

## **Sport and Diplomacy**

### **Past Reflections and Looking Toward 2020**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017**  
**5:30pm**

A SOAS Japan Research Centre Centenary Symposium  
Co-organised by the Japan Foundation and the Japan Sport Council

SOAS Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, Thornhaugh St. London WC1H 0XG  
Followed by a drinks reception in the Brunei Gallery Suite

Japan is due to host two sporting 'mega-events' in the next few years:

The Rugby World Cup 2019  
Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020

The build up to these events provides an opportunity to reflect on the past, present and future role of sport as an opportunity for diplomacy. This symposium focuses on mega-sporting events as a public diplomatic platform, and how it creates legacies for global community.

Sport Diplomacy is a relatively new and flourishing field in academia building upon the heritage of studies in sport and history, politics and sociology. With the 2019 and 2020 events on the horizon, this event will examine the role of sports throughout the history in Japan since the hosting of the Olympics in 1964 in Tokyo.

We are pleased to welcome the Director General of Japan Sports Agency, the extra-ministerial bureau of Japanese sports, as a key speaker to talk about the nation's government led initiative 'Sport for Tomorrow'. Sport for Tomorrow is an international project to implement changes on a national and international scale in time for and beyond 2020, which consists of three pillars: international cooperation through sports, academy for future sports leaders, and promotion of sport integrity through global anti-doping activities.

We also welcome Richard Caborn, former Minister of Sport for the UK, who will speak about the legacy of the London 2012 Olympics for sport in the UK. Overall, the symposium will reflect on sports' versatility as a diplomatic communication medium, and how Japan is approaching the unique opportunity of hosting mega-sporting events to leverage the power of sport in this time of globalisation.

**A free public event, but pre-registration essential.**

**This event is also supported by;**



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**Schedule**

**5:30pm** Doors open

**5:45pm** **Welcome Remarks**

Professor Richard Black, Pro-Director, SOAS University of London  
Ms Mana Takatori, Director General, Japan Foundation London  
Mr Soichiro Sano, Director, Japan Sport Council London  
Dr Helen Macnaughtan, Chair, SOAS Japan Research Centre

**Speakers:**

**6:00pm** **“Sport and Diplomacy – an introduction”**  
Dr J Simon Rofe, SOAS University of London

**6:15pm** **“Reflections on Tokyo 1964 and Beyond”**  
Dr Helen Macnaughtan, SOAS University of London

**6:30pm** **“After London 2012: Olympic legacy and sport in the UK”**  
Richard Caborn, former Minister of Sport 2001-7

**6:45pm** **“Sport for Tomorrow: the Power of Sport from Japan beyond 2020”**  
Tetsuya Kimura, Director-General, Japan Sports Agency

**7:15pm** **Q&A**

**7:45pm** Drinks Reception (sponsored by Sake Samurai)

