

2nd International Youth Forum on Historical Reconciliation in East Asia

19-23 August 2013 / Seoul, Republic of Korea

GENERAL INFORMATION

I. Outline

Background

In recent decades, regional cooperation and integration in Europe and other parts of the world have been significantly improved, but East Asia remains stymied by many barriers to achieving this goal. Many countries in East Asia have yet to settle territorial and historical disputes with neighboring regions, and the pernicious issue of contested history continues to paralyze ongoing efforts to build mutual trust and understanding.

Hence, in 2012, the Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU) organized the 1st International Youth Forum on historical reconciliation, in an effort to promote historical dialogues among youth in East Asia and beyond. This year's 2nd International Youth Forum will extend those efforts and serve as a platform for individuals from various backgrounds to share their ideas and inspirations on relevant historical issues. The overall goal is to contribute directly to historical reconciliation while enabling youths to understand and collaborate with peers from the global community.

Objectives

- To explore new visions and ideas for historical reconciliation in East Asia, particularly regarding the roles of youth
- To promote understanding of achievements and challenges of historical reconciliation efforts in East Asia and other regions
- To raise public awareness on the significance of youth participation for historical reconciliation

Date & Venue

19 – 23 August 2013 / Seoul Youth Hostel, Seoul, Korea

Organizer: Korean National Commission for UNESCO (KNCU)

Participants

- 60 individuals, ages 18-30 (20 applicants from Korea and 40 from overseas)
 - Priority will be given to individuals directly involved in historical reconciliation activities in their respective countries.
 - Participants should be proficient in English in order to give presentations and join discussions.
 - KNCU gives preference to Japanese applicants for a more balanced discussion during the forum.
- Renowned scholars and experts will lecture and moderate breakout sessions.

Main Theme & Sub-themes

- **Main theme: Youth and Historical Reconciliation in East Asia**
- **Sub-theme 1:** Identifying Barriers Against Historical Reconciliation in East Asia
- **Sub-theme 2:** Action and Participation of Youth for Historical Reconciliation in East Asia

Languages

- 20 August: Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Korean and English.
- 19, 21-23 August: English only.

Financial Arrangements

- NO participation fee. Food, accommodations, and local transportation during the forum will be provided. (Each room will be shared by 6-10 participants.)
- Traveling costs will be borne by individuals. (KNCU is only able to offer a limited number of scholarships to selected candidates from the least developed countries or for special occasions upon request.)

Application

All applicants must complete the [Application Form](#) and email it to KNCU (youthforum@unesco.or.kr) by **NO LATER THAN 12 July 2013.** (Selected participants will be notified by email by **16 July 2013.**)

Certificate

Participants who complete the forum will be awarded a certificate of attendance.

II. Activities

Open Lectures

Renowned scholars and activists in this field will deliver special lectures on historical reconciliation. These lectures will be open to the public. Each lecture will last for approximately 40 minutes, followed by a Q & A session.

Plenary Sessions & Breakout Sessions

- Plenary sessions include opening & closing ceremonies, open lectures, wrap-up discussion of breakout sessions and adoption of the forum report.
- For breakout sessions, participants will be divided into four groups for further in-depth discussion. In the first breakout session, each participant must make a 5-10 minute presentation based on the essay they submitted (See **Preparatory Works**, below). Breakout sessions will be advised by renowned experts in the field.

Field Studies

- The House of Sharing was established for women who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese military during the 2nd World War. The House includes living quarters for these women, as well as the Museum of Sexual Slavery by the Japanese Military. For more information, please visit www.nanum.org

Preparatory Works

- Participants will be asked to submit an essay on each of the sub-themes. Based on the essay, participants will give a 5-10 minute presentation on the first day of the forum.
- Essays must be 2000 words or LESS in English and sent via e-mail to youthforum@unesco.or.kr **by 5 August 2013.** (Detailed information will be provided to selected participants.)
- Contents of the essays should:
 - Be original.
 - Include discussion of: (1) the current situation and difficulties related to the given theme; and (2) suggestions or recommendations from the youth perspective on how to promote mutual cooperation or resolution with regard to the theme.

III. Program (Tentative)

| | Time | Content |
|----------------|-------------|---|
| 19 Aug. | -15:00 | Arrival & Registration |
| | 15:00-16:00 | Ice-breaking |
| | 16:00-18:00 | Orientation |
| | 18:00-19:30 | Dinner |
| 20 Aug. | 09:30-10:00 | Opening Ceremony |
| | 10:00-11:00 | OPEN LECTURE 1 : |
| | 11:00-11:20 | Break |
| | 11:20-12:30 | OPEN LECTURE 2 |
| | 12:30-14:00 | Lunch |
| | 14:00-15:10 | OPEN LECTURE 3 |
| | 15:10-15:30 | Break |
| | 15:30-17:00 | Working Group Meeting & Review of Open Lecture |
| | 17:00-17:20 | Break |
| | 17:20-18:00 | Election of Chair & Vice Chair |
| 21 Aug. | 09:00-16:00 | [Field Study] The House of Sharing (Gwangju, Gyeonggi-do) |
| | 16:00-18:00 | Group Activity |
| | 18:00-19:30 | Dinner |
| | 19:30-21:00 | [Breakout Session 4] Participant Discussion on Sub-themes 1/2 |

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|----------------|-------------|---|
| 22 Aug. | 09:00-12:30 | [Breakout Session 1] 09:00-09:10 Facilitator Presentation 09:10-12:30 Participant Presentations (10 minutes each) |
| | 12:30-14:00 | Lunch |
| | 14:00-16:00 | [Breakout Session 2] Participant Discussion on Sub-theme 1 |
| | 16:00-16:30 | Break |
| | 16:30-18:30 | [Breakout Session 3] Participant Discussion on Sub-theme 2 |
| | 18:30-20:00 | Dinner |
| | 20:00-21:00 | [Plenary Session 1] Breakout Session Briefing & Discussion |
| 23 Aug. | 09:00-12:00 | [Plenary Session 2] Adoption of the Forum Report |
| | 12:00-12:30 | Closing |
| | 12:30-13:30 | Lunch |

Attached: <Voice of Youth> Final Report of 2012 KNCU International Youth Forum on Historical Reconciliation in East Asia.

Correspondence

Contact: Mr. Seong-wook Hong, Youth Team, Korean National Commission for UNESCO

CPO Box 64, Seoul, Korea

Tel: 82-2-6958-4158 / Fax: 82-2-6958-4253 / Email: youthforum@unesco.or.kr