

## **GSI Caravan**

Project Title: "Public Sphere and Diversifying Views of History: Memories and Reconciliation in Europe and Asia"

Principal Investigator: Yuji Ishida

### **Research Plan for the Academic Year 2020**

In light of the current situation, it is impossible to travel abroad during the academic year 2020. Instead of travelling abroad in "caravan" style, all the events and workshops will be held online. At the first online workshop organized by eight caravan members from Japan in May 2020, members specializing in Europe and Asia discuss the common framework for approaching issues related to "Memories and Reconciliation in Europe and Asia." At the succeeding workshops the basic concepts that are essential for this research project (e.g., "Reconciliation," "memories and commemoration," "Citizens and civil society," "The public sphere," and "Public history") are critically reviewed. Through these workshops, these analytical concepts are to be refined while keeping actual experiences from Europe and Asia in mind. Among related events and workshops, a kick-off panel discussion session originally scheduled in December 2020 in Berlin with researchers from the universities that were supposed to host the caravan will be instead organized online in March 2021. Based on presentations on various local cases, the session invites all participants to join in the discussions with a focus on memories and reconciliation and to gain a global and transnational perspective. The presentations by the panelists and the subsequent discussions will appear in the *European Studies* (vol.21), a journal published by the Center for German and European Studies. Another workshop will be organized to summarize the research activities conducted in the current academic year (2020) and their outcomes as well as to finalize a research plan for the upcoming academic year.