

Hiroharu Saito

Associate Professor of Law and Society
Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo
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Professional Experience:

The University of Tokyo, Institute of Social Science (Tokyo, Japan)
Associate Professor (Tenured) Apr. 2021–present

The University of Tokyo, Graduate Schools for Law and Politics (Tokyo, Japan)
Assistant Professor (Fixed-term) Apr. 2016–Mar. 2021

Harvard Law School (Cambridge, U.S.)
Visiting Researcher Aug. 2015–Mar. 2016

Saito International Law Office (Tokyo, Japan)
Attorney Apr. 2013–Jul. 2014

Anderson Mori & Tomotsune (Tokyo, Japan)
Attorney (Associate) Sep. 2009–Dec. 2012

The Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan (Saitama and Tokyo, Japan)
Legal Apprenticeship Apr. 2008–Sep. 2009

Education:

Doctor of Laws, The University of Tokyo, Jan. 2023

Ph.D. Program in Education, The University of Tokyo, Apr. 2015–Mar. 2016
(left without a degree to join the faculty of Graduate Schools for Law and Politics)

LL.M., Harvard Law School, May 2015
(with Fulbright Scholarship Grant from Japan-U.S. Educational Commission)

Master of Education, The University of Tokyo, Mar. 2015

LL.B., with highest honors [*takuetsu*], The University of Tokyo, Mar. 2008

Bar Admission:

Japan (2009)
Inactive Status, Jul. 2014–present
Dai-ichi Tokyo Bar Association, Sep. 2009–Jul. 2014
Passed the Japanese old bar exam (with the 4th highest score of the year in the essay part), Nov. 2007

Areas of Interest:

Law and Society, Empirical Legal Studies, Socio-legal Studies, Law and Psychology, Children and Youth, Negotiation, Dispute Resolution, Legal Profession

Professional Affiliations:

Law and Society Association
Research Committee on Sociology of Law (under International Sociological Association)
Asian Law and Society Association
Japanese Association of Sociology of Law
Japan Association of the Law of Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Japan Law and Economics Association
Japan Society for Law and Education
Public Policy Studies Association Japan

Research Grants (PI only):

- Excellent Young Researchers Grant, The University of Tokyo, Oct. 2022–
- JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C) (No. 21K01096), April 2021–Mar. 2024
- JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists (No. 18K12613), Apr. 2018–Mar. 2021
- JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-Up (No. 16H06699), Sep. 2016–Mar. 2018
- The Foundation for Research in Civil Dispute Resolution [Minji Funso Shori Kenkyu Kikin] Grant, Apr. 2016–Mar. 2017

Research Awards:

- Best Book Award, Japanese Association of Sociology of Law, 2023
- Ikuko Onaka Award for Emerging Scholar in Family Law, Nihon Kajo Publishing, 2023
- *Jiritsu* Award (Grant-in-Aid for Book Publication), The University of Tokyo, 2021
- Award for Excellent Paper using SSJDA's Data, Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo, 2020
- Best Article Award, Japanese Association of Sociology of Law, 2019

Avocational Activities:

Participated in the lawyers' soccer world cup, *Mundiavocat*, three times as a member of Tokyo team (2010 in Turkey, 2012 in Croatia, and 2014 in Hungary)

Publications in English:

Academic Articles

1. Hiroharu Saito (2025) “Law and Economics in Japan’s Courts: Emerging Trends and Developments,” *Asian Journal of Law and Economics*, Advance online publication, 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1515/ajle-2025-2001>
2. Takeshi Asamizuya, Hiroharu Saito, Ryosuke Higuchi, Go Naruse, Shozo Ota, & Junko Kato (2022) “Effective Connectivity and Criminal Sentencing Decisions: Dynamic Causal Models in Laypersons and Legal Experts,” *Cerebral Cortex* bhab484, 1–13.
3. Hiroharu Saito (2022) “Loss Aversion for the Value of Voting Rights: WTA/WTP Ratios for a Ballot,” 69 *International Review of Law and Economics* 106041, 1–12.
4. Hiroharu Saito (2021) “The Impact of Lawyer Fees on Lawyer Partisanship: The Reciprocity Norm May Matter,” 28(3) *International Journal of the Legal Profession* 319–334.
5. Hiroharu Saito (2020) “Equal Protection for Children: Toward the Childist Legal Studies,” 50(2) *New Mexico Law Review* 235–286.
6. Hiroharu Saito (2018) “Japanese Divorce Lawyers: Their Success After Their Own Divorce,” 20(1) *Asian-Pacific Law & Policy Journal* 1–49.
 - Received the Award for Excellent Paper using SSJDA’s Data, Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo, 2020
7. Hiroharu Saito (2017) “Do Professional Ethics Make Negotiators Unethical? An Empirical Study with Scenarios of Divorce Settlement,” 22(2) *Harvard Negotiation Law Review* 325–373.
 - Abstract featured in the “Research Insights” section of the Dispute Resolution Magazine (American Bar Association), Winter 2018
8. Hiroharu Saito (2016) “Bargaining in the Shadow of Children’s Voices in Divorce Custody Disputes: Comparative Analysis of Japan and the U.S.,” 17(3) *Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution* 937–988.

Misc. (Book Reviews, Practical Notes, etc.)

1. Yuichiro Nukada, Takashi Nakazaki, Masato Nozaki, & Hiroharu Saito (2011) “A Q&A Guide to Media Law in Japan,” in Sharon E Abrams et al., eds., *Practical Law: Multi-Jurisdictional Guide 2011/12 Media* (1st ed., London: Practical Law Company). <https://www.practicallaw.com/2-509-2593>.
2. Yuichiro Nukada, & Hiroharu Saito (2012) “M&A Developments in Japan,” February/March 2012 *Corporate INTL Magazine*.

Publications in Japanese:

Books

1. Hiroharu Saito (2022) *Children and the Law: A Socio-Legal Study of the Boundary between Children and Adults* (Tokyo: **University of Tokyo Press**).
 - Received the Best Book Award, Japanese Association of Sociology of Law, 2023

- Received Ikuo Onaka Award for Emerging Scholar in Family Law, Nihon Kajo Publishing, 2023
 - Received *Jiritsu* Award (Grant-in-Aid for Book Publication), The University of Tokyo, 2021.
2. Atsushi Onuki, Takanori Kano, Yuji Eguchi, Hiroharu Saito (2023) *Law, School, and Society for Junior and Senior High Schools Students* (Tokyo: Shimizu Shoin) (authored comments on Chapters 1 and 2).
 3. Yoshiaki Nomura, Yuji Eguchi, Atsushi Onuki, & Hiroharu Saito eds. (2018) *Teaching Civics Through Negotiation in Junior and Senior High Schools* (Tokyo: Shimizu Shoin) (authored 42–45, 132–137, 138–143, 236–241 (Chapters II-3, III-3-4, III-3-5 & III-6-5) as well as contributed to editing the whole book).

Academic Articles

1. Hiroharu Saito (2024) “Pandemic and Judicial System,” in Susumu Cato, Ryuichi Tanaka, & Kenneth Mori McElwain eds., *Pandemic and Social Science* (Tokyo: Keiso Shobo) 167–186.
2. Hiroharu Saito (2024) “Space Resources and Commons” *Yuhikaku Online* L2401006.
3. Hiroharu Saito, & Wataru Tanaka (2023) “Malapportionment and Subsidy Distribution: An Empirical Analysis of Japanese Upper House Elections Based on the Opinion of Justice Koichi Kusano,” *Journal of Social Science (Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo)* 63–89.
4. Hiroharu Saito (2023) “Determinants of Litigants’ Overall Satisfaction,” in Iwao Sato, Masaki Abe, & Shozo Ota eds., *Dispute Process and Judicial Policy in Contemporary Japan: Civil Justice Research Project 2016–2020* (Tokyo: University of Tokyo Press) 313–328.
5. Hiroharu Saito (2022) “Actual Rates of Child Support and Visitation Arrangements in the Past 20 Years in Japan,” 7 *Japanese Law & Society Review* 87–120.
6. Hiroharu Saito (2020) “Legal Work and Use of Lawyers in Japanese Large Companies: A Structural Equation Modeling Analysis of Development of Legal Work,” 16 *Law and Practice (Japan Law Foundation)* 60–81.
7. Hiroharu Saito (2020) “A Basic Quantitative Analysis of Attorneys in Japanese Civil Lawsuits,” 71(2) *Journal of Social Science (Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo)* 99–110.
8. Hiroharu Saito (2018) “An Analysis of the Historical Transition of Conflict Resolution Education in the U.S.: The Second Period (Period of Transformation),” 8 *Official Journal of the Japan Society for Law and Education* 5–16.
9. Hiroharu Saito (2018) “Educational Effect of Attorneys’ Negotiation Ethics in the U.S.,” in Yoshinaka Toyoda, Shozo Ota, Keisuke Hayashi, & Teruo Saito eds., *Settlements Create the Future: in Commemoration of Prof. Yoshiro Kusano’s 70th Birthday* (Tokyo: Shinzansha) 207–236.
 - Received the Best Article Award, Japanese Association of Sociology of Law, 2019
10. Hiroharu Saito (2018) “Japanese People’s Attitudes Toward Children’s Legal Ages,” 84 *The Sociology of Law (Japanese Association of Sociology of Law)* 203–240.

11. Hiroharu Saito (2016) “An Analysis of the Historical Transition of Conflict Resolution Education in the U.S.: The First Period (Period of Expansion),” 6 *Official Journal of the Japan Society for Law and Education* 5–16.
12. Hiroharu Saito (2015) “‘School Meeting’, an Autonomous Forum for Decision Making and Dispute Resolution: An Analysis from Two Perspectives: Children’s Participation and Dispute Systems Design,” 35 *Journal of Educational Administration (Graduate School of Education, The University of Tokyo)* 19–33.

Misc. (Book Reviews, Practical Notes, etc.)

1. Hiroharu Saito (2023) “What are Decisions of Judges?” 515 *Hogaku Kyoshitsu* 2–3.
2. Hiroharu Saito (2023) “Speech of the Award Winner: Ikuo Onaka Award for Emerging Scholar in Family Law,” 841 *Koseki Jiho* 15.
3. Hiroharu Saito (2023) “The Future of Children’s Rights,” 114 *Toshi Mondai* 1.
4. Hideo Kubo, Wei Guo, Hiroharu Saito, Akihiro Tsuchiya, & Ken’ichi Yoneda (2022) “2022 Review of the Field: Law and Society,” 94(13) *Horitsu Jiho* 211–220.
5. Hiroharu Saito (2022) “Book Review: Noriko Hashiba, *Social Exclusion and Legal System* (Hokkaido University Press, 2021),” 12 *Official Journal of the Japan Society for Law and Education* 89.
6. Hiroharu Saito (2022) “Reconsidering the Boundary between Children and Adults: Upon Publishing ‘Children and the Law,’” 51(5) *UP* 1–5.
7. Hiroharu Saito (2021) “Purposes of Law and Society Research,” 491 *Hogaku Kyoshitsu* 62–66.
8. Kyoko Ishida, Keisuke Hayashi, Yuichiro Yamazaki, & Hiroharu Saito (2021) “Symposium: Attorneys’ Professional Ethics in ADR” 16 *Journal of Japanese Arbitration and ADR* 85–107.
9. Hiroharu Saito (2017) “Book Review: Nancy H. Rogers, et al. eds., *Designing Systems and Processes for Managing Disputes* (Aspen Publishers, 2013): Development of Dispute Systems Design in the U.S.” 12 *Journal of Japanese Arbitration and ADR* 56–60.
10. Hiroharu Saito (2015) “Chapter 10: Is It Really Kohei’s Fault?,” in Yoshiaki Nomura & Yuji Eguchi eds., *The Future of Negotiation Education* (Tokyo: Shojihomu) 82–88.
11. Juvenile Law Committee of Dai-ichi Tokyo Bar Association ed. (2014) *Legal Advice for Children* (2d ed., Seirin Shoin) (updated 398–412 (Q57 Children’s Self-Reliance Support Institution and Compulsory Measures & Q58 Foster Family) as well as edited 341–419 (Chapter 8: Child Abuse)).
12. Hiroharu Saito, et al. (2012) “Revision of the Tokyo Stock Exchange’s Policy on Independent Directors/Auditors and Its Effects on Practice,” 1321 *Junkan Keiri Joho* 49–53.
13. Hiroharu Saito (2012) “Liability of Operators of Internet Shopping Malls for Trademark Infringements (Comment on IP High Court Decision on Feb 14, 2012),” June 2012 *Business Homu* 75.

14. Hiroharu Saito (2012) “The Supreme Court Decision That Denied an Infringement of Publicity Rights (Comment on *Pink Lady* Case),” 2012-2 *Japan IP Enforcement & Transactions Newsletter (Anderson Mori & Tomotsune)* 9–10.
15. Hiroharu Saito (2011) “Chapter 9: Social Reintegration After Release from the Institutions,” in Juvenile Law Committee of Dai-ichi Tokyo Bar Association ed., *Introduction for Attorneys to Juvenile Offenders Institutions* (Tokyo: Dai-ichi Tokyo Bar Association) 120–129.
16. Hiroharu Saito (2011) “Observation Report on *Aichi-Gakuen* [a children’s self-reliance support institution],” 456 *Bulletin of Dai-ichi Tokyo Bar Association* 39–41.

Presentations in English:

1. “Law and Economics Perspectives in Japanese Court Decisions,” The Past, Present, and Future of Law & Economics in Asia Conference, Cornell Law School, Ithaca, USA, Oct. 6, 2024.
2. “Imbalanced Images of Youth Rights and Duties in Japan,” Asian Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Sunway University, Malaysia, Dec. 15, 2023.
3. “People’s Attitudes on Legal Ages in Japan,” Biennial Workshop on Frontier Research in Children’s Rights and Family Law 2023, University College Cork, Ireland, Apr. 20, 2023
4. “Japanese Lawyers at Civil Court After the Expansion of Their Population,” Asian Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam, Dec. 9, 2022.
5. “Equal Protection for Children: A Childist Approach to Constitutional Doctrine,” Childist Approaches to Law Colloquium (Childism Institute, Rutgers University Camden), Online, Apr. 29, 2022.
6. “The Impact of Lawyer Fees on Lawyer Partisanship: The Reciprocity Norm May Matter,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Online, May 29, 2021.
7. “Development of Legal Work in Japanese Large Companies,” Asian Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Osaka Univ., Osaka, Japan, Dec. 14, 2019.
8. “Determinants of Litigants’ Satisfaction in Japan,” ISA Research Committee on Sociology of Law Annual Meeting, IISL, Oñati, Spain, Jun. 20, 2019.
9. “Age Discriminations Against Children: People’s Attitudes Toward Legal Ages in Japan,” ISA Research Committee on Sociology of Law Annual Meeting, IISL, Oñati, Spain, Jun. 20, 2019.
10. “People’s Attitudes Toward Children’s Legal Ages,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada, Jun. 2018.
11. “Private Experiences Affect Professional Practice: A Study of Japanese Divorce Lawyers,” Asian Law and Society Association Conference, National Chiao Tung Univ., Hsinchu, Taiwan, Dec. 2017.
12. “An Empirical Study of Japanese Divorce Lawyers’ Practice and Disputing Behaviors,” International Meeting on Law and Society, Mexico City, Mexico, Jun. 2017.

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13. “An Empirical Study of Japanese Divorce Lawyers’ Practice and Disputing Behaviors,” Young Scholars’ Workshop, The Japanese Association of Sociology of Law, Waseda Univ., Tokyo, Japan, May 2017.
14. “How Can Children Participate in Informal Dispute Systems? From an Analysis of ‘School Meeting’ in Japanese Democratic Schools,” Asian Law and Society Association Conference, National Univ. of Singapore, Singapore, Sep. 2016.
15. “An Empirical Study of Negotiation Ethics and Legal Education: The Case of Divorce Settlement,” Visiting Scholars/Researchers Colloquium, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, USA, Mar. 2016.
16. “Bargaining in the Shadow of Children’s Voices in Divorce Custody Disputes: Comparative Analysis of Japan and the U.S.,” East Asian Law and Society Conference, Waseda Univ., Tokyo, Japan, Aug. 2015.
17. “Bargaining in the Shadow of Children’s Voices in Divorce Custody Disputes,” Child Advocacy Program Workshop, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, USA, Mar. 2015.

Presentations in Japanese:

A list of major presentations in Japanese is available at my personal website (<https://www.hiroharusaito.com>) or my profile page (<https://researchmap.jp/hrs>) in Japanese.