

Research Interests – Prof. Dr. Kanako Takayama

My research areas include fundamental theories on components of criminal offenses as well as international and comparative criminal law, as my publication list shows. I am convinced that the more novel and cutting-edge the new challenges are, the more effective the very basic legal theories work as a tool to analyse and solve the question. Currently I am engaged in questions on legal control of economic activities, freedom of expression, right to self-determination and biomedical research/treatment, such as gene editing in human embryos. In those fields, a precise analysis of the different aspects of a complicated problem is essential. The discussion in Germany always makes us a model.

When I applied for a Humboldt scholarship, I was the only applicant from Japan in the research field of law. It is my pleasure that now many more young researchers are interested in academic exchange with Germany. Now not only German but Japanese legal theories are learnt enthusiastically by younger Asian and other international researchers. With this in mind, we, academics, should be aware of our responsibility to propose rational and sustainable legal frameworks to contribute global human welfare. I hope that the next generations and especially women from Japan as scientists and lawyers would further deepen our cooperation with German, Asian and other international colleagues.