

**15<sup>th</sup> German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum 2020**  
**Summer School with Alumni Conference on**  
**"Designing a Prosperous Aging Society:**  
**The Perspective of the Young"**  
**from Friday, August 28 to Sunday, September 6, 2020**

## 1. Objectives

Since 2006, the German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum intends to inspire the next generation of future leaders to contribute to the relations between Germany and Japan. Young prospective leaders from various professions are invited to expose themselves to an intercultural setting, to address politically and socially relevant issues, to deepen mutual understanding by working together, and to build valuable contacts. The program aims at establishing sustainable networks that will both strengthen and further vitalize the future cooperation between both countries.

## 2. Target Group

Each year, a large number of internationally active private corporations and public institutions choose to recommend their promising young staff members to the program. Among those recommended, 16 talented young professionals – eight German and eight Japanese – are carefully selected. Intentionally, the professional backgrounds in each group are highly diverse, ranging from business, politics, administration, and the media to the academic world. Applicants should be between 25 to 35 years old. Fluency in English is required. The application process is highly competitive.

## 3. Time and Place

The ten-day forum will be held from Friday, August 28 to Sunday, September 6, 2020 in Potsdam and Berlin (Germany).

## 4. Program

The working title of the summer school of the German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum 2020 is "Designing a Prosperous Aging Society: The Perspective of the Young". It is widely known that Germany and Japan alike are particularly affected by the challenges of demographic change. But while questions related to the elder

generations have been largely addressed, the forum takes a different approach by looking at the future of both societies from the perspective of the young.

The forum will thus shift the focus onto the younger generations – the ones who will have to keep the aging society running – and discuss the question of how young people will possibly live in the future aging society. Will there be room to meet not only the needs of large numbers of senior citizens, but also to make it a good place to live for the young? How can young citizens contribute to designing a prosperous society?

Top level speakers from business, politics, administration, the media, and the academic world are invited to share and discuss their theories and viewpoints with the participants. Specific problems will be discussed in mixed working groups with German and Japanese participants in order to facilitate lively communication among group members, to enhance team spirit, and to train organizational skills. The program also offers visits to institutions.

The summer school aims at making the participants reflect current and future developments in Germany and Japan in their global context, gain understanding for different points of views, and develop new approaches to find solutions together for the challenges that Germany and Japan face alike. During the alumni conference at the end of the forum the participants have the chance to establish additional contact with alumni from previous years.

## **5. Funding and Expenditure**

The German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum is coordinated by the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB). It is funded by Daido Life Insurance Company, the Mori Manufacturing Research and Technology Foundation, the Yamaoka Memorial Foundation, YANMAR HOLDINGS CO., LTD., and Yuasa M&B Co., Ltd. in 2020 and supported by other institutions. The program covers all basic expenditure, such as costs for travel, accommodation, meals, transport, etc.

## **6. Application**

Deadline: April 20, 2020

Documents required:

- Application Form\*
  - Curriculum Vitae
  - Letter of Recommendation in English (by current employer)
- \*a digital version will be provided upon request via email

**Please send your application with all required documents to:**

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