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**International Symposium
Present Status and Problems of Social Security Rights in Taiwan**

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This is a record of presentation and discussion of "The Present Status and Problems of Social Security Rights in Taiwan." An International Symposium, which was held at Hokkaido University Public Law Study Group on August 24, 2012. This symposium was funded by the Foundation for EFICSS (Egusa Foundation for International Cooperation in the Social Sciences). This report is also part of my JSPS Project (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-up) which is titled "Judicial Relief and Promotion of the Right to a Decent Life" (Project Number: 23830002). From the perspective of constitutional rights, this project must establish an effective remedy in judicial review. It must help to clarify the normative content of the right to a decent life, the present study to overcome the problem of extensive legislative discretion, and negative judicial in litigation related to social rights.

In this symposium, I invited presenters who specialize in the study of the Constitution of the United States, Japan, and Taiwan, and have the same awareness of the problem as I am conscious of. The first presenter is Dr.

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Ching-Hsiung HSU professor who has served in Tamkang University in Taiwan. His paper is entitled "A Verification of Taiwan and Japan's constitutional system : Focusing on protection of social rights and Dissolution System", which pointed out the problems with the current status of social rights and the Social Security system in Taiwan. In addition, it also pointed out problems within the operation of system dissolution in Japan. The second presenter is Dr. Shu-Perng HWANG associate research professor who is working in the Academia Sinica of Taiwan. Her subject is "Legislative Discretion on Social Welfare Policies in Light of Constitutional Review", which reported the attitude of judicial review for legislative discretion in social security legislation of Taiwan. The third presenter is Dr. Tsung-Hsien CHOU who has served in National Chi-Yi University of Technology. The title of his paper is "National Relief For The Poor Amongst Class Societies: A Study of Taiwanese Law." Which pointed out issues of operation within the Public Assistance Act and National Health Insurance system in Taiwan. For comments, Dr. Ichiro IWAMOTO professor who has served in Hokusei Gakuen University, through the concept of "constitutional justice" of Rawls, explained the social rights.

Finally, the recording of the papers and discussion in this symposium, which is even a little hope can contribute to the further development of the research on social rights in Japan and Taiwan.

Minorities and Citizenship

Lucas Swaine*

This lecture examines the condition of Muslim minorities in advanced democracies, and uses this discussion as a way to consider some challenges facing minority groups, paying special attention to the situation of Ainu people in Japan. The lecture has two parts. In the first part, it outlines some noteworthy issues facing Muslims in democracies, and it examines the pressing question of whether Islam is compatible with democracy. In the second part, it expands the discussion, to see whether the case of Muslims might provide ideas for enhancing and improving the condition of ethnic and indigenous minorities in general, and to advance common citizenship for them. It provides reflections on three topics where there are some special concerns for the Ainu community. These are the topics of loyalty, assimilation, and the memory of historical injustice. It addresses these topics in order, and it tries to apply findings from the case of Muslims, to help to illuminate some of the points.

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