



Name: Japan Association of Environment and Society for the 21st Century (JAES21)

UTL: http://www.kanbun.org/katudo_n/about_us.html

Focal Point: Konoe FUJIMURA, President, JAES21 konoe@kanbun.org

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

Today's global crises may have been caused by the increase in the world population and the expansion of uncontrolled economic activities that neglect environmental capacity.

At the root of this is the unrelenting expansion of human desire, but we see little determination and sense of responsibility necessary to overcome the current crisis. Anti-intellectualist thinking is spreading around the world.

In order to overcome this situation and enable young people and future generations to enjoy a favorable environment and the essential rights of human beings, it is essential to make the ideas (ideals and value systems) and ways of living (codes of conduct and principles) appropriate for the decarbonization era as the common property of mankind, and it is necessary to pass them on to the next generations. To that end, we propose the following six items as "Environmental Ethics for Surviving Times of Environmental Crisis."

(1)Finite recognition: Recognize that the global environment is finite and that, with the expansion of human activities to date, the environmental scope for future activities is reaching its limits.

(2)Restraining Wisdom: Realizing that there can be no infinite expansion and growth of anything (with the consumption of resources), having the wisdom to control one's own actions within the limits of what the environment allows.

(3)Circulation: Efforts are being made to create a system that enables the reuse of unnecessary materials and their reduction to nature, and to circulate all items.

(4)Joy of coexistence: One cannot live in isolation, but has the joy of living in harmony on this planet with various people and other all living things.

(5)Altruism: A mind that always cares and respects not only self-interest but also the well-being and interests of others.

(6)Ensuring fairness: Even in times when it is difficult to determine the "truth," we shall always strive to ensure fairness in the areas of wealth, power, and gender disparities.