

THE
CARTER CENTER



THE THIRD ASIA-PACIFIC
DEVELOPMENT FORUM
AND
A JIMMY CARTER CONVERSATION
ON WAGING PEACE

July 17th, 2026
Waseda University
Tokyo



ASIA-PACIFIC
DEVELOPMENT FORUM

THE
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CHANCY
FOUNDATION





BY ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

The United States, Singapore, and Japan each bring unique and indispensable strengths to this regional architecture. The United States continues to lead in foundational AI research, venture capital ecosystems, and global discussions on trustworthy AI and technology governance. Singapore, as a premier hub for finance, logistics, and digital regulation, offers unparalleled convening power and thought leadership on AI ethics and Southeast Asian digital transformation. Japan contributes its legacy of industrial excellence, world-leading robotics, and a longstanding commitment to human-centric innovation and supply chain resilience. Together with China and other Asia-Pacific economies, these nations form a complex tapestry of interdependence, competition, and shared opportunity.

The purpose of this Third Forum is to provide a high-level platform for policymakers, technologists, scholars, and business leaders from China, the United States, Japan, Singapore, and across the region to engage in constructive dialogue. By examining how each countrys foreign and economic policies intersect with the rapid advancement of AI and other emerging technologies, the forum seeks to identify pathways for reducing strategic mistrust, fostering responsible innovation, and ensuring that technological progress contributes to shared prosperity and regional stability.

This edition thus advances the Forum's founding vision: to create a lasting platform for exchange among Asia-Pacific nations-bridging governments, industries, and academic institutions-and to contribute meaningfully to the peace, stability, and dynamism of our region.



THE HISTORY: A SPECIAL AGREEMENT



On January 31, 1979, Vice Premier of China Deng Xiaoping and US President Carter signed the "Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between China and the United States" and other agreements at the White House.

These were the first batch of inter-governmental agreements after the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States.

They marked the entry into a new stage of institutionalized and all-round cooperation in scientific and technological exchanges between the two countries, injecting crucial impetus into China's scientific and technological progress and cultural prosperity, and profoundly influencing the global pattern of science and technology and culture.



PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER & THE CARTER CENTER



Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States, is celebrated for his towering moral legacy. While his term faced economic woes and the Iran hostage crisis, he achieved historic breakthroughs: brokering the Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel, normalizing relations with China, and placing human rights at the center of foreign policy. His true greatness, however, blossomed after the White House. Through The Carter Center, he tirelessly advanced peace, fought disease, and monitored elections worldwide, earning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002. Carter redefined the post-presidency, and his lifelong integrity, humility, and humanitarian service have cemented his status as one of America's most revered statesmen.

Over 40 years, The Carter Center has worked in more than 90 countries to resolve conflicts, advance democracy, protect human rights, prevent disease, and improve mental health and support for caregivers.

In ways large and small, we strive to wage peace, fight disease, and build hope across the globe and here at home. And with each step forward, we help create the more peaceful and healthy world that President and Mrs. Carter imagined.



PRIME MINISTER YUKIO HATOYAMA



Yukio Hatoyama, the 93rd Prime Minister of Japan, is a political leader of profound moral courage and far-sighted vision. Inspired by the ideals handed down through generations of his family, he ardently championed the establishment of an “East Asian Community” to foster lasting harmony among neighboring nations. With a rare humanitarian spirit, he candidly acknowledged Japan’s wartime history and extended sincere apologies to the people of Asia, striving to heal historical wounds and build deep, genuine trust.

His dedication to peace is rooted in one of the most extraordinary families in modern political history. The Hatoyama family is often likened to Japan’s Kennedy dynasty, an almost legendary political lineage. To be born into such a family meant inheriting the sacred mission of a statesman — a mission Yukio Hatoyama fulfilled with grace. He elevated his family’s legacy into a broader, more forward-looking vision of Asian solidarity.

After leaving office, the PM has remained a tireless traveler for peace, visiting China and other neighboring countries on numerous occasions and making positive contributions to regional peace and stability.



A MEETING WITH LEGENDARY HISTORY



A special meeting for the political leaders and entrepreneurs will be held near the Ōkuma Residence Garden. Ōkuma Shigenobu stands as a monumental architect of Japan's modern renaissance. A visionary leader of the Meiji Restoration, he dedicated his brilliant mind to transforming a secluded island nation into an enlightened, progressive state. As Finance Minister and Foreign Minister, he masterfully designed Japan's modern currency system and pioneered early railroad and telegraph networks, laying the very foundations of industrial civilisation. His unwavering belief in parliamentary democracy led him to champion constitutional government and party politics, and he twice served as Prime Minister, tirelessly advancing popular representation.

Ōkuma's most cherished gift to humanity is Waseda University, founded in 1882 to nurture independent minds guided by his ideal of "Harmony of Eastern and Western Civilisations." On the university grounds, the site of his former residence endures as a sacred heart of that vision. Known as the Ōkuma Residence Garden, his beloved home and its tranquil garden with winding paths and a peaceful pond were bequeathed to the university upon his death. Today this serene space rests in the shadow of the iconic Ōkuma Auditorium, whispering the founder's undying spirit of freedom, learning, and peace.



TOPIC OF THE FORUM

AI Governance, Great-Power Diplomacy, and the Future
of Asia-Pacific Cooperation

DATE AND VENUE

Date: July 17th, 2026

Venue: B1, Okuma Memorial Tower (Building No. 26), Waseda University



HOST ORGANIZATIONS

The Carter Center

Chancy Foundation

CO-HOST ORGANIZATIONS

BlackButterfly
Capital

DEPTRUM

THEMiS Group



PARTICIPANTS OF THE DAY

Audience **60**, Invited Guests **20**, Staff (including interpreters) **20**.
Total **100**.

MORNING

9:30 – 10:00

Check-in

10:00 – 10:05

Opening Remarks

by Yawei Liu,
Senior Advisor on China
The Carter Center

10:05 – 10:15

Welcome Speech

The Special Delegate
of Chancy Foundation

10:15 – 10:35

Keynote Speech

Ambassador TOGO Kazuhiko
former Director-General of the
European and Oceanian Affairs Bureau
at Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

10:35 – 11:45

Photo Session

for all forum participants



10:50 – 11:55

Roundtable Discussion 1

What Is Wrong with Sino-Japanese Relationship?

Moderator:

Nick ZELLER, The Carter Center

Speakers:

TAKAHARA Akio, Professor Emeritus, The University of Tokyo. Distinguished Professor, Tokyo Woman's Christian University.

Ker GIBBS, Executive in Residence, University San Francisco

MATSUDA Yasuhiro, Professor, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, The University of Tokyo
GAO LAN, Professor, Center for Japanese Studies, Fudan University. Professor, Yamanashi Gakuin University

11:55 – 13:00

Roundtable Discussion 2

What Role Can Japan Play in Sustaining Peace and Development in the Asia-Pacific?

Moderator:

LIU Xing, Yamanashi Gakuin University

Speakers:

KAWANYURA Noriyuki, Emeritus Professor, University of Nagoya Foreign Studies

SHIRATORI Hiroshi, President of the Japan Association of Political and Legal Studies and Professor at the Graduate School of Public Policy and Social Governance, Hosei University.

LI Chunli, professor, Faculty of Economics, Director of the Institute for Contemporary Chinese Studies. Aichi University

ITO Asei, Associate Professor, Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo



13:00 – 14:00

Lunchtime

AFTERNOON

14:00 – 14:15

Welcome address

14:15 – 14:30

Keynote Speech

by the 93rd Prime Minister of Japan

14:40 – 14:45

Greeting from TusHoldings

by Bernice LI, TusHolding

14:45 – 15:00

Keynote Speech

by ZHU Li, the Founder & CEO of DEPTRUM

15:00 – 15:45

Fireside Chat

Anderson PASSOS, Lakeland University

CHA Haimei, IIAS Foundation

15:50 – 16:50

Roundtable Discussion 3

The role of AI technology in global economic development

Moderator:

YANG Xiaodan, the THEMiS Founder

Speakers:

ZHU Li, the Founder & CEO of DEPTRUM

MENG Fan, the President of CIMMAF

LIU Ying, the Chief Strategic Advisor of MOGOX

16:50 – 17:00

Closing Remarks

by the Former Japan State Minister of Finance

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May 20th, 2026

Forum Preparations Committee