Abstract: The international symposium “Disaster and Memory” will reflect about how the concept of “memory” is intertwined with the way disasters are perceived and represented. As our societies evolve in the 21st century under the new paradigm of Anthropocene, where disasters seem to be on the rise, the question of how to memorialize them and place them in a “grammar of disasters” in order to authorize meaning and resilient actions becomes salient. Bringing together researchers from different universities in Japan and abroad, the symposium will discuss various cases of disasters (3.11 tsunami, Fukushima accident, Minamata disease, Second World War, biodiversity loss and climate change), from different perspectives (sociology, law, anthropology, computer science, history, biology, philosophy and semiotics).

For the registration, please contact us:
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First day - October 18th, 2023

Welcoming of participants: 14:00

1st session: 14:20 – 15:20

Julia Gerster (Tohoku University), School memorials as “Lieux de Mémoire” in the cultural and collective memory of the Great East Japan Earthquake

Orika Komatsubara (Osaka Metropolitan University) & Hatsue Koizumi (Minamata disease center), Conflicts between stakeholders who pass on the tragic memory: In the case of Minamata Disease, Japan

Dhiego Telles Da Silva & Charles Condevaux (University of Nimes), The role of precedents and the use of AI in crisis situations
Discussion: 15:20 – 15:50
Coffee break: 15:50 – 16:10

2nd session: 16:10 – 17:10

Laïna Droz (Tokyo University), *Memory and biodiversity disasters*

Takahiro Fuke (Kyoto University), 「戦没者慰霊と記憶継承——日本遺族会の動向に焦点をあてて」

Mathieu Gaulène (Tohoku University), *From the memory to the imagination of disasters*

Discussion: 17:10 – 17:40

Second Day - October 19th, 2023

3rd session: 9:00 – 10:00

Nao Sakaguchi (Iwate University), *Raising the issue of discussing the state of disaster remains in terms of memory theory*

Ryuma Shineha (Osaka University), *Discourses and Memories on Disasters: a case of the 3.11*

Romaric Jannel (Kyoto University / Collège international de philosophie), *Dimensions of Disaster: The Relation between Memory and Subject*

Discussion: 10:00 – 10:20
Coffee break: 10:20 – 10:40

4th session: 10:40 – 11:20

Miki Hamano (Ritsumeikan University), *Memories and representations of disasters in pre-modern Japan*

Sebastien Pennmellen-Boret (Tohoku University), *The Temporality of Memoryscapes: A Study of the Memorial Monuments of the Great East Japan Earthquake*
Discussion and end of the public seminar: 11:20 – 11:40

Visit of Yuriage ruins and reconstruction area
(by Sebastien Penmellen-Boret)

Departure from IRIDeS: 12:30 – 13:10
Visit of Yuriage: 13:10 – 16:20
Return to Sendai station: 17:00