



KYOTO UNIVERSITY

# Kyoto University European Center

The First  
10 Years  
and Beyond

京都大学  
欧州拠点



# About the European Center

## Vision

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The Kyoto University European Center's goal is to support and enhance the university's research, education, and social contribution activities in Europe. Kyoto shares significant characteristics with European societies, including a rich history and a spirit of creativity and innovation. The center aims to connect Kyoto and Europe to facilitate mutual learning and collaboration towards a sustainable future.

Building on the 10 years of experience since its establishment, the European Center will strengthen and expand cooperation with European universities and research institutions that seek to apply comprehensive knowledge in the humanities and natural sciences to address global issues.

## Mission

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- 1 Provide support for strategic international joint research
- 2 Foster international education-related projects
- 3 Expand and strengthen Kyoto University's international networks
- 4 Provide assistance to researchers, students, and staff in case of emergencies

## History

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2014	Establishment of the European Center
2018	Launch of the AI DA Program
2019	2 <sup>nd</sup> Phase of the HeKKSaGOn Alliance
2019	Launch of the Strategic Partnership initiative
2021	1 <sup>st</sup> DNA for ECRs
2021	1 <sup>st</sup> HeKKSaGOn x L-INSIGHT Spin-off Program
2024	10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# About Kyoto University

Established in 1897

- Research-oriented
- Tradition of pioneering fieldwork
- Incorporating the philosophic traditions of Kyoto

Students 22,600

(As of April 1, 2024)

Undergraduate	Graduate	International
13,000	9,600	2,900

Faculty and Staff Members 8,020

(As of May 1, 2024)

Faculty	Non-Teaching Researchers	Non-Teaching Staff	International Faculty and Staff
3,500	520	4,000	500

## Comprehensive University

Faculties	Graduate Schools	Research Institutes	Centers and Others
10	18	12	26

Off-campus Research and Educational Facilities in Japan 44

## Award-Winning Research

Nobel Laureates	Fields Medalists 2	Chern Medalist 1
11	Gauss Prize Winner 1	Lasker Award Winners 5

## Global Engagement (University-Level)

Memoranda of Understanding	Student Exchange Agreements	Strategic Partnerships
194 (72 in Europe)	153 (79 in Europe)	5 (4 in Europe)

# Key Activities

## Strategic Partnerships

Kyoto University has concluded strategic partnership agreements with five major universities around the world with the aim of promoting world-leading advanced research through sustainable and focused interdisciplinary collaboration. Four of the five strategic partners are based in Europe. The European Center serves as a point of contact between them.

### FY 2019

■ Université de Bordeaux, France



■ University of Vienna, Austria



### FY 2020

■ University of Zurich, Switzerland



■ Universität Hamburg, Germany



■ National Taiwan University, Taiwan

## HeKKSaGOn: German-Japanese University Alliance



HeKKSaGOn was established in 2010 as a unique platform for intensive research and education collaboration between six leading universities in Japan and Germany.

The European Center serves as the HeKKSaGOn liaison office, functioning as a bridge between academia in Germany and Japan.

HeKKSaGOn is named after the initials of the cities where the six member universities are located.



[Heidelberg](#) [Kyoto](#) [Karlsruhe](#) [Sendai](#) [Göttingen](#) [Osaka Alliance](#)

# Key Activities

## Support for Early Career Researchers (ECRs)

The European Center provides diverse forms of support to foster outstanding and internationally-minded ECRs, who are eager to address the challenges of complex global issues.

### AI DA

(Ambitious Intelligence Dynamic Acceleration)

AI DA is the umbrella term for several funding programs to promote the career development of highly motivated ECRs. The programs are provided through collaboration between the Kyoto University Research Administration Center (KURA), international funding agencies, and other organizations. The European Center provides matching support for collaboration between international researchers.



### DNA (Doitsu Nihon Academy) for ECRs

DNA for ECRs is a workshop for early-career researchers and students that is co-organized by Kyoto University and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Participants acquire crucial interpersonal and career-advancing skills such as efficient networking with peers from different countries and research fields.

### HeKKSaGOn x L-INSIGHT Spin-Off Program

L-INSIGHT is a Kyoto University initiative that aims to develop and widely promote programs to train ECRs with global insight. In its capacity as HeKKSaGOn liaison office, the European Center supports networking between Japanese and German ECRs to facilitate collaboration on trans-disciplinary research topics.



## Kyoto University European Center

Augustinergasse 2, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany

Tel: (+49) (0)6221 54 30034

Mail: [info\\_eu@oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:info_eu@oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

Website: <https://www.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/overseas-centers/eu/en>



### From Frankfurt Airport to Heidelberg Main Station (Hbf)



Train: approx. 60 min.  
In some cases it is necessary to change trains  
Bus: approx. 90 min.

From Heidelberg Hbf (main station) to the KU European Center



Bus: approx. 20 min. (No.32)  
Get off at Universitätsplatz (university square)  
2 min. walk to the KU European Center



HP



FB



IG

