



**Call for Applications:
Participants for the Fifth Session of the Owada Chair Program**

The Center for International Exchange at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences/College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo, is inviting applications to select graduate students (doctoral candidates and master's students) to participate in a joint chair program established between the University of Tokyo and Leiden University. The program aims to promote research and exchange in the study of *“Interface between International Law and International Relations.”*

* Students in the Senior Division may also be considered for participation upon consultation with the Center for International Exchange.

For details regarding the objectives of the Owada Chair Program, please consult the website below:
<https://www.owadachair.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp>

1. Specific Focus of the Owada Chair Program

The Owada Chair Program is a rotating chair program launched in 2021 by Leiden University and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences/College of Arts and Sciences, the University of Tokyo. It aims to promote research on and develop academic interest in the study of the interaction between a utopian approach (normative framework) and an apologetic approach (political reality), inviting diverse interdisciplinary perspectives. A specific theme is selected for each session by the responsible chair, demonstrating the complex nature of the interface between international law and international relations (politics and economics). The theme for the fifth session of the Program is *“International Criminal Justice: Utopia or Reality?”*

Aligned with this focus, the Program offers a principal lecture by an esteemed speaker on the chosen theme, followed by an active debate among student participants from Leiden University, the University of Tokyo. Emphasis is placed on the stimulation of discussion and debate among participants from diverse academic disciplines and cultural backgrounds. This approach will strongly encourage students to develop their debating skills, which they may not have had the chance to practice in their educational environment.

2. Selection Process

- 1) Prospective participants are expected to take part in a series of model debating sessions for the preparation of the fifth session of the Owada Chair Program. Three sessions will be held in September and October at the Komaba Campus of the University of Tokyo: (1) 16 September 2025 (17:00-18:30), (2) 30 September 2025 (17:00-18:30), and (3) 10 October 2025 (17:00-18:30).
- 2) Based on the evaluations during the model sessions, students will be selected to participate in two categories: (1) a few students for the debate session and (2) a few students for the Ph.D. presentation session. Please note that the fifth session of the Owada Chair Program takes place at Leiden University in the Netherlands on 13-15 October 2025.

* The airfare and accommodation cost will be covered by the Japan Netherlands Academic Cultural Exchange Foundation for students participating in the fifth session of Owada Chair Program in Leiden University.

3. Application Procedure

Please fill in and submit the application form (<https://x.gd/J0BpX>) by **16 July 2025**.

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