



Satoko Tomita

- Director, International Affairs Office, Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu法テラス)
- Staff Attorney, Tokyo Law Office, Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu法テラス)

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 2020 - Present Director of the International Affairs Office/Staff Attorney
- 2018 - 2020 Director of JLSC HQs (PR., Crime Victim Support)
- 2012 - 2020 Attorney at Law, Sakuragaoka Law Office, Tokyo
- 2015 - 2018 Chief Advisor, SCC Project (JICA), Kathmandu, Nepal
- 2010 - 2012 Staff Attorney, JLSC Okinawa Law Office, Okinawa,
- 2006 - 2010 Staff Attorney/Director of Sado Branch Office (JLSC),
- 2004 - 2006 Attorney at Law, Sakuragaoka Law Office, Tokyo

BIOGRAPHY

As one of 24 first staff attorneys of JLSC, Ms. Tomita established a JLSC's law office in an island where 65,000 people resided with only one lawyer. While dealing with a huge number of cases brought into her office, she also tried to reach out the people who cannot come to the office by making a network with local stakeholders in the island, which was later developed to one of the models of legal social work of JLSC by her successors. After moving to JLSC's Okinawa Law Office, she mainly handled court-appointed criminal defense cases including quasi jury trials.

Ms. Tomita explored the social structures that push people to the prison by studying for her master degree in Sociology (Criminal Justice) in the USA. Working experience for a project implemented by Japan International Cooperation Agency and Supreme Court of Nepal gave her practical knowledge about the social structures such as the poverty, gender and culture.

She returned to the JLSC HQs as a director. In 2020 July, she became the first director of a newly launched office in the Foreign Resident Support Center. She is now working for the foreigners as a manager, practitioner and a member of multiple government committees.