230th WPI-IIIS Seminar

Topics on Research Ethics – #11

From Society 5.0 to Economic Security: Japan's Evolving Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy

Japan's 6th Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Basic Plan builds upon the 2020 amendment of the Science and Technology Basic Law—its first major revision in 25 years. The amendment expanded the scope of science policy to include the humanities and social sciences and elevated "innovation" as a central pillar. The plan serves as a five-year strategic blueprint aiming to harness STI to enhance national resilience, address global issues, and shape a future-oriented society. Thus, Japan aims to integrate science, technology, and innovation into a holistic policy approach, with Society 5.0 at its core, to enhance both national resilience and global leadership in addressing 21st-century challenges.

Society 5.0 emphasizes values rooted in Japan's identity—trust, coexistence with nature, and social harmony—while leveraging advanced science and technology. Japan aims to position itself as a reliable global partner and contributor to solving international issues by: 1. Promoting a high-quality data ecosystem; 2. Sharing knowledge and fostering international collaboration.

To stay globally competitive, Japan is committing to: 1. \(\frac{4}{3}\)0 trillion in government R&D investment (FY2021–2025); 2. \(\frac{4}{12}\)0 trillion total in public-private R&D investment.

While the 6th Plan is about to conclude, early-stage discussions for the 7th STI Basic Plan (FY2026–2030) have begun. The Science Council of Japan has released preliminary recommendations, continuing the trajectory of innovation-led, human-centered policy development emphasizing the contribution to strengthen Japan's economic security.



Dr. Atsushi Sunami

Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2025

Time: 11:00 - 12:00

Venue: 1F Auditorium, IIIS Building

*On-site participation only









