

Professor Akiko Yamanaka

Prof. Yamanaka serves as President of International Tsunami Disaster Prevention Society, Senior Diplomatic Fellow at Cambridge Central Asia Forum Cambridge University, Special Advisor to the President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Senior Visiting Fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)

She served as Former Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and Special Ambassador for Peacebuilding of Japanese Government as well as Member of the Diet of Japan.

She has been active in both academia and the political arena.

She pursued her academic career as Visiting Professor at the Churchill College of University of Cambridge, the United Nation University, Graduate School of Hokkaido University and Senior Researcher at the University of Oxford, Harvard University, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and Brookings Institute in Washington DC in USA.

She has served as a member of the Japanese Diet as well as Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs. Other posts in the Diet have included Director of the Committee of Foreign Affairs, Acting Director of the Defence Committee and Director General of the Women's Bureau of the LDP and she launched "The Human Resources Development Program in Asia for Peacebuilding" as Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and also "The World Assembly for Women (WAW!)".

Her expertise includes International Peacebuilding, International Negotiation and Strategic Studies, Natural and Human Induced Disaster Prevention, Preventive Diplomacy on which she has written and gives lectures extensively.

She has published many books such as "Think, or Sink: Preventive State Theory".

She was awarded OISCA Award (for Contributions to Asia) and the International Soroptimist Japan's Sen Kayoko Prize (for Contributions to International Understanding)