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Foreword Akihiro Iwashita

Director, Research Center for Global Risk

It has now been two years since the Research Center for Global Risk was established at Nagasaki University. Since I assumed the position of Director in June 2024, I have over the past year and a half devoted myself entirely to shaping the Center into a cohesive team.

Aside from myself (who also holds a cross-appointment with the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center at Hokkaido University) and assistant professor, the Center operates as an interdisciplinary organization composed of faculty members affiliated with various departments across the university. Many universities in Japan have centers created through internal institutional arrangements, and the Research Center for Global Risk is one such example. However, the fact is that there are only a handful of research centers of this type that operate both domestically and internationally.

Fortunately, Nagasaki University is favored with rich human resources, including strong research institutes and departments that take a broad, integrated approach to the humanities and social sciences. The university also enjoys a geographical advantage, situated on Japan's western frontier and having historically served as a gateway to the outside world. Building on these strengths, we designed six research units and decided to develop various forms of risk research by combining scientific approaches with humanities and social science-based perspectives.

Having long worked at a Joint Usage/Research Center, I drew on that experience when shaping the Center's organizational structure and project design. Specifically, we implemented three key measures. First,

we issued an open call for projects built around the above units or linking multiple units together, encouraging applicants to connect their themes to KAKENHI (JSPS Grants-in-Aid). Second, we promoted collaboration with external researchers by inviting them as joint researchers on these projects. Third, we established partnerships with outstanding scholars who possess expertise the Center currently lacks, inviting them as visiting professors.

The launch of J-PEAKS (Program for Forming Japan's Peak Research Universities) in FY2025 has also provided a strong tailwind. We widely advertised for J-PEAKS project researcher, and as of this October, two excellent early-career researchers have joined us. The Center also has a conference space that brings together researchers from inside and outside Japan, where we have begun to hold a regular seminar series, as well as hybrid events streamed externally. Our Center now has its base on the second floor of the Office for Research Initiative and Development building on the Bunkyo Campus, and we warmly invite you to drop by at any time.

We have prepared a system enabling "games" to be played. How should we build up the academic field of global risk studies from now on? I will discuss our "game plan" regarding this question in the next issue.

Please also refer to the essay I authored below:

<https://cgr.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/2421/> (Matryoshka Interview No. 5, from page 22)

Overview of the Center

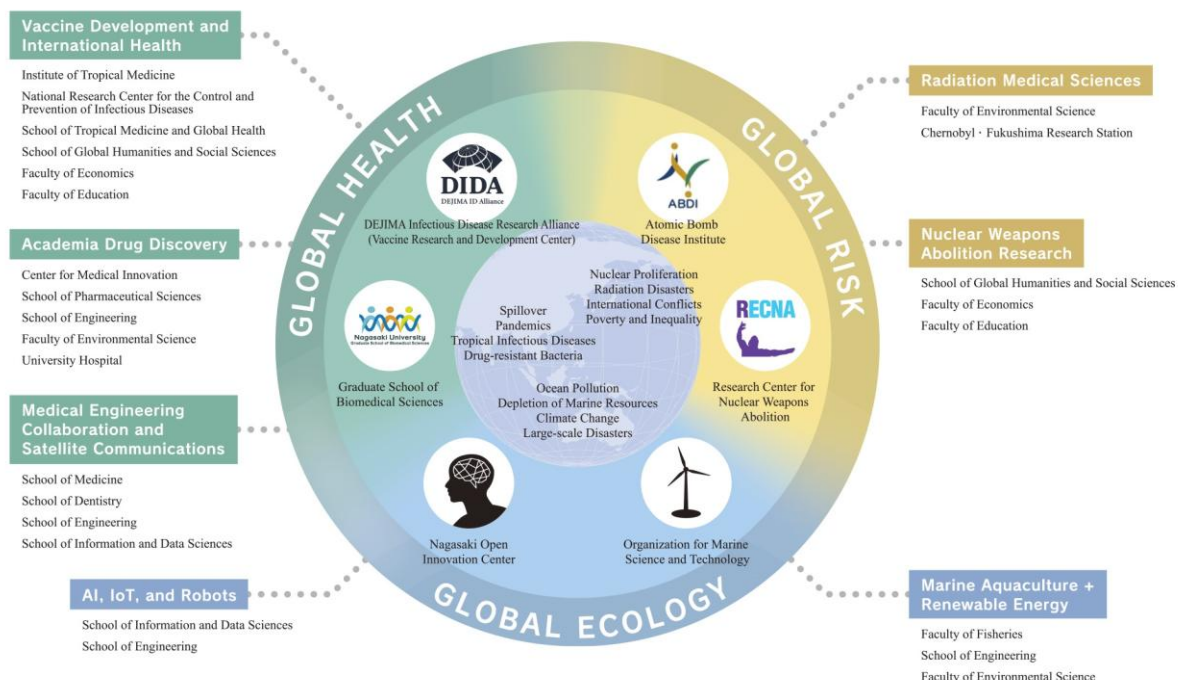
Nagasaki University has declared its commitment **“to contribute to the realization of global planetary health by combining and creating knowledge in an interdisciplinary manner in order to address the diverse and interrelated problems confronting humanity and the Earth.”** In line with this mission, the University promotes research and education in three key fields:

Global Health

Global Risk

Global Ecology

Among these three fields, the **Research Center for Global Risk (CGR)** was established on June 1, 2024, to advance research related to *Global Risk*. CGR brings together faculty members affiliated with Nagasaki University to promote interdisciplinary research on **“global-scale risks that may threaten the survival of humankind,”** such as the risk of nuclear weapons use, global environmental destruction, and pandemics. This work is carried out through collaboration between the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. The Center also places a strong emphasis on collaboration with external institutions. Institutional partners already include: the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center (SRC) at Hokkaido University, the Fukushima Institute for Research, Education and Innovation (F-REI), the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the United Nations University (UNU), the British American Security Information Council (BASIC), and the International Center for Island Studies, Kagoshima University. Through research activities—including joint projects with these institutional partners—the Center aims to make various recommendations to the international community, while also fostering the next generation of researchers, experts skilled in policy-making, and leaders in global society. In this way, CGR seeks to serve as a hub for the creation of innovative, interdisciplinary research on global risk.



Six Units of CGR and Their Members

At CGR, in order to anticipate the complex and multilayered generation of risks that transcend disciplines and to conduct research on how to respond to them, global risks are divided into the following six units, within which collaborative research is carried out.

Principles of Global Risk Studies

Compel Radomir Unit Leader, Associate Professor

Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences
(Comparative Politics)

Gülbeyaz Abdurrahman Associate Professor

Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (Human Sciences, Semiotics, Sociology)

Yuki Terada Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (social theory, sociology of globalization)

Geopolitics and Economics

Masayo Shikimi Unit Leader, Professor, Graduate School of Economics, (Banking, Corporate Finance, Sustainable Finance)

Kazunori Hayanagi Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (Area Studies, Intercultural Studies)

Alayna Ynacay-Nye Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (Political Economy, Rural Sociology)

Hiroyuki Kuwahata Associate Professor, Graduate School of Economics (Economics, International trade)

Tomoko Kiyota Associate Professor, Office for Global Relations (International Security, India)

Environment

Kana Miwa Unit Leader, Professor, Graduate School of Economics (Development Economics)

Arinori Kawamura Associate Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (Criminal Procedure Law, International Criminal Law)

Seiko Goto Professor, Graduate School of Integrated Science and Technology (Landscape Architecture)

Sunhee Suk Associate Professor, Graduate School of Integrated Science and Technology (Environmental economics)

Lina Madaniyazi Associate Professor, School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health (Environmental Epidemiology, Health impact of climate change and air pollution)

Information and Technology

Noboru Takamura Unit Leader, Professor, Atomic Bomb Disease Institute (Radiation Risk Sciences)

Koki Tamura Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (Ethics)

Ichi Kanaya Professor, Graduate School of Integrated Science and Technology (Media art, Kansei informatics, Design science, Digital heritage, Cultural anthropology)

Sumi Yokoyama Professor, Atomic Bomb Disease Institute (Radiation Biology and Protection)

Naomi Hayashida Professor, Atomic Bomb Disease Institute (Medicine, Healthcare, Thyroid)

Society and Infectious Diseases

Wataru Iijima Unit Leader, Professor, Institute of Tropical Medicine, (Social History of Medicine)

Satoshi Kaneko Professor, Institute of Tropical Medicine (Infectious disease, Epidemiology)

Naomi Hosoda Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Science (Migration studies, Area studies, Cultural Anthropology)

Yasuaki Sato Associate Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (Anthropology, African Area Studies)

Shigeta Minamimori Associate Professor, Graduate School of Economics (Japanese Economic History, History of Japanese Economic Thought)

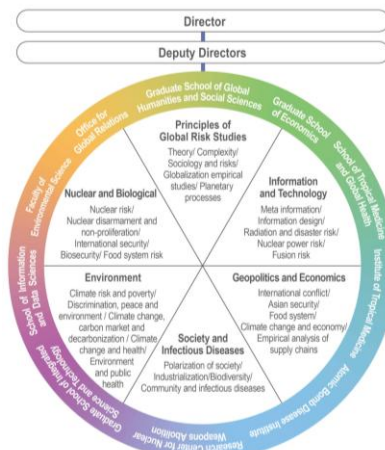
Nuclear and Biological

Fumiko Kasuga Unit Leader, Professor, School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health (Sustainability science, Food safety)

Michiru Nishida Professor, Graduate School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences (International Security, Nuclear deterrence and arms control, Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation)

Kazuko Hikawa Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation)

In addition to the members listed above, the Center also has two principal faculty members: CGR Director Akihiro Iwashita (international relations and border studies) and Yesbol Sartayev (environmental radiation epidemiology, nuclear disasters and disaster prevention, and banking and corporate finance).



Structure of CGR

Furthermore, as of October 1, 2025, two Project Researcher have joined the Center: Haruka Iwama (Local Studies/Cultural Anthropology) and Aya Shiode (Local Studies/Migration Studies) (Their introductory messages can be found here: <https://cgr.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/2634/>). Both researchers are expected to play key roles in CGR's initiatives carried out under Nagasaki University's J-PEAKS program (Program for Forming Japan's Peak Research Universities): <https://www.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/ja/pickup/J-PEAKS/>

CGR is still a young organization – it is not yet two years since its establishment; however, we are now putting in place a structure for transdisciplinary, integrated research by welcoming the following scholars as visiting professors and collaborative researchers.

[Visiting Professors・Collaborating Researcher]

Visiting Professors

Hidemitsu Kuroki Professor, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (Middle East, Islam)

Masahiro Matsumura Professor, Momoyama Gakuin University (Military Security, Cyber Security)

Norihisa Yamashita Professor, Ritsumeikan University (Historical sociology, Social theory, World-system analysis)



Collaborating Researcher

Satoshi Ishida Associate Professor, Department of Public Policy, Faculty of Regional Design and Development, University of Nagasaki

Lei Yuan Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo

Susumu Ohnuma Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Human Sciences, Hokkaido University(Concurrent)Director

Toru Ohira Professor, Graduate School of Mathematics Advanced Topology, Nagoya University(Concurrent)Graduate School of Mathematics(Concurrent)School of Science

Itaru Okamoto Professor, The Faculty of Foreign Studies, Bunkyo Gakuin University

Takeshi Onimaru Professor/Vice Dean, Comparative Area Studies, Political History, Kyushu University

Ryohei Kasa Visiting Associate Professor, Center for South Asian Studies, Gifu Women's University

Natsuki Katayama Lecturer, Department of Comparative Culture, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Tsuru University

Fuminori Kawakubo Professor (Vice President), Faculty of Law Department of Law, Chuo Gakuin University

Kayoko Kitagawa Professor, Faculty of Law Waseda Law School, Waseda University

Yu Koizumi Associate Professor, Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology, The University of Tokyo

Yuki Konagaya Emeritus Professor, National Museum of Ethnology

Giles Sioen Project Lecturer, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The University of Tokyo

Yusuke Shikano Specially Appointed Associate Professor (Lecturer), Center for the Study of CO* Design, Osaka University(HPに*の記載あり)

Kazuaki Shintani Professor, Maritime Police, Japan Coast Guard Academy

Nina Takashina Associate Professor, College of Policy Science Department of Policy Science, Ritsumeikan University

Masayoshi Takahashi Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, Chuo University

Kiwako Tanaka Associate Professor, The Faculty of Social Sciences, Toyo Eiwa University

Takahiro Naka Professor, Faculty of Art and Design, Department of Environmental Design, Kyoto University of Art and Design

Toru Nagashima Deputy Director, Russia Division, European Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Yoko Fujita Professor, Research Institute for Islands and Sustainability: RIIS, University of the Ryukyus

Naoyuki Honmura Associate Professor, Graduate School of management, GLOBIS University

Masuo Chisako T Professor, Graduate School of Social and Cultural Studies, Kyushu University (T はresearch Map 英語版より確認)

Goro Yamazaki Professor, Center for the Study of Co*Design, Osaka University

Keiko Yamamoto Associate Professor, School of System Design and Technology Department of Design Engineering and Technology, Tokyo Denki University

Sota Yamamoto Associate Professor International Center for Island Studies, Kagoshima University

Juha Saunavaara Associate Professor, Arctic Research Center, Hokkaido University

Relay Essay

“What is Global Risk Research?”

Radomir Compel

Global risk research is often understood as an academic field that practically examines imminent threats. Indeed, the world is full of various threats. Looking at today's international situation, we see disruptions in logistics caused by vulnerabilities in supply chains, as well as shortages of medical supplies during the COVID-19 pandemic. Even more serious examples include Russia's suggestions of possible nuclear weapons use in the war in Ukraine, tensions between India and Pakistan, both nuclear armed, and the provocations of North Korea, which also possesses nuclear missiles. Humanity now stands on the brink of nuclear war and potential extinction.



Furthermore, the destruction of the ozone layer by chlorofluorocarbons and the rise in global temperatures due to emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases are exacerbating the deterioration of living conditions worldwide.

Modern society has employed scientific methods to confront these threats and enhance their predictability. By probabilistically analyzing the frequency and severity of problematic threats, we identify them as risks and implement countermeasures. The reconfiguration of supply chains, the development of vaccines against infectious diseases, and the establishment of international treaties and confidence-building measures to address the nuclear threat have all contributed to improving the convenience of everyday life. In this sense, risk can be seen as the flip side of scientific solutions.

However, has contemporary society truly become as convenient as science once promised? There are limits to prediction. As illustrated by the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, failures that were not anticipated can occur. Looking at our current society, we see that many of the systems that are supposed to provide safety and security are falling into dysfunction. The public finances of advanced economies are on the verge of collapse, and social security systems such as pensions and long-term care face serious obstacles. In education, non-attendance and bullying are widespread. In the information society, AI algorithms amplify social divisions, generating new conflicts and a sense of loss. In this way, the very mechanisms that are meant to prevent and manage risk are themselves creating new dangers and aggravating existing risks.

Therefore, global risk research does not aim solely at the empirical analysis and elimination of threats that exist “outside” society. It must deepen our understanding by taking into account the “reflexivity” of human activities and social institutions —that is, the idea that they themselves generate risks— and by incorporating the problematic nature of humanity into its scope. At the core of this research lies a fundamental question: how can we avoid unforeseeable catastrophes that could lead to the destruction of humanity and the ecosystem? Continuous reflection on this question constitutes the central aim of Global Risk Research.

CGR Activity Report

Since its launch in June 2024, CGR faculty members have taken the lead in organizing a variety of research activities and in organizing seminars, workshops, and symposia. The main initiatives are listed below.

【2024】

- 2024.6.20 [UBRJ/CGR Seminar] "A Tool for Territorial Expansion? Rethinking Russia's Granting of Citizenship"
- 2024.7.5 SRCW/CGR Co-Creation Seminar for Real Society:
"The Global Environment Surrounding Humankind: Planetary Boundaries, Health, and Risk"
- 2024.9.9 SRCW/CGR Co-Creation Seminar for Real Society. "Interdependence and Peace: Can the Economy Transcend Politics?"
- 2024.9.12 Participatory Dialogue Session. "Peace and the Environment – For the Future of Our Planet"
- 2024.9.20 SRCW/CGR Co-Creation Seminar for Real Society. "Toward a World Without Nuclear Weapons"
- 2024.10.12 JIBSN Seminar 2024 Yonaguni. "Finding Light Within Border Regions"
- 2024.10.17 SRCW/CGR Co-Creation Seminar for Real Society:
"What Are the Global Risks of Nuclear Weapons in the Post-Post-Cold War Era?"
- 2024.12.21 Kick-off Symposium of the Research Center for Global Risk (CGR) at Nagasaki University



21 December 2024. Kick-off Symposium of the Research Center for Global Risk (CGR) at Nagasaki University

CGR Activity Report

【2025】

- 2025.1.12 Public event: "My Diet, My Health, the Earth's Health" held at Aeon Omura Shopping Center
- 2025.1.15 CGR Seminar: "Socio-Scientific Issues Surrounding the Decontaminated Soil Problem: An Empirical Approach from the Perspective of Plural Justice"
- 2025.1.27 Public briefing event on the latest report. "10 New Insights in Climate Science 2024/2025" for Japanese Audience
- 2025.2.10 UBRJ/CGR Co-Creation Seminar for Real Society. "Beyond Dark Tourism: Focusing on Hokkaido and Kyushu"
- 2025.3.20/21 21st Century Borders, Mobility, and Risk in Japan– Early Career Researcher Writing Workshop
- 2025.5.17 Co-Creation Seminar for Real Society:
Island Risk Research Seminar "Islands, Livelihoods, and Futures – Challenges from Nagasaki"
- 2025.6.19 SRC/CGR Seminar "Foreign Policy of China ~Under Russo-Ukrainian War"
- 2025.6.30 CGR Research Meeting. "Cruise Ships as a Form of Global Risk"
- 2025.7.2 Emergency Seminar. "Thinking About the Israel–Iran War: International Order, Nuclear Weapons, and Trump 2.0"
- 2025.7.13 Panel "The Russia–Ukraine War and Northeast Asia's Responses" at the World Congress of Political Science (Seoul)
- 2025.7.18 6th CGR Research Meeting. "Ulrich Beck's Risk Society Theory and the Use of AI in Criminal Investigations"
- 2025.7.24 SRCW/CGR Co-Creation Seminar for Real Society. "Understanding Fukushima from Nagasaki and Chornobyl"
- 2025.7.25 Lecture "India's Rise: Challenges and Possibilities"
- 2025.8.8 Peace Workshop at Peace Campus
- 2025.8.11 "TEDxDejima 2025 – Connecting Records to the Future"
- 2025.8.25 Participatory Dialogue Session
"Peace and the Environment– Eighty Years after the War, Connecting for the Future of the Planet"
- 2025.9.8 Symposium: "Japan and China in 'Asia Risk': Challenges in Building a 'Platform of Knowledge'"
- 2025.10.25 JIBSN Seminar 2025, Tsushima: "Border Regions: Risk and Community Development"
- 2025.11.7 CGR/EES Co-creation Seminar for Society: "Genocide: Israel's Actions and the Discourse on Terrorism"
- 2025.11.12 Collaborative Seminar: "The World Is Borderful"
- 2025.11.17 Special Lecture:
"International Morality and International Humanitarian Law: Considering the Ukraine and the Gaza Conflicts"
- 2025.11.18 Special Lecture: "Japan's Options after Extended Nuclear Deterrence: Needs and Obstacles"
- 2025.11.25 Public Seminar: "The International Court of Justice (ICJ) Advisory Opinion on Climate Change: Reasons for Optimism, Pessimism, and Skepticism"
- 2025.11.26 CGR/EES Co-creation Research Seminar for Society:
"Women's Stories Across Space and Time: War, Gender, and Mobility as Analytical Perspectives"



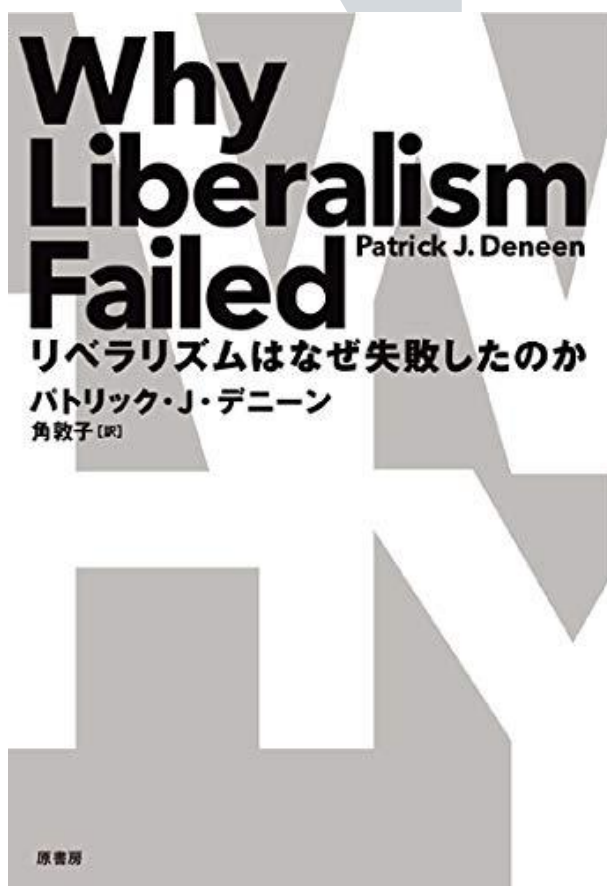
2025.1.27– Public briefing event on the latest report. "10 New Insights in Climate Science 2024/2025" for Japanese Audience

Book Introduction

Why Liberalism Failed.

Written by Patrick J. Deneen,
translated by Atsuko Sumi,
published by Harashobo.

<https://ndlsearch.ndl.go.jp/books/R100000002-I030068134>



This book is the Japanese translation of a work originally written in 2018 by American political scientist Patrick J. Deneen. It offers an interdisciplinary and profound analysis—going beyond the usual framework of international politics—of the global risks generated by liberalism and capitalism, and of how we might respond to them.

Liberalism, in the name of “freedom,” has sought to satisfy humanity’s limitless desires. Deneen condemns this as precisely what has destroyed nature, destabilized financial systems, produced inequality, and repeatedly driven economies to collapse. He argues that, for human beings, genuine freedom is in fact freedom from unlimited desire. In order to attain such freedom, we have culture—which restrains human desires within the constraints of nature and habituates us to a path of self-discipline—and we have the liberal arts.

However, the globalization brought about by liberalism has led to the loss of culture, the erosion of individual autonomy, and the destruction of planetary health. To address the global risks created by liberalism, Deneen maintains that we must revitalize the liberal arts, promote localization, and revalue local communities. (CGR Vice Director Kazuko Hikawa)



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