PRESS RELEASE  June 29th, 2011  No. 612

Japan-Europe "Kizuna" Project
- Embracing Solidarity and Diversity in Community -
on Sunday July 3\textsuperscript{rd} 【Free】

wishing for recovery and reconstruction of communities after 3.11

The Japan Foundation and EUNIC (European Union National Institute for Culture) JAPAN are delighted to announce the following event titled "Japan-Europe ‘Kizuna’ Project - Embracing Solidarity and Diversity in Community" to be held on Sunday July 3rd, 2011.

This symposium was originally planned to take place in March 2011 with themes on Identity and Diversity in Europe. However, the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11th forced it to be postponed. The organizers at one point thought about cancelling the event. But after all the organizers and the panelists agreed that it was even more important to host this event now and reconfirm the importance of Kizuna, or bonding, of community. So here we are proudly announcing the event!

The panelists gathered from Europe and Japan will introduce their endeavors in community empowerment. They will send messages for Japan to rebuild its community especially after 3.11 earthquake and tsunami disaster. Charity fundraising will be conducted at the site.

Japan-Europe "Kizuna" Project
- Embracing Solidarity and Diversity in Community-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp;Time</th>
<th>Sunday July 3\textsuperscript{rd}, 2011 10:30—17:30 (Followed by buffet reception)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Italian Cultural Institute, Tokyo (Kudan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Japanese &amp; English with simultaneous translation</td>
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<td>Admission</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td>Registration</td>
<td>Send us an e-mail to <a href="mailto:oca@jpf.go.jp">oca@jpf.go.jp</a> with your name and affiliation. (200 seats)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organizers</td>
<td>The Japan Foundation &amp; EUNIC Japan</td>
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</tbody>
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For more details : [http://www.jpf.go.jp/e/intel/new/1106/06-02.html](http://www.jpf.go.jp/e/intel/new/1106/06-02.html)

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Symposium Program is now available!

PROGRAM

10:30 Welcome

10:45-12:30 Session 1: Language, Dialect and Communities

This session considers the extent to which communities are defined by a shared language or dialect. It features Irish and Bulgarian musicians who share roots from different language, and Japanese expert of Kesen language/dialect in Tohoku area.

Garry SHANNON, The Kilfenora Ceili Band, Ireland
Dr. Harutsugu YAMAURA, Medical Doctor, Advocator of the Kesen language/dialect, Japan
Alexander LIALIOS (piano) & Dessislava TCHOLAKOVA (violin),
Studies at "Prof. Pancho Vladigerov" National Academy of Music in Sofia, Bulgaria

14:00-15:30 Session 2: Communities in Adversity

Communities are brought together by shared experiences during difficult times, and the ways in which people help each other during crisis can create something positive even out of tragedy. We hear about the community in Tohoku following the disaster there in March, and we learn from the experiences of an Italian politician who went through something similar.

Dario BARNABA,
Secretary of Regional Commission of Friuli Venezia Giulia, Association of Italian Banks (ABI), Italy
Takashi MURAKAMI, Professor at Miyagi University of Education, MMIX Lab, Japan
Chikuhou OHTOMO, Shakuhachi Player, Japan

16:00-17:30 Session 3: Diversity in Community

Communities may have a natural impulse to exclude outsiders. But outsiders often have a lot to offer, both in practical help and new ideas. This session includes a foreign charity active in Tohoku after the earthquake, and also a surprise musical joint session is planned, where a Japanese musician absorbing new influences that are taking his art in unexpected directions.

Rui ZINK, Writer and Dramatist, Professor at Nova University in Lisbon, Portugal
Dr. Carola HOMMERICH, German Institute for Japanese Studies, Germany/Japan
Elizabeth OLIVER, Founder of Animal Refuge Kansai (ARK), England/Japan

● ♪ indicates there will be musical performance. Enjoy!
● A secret musical session is planned at the end of Session 3, where musicians will play together wishing for recovery and reconstruction of communities in Tohoku & Kanto areas.
  (This plan will be finalized at rehearsal when musicians arrive Japan and thus subject to change.)