

**Symposium on ‘Thinking of the Structure and Supervision of the Protection of Personal Information’ -For an Effective Protection of Personal Information-**  
**Co-Sponsored by Japan Federation of Bar Associations, Information Issues Committee**

**1 Dates** 30 June 2023 (Fri) 2PM-6PM (JST)/ 7AM-11AM (CET)

**2 Place** Zoom Webinar (Online)  
Simultaneous interpreting

**3 Organiser** Japan Federation of Bar Associations

**4 Purpose**

General Data Protection (GDPR), known as the global standard for protecting personal information, requires to establish an independent public authority to supervise the protection of personal information. Such supervisory authority must act independently in exercising its powers. Additionally, to ensure their independence, it is essential for the Commissioners of the Supervisory Authority to be free from any directions or any other external influence, whether direct or indirect, which could call into question the performance by those authorities of their task.

In Japan, the Personal Information Protection Commission (hereafter ‘PPC’) serves as this supervisory authority. It was established as an independent administrative commission with a high degree of independency under the provision that ‘[a] chairperson and commissioners of the Commission exercise their official authority independently’ (Article 133 of the APPI), ensuring its independent powers.

However, the PPC’s mandate goes beyond protecting personal information to include utilisation of personal information such as to extend the scope of providing My number. The PPC’s powers largely differ from those provided under the GDPR in order to protect fundamental rights (human rights). In practical office, it raises questions whether the PPC is fulfilling its role in safeguarding personal information.

The Japan Federation of Bar Associations has expressed several opinions about protecting the rights and interests of the people including the protection of privacy in the process of the legal regimes of protecting personal information. They have also called for the strengthening the supervisory powers of the PPC and improving its structures and implementations.

Against this backdrop, this Symposium will examine from the perspectives of law such as constitutional law and public administration relating to the administrative structures as follows: What would be the structures toward an effective protection of personal information

and how would be structured and implemented to support the protection of personal information.

## **5 Programme**

**2:05-3:05PM (JST)/ 7:05-8:05AM (CET)**

### **Session I On the Structure toward an Effective Protection of Personal Information**

Keynote Challenges on the Structure of Protecting Personal Information – Issues of Systems and Implementations in Japan through a comparison with the GDPR-

Hiroshi Miyashita, Professor, Faculty of Policy Studies, Chuo University

Keynote Structure of the Protection of Personal Data in the EU

Bruno Gencarelli (European Commission, DG Justice and Consumer, International Affairs and Data Flow, Head of Unit)

**3:10-3:40PM (JST)/ 8:10-8:40AM (CET)**

### **Session II Organisation to Support the Protection of Personal Information**

Remark Function and Autonomy of the Personal Information Protection Commission in terms of Public Administration

Koichi Kawai, Associate Professor, Division of Law and Politics, Kanazawa University

Live or Video Message What is Necessary for an Effective Protection of Personal Information?  
Max Schrems (Noyb)

**3:55-5:55PM (JST)/ 8:55-10:55AM (CET)**

### **Session III Panel Discussion**

Theme: Role of the Personal Information Protection Commission for the Protection of Personal Information – Observations from the Systems and Implementations-

Makoto Ibusuki, Professor, Faculty of Law, Seijo University

Takashi Jitsuhara (Professor, Faculty of Law, Nanzan University)

Koichi Kawai (Associate Professor, Division of Law and Politics, Kanazawa University)

Akira Morita (Committee Member of Japan Federation of Bar Associations, Information Issues Committee, Kanagawa Bar Associations)

Coordinator: Ayuko Akaisi (Committee Member of Japan Federation of Bar Associations, Information Issues Committee, Gunma Bar Associations)

Commentator: Tatsuhiko Yamamoto (Professor, School of Law, Keiogijyuku University)

Hiroshi Miyashita, Professor, Faculty of Policy Studies, Chuo University

## **6. Participants**

Academics, Members of Bar Associations, Local Public Entities, Local Parliamentarians, Citizens etc.