

Letter from President of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina to President of the Science Council of Japan dated February 21, 2023 (A certain excerpt where the consent was obtained for disclosure)

It is one of the central tasks of the German National Academy of Sciences to provide un-biased, independent science-based advice to the German government and the public. To fulfill this task, autonomy and independence in the selection of our members as well as in choosing and defining our activities are essential. The latter includes the free and independent selection of members for working groups. Any infringement on this autonomy would imply a significant loss in reputation and acceptance of our work in the political sphere, in the public, and in the scientific community. This would seriously endanger our voice as the honest broker of science – a voice that I believe is urgently needed in today’s knowledge-driven societies.

I am therefore deeply concerned about the situation that the Science Council of Japan is subjected to, and I hereby express my solidarity with you and your institution.

Signature of the President