーロッパ日本研究協会会長／ヘルシンキ大学教授
書簡要約

国際交流基金と国際観光振興機構は、日本と外国との関係を発展させるという意味で似通った目的をもつが、業務の優先順位と活動領域、リソース配分やプロジェクト実施の決定のために必要な専門能力は、大きく異なる。日本研究の振興がツーリズムの振興に関連づけられるようになれば、学問の自由を尊重し、研究テーマや領域に介入しない寛大な政策によって、国際交流基金が世界中で獲得してきた尊敬すべき地位が損われる恐れがある。

EAJS Office · Grueneburgplatz 1 · 60629 Frankfurt/Main, Germany

Minister Koichiro Gemba
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-chome Kasumigaseki
Chiyoda, Tokyo 100-0013
JAPAN

February 28, 2012

Dear Minister Gemba,

First of all please allow me to express my own heartfelt gratitude as well as the sincere admiration of our society for the work that the Japan Foundation has undertaken over decades in order to foster knowledge about Japan in other countries. Without these efforts, European universities would never have reached the high level of competence that we currently have, European governments would not have at their disposal experts knowledgeable about Japan and neither European nor Japanese businesses would be able to hire employees with such Japanese skills as our graduates now have. JF's aid to our libraries, their support for creating and developing teaching jobs as well as the programmes contributing to publishing Japan-related work or promoting intellectual exchange have been indispensable in creating the atmosphere of excellent relations and mutual understanding that has prevailed and, we hope, continues to prevail between Japan and Europe for a long time.

I would also like to point out one particular policy of the Japan Foundation that we especially admire: its support of a wide spectrum of research on Japan, from social sciences to cultural studies to literature, religion, and Japanese language studies, and the respect that it has had for academic freedom, exerting no claims regarding research topics or specific fields.

The reason for my writing to you today is our concern about the possible merger of the Japan Foundation with the Japan National Tourism Organisation. It is understandable that, in times of hardship and especially in the aftermath of the disaster in Northeastern Japan in March 2011, the Japanese government is looking for opportunities to cut costs by restructuring. However, it is the general feeling of the Council of the European Association of

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FOR JAPANESE STUDIES e.V.
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FOR JAPANESE STUDIES

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Japanese Studies, the largest exclusively Japan-related academic organisation outside Japan, that in the long run such a decision might backfire and have rather undesirable consequences. Although both organisations have similar objectives in fostering the relations of Japan and other countries, their priorities and areas of activity are vastly different, as are the competences needed for making appropriate decisions about allocating resources or initiating projects. We fear that in case of a merger with the Japan National Tourism Organisation, the excellent standing the Japan Foundation has achieved globally over the last decades might be damaged if its organisational structure is such that the promotion of Japan-related scholarship seems to be linked to the promotion of tourism. This is why we feel that it would serve the interests of both organisations if they were allowed to continue separately.

I hope you understand our concerns and will take them up in your discussions of the organisation's future with the parties concerned. Let me also assure you that the members of our organisation will always remain committed to pursuing Japan-related research and developing Japanese Studies at European university facilities that have been established and developed with the generous support of this organisation.

Respectfully yours,



Prof. Rein Raud
President

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION
FOR JAPANESE STUDIES e.V.
ヨーロッパ日本研究協会

クリス・ヒューズ 英国日本研究協会会長／ワーウィック大学教授
書簡要約

国際交流基金と国際観光振興機構という、ミッションが大きく異なる二つの団体を組織的に統合することは、双方ともに弱体化する結果を招くと考える。観光振興はビジネス促進を目的とし、成果は観光客の増加という形で、短期で獲得される。これに対し日本研究の振興は学術への長期的な投資であり、成果である優れた研究者、重要な出版物、影響力のある団体等は、数年、数十年の年月をかけて獲得される。日本に惹かれ、日本研究を志す多くの若年有識者も、またこれまで日本研究と日本の魅力の発信に人生を捧げてきた我々日本研究者も、国際交流基金が現在の形で存続すべきであるという熱き信念を持っていることをご理解頂きたい。

Minister Gemba Kouichiro
2-2-1 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo Japan

Dear Minister Gemba,

I am writing in my capacity as President of the British Association of Japanese Studies (BAJS), and on behalf of the BAJS Council and our membership. As you may know, the Association was formed in 1974, with the aim to encourage Japanese studies in the UK, in particular by stimulating teaching and research. With this in mind, the Association's first Conference was convened in Cambridge in 1975, and since then the BAJS Conference has been an annual event. Our membership comprises more than 200 scholars in the field of Japanese studies, and is the largest national scholarly association for the study of Japan in Europe.

Since BAJS creation, the Japanese Government through the Japan Foundation has been one of our most important supporters. The Japan Foundation has helped to fund conferences and workshops. For instance, just last month BAJS and the Japan Foundation in London ran an extremely successful one day workshop for early career researchers with more than fifty participants. Furthermore, our members and the institutions they belong to have also benefited independently from the support from Japan Foundation for conducting both research, teaching and nurturing the next generation of scholars in the field.

Therefore, in the first instance, I would like convey my heartfelt gratitude to the Japanese Government for the generous support that has been extended to the development of Japanese Studies in UK throughout the years. Without your support we cannot fulfill our mission.

In this regard, it has come to our attention that the Japanese Government is currently considering the possible merger of the Japan Foundation and the Japan National Tourism Organization. While understanding that this is a decision for the Japanese Government and its people to make, and appreciating that many issues must lie behind this deliberation, if I may present our candid opinion, combining the activities and budget of these two bodies with very different missions may well debilitate the strength of both.

While promoting tourism is ultimately a commercial venture, developing Japanese Studies is a genuine academic mission. The results of investments in the latter may not be easy to detect quickly. Given the difficulty of mastering the Japanese language and improving one's research in this area, it takes years and decades for the making of a fine scholar, the production of important publications, and establishment of influential organisations in this field. On the other hand, increasing tourism to Japan is perhaps a much more straightforward task which can produce more results over the short term.

For this reason alone it is not difficult to foresee the challenge of prioritising projects and funding if the merger between these two organisations with different tasks should go ahead.

In this current difficult economic climate, Area and Regional Studies are facing a shortage of funding from their home governments. The UK is not an exception, and all departments are depending on more funding from abroad, both public and private, from the countries that are the object of study. On the other hand, we are still seeing a very large and strong group of young people who are willing to major in Japanese Studies due to the attractions Japan presents to them. All of us who are in the field of Japanese Studies have dedicated our lives and careers to promote Japan to the outside world and to present its wonderful strengths. We would be most grateful if you could note our passionate belief that the Japan Foundation should remain in its current form and convey this to the relevant persons in your ministry and the Government of Japan.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hughes
President, British Association of Japanese Studies
Professor of International Politics and Japanese Studies
University of Warwick

ジュリアン・ラビー スミソニアン・インスティテュート・フリーア&サック
ラー・ギャラリー 館長

ジェイムズ・ウラク 同 日本美術上級学芸員
(その他の米国美術館館長、学芸員からの署名)

書簡要約

私たち米国を代表する美術館の館長や学芸員たちは、以下のとおり連名で、国際交流基金と国際観光振興機構の統合は米国における日本美術研究の発展と日本文化の高い評価の発展にとって好ましくないこと、国際交流基金の未来を創造的に考えていただきたいことを訴えるものです。

私たちは、国際交流基金と国際観光振興機構は異なるアジェンダと訴求対象をもち、役割も全く別と考えます。米国にいまある日本への深い関心は一夜にして起こったものではなく、国際交流基金が事業の3本柱である文化芸術交流、日本語教育、日本研究・知的交流によって長年にわたって培ってきた世界文化としての日本理解の賜物です。

この春、ワシントンの3つの国立の美術館は、日本桜寄贈 100 周年記念フェスティバルの一環で、葛飾北斎、伊藤若冲、狩野一信という代表的芸術家を紹介する事業をそれぞれ実施しますが、これは、基金の継続的な支援によって育まれた深い探求精神によって、観光イベントが豊かさを増すという、完璧な実例です。そこには両方からのアプローチが必要なのであって、二つを結合してしまうのは、重大なあやまちであると考える次第です。

【美術館署名】

日本美術のプログラムを有する米国を代表する美術館の館長及び学芸員が、国際交流基金の支援を得て、玄葉大臣宛の本書簡に署名する。

シカゴ・アート・インスティテュート
理事長、館長、上級学芸員

アジア美術館
館長、日本美術上級学芸員

スミソニアン・インスティテュート・フリーア&サックラー・ギャラリー

館長、上級学芸員

ハーバード美術館

館長、アジア美術部長、アジア・地中海美術課長、中国・韓国美術上級講師、
インディアナポリス美術館、アジア美術学芸員

ロスアンゼルス郡立美術館

館長

グッゲンハイム美術館

館長、アジア美術上級学芸員

ミネアポリス美術館

館長兼理事長、日本美術学芸員

ボストン美術館

館長、アジア・オセアニア・アフリカ美術チェアー、日本美術上級学芸員

ヒューストン美術館

館長、アジア美術学芸員、写真学芸員補

プリンストン大学美術館

館長、アジア美術学芸員

ミシガン大学美術館

館長、アジア美術上級学芸員

イエール大学アート・ギャラリー

館長、日本美術上級学芸員

March 23, 2012

Minister Koichiro Gemba
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-chome Kasumigaseki
Chiyoda, Tokyo 100-0013
JAPAN

Dear Minister Gemba,

RE: Proposed Merger of Japan Foundation and Japan National Tourist Organization

We write on behalf of American museums to express our concerns over the Japanese Cabinet directive to study the feasibility of merging the Japan Foundation and the Japan National Tourist Organization (JNTO).

As institutions dedicated to the research, collection and exhibition of Japanese art, and engaged with educating our broad and diverse publics about Japanese history and culture, we support the Japan Foundation's mission and commend its distinguished record. American museums and their constituencies have been positively impacted over many years by all three of the Foundation's programs: Arts and Cultural Exchange, Japanese-Language Education Overseas, and Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange.

Since its establishment in 1972, the Japan Foundation has played a key role in the exponential growth of Japanese art exhibitions in the United States. These exhibitions and their ancillary public programs have promoted American understanding and appreciation of Japan in the context of world culture. They have facilitated and strengthened partnerships among peoples, leaders and institutions of Japan, East Asia and the United States within a global community.

Certainly, there must be innovative ways to meet the Foundation's financial challenges while preserving its core mission and transformative role.

In our view, the role of the Japan Foundation is irreconcilable with that of a tourism agency, the two serving different agendas and publics. Encouraging the deep interest that currently exists in America did not happen overnight, and also relies on a common understanding of academic nuances and debate.

This spring, national museums in Washington DC will host three exhibitions, each devoted to a single project by a major Japanese artist – Hokusai, Jakuchu, and Kazunobu. All this will be in the context of the centenary of the Cherry Blossom Festival. Here we have a perfect example of a tourism event that will be enriched by the sort of in-depth and thoughtful investigations that the Japan Foundation has so often encouraged. There is a need for both approaches, and it would, in our estimation, be a grave error to try to combine the two.

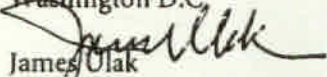
In short, our museums are unanimous in the view that a merger of the Japan Foundation with the Japan National Tourist Organization would be detrimental to the advancement

of Japanese art studies and cultural appreciation in the United States. By lending their names below, the directors and curators of America's leading museums appeal to you to think creatively about the Japan Foundation's future. We ask that you consider Ambassador Ando's words "to think about this country as a whole as well as about the international community in which it is a member."

Respectfully yours,



Julian Raby
The Dame Jillian Sackler Director of the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery
and the Freer Gallery of Art
Smithsonian Institution
Washington D.C.



James Ulak
Senior Curator Japanese Art
Smithsonian Institution
Washington D.C.

MUSEUM SIGNATORIES

The following individuals representing the leading U.S. museums with Japanese art programs hereby sign this letter to Minister Gemba dated March 20, 2012 in support of The Japan Foundation:

The Art Institute of Chicago

Douglas Druick, President and Eloise W. Martin Director
Janice A. Katz, Janice Katz, Roger L. Weston Associate Curator of Japanese Art

Asian Art Museum

Jay Xu, Director
Melissa Rinne, Associate Curator of Japanese Art

Freer Gallery of Art and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Julian Raby, The Dame Jillian Sackler Director
James T. Ulak, Senior Curator of Japanese Art

Harvard Art Museums

Thomas W. Lentz, Elizabeth and John Moors Cabot Director
Robert D. Mowry, Alan J. Dworsky Curator of Chinese Art and Head of the
Department of Asian Art, Division of Asian and Mediterranean Art, Arthur M.
Sackler Museum; Senior Lecturer on Chinese and Korean Art, Department of the
History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University

Indianapolis Museum of Art

John Teramoto, Curator of Asian Art

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Michael Govan, Director

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

Richard Armstrong, Director, Solomon R Guggenheim Foundation and Museum
Alexandra Munroe, Samsung Senior Curator, Asian Art

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Kaywin Feldman, Director and President
Matthew Welch, Curator of Japanese Art

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Malcolm Rogers, Ann and Graham Gund Director
Jane Portal, The Matsutaro Shoriki Chair, Art of Asia, Oceania, and Africa
Anne Nishimura Morse, William and Helen Pounds Senior Curator of Japanese Art, Art of Asia, Oceania, and Africa

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Gary Tinterow, Director
Christine Starkman, Curator Asian Art, Ancient to Contemporary
Yasufumi Nakamori, Assistant Curator, Photography

Philadelphia Museum of Art

Timothy Rub, The George D. Widener Director and Chief Operating Officer
Felice Fischer, The Luther W. Brady Curator of Japanese Art Senior Curator of East Asian Art

Princeton University Art Museum

James Christen Steward, Director
Cary Y. Liu, Curator of Asian Art

University of Michigan Museum of Art

Joseph Rosa, Director
Natsu Oyobe, Associate Curator of Asian Art

Yale University Art Gallery

John (Jock) Reynolds, Director
Sadako Ohki, The Japan Foundation Associate Curator of Japanese Art, Department of Asian Art