

**NPI**

公益財団法人 中曽根康弘世界平和研究所
Nakasone Yasuhiro Peace Institute

21st Nakasone Yasuhiro Award Recipients Selected

Nakasone Peace Institute (Chairman: Aso Taro; President: Nakasone Hirofumi) has selected one recipient for the 21st Nakasone Yasuhiro Award of Excellence and two recipients for the Incentive Award.

The Nakasone Yasuhiro Award was established in 2004 to recognize individuals with great potential to make a positive difference on the global stage, tackling challenges such as hunger, poverty, the environment, and energy, and who are creating a new international order and cooperative regional economic systems.

The Award is intended to contribute to the realization of a truly peaceful and prosperous international society by respecting diversity and inclusion, celebrating the recipients' efforts, and encouraging their further activities.

In principle, one Award of Excellence and a small number of Incentive Awards are presented. The Awards are generally granted to individuals, but, in some cases, groups will also be recognized. A plaque and supplementary award of 1,000,000 yen for the Award of Excellence and 500,000 yen for the Incentive Award are awarded to the recipients.

The Award is supported by:

Central Japan Railway Company, TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION,
NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION, and East Japan Railway Company.



Award Recipients

Award of Excellence: Monda Ruiko, President, PLAS

Incentive Award: JIHEE CHOI, Post-doctoral Fellow, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences,
The University of Tokyo

Céline Pajon, Head of Japan Research, Institut français des relations
internationales (Ifri)

Date & Time: November 28, 2025 (Friday) 10:00

Venue: The Capitol Hotel Tokyu, 2-10-3, Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0014

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Recipients

Ms. Monda Ruiko (Award of Excellence)

Nationality: Japan

Occupation: President, PLAS

Reason for selection:

As the representative of a specified non-profit corporation, Ms. Monda has been engaged in support activities in Africa since her student days, providing assistance to children from families affected by poverty and HIV/AIDS in Africa. She has been running an NGO for over 20 years since graduate school. In addition to her steady management of the organization, she has also worked to build a support system rooted in local communities through collaboration with local NGOs. At the same time, through new initiatives such as crowdfunding and charity auctions, she pioneers new forms of support. That she continues to expand activities together with young female supporters has been evaluated very highly.

Ms. JIHEE CHOI (Incentive Award)

Nationality: Republic of Korea

Occupation: Post-doctoral Fellow, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo

Reason for selection:

As a researcher from the Republic of Korea, Ms. Choi obtained a master's degree in the ROK on issues regarding North-South unification and went on to conduct research on Japan–Korea relations and the Nakasone Yasuhiro administration to earn a doctorate in Japan. She also has practical experience as a journalist and possesses the ability to communicate her research findings in an accessible manner. In addition to recognition of her potential as a researcher and her qualities as an educator, her research on the multifaceted Japan–Korea diplomatic relations in the milestone year of the 60th anniversary of normalization, amid an international situation rife with divisive modes of thought, has been highly evaluated.

Ms. Céline Pajon (Incentive Award)

Nationality: France

Occupation: Head of Japan Research, Institut français des relations internationales (Ifri)

Reason for selection:

As the Head of Japan Research at a leading research institute in France, Ms. Pajon actively disseminates information based on her research on Japan's diplomacy and security, responding to ever-changing social needs. She plays a vital role in enhancing understanding of Japan in France and Europe, as well as in strengthening relations between Japan and Europe. As a key contributor to future international intellectual exchange, she has engaged in activities and made achievements that have been highly evaluated.