



JPFP Newsletter

Secretariat of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)
Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

June 2026

JPFP Project Team on LSE Holds Public Symposium

On 16 June, the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) Project Team (PT) on Life Safety Education (LSE), in collaboration with Plan International Japan and Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), held a public symposium entitled "Can Banning Social Media Solve the Problem? – Exploring Safety in the Digital Age with Children and Young People" in Tokyo and online. The symposium brought together parliamentarians, high school and university students, officials from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Children and Families Agency, Meta Japan, and experts engaged in discussions on how to ensure the safety of children and young people in the digital age.

The symposium opened with a keynote presentation by Professor Takeuchi Kazuo of the University of Hyogo, titled "The Reality of Children, Young People and Social Media: Insights from Data and the Voices of Young People." Drawing on both data and young people's perspectives, Professor Takeuchi reviewed domestic and international debates surrounding social media use and underscored the fact that social media and the internet have become indispensable parts of daily life. He also raised important questions about how best to safeguard children and young people in an increasingly digital society. The subsequent panel discussion examined whether restrictions alone are sufficient to address online risks. Participants actively exchanged views on balancing access to information with safety, the responsibilities of platform providers, media literacy education, and the role of LSE. High school and university students presented recommendations directed at educators, parents, businesses, and national and local governments. Young participants stressed that "adults should not provide guidance on social media without understanding how it is actually used," called on companies to "reconsider highly addictive applications and platform designs," and urged governments to "develop policies based on a thorough understanding of the current social media environment." They emphasized that the perspectives and lived experiences of children and young people should be meaningfully reflected in both policymaking and educational initiatives.



IPPF's New Director-General Visits Japan for the First Time

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), a longstanding partner of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) for more than 50 years, appointed Ms. Alcalde Castro Maria Antonieta as its new Director General in March this year. In May, she made her first visit to Japan since assuming the post and held meetings with H.E. Kikawada Hitoshi, Minister of State for Policies Related to Children, Declining Birthrate, Youth Empowerment, and Gender Equality; Hon. Kunimitsu Ayano, State Minister for Foreign Affairs; Hon. Aisawa Ichiro, Seniro Vice Chair of JPFP; and other JPFP executive members.



Gender Equality Conference Held in Turkmenistan

On 26 March in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; Secretariat of JPFP) and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) convened a regional inter-parliamentary dialogue to advance gender equality and eliminate gender-based violence (GBV).

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JPFP

Established in 1974, JPFP has the longest history in the world as a supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development. JPFP, in concert with APDA, has created a network of parliamentarians on population and development, through which a diverse range of knowledge and experience has been shared to accomplish concrete results.

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APDA

APDA since its establishment in 1982 has served as the secretariat of JPFP.

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