

Director Makoto Ito's Message

Article 13 of the Constitution of Japan (1947) provides that "All of the people shall be respected as individuals" and that the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness shall be the supreme consideration in legislation and in other governmental affairs.

In other words, each citizen is respected as a single individual whose life is irreplaceable.

The Constitution considers it to be the supreme value and on this basis proclaims the sovereignty of the people, the respect of fundamental human rights and the principle of pacifism.

To promote these values and principles, JICL was established on November 3, 2002.

As a non-governmental research organization, this institute will conduct unfettered research activities and publicize the results of its research as well as various information about the Constitution of Japan, to the people of Japan and other countries.

We believe that if the spirit of "respect for the individual," which highly values each person as irreplaceable, spreads to the world, conflicts will disappear, and children will live in a better world where they can smile.

We would like to do our part to put this dream into practice.

Director of Japan Institute of Constitutional Law

Makoto Ito

Main Projects of JICL

1. Research on Constitutional Law
2. Providing information on Constitutional Law
3. Publishing of bulletins
4. Other activities to promote the Constitution and its principles

(Translated by Hotaka Mochizuki)

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