

Report on the 15th EAJS International Conference 2017 in Lisbon, Portugal

1. Conference time

30 August – 2 September 2017

2. Conference venue

The main activities, sections panels and presentations as well as scientific events were held at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FCSH), Universidade Nova de Lisboa.

All other events were held in different, emblematic places of Lisbon.

3. Conference schedule

The conference started with a keynote lecture by Professor Momoko Nakamura of Kantō Gakuin University on 30 August at Cinema de São Jorge. It was followed by a welcome reception at Museu Nacional de História Natural e Ciência.

All conference presentations and panels took place on days 2 - 4 (31 August to 2 September 2017) of the conference.

The Gala Dinner took place on 1 September at Patio Gale, Praça do Comércio.

The EAJS General Assembly was held on 2 September at Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian.

All the mentioned places were either within walking distance of the FCSH or near a metro station, close to the city centre.

4. Participants

Total number of participants: 1200

4.1. Participants' nationalities

In total, 1200 participants from 42 countries attended the conference. Most of the participants came from Japan, but other countries largely represented were also the United Kingdom, Germany, USA, France, and Italy. The distribution in percentages according to the country of the participant is shown below. It was the largest Portuguese participation ever in an EAJS Conference.

Country	No. of delegates	Share of delegates
Japan	512	43%
United Kingdom	129	11%
Germany	115	10%
USA	93	8%
France	41	3%
Italy	39	3%
Portugal	26	2%
Austria	22	2%
Spain	20	2%
Switzerland	18	2%
The Netherlands	16	1%
Finland	12	1%
Sweden	12	1%
Belgium	11	1%

Canada	11	1%
China	11	1%
Denmark	8	1%
Hungary	8	1%
Israel	8	1%
Poland	8	1%
Turkey	8	1%
Australia	7	1%
Russia	7	1%
Slovenia	7	1%
Norway	6	1%
Czech Republic	5	0%
Estonia	4	0%
Romania	4	0%
Brazil	3	0%
Ireland	3	0%
Serbia	3	0%
Vietnam	3	0%
Lithuania	2	0%
New Zealand	2	0%
Singapore	2	0%
Bosnia and Hercegovina	1	0%
Bulgaria	1	0%
Croatia	1	0%
Mexico	1	0%
Nigeria	1	0%
Taiwan	1	0%
Ukraine	1	0%

Total **1200**

4.2. Active participants

There were 139 panels comprising 361 papers, 349 individual papers and 16 poster presentation, thus a total of 726 presentations.

5. Registration data

There were two registration period: early bird and late registration. Registration opened on 28 February 2017. In total, 1240 delegates registered. Of these, 961 (77%) had registered within the early bird period by 31 May 2017.

6. Fees

The fees varied according to date of registration and whether the delegate was student and/or a member or non-member of EAJS or AJE.

6.1. Conference registration fees

The fees applied were the following:
Non-member: 220 / 240 (early bird / late registration)
Member: 130 / 150
Student non-member: 120 / 150
Student member: 70 / 90

6.2. Fee waivers

- The 28 sections convenors, from section 1 through 10;
- The keynote speaker;
- 11 members of the EAJS Council;
- 2 members of EAJS staff;
- 2 members of the local organizing team;
- 3 representatives of the Japan Foundation;
- 2 representatives of the Toshiba International Foundation.

7. Companies and institutions exhibiting at the conference

The conference was supported by the attendance of several exhibitors:

- Aprende Japonés Hoy/Verasia
- Bloomsbury Publishing
- Brill
- CHAM
- Editions Chandeigne
- Hakuho Foundation Japanese Research Fellowship
- Japan Center for Asian Historical Records, National Archives of Japan
- JPT Europe Ltd
- Kinokuniya Publications Service of London Co. Ltd.
- Monumenta Nipponica
- Nikkei Europe Limited
- Springer Japan
- T&F

8. Funding gathered in Portugal:

- FCSH-NOVA: campus as the Conference venue;
- CHAM: management team;
- Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia: €600;
- BCP Milenium: €1000;
- Turismo de Lisboa / Lisbon Tourism: €5000;
- Câmara Municipal de Sintra / Sintra Municipality: conference merchandise;
- Câmara Municipal de Lisboa / Lisbon Municipality: sound system at Opening Ceremony and lighting at Gala Dinner;
- EGEAC: Open Ceremony venue;
- Camões, Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua: offer of books by Portuguese authors translated into English.
- AirFrance-KLM: code share for discount tickets.

9. Scientific events related to the conference

- a) Satellite events at FCSH venue
 - “Commemorating the 900th Anniversary of Saigyō’s Birth”, organised by: Saigyō Society.
 - “Japanese Studies in Japan: A New Trend?”, organised by: Tohoku University Global Japanese.
 - “Funny Stories and Orality”, organised by: Toshiyuki Sadanobu, Kyoto University.

- “Legacies of Kirishitan Culture: Searching for the Origins of Five Centuries of Interaction between Japan and Europe”, organised by: International Research Center for Japanese Studies.
 - “The near Future of Pre-Modern Japanese Text Research”, organised by: National Institute of Japanese Literature.
 - Screening of a Japanese documentary film, "Life is Fruity" (Tokai Television Broadcasting, Ltd., 2016); in presence of the film’s director, the producer, and the narrator, Ms. KIKI Kirin, organised by: Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture.
 - Journal launch: *Global perspectives on Japan*, published by the Japanese Studies Association of Turkey (JAD); co-organised by the Japan Anthropology Workshop (JAWS)
 - Section 6’s co-convenors meeting about publication of papers on the theme: “Does Japan Need More Structural Reform?”
- b) Scientific events in other venues
- EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Students: 27 - 30 August at Convento da Arrábida
 - Toshiba International Foundation (TIFO) Alumni reunion meeting on 31 August
- c) Other meetings
- EAJS General Meeting
 - Association of Japanese Language Teachers in Europe, AJE, General Meeting
 - JAWS business meeting

10. Conference programme

<https://www.nomadit.co.uk/eajs/eajs2017/index>

11. Social events

- Welcome Reception, which was attended by approximately 700 delegates.
- Gala Dinner, which was held at Patio Gale in Lisbon city centre. It was an optional event. 620 delegates attended.
- EAJS General Meeting, held at Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian. Approximately 150 members attended.

12. Cultural events

- Classic Concert at São Roque Church, Lisbon.
- *6 Luso-Japanese Highlights*. Bibliography Exhibition at Coimbra’s University Library.
- Opening ceremony of the exhibition: *From the shadows of Kyoto to the light of Lisbon*, Tiles by Ishii Haru, Museu Nacional do Azulejo.
- *Presentation of Flower Offering*, by Hananofu Shuho, followed by a talk session with the Master, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian.

13. Services during the conference

13.1. Lunch and coffee breaks

The conference fee included food for three lunch breaks and five coffee breaks. Conference participants could pick up lunch boxes and drinks during lunch breaks. Participants could choose in advance whether they preferred vegetarian or vegan option. The coffee breaks included coffee, tea, fresh soft drinks and petit fours.

13.2 Babysitting

Professional babysitting service was provided through a kindergarten in 10 minutes walking distance from the conference venue. The service was eligible for children aged 2 to 7 years in two scheduling options: half-day care or full-day care, charged accordingly. Applications had to be given in advance and child-care applications on the spot could for organizational reasons not be accepted. The parents of five children applied for the service, four from Japan, and one from the USA.

13.3 Cultural tours

Six excursions on various days were planned. Two excursions offered day trips outside of Lisbon. Because of the requirement of a minimum number of participants, only three of excursions could actually be carried out. In total, 83 participants applied for the excursions.

13.4 Volunteers

52 students worked voluntarily throughout the four days of the conference. They were deployed at the information desk and in the seminar rooms to provide technical and other support to section convenors. They furthermore helped with logistics during lunch times and during the cultural and social events. A detailed schedule for volunteers was drawn up to match as best as possible their individual interests in the conference programme, their particular skills and their availability.