

The 11th PDA High School Parliamentary Debate World Congress 2026 Report

General Incorporated Association
Parliamentary Debate Personnel Development Association (PDA)

Dates:

2026/1/22(Thursday), 1/23(Friday)

Event Location :

Online (via Zoom)

Hosted by:	Parliamentary Debate Personnel Development Association (PDA)
Co-Hosted by:	Osaka Metropolitan University
Supported by:	Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), The Asahi Shimbun Company, Asahi Student Newspaper, English-Speaking Union of Japan (ESUJ)
Sponsored by:	The Tazaki Foundation
Granted by:	The Nippon Foundation, KDDI Foundation and Mitsubishi Memorial Foundation for Educational Excellence

Participating schools and debate teams:

14countries, 26 teams (5 teams from Japan, 21 teams from abroad)

Japan	Seiko Gakuin High School
Japan	Fukui Prefectural Fujishima Senior High School
Japan	Tokushima Prefectural Johnouchi Secondary School
Japan	Yamagata Prefectural Touohgakkan Senior High School
Japan	Chiba Prefectural Funabashi Senior High School
Colombia	American School 2teams
Philippines	Timber City Academy 2teams
Jamaica	Hampton School ※1
India	India International School in Japan (IISJ) ※1
Indonesia	Francis School BSD 2teams

Romania	George Emil Palade Highschool of University of Medicine, Pharmacy and Science, Targu Mures
Romania	Colegiul Național „Al Papiu Ilarian”
Mongolia	Hobby School of Ulaanbaatar
Morocco	Morocco Debate Association
Nepal	India International School in Japan (IISJ) ※1
Poland	Poland Debate Academy ※2
Poland	Zespół Szkół Łączności (Schools of Communications) in Cracow 2teams
Thailand	Prince of Songkla University Demonstration School (Secondary) 2teams
Uganda	Wampeewo Ntakke Secondary School ※2
Uganda	Code High School ※2
India/Philippines/Singapore	UWC ISAK Japan

※1=Teams absent from the tournament

※2=Participated on Day 1 only

Purpose of the Event:

Recently, as the process of globalization accelerates, fostering talents that can contribute to a global society and understand cultural diversity and different ways of thinking has become one of the most important goals. The PDA High School Parliamentary Debate World Congress aims to help participants nurture and strengthen their English speaking skills, logical thinking, presentation skills, communication skills, general knowledge and other various skills through active participation in British Parliamentary format debates. It is a wonderful opportunity for students from different countries to achieve personal growth while exchanging ideas and arguments on an equal footing. The primary purpose of this event is to motivate participants to grow into active talents of our global society. To better assist that process, we have included various educational opportunities such as keynote speeches and other contemporary lectures. Our main goal is to promote truly effective cultural exchanges using debate as a means to an end. Moreover, PDA High School Parliamentary Debate World Congress's schedule has been designed to resemble international/academic conferences. It is a unique experience for high school students as it provides them with a chance to visualize themselves being on an international stage.

Furthermore, PDA High School Parliamentary Debate World Congress integrates the results of a research project supported by the

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Sciences and Technology (MEXT) and uses an impromptu English debate format that can be used in a regular high school class (50 minutes). It is a format that is both familiar to the students who have some experiences in debates through extra-curricular activities, and at the same time, friendly to the students who have no prior training in debates.

Motions: (Motions were announced 15 minutes before the beginning of each round)

Preliminary round 1: Tobacco should be banned.

Preliminary round 2: Ambulance services should be paid rather than free.

Preliminary round 3: It is better to have romantic relationships with humanoid robots than with humans.

Preliminary round 4: Organ donation should be mandatory.

Semi Final: Tariffs do more benefits than harm.

Grand Final: Accepting immigrants brings more benefits than harms.

Keynote speaker:

Mr. Jordan Fisher

Co-founder & Executive Chairman at Zehitomo,
Venture Partner at Antler Japan



Photos of Participating Schools



Seiko



Fujishima



Johnouchi



Touohgakkan



Funabashi



Colombia



Philippines



Romania



Mongolia



Morocco



POLAND 1



Kuba Benedykt Janek



POLAND 2



Kuba Bartek Borys

Poland



Thailand



Uganda

First day (Opening Ceremony, Preliminary Round 1~3, Cultural Interaction/Culture Night)

The 11th PDA World Exchange Tournament took place online. During the opening ceremony, participants watched introduction videos of each school and became acquainted with the peers from various countries with whom they would be debating. The ceremony included greetings from Chihiro Nakagawa, the Representative Director of PDA, followed by an explanation of the debate rules. During the rule's session, students practiced the POI (Point of Information) gesture and reviewed how to use it effectively to promote mutual understanding. On the first day of the tournament, three preliminary rounds were held, along with a Culture Night, where participants introduced cultures from around the world. While waiting for the judges to announce the results after each debate in each round, teams exchanged views on the contexts and backgrounds related to the motions.



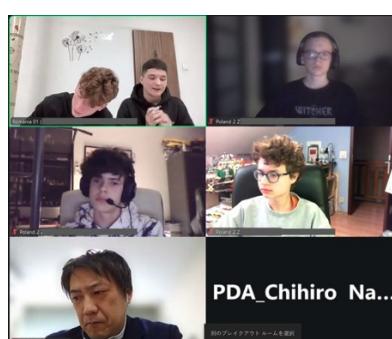
Opening Ceremony · POI Practice



Johnouchi VS Uganda?



Colombia1 VS Indonesia1



Romania1 VS Poland2



Seiko VS ISAK



Thailand1 VS Uganda1



POI! (Johnouchi VS Colombia2)



Mongolia VS Fujishima



Touohgakkan VS Philippines2



Funabashi VS Romania 1



Indonesia 1 VS Thailand2



Exchange (Morocco VS Thailand1)

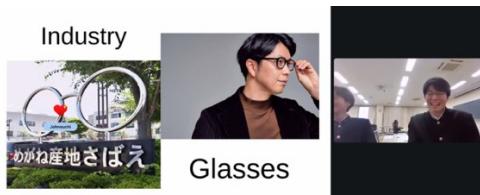


Debate Session and POI! (Yamagata Prefectural Touohgakkan Senior High School)

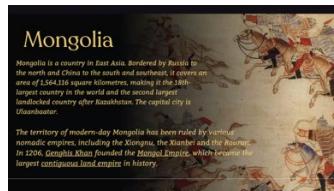




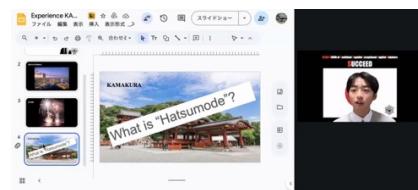
Colombia, American School



Japan, Fukui Prefectural Fujishima Senior High School



Mongolia, Hobby School of Ulaanbaatar



Japan, Seiko Gakuin High School



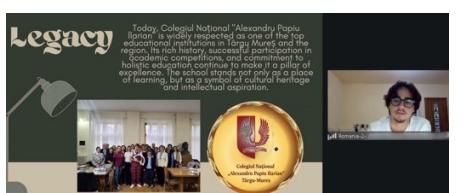
Morocco, Morocco Debate Association



Romania, George Emil Palade Highschool of University of Medicine, Pharmacy and Science, Targu Mures



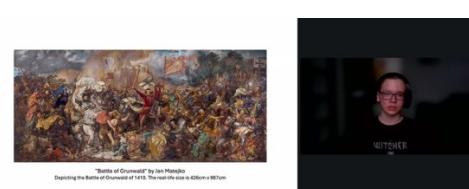
WE ALSO DEBATE!



Romania, Colegiul Național „Al. Papiu Ilarian”



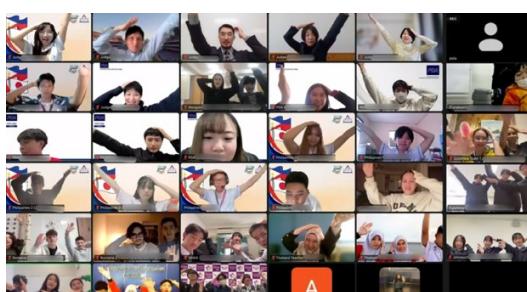
Poland, Poland Debate Academy



Poland, Zespół Szkół Łączności (Schools of Communications) in Cracow

Second Day (Preliminary Round 4, Semifinals, Grand Final, Keynote Speech, Closing Ceremony)

Day 2 of the tournament began with Preliminary Round 4. During preparation time, teachers and judges shared insights into educational environments and debate practices across schools and countries. The rounds showed greater depth of argumentation and strategy than the previous day. During lunch, a continuation of the Culture Night activities featured local dances and cultural performances, allowing participants to enjoy and learn about one another's cultures.



Practice on Day 2 of the Tournament



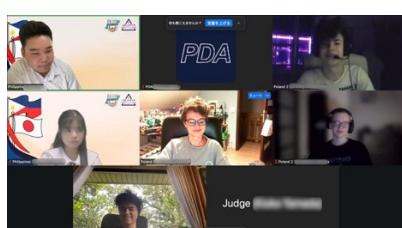
Faculty Teacher Group Photo



Indonesia VS Morocco



Funabashi VS ISAK



Philippines2 VS Poland2



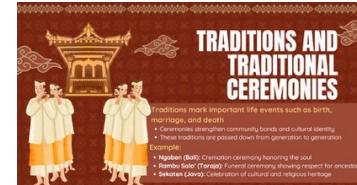
Johnouchi VS Thailand2



Japan, Tokushima Prefectural Johnouchi Secondary School



Philippines, Timber City Academy



Indonesia, Francis School BSD



Japan, Chiba Prefectural Funabashi Senior High School



India, Philippines & Singapore, UWC ISAK Japan



Thailand, Prince of Songkla University Demonstration School (Secondary)



Japan, Yamagata Prefectural Touohgakken Senior High School

After the break, the much-anticipated break announcement, revealing the preliminary results, was made amidst an atmosphere of tension and excitement.

Place	Team Name	Win	Sum	Institution
1st	Romania 2	4	169	Colegiul Național „Al Papiu Ilarian”
2nd	Fujishima (Japan)	4	159	Fukui Prefectural Fujishima Senior High School
3rd	Mongolia	3	175	Hobby School of Ulaanbaatar
4th	Seiko (Japan)	3	168	Seiko Gakuin High School
5th	Philippines 1	3	167	Timber City Academy
6th	Romania 1	3	156	George Emil Palade Highschool of University of Medicine, Pharmacy and Science, Targu Mures
7th	Indonesia 2	3	153	Francis School BSD
8th	Johnouchi (Japan)	3	142	Tokushima Prefectural Johnouchi Secondary School
9th	Indonesia 1	3	140	Francis School BSD
10th	ISAK	2	154	UWC ISAK Japan
11th	Colombia 2	2	145	American School
12th	Colombia 1	2	141	American School
13th	Touohgakken (Japan)	2	134	Yamagata Prefectural Touohgakken Senior High School
14th	Poland 3	2	127	Zespół Szkół Łączności (Schools of Communications) in Cracow
15th	Poland 2	2	118	Zespół Szkół Łączności (Schools of Communications) in Cracow
16th	Philippines 2	1	159	Timber City Academy
17th	Thailand 1	1	147	Prince of Songkla University Demonstration School (Secondary)
18th	Morocco	1	143	Morocco Debate Association
19th	Poland 1	1	138	Poland Debate Academy
20th	Uganda 2	1	114	Code High School
21st	Funabashi (Japan)	0	163	Chiba Prefectural Funabashi Senior High School
22nd	Thailand 2	0	143	Prince of Songkla University Demonstration School (Secondary)
23rd	Uganda 1	0	125	Wampeevo Ntakke Secondary School
-	Jamaica	-	-	Hampton School
-	Nepal	-	-	IISJ
-	India	-	-	IISJ

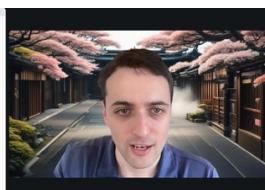
The semifinal and final rounds featured intense debates with active POI exchanges. During preparation for the final round, Mr. Jordan Fisher delivered a keynote speech related to the motion and current Japanese society. At the closing ceremony, awards were presented, followed by reflections from the winners and closing remarks from the Representative Director on the motions and future activities.



Semifinal: Romania 2 VS Seiko



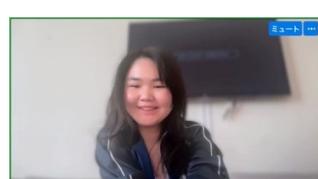
Semifinal: Mongolia VS Fujishima



Keynote Speech



Final: Fujishima VS Seiko



Individual Award Recipients Sharing Their Reflections on the Tournament

Results of the 11th PDA High School Parliamentary Debate World Congress 2026

Team Prize

1st Place: Seiko Gakuin High School (Japan)

2nd Place: Fukui Prefectural Fujishima Senior High School (Japan)

Semifinalists: Romania2, Mongolia



Seiko Gakuin High School (Japan)



Fukui Prefectural Fujishima Senior High School (Japan)



Romania2



Mongolia

Culture Prize

Colombia, Mongolia, Thailand, Yamagata Prefectural Touohgakkan Senior High School (Japan)

Individual Prizes

Best Debater

• 4 times	_____ (Philippines2)
_____ (Seiko)	_____ (Johnouchi)
• 3 times	_____ (Uganda 2)
_____ (Fujishima)	_____ (Poland 3)
_____ (Poland 2)	_____ (Mongolia)
_____ (Colombia 1)	_____ (Romania 2)
• 2 times	_____ (Romania 1)
_____ (ISAK)	_____ (Indonesia 2)
_____ (Funabashi)	_____ (Indonesia 1)
_____ (Touohgakkan)	_____ (Philippines 1)

Best POI

• 3 times

- _____ (ISAK)
- _____ (Touohgakkann)
- _____ (Seiko)
- _____ (Thailand 2)
- _____ (Poland 1)
- _____ (Romania 1)
- _____ (Colombia 2)

• 2 times

- _____ (Uganda 1)
- _____ (Romania 2)
- _____ (Romania 2)
- _____ (Indonesia 2)
- _____ (Philippines 2)
- _____ (Philippines 2)
- _____ (Philippines 1)
- _____ (Philippines 1)



Best Debater



Best POI



We look forward to meeting again in the future!

Impressions on PDA World Congress 2026

(Students)

- Everyone was so nice and respectful! I had so much fun debating! It wasn't just a tournament or competition but another training session and a step forward! (Philippines)
- I enjoyed cultural night and could know interesting culture. (Japan)
- The debate motions were interesting, the service quality was beyond my expectations, and it was a very pleasing experience (Romania)
- Excellent event and looking forward to participate every year (Philippines)
- It was very fun and educational. Aside from the main event of debating, I loved how we were able to exchange cultures and knowledge with each other. (Mongolia)
- Debaters and judges were very nice and welcoming. Getting to know other countries' debating methods (Colombia)
- It was a good experience overall. I would do it again if given a chance to (Uganda)
- I love this sort of debate style. I would love to attend in the future as well. (Romania)
- It was my first time debating with people from other countries. It was the most exciting debate ever!! (Japan)
- It was a well organised online event. Very well enjoyed! (Morocco)
- The event was pretty fun, the staff and other debaters were really nice. (Indonesia)
- Sharing time with my teammates and getting to talk to different people was fun (Colombia)
- It was wonderful for a brand new experience. (Thailand)
- PDA was fun! I would love to compete again (Philippines)
- I was able to debate with people from various countries and it made me more interested in the world. (Japan)
- I really liked the experience and it was a competitive but not toxic format. (Romania)
- Interacting and debating with international students was so exciting! I'm sure these two days will be one of my most precious experiences. (Japan)

(Teachers/Judges)

- We enjoyed the interaction with other countries, and we noticed that the way to expression is so different from country to country. Also, during culture night, we can see many interesting presentation and movies. (Japan)
- My students enjoy interaction with others through debating and I think they can get to exchange culture as well. (Thailand)
- This year I particularly enjoyed the motions (varied and challenging) as well as the international exchange! (Romania)
- The interaction and organization of the debate were excellent. (Indonesia)
- A wonderful occasion in terms of educational points of view (Japan)
- All rounds and pleasure to be a judge in the grand final. (Mongolia)
- The atmosphere of all of us coming together to celebrate the joy of "debating" was fun (Japan)
- The competition was excellent in the way it was organised and I enjoyed the clarity and good flow of the programme. (Romania)
- I like to see the debate round and interaction between students (Thailand)