



Message from Vienna



ACPF Permanent Representative for Europe and Central Asia to the United Nations Office at Vienna, Jolanta Redo

(This corner is compiled by Hiroyuki YOSHIDA, Director, Programme Management Bureau, ACPF)

1. What is the ACPF Permanent Representative to the UN Office in Vienna?

The ACPF was granted the status of a UN NGO with General Consultative Status (the top category) in 2000. In order to maintain this status, the ACPF is required to attend various UN related conferences and show its achievements. However, it is difficult to attend those conferences from Japan. Therefore, the engagement of the regional representatives is indispensable for these activities. The ACPF has permanent representatives in Vienna and New York. Thanks to Mrs. Redo's invaluable role as a permanent representative in Vienna, the ACPF can fulfill its role as a UN NGO.

2. Profile of Mrs. Jolanta Redo

Mrs. Redo has been contributing to the ACPF as ACPF Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office in Vienna. Her CV is [available here](#). (Please refer to [ACPF Magazine No. 63, pp 5 to 9](#) for details.)

Mrs. Redo lives in Vienna, Austria. When Mr. Shikita, former chairperson of ACPF, worked as the Head of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch (Vienna) from 1982 to 1986, her husband Mr. Slawomir Redo worked on Mr. Shikita's staff. Mr. and Mrs. Redo were personal friends of Mr. and Mrs. Shikita.



3. Mrs. Redo's contributions as ACPF Permanent Representative.

In the third and fourth quarter of 2020, Mrs. Redo's schedule was as follows:

- Briefing for NGOs on the First Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption/UNGASS (1 September),

- Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly against Corruption (2-4 September),
- Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (10-11 September),
- Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 10th session (12-16 October 2020),
- Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on Preparations for the Special Session of the General Assembly against Corruption/UNGASS 2021 (19-20 November),
- Intersessional Meeting of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (23 November).

In connection with this last event, the ACPF and other non-governmental organizations of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, started an alliance to develop a civil society statement for the forthcoming Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto, Japan).

The alliance – the Alliance of NGOs for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice – was established to promote cooperation between its members while considering the interests of nongovernmental organizations and civil society. The Alliance has 61 member organizations and 16 individual members from around the world. Mrs. Redo serves as a Director of the Alliance, and she also attends the Alliance meetings as the representative of the ACPF.

Mrs. Redo has also kindly given us timely information on the status of the coronavirus pandemic in Vienna. She informed us, by way of example, that 1,200 people in Vienna (which would be equivalent to 8,800 people in Tokyo based on population) were newly infected COVID-19 on 6 November 2020. We must remain continuously alert to prevent the spread of the pandemic.

4. “Holy Birds Descending”



Hanging in the rotunda of the grand lobby on the ground floor of the UN International Center in Vienna in Austria is the painting “Ho-o Raigi” (“Holy Birds Descending”), painted by the late artist YOSHIDA Sagenji, and donated by the ACPF to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the United Nations in 1996. This work is 2.4 meters in length and 7.2 meters in width. Its caption explains that “the Holy Birds descend to earth when peace and justice are prevailing in the world” (*The Book of Rites* of the Zhou dynasty). To ensure that the painting would be displayed in the most frequented part of the building, Mrs. Redo, ACPF members and Mr. Shikita’s supporters took pivotal roles in ensuring that the painting was prominently displayed. In addition, she had a key role in ensuring that memorial UN First Day Cover stamps of the United Nations Postal Administration were produced, showing the painting.

During the Shikita Award ceremony held at *Meiji Kinenkan* in Tokyo on 25 October 2018, Mrs. Jolanta Redo, the Award winner, stated that the message of the ACPF slogan “Prosperity without Crime” is contained in the Holy Birds Descending, mentioned the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are on the comprehensive agenda of the Fourteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and called for contributions of the ACPF members to aid the success of the Kyoto Crime Congress. [See her message in English \(page 9\).](#)

Coincidentally, the book titled *Crime Prevention and Justice in 2030 – The UN and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (Helmut Kury, Slawomir Redo Editors, Springer) will carry a photo of Holy Birds Descending with the permission of the UN.

ACPF owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Redo’s tremendous

contributions to its activities over the past several decades. Her efforts demonstrate that the ACPF requires support not only in Japan but also throughout the world to ensure that the ACPF can continue its activities as a UN NGO with General Consultative Status.