

**Invitation to the 8th Annual Central Europe/Japan Student Conference on
*Climate Change: How students in Central Europe and Japan see the impact
of global warming on their lives – an opportunity to exchange ideas***

Organized by the Josai Institute for Central European Studies
with support from the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

in cooperation with Masaryk University (Czech Republic), University of Leipzig
(Germany)*, Debrecen University (Hungary), Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania)
University of Lodz (Poland), Comenius University (Slovakia), and the University of
Ljubljana (Slovenia)

Venue: the Kioicho (Tokyo) Campus of Josai University and Josai International University
Date: 16 February, 2022

On November 5 at COP26 in Glasgow, 100,000 young people took to the streets in the rain to shout slogans against what they say has been “all show and no go” on climate change. In Central Europe, however, protests have tended to be more muted. The economies of former East Bloc countries have been hit severely by Covid-19, causing some people to see action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as threatening their jobs. As for Japanese students, though privately many will say they are worried about climate change, few are moved to join demonstrations, which, in any case are rare. What could be the cause of these contrasting responses to the greatest crisis of our time? And why is there such little public discussion in Japan about an issue that has generated so much debate globally? These are some of the questions the present conference is asking students to respond to.

Thanks to the generous support of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, the Josai Institute for Central European Studies is inviting students from partner universities in Central and Eastern Europe to Japan to share ideas and experiences. Participation is limited to undergraduate students of four-year institutions and both undergraduates and first year MA students in institutions following the Bologna system. Speakers from outside Japan will make individual 15-minute presentations in English on a topic related to the above theme. Participants may be requested to turn their presentations into manuscripts suitable for publication. For participants from outside Japan, economy class air travel and accommodation for four nights as well as meals related to the conference will be provided, however, if government restrictions on international travel are reinstated, the conference will be held online. Students wishing to participate should contact the responsible faculty member or administrator at their institution. For questions regarding the conference theme, applicants are requested to send an email to Andrew Horvat, visiting professor Josai International University at ahorvat@jiu.ac.jp.

*Participation to be confirmed.