

アントニオ・グテーレス事務総長来校に寄せて  
曄道佳明学長スピーチ全文

As just introduced, I am Yoshiaki Terumichi, President of Sophia University.

Your Excellency, Mr. António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations, welcome to Japan, to Tokyo, to Sophia University. It is a profound honor and pleasure for us at Sophia University to welcome you today. I can feel a great amount of excitement among the young people seated here today, eager to receive your message in person.

Today, we are faced with many global challenges, including poverty, educational issues, environmental issues, emerging conflict between globalism and populism, and complex international relations. In addition, given the diffusion of artificial intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT), as well as the utilization of Big Data, it has become difficult for us to foresee the near future.

We will need to foster new ethics for future society. This process will most importantly involve human dignity and human security perspectives. I am convinced that your message on human security will provide us with insight on how we should envision our future.

Ladies and gentlemen, let us be grateful for this valuable opportunity, and having shared these moments in this hall, let us, in turn, communicate to society the important message that we are about to hear from the UN Secretary-General. I will close my words of greeting by expressing my cordial gratitude to His Excellency Mr. António Guterres for granting us his time and my hope that this will become an opportunity for all of us here to embrace human wisdom.

Lastly, I would like to thank Ministry of Foreign Affairs and United Nations Information Center for their cooperation and supports.

Thank you.

東大作国際協力人材育成センター副所長による  
グテーレス国連事務総長の紹介スピーチ全文

It is a great honor to introduce Mr. António Guterres, UN Secretary-General. As a Japanese expert who keeps conducting field research on peace processes in South Sudan, Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, and East Timor, I have a huge respect for Mr. Guterres who has devoted his career to supporting the most vulnerable people in conflicted states for decades.

For instance, he served as Prime Minister of Portugal from 1995 to 2002, and during that period, he was passionately involved in the international effort to resolve the crisis in East Timor. He also served as UN High Commissioner for Refugees from 2005 to 2015, and led UNHCR in tackling one of the most serious refugee crises in the history of human-kind.

Mr. Guterres was appointed as the ninth Secretary-General by UN General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council in October 2016.

I would like to emphasize that in the selection process of the Secretary-General last year, UN General Assembly hosted a series of informal dialogues in which each of the 13 candidates presented their visions and ideas to all UN member states and responded to questions. It was the first time in the history of the UN to create these opportunities.

And many experts argued that after Mr. Guterres presented his visions and ideas of actions, the overwhelming majority of member states, including the members of the Security Council, decided to support Mr. Guterres. Megan Roberts at the Council of Foreign Relations wrote, "these reforms fundamentally changed the SG selection process, and gave Guterres the chance to emerge as an early frontrunner."

After Mr. Guterres took office in January this year, he is passionately advancing his agenda to reform UN organizations. He also continues to stress that conflict prevention is not merely a priority but the priority. As Japanese citizens feel threatened by the tension of the North Korean nuclear problem on a daily basis, prevention is the core question of Human Security, for not only people in Japan but also people in South Korea, North Korea, China, and across the globe. Thus, it is again an extreme honor for us to host his special lecture, titled "Global Challenges: The Role of Human Security" in his first visit to Japan as the UN Secretary-General.

So, Mr. Secretary-General, welcome to Sophia University!