

Tentative Program for:
The World Federation of Right to Die Societies International Conference 2026
**The World Federation of Right to Die Societies
International Conference 2026**
Date: November 25th (Wed)~28th (Sat)
Venue: Toshi Center Hotel (Tokyo, Japan)

Wednesday, November 25

Welcome Reception (WFRtDS and JSDD Board Members Only)

Thursday, November 26

WFRtDS General Assembly Meeting 8:30-11:15

Opening Ceremony 11:30-11:50

Keynote Lecture 11:50-12:30

Chair: Masahiro Nomoto, Vice-president of JSDD

“50 Years of Expansion – History of the WFRtDS”

Rob Jonquiere, Former Executive Director of WFRtDS

”Personal Account of Sean Davison – Arrested for Ending the Suffering
of People in 3 Continents”

Sean Davison, Former president of WFRtDS

Special Lecture 14:00-15:00

Chair: Kiyoko Kamibeppu, Vice-president of JSDD

「私の往生際」

Takeshi Yoro, Anatomist

Symposium 1 15:15-17:30

”End-of-Life Care Legislations in East Asia”

Chair: Yoshihiro Kitamura, President of JSDD

“End-of-Life Care and Self-Determination in Korea: Palliative Care, Withdrawal
of Life-Sustaining Treatment, and the Prospect of Assisted Dying”

Da Hye Choi, President of Korea Association of Right to Die

(As of August 2026; the program is subject to change.)

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“Issues and Implications from the Korean Constitutional Complaint”

Jae Ryon Kim, On•Sesang Law Firm

“The Legislative Process, Current Status, and Challenges of the Patient Right to Autonomy Act in Taiwan”

Daniel Fu-Chang Tsai, National Taiwan University

“VSED and the Patient Right to Autonomy Act in Taiwan: End-of-Life Autonomy and the Debate over the Legalization of Euthanasia”

Yicheng Chung, Kumamoto University

Session 1

15:15-17:10

”Beyond Individual Choice:

Historical, Philosophical, and Relational Foundations of Autonomy in the Right to Die”

Chair: Kiyoshi Kitamura, Trustee of JSDD

“Bringing Death to Life: The Importance of Teaching Death Literacy”

Niels De NUTTE

“Preparing future nurses and allied health professionals for addressing medical assistance in dying: the EUroMAiD project”

Dennis Demedts

“Whānau and assisted dying: A qualitative study of family experiences in Aotearoa New Zealand”

Pelayo Manu

“Reconsidering Self-Determination in Life and Death: The Philosophy of Holism and the Artistic Practice of Immunologist Tada Tomio”

Yoko Kawakami

“Critiques of “Anti-Life-Prolongation” Surrounding Living Wills from a Patient Perspective: Implications for Advance Care Planning in Japan”

Mutsumi Saito

“Bringing Death to Life: The Importance of Teaching Death Literacy”

Anna Cohen Kirah, Galina Arbeli

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Friday, November 27

Session 2

9:30-12:20

**"Social and Relational Dimensions of End-of-Life Care in Japan:
Realities, Narratives, and the Role of Social Systems"**

Chair: Kiyoko Kamibeppu, Vice-president of JSDD

Sumito Ogawa, Board member of JSDD

"Age- and Setting-Related Differences in End-of-Life Care, Living Wills, and Signs of Death: A Questionnaire Survey of Physicians With Expertise in End-of-Life Care"

Mitsutaka Yakabe

"Making MAID Legalization Work: The Conditions of Autonomy in Japanese Society"

Kazuo Kojima

「身寄りのない高齢者の病院・施設の入退院・所等における問題点と対策について」

Chieko Matsukuma

"Supporting End-of-Life Care for People Without Relatives: The Crucial Role of ALP and Decision-Making Support"

Masayoshi Egoshi

「日本における看取りの現状 ～他国との比較も含めて～」

Toshiyuki Sugiura

"The Record of End-of-Life Care Entrusted by My Mother: Conflict and Resolution of a Physician Facing Simultaneous Bereavement of Parent and Pet"

Yoshiyuki Kunieda

「人生の最終段階における伴走者：医療相談の役割」

Chihoko Hirabayashi

「ご遺族のグリーフワークを支えたい、そしてひとつひとつの体験をともしびに：

『小さな灯台プロジェクト』の役割」

Kazuko Kondo, Japan Society For Dying With Dignity

Symposium 2

9:30-12:20

"Dying with Dignity: MAID, Death with palliative care, Sedation, VSED"

Chair: Satoru Mitsuoka, Board member of JSDD

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“ “Euthanasia” Why and how in The Netherlands”

Rob Jonquiere, Former Executive Director of WFRtDS

“Palliative Care and Palliative Sedation in Japan: Addressing Refractory Suffering at the End of Life”

Masanori Mori, Seirei Mikatahara General Hospital

“Voluntarily Stopping Eating and Drinking (VSED): A Lesser Known but Widely Available End-of-Life Option”

Pope Thaddeus

「日本における尊厳死をめぐる議論の社会学的考察」

Miwako Hosoda, Seisa University

「日本における安楽死の議論について——倫理学者的見地から」

Satoshi Kodama, Kyoto University

Session 3

9:30-12:20

”International Comparison of MAID/VAD:

Legal Evolution, Implementation, and Governance9:30 Announcement”

Chair: Michiya Ito, Board member of JSDD

“Twenty-Five Years of Medical Assistance in Dying Legislation in the Netherlands: Past, Present and Future”

Fransien van ter Beek

“Evolution of Medical Aid in Dying (MAiD) Legislation in Belgium and the Netherlands: From Terminal to Non-Terminal Suffering, Children, and Advanced Dementia”

Dennis Demedts

“The first decade: Clarifying the facts on medical assistance in dying and the role of the right to die movement in Canada”

Kelsey A. Goforth

“A Summary of MAID Practices and Progress in the United States, including the 3 new states since the last WFRDS conference in Dublin”

Edmund Tiryakian

“How Community Voices Shaped the Voluntary Assisted Dying Conversation in Victoria, Australia”

Jane E. Morris

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“Issues Surrounding Voluntary Assisted Dying Laws in Australia”

Takako Minami

“Regulating Medical Assistance in Dying in Slovenia: Legal Context, Stakeholder Positions, and Recent Policy Developments”

Marija Milavec Kapun

“Tung LAM Bill”

Lam Lord Tung

Anniversary Lecture

14:00-14:40

Chair: Yoshihiro Kitamura, President of JSDD

”50th Anniversary Lectures of the Japan Society for Dying with Dignity and the Histories of Its Regional Branches”

Soichiro Iwao, Honorary president of JSDD

Symposium 3

14:00-15:40

”Symposium on Dementia and LW-Support for shared decision in the EOL”

Chair: Masahiro Nomoto, Vice-president of JSDD

“Medical Treatments in Advanced Neurological Disorders: Expected Benefits, Burdens, and Limitations”

Takayoshi Shimohata, Gifu University

“Support for Decision-making regarding Medical Treatments for Neurological Conditions including dementia at the EOL (Tentative)”

Mieko Ogino, Toukai University

“Can We Choose Not to Live With Advanced Dementia?”

Asunción Alvarez

Session 4

14:00-17:00

”Social Practice and Care in MAID/VAD:

Barriers to Access, Cross-Border Choices, and Death Literacy”

Chair: Shusho Okada, Board member of JSDD

“”Planned Swissicide”: A neurocognitive and corporate model for intercepting high volume of Swiss VAD clients as a global suicide-attempt prevention strategy”

Kristy Martin

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“Reflections on suicide tourism”

Lewis M. Cohen

“Cross-Border Choices at the End of Life: Experiences of Korean Families Seeking Assisted Dying in Switzerland and the Regulatory Gap”

You ha Nam

“Implications of Exploring the Boundaries of Assisted Dying in Switzerland - How Pegasos has Extended the Eligibility Criteria”

Sean Davison

“When Medical Aid in Dying Too Often Fails Suffering Individuals”

Janet Hager

“Why Do Voluntary Assisted Dying Regimes and Judicial Decisions Emerge in Particular Regions?”

Yukio Sakurai

“Bridging Gaps in Medical Aid in Dying Access: Inequities in End-of-Life Choice in the United States”

Donald J. Moore

“From the Value of Continuing to the Right to Stop: Antinatalism and the Philosophical Justification of MAID”

Kazuo Kojima

Award Ceremony for Distinguished Service to JSDD

14:40-14:50

Regional Branch Presentations

14:50-17:00

Symposium 4

15:40-17:00

“Withholding and withdrawing artificial nutrition and hydration (ANH)”

Chair: Reiko Miyamoto, Board member of JSDD

“Artificial Nutrition and Hydration in End-of-life care : Considerations on Continuation and Care Options

Yuko Joie, Izumiotsu City Hall Welfare Office

“Empowering the Courage to Say No “The Little Lighthouse Project””

Kazuko Kondo, Japan Society For Dying With Dignity

“Withholding and withdrawing artificial nutrition and hydration (ANH)”

Reiko Miyamoto

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“Drip is natural enemy”

Kazuo Io, Tachikawa home care clinic

Gala Dinner

Saturday, November 28

Special Film Screening: "Peaceful Death"	10:00-12:00
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Information & Activity Booths	10:00-12:30
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- Interactive “Go Wish Game”
 - Workshop: Reflecting on Future Care and End-of-Life Choices
- Medical Consultation Booth
- Legal Consultation Booth
- Therapy Dog Interaction Session and Demonstration

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