

Symposium

Active Ageing in the Digital Age

How can digitalization and connectivity enhance social participation and inclusion?

organized by

German Institute for Japanese Studies, Tokyo
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Tokyo
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Japan and Germany are confronting fast ageing populations. Supporting the social participation and inclusion of the increasing portion of elderly is a major challenge given the decline of family structures, the increase of elderly persons living alone and the weak social cohesion among neighbourhoods in urban environments. Participation and inclusion are key to “active ageing”. They constitute a triple-win situation for the elderly, their communities and society at large. Digitalization and connectivity offer great opportunities in this respect. However, to benefit from these opportunities, the technologies need to be adopted and used by the older generation. It is for this reason, that the promotion of digital literacy among the elderly population becomes an important policy area for ageing societies. The conference addresses these issues of active ageing in the digital age by looking at how ageing countries like Japan and Germany are trying to ensure that the older generation can profit from the benefits the digital transformation promises with regard to social participation and inclusion.

Program outline

- 14:30 Registration desk open
- 15:00 Welcome and introduction
NN (JDZB) / Franz Waldenberger (DIJ)
- 15:15 Promoting the digital literacy among elderly – German and European examples
Claudia Müller (University of Siegen)
- 15:45 Discussion
- 16:15 Coffee break
- 16:30 Projects from Japan
Atsushi Hiyama (The University of Tokyo), Takeshi Maki (Internet of Seniors),
Hiroko Kudo (Chuo University), NN.
- 17:30 Feedback from and discussion with German experts
Gerhard Igl (Kiel University), Cornelia Kricheldorf (Catholic University of Freiburg),
Monika Reichert (TU Dortmund), Hildegard Theobald (University of Vechta)
Moderated by Tomoo Matsuda (MRI)
- 18:30 Open discussion
- 18:50 Concluding remarks
Gerd Naegele (TU Dortmund)