

# Report on Ikeda Studies in Education

## Purpose

The Report on Ikeda Studies in Education is compiled and circulated by the Ikeda Research Institute for Soka Education ([IRISE](#)) of Soka University. The Report serves as an information-sharing tool for scholars and researchers of this field of study, with the aim of facilitating on a global basis, further advances in the research of and activities relevant to Ikeda studies in education.

## News Update

### **Canada**

#### **Soka Education Research Centre on Global Citizenship holds Nov. 18 special lecture online**

On November 17, the Soka Education Research Centre on Global Citizenship (SERC-GC) of the University of Guelph-Humber in Ontario, Canada held [a special online lecture](#) commemorating the founding of Soka education developed by Tsunesaburo Makiguchi. Makiguchi published “*The System of Value-Creating Pedagogy*” on November 18, 1930. The lecture series has been held annually since 2018.

SERC-GC Director Dr. Paul Sherman delivered the fifth annual special lecture’s opening remarks. He was followed by a presentation made by Kazuhiro Iguchi, English language instructor at Soka Kansai High School in Osaka, Japan and doctoral student at DePaul University’s Value-Creating Education for Global Citizenship in Chicago, USA.

Mr. Iguchi’s presentation was entitled, “Practical Implementation of Soka Education in the Teaching and Learning Environment.” Introducing the basic concept and perspectives of value creation,

Mr. Iguchi spoke on the Kansai Soka Schools’ program to foster global citizens in general and its commitment to engage with students with unwavering trust in their potential, as well as his personal classroom experience to achieve mutual growth with learners.

#### **Université Laval delegation takes part in presentation session at Soka University**

On November 5, a contingent of Université Laval’s Ikeda Studies Centre for Education to Global Citizenship, Dialogue and Peace visited Soka University in Hachioji, Japan, from Canada. They took part in a session in which students from both schools, split into mixed groups, presented their research on Ikeda studies on education and peace.

They presented the results of their research on education for dialogue and value creation, the role of music in peacebuilding, the relationship between nature and human beings, young people and leadership and global citizenry, among other themes. Dr. Vincent Fauque from Université Laval and Soka University’s Prof. Maria Guajardo offered remarks.

### **Taiwan**

#### **Chinese Culture University’s Ikeda Research Center in Taiwan holds youth forum**

On December 17, the Ikeda Research Center of the Chinese Culture University (CCU) in Taiwan organized a youth-oriented forum, the eighth to date and the first since 2019, with some 100 faculty members and students participating. The event’s theme envisioned the role of young people in advancing the causes of peace, culture and education in the modern era.

Following CCU President Tzu-Chi Wang’s opening remarks, postgraduate and doctoral candidates from the National Taiwan University, Sun Yat-Sen University and CCU presented a total of seven papers on the educational philosophy of Daisaku Ikeda.

The Ikeda Research Center (IRC) was founded in 2003 and the first institute of higher learning in Taiwan to carry out in Ikeda studies, engaging in the Chinese translations of Ikeda’s dialogues and publishing research papers on its field of study. The IRC has also served as the principal agent of an international forum on Ikeda’s works on and insights into peace and peacebuilding held by the CCU every year in March.

## **Daisaku Ikeda’s Statement on the Ukraine Crisis and No First Use of Nuclear Weapons**

On January 11, 2023, peacebuilder and Buddhist leader Daisaku Ikeda, president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), issued a statement decrying the cruelty and misery of war, calling for action aimed at restoring peace in Ukraine and steps to lessen the risk of the use of nuclear weapons.

Ikeda, 95, calls for the urgent holding of a meeting under UN auspices among the foreign ministers of Russia, Ukraine and other key countries to reach agreement on a cessation of hostilities. With the risk of nuclear weapons use at its highest since the Cold War, he also urges states to pledge “No First Use” of nuclear weapons to avoid catastrophe, defuse the climate of mutual fear and promote nuclear disarmament.

Ikeda made a similar [call to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty \(NPT\) Review Conference in August 2022](#), where the SGI cohosted a side event promoting the adoption of No First Use policies. Commitment to No First Use in South Asia was also explored at a recent workshop held by the [Toda Peace Institute](#) founded by Ikeda.

Ikeda observes that during the Cold War, “Having experienced first-hand the terror of teetering on the

brink of nuclear war, the people of that time brought forth historic powers of imagination and creativity,” resulting in groundbreaking initiatives such as the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) between the US and the Soviet Union. He urges that all countries and peoples must come together to once again unleash such creative powers.

He calls for action that harnesses the synergistic effects of the NPT and the TPNW (Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons) toward the realization of a world free from nuclear weapons.

[Statement on the Ukraine Crisis and No First Use of Nuclear Weapons | Daisaku Ikeda Website](#)

## **This Issue’s Selected Writing**

Shiohara, M. (2022). [What Ikeda Daisaku learned at “Toda University”](#) (N. Inukai, Trans.). *Soka Education* No.15. Ikeda Research Institute for Soka Education.

This article is based on two virtual lectures conducted for “Toda Jōsei’s Educational Philosophy and Practice,” a course in DePaul University’s master’s degree program in Value-Creating Education for Global Citizenship. The lectures were titled “What is Toda University?” (June 6, 2020) and “What Ikeda Daisaku Learned at Toda University” (June 5, 2021). Formatting and citations have been converted to APA style and some footnotes were added for this translation.

### **Postscript**

- We welcome comments regarding this Report as well as suggestions on specific material that it should feature in future issues. Contact: Ikeda Research Institute for Soka Education (IRISE) of Soka University ([IRISE-access@soka.ac.jp](mailto:IRISE-access@soka.ac.jp))
- This Report is issued on a bimonthly basis, with the next release tentatively scheduled for March 18, 2023.