Symposium | Trauma: [Symposium 64] The long-term effects of the Asia-Pacific War and its transmission across generations in individuals, collectives and societies

S Sat. Sep 27, 2025 10:40 AM - 12:10 PM JST | Sat. Sep 27, 2025 1:40 AM - 3:10 AM UTC **2** Session Room 5 (Conference Room A)

[Symposium 64] The long-term effects of the Asia-Pacific War and its transmission across generations in individuals, collectives and societies

Moderator: Koh Eugen (University of Melbourne), Tadashi Takeshima (Taisho University)

[SY-64-03] Transgenerational transmission of responsibility of perpetrator

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War is not fought only on the battlefield. Within a nation, any thoughts, feelings, or intentions that interfere with the conduct of war are suppressed as evil and must not be spoken of. Culture is only allowed to conform to the needs of a nation at war, and anything that does not conform is deemed unacceptable and cannot develop. Trauma is encapsulated in its culture, and the taboo of not being able to speak about that trauma perpetuates in it. Even after war ends, if the taboos formed during the war are not resolved, cultural trauma remains and continues to influence the minds of post-war people. This is the transgenerational transmission of cultural trauma. When taboos are touched upon, not only the experiences of victims but also those of perpetrators remain unspoken, contributing to the formation of cultural trauma.