



University of  
Zurich<sup>UZH</sup>

Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies – Japanese Studies

# A Fukushima Mother's Story: 12 years from Evacuation to Lobbying at the UN Human Rights Council

**Lecture by M. Sonoda**

**Friday, March 10, 2023, 6 - 8 pm**

University of Zurich, Room RAA G15, Rämistrasse 59, 8001 Zürich

In this lecture, the amazing story from evacuation to political activities at the UN is told. Last year, a new big step was taken. Defining Fukushima evacuees as “Internally Displaced Persons” (IDPs), the issue of Fukushima evacuation was successfully put on the agenda for the UN’s Universal Periodic Review. At last, the UN special rapporteur who is responsible for human rights of IDPs visited Japan last year.

**M. Sonoda** is a Japanese calligrapher from Fukushima and a vegan mother. With other plaintiffs, she filed lawsuits against the Japanese government and Tokyo Electric Power Company Holding (TEPCO). Being based in Europe and Japan, she has appealed to international public opinion for Fukushima victims, focusing on gender, poverty, health and environmental problems.

Students, staff, and other interested parties are cordially invited to attend.

Prof. Dr. David Chiavacci