

## **【Panelist Biographies】**

### **Keynote Speaker 1**

**Hotaka MACHIDA:**

**Senior research fellow, the Panasonic Research Institute, Ltd.**

Mr. Machida is also a visiting senior research fellow in the Institute of Geoeconomics at the International House of Japan. Before joining the private sector in November 2022, he was a Japanese career diplomat focusing on Japan-China relations from 2001 to 2022. He studied at Nanjing University in China and Harvard University in the United States before working as Second Secretary at the Embassy of Japan in China from 2006-2008. He was later posted in the China-Mongolia division and the Status of Forces Agreement division in the North American Affairs Bureau in the Ministry. He was a counsellor in the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (2017-2020) and the Embassy of Japan in China (2020-2022). He holds an M.A. from the Graduate School of Arts and Science at Harvard University and a bachelor's degree from the Faculty of Law at the University of Tokyo.

### **Keynote Speaker 2**

**Michito TSURUOKA:**

**Associate Professor, Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University / Visiting Fellow in the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University**

Dr. Tsuruoka studied political science and international relations at Keio University and Georgetown University and received a Ph.D. in War Studies from King's College London. He served as an advisor for NATO at the Embassy of Japan in Belgium and a senior research fellow at the National Institute for Defense Studies before assuming the current position at Keio in 2017. He specializes in contemporary European politics and international security.

### **Discussant**

**Akira IGATA:**

**Project Lecturer, Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology, the University of Tokyo**

Mr. Igata is also an adjunct senior fellow at Pacific Forum, a senior fellow at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, and a non-executive director at the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China. He advises the Japanese government, bureaucracy, and the private sector in various capacities. His expertise is in economic security, human rights diplomacy, foreign information manipulation and interference, and international politics in the Indo-Pacific.

Moderator

**Ryo SAHASHI:**

**Associate Professor, International Relations, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia /  
Institute for Future Initiatives, the University of Tokyo**

Dr. Sahashi specializes on international politics in East Asia. His recent book is *US-China Rivalry: A Shift of American Strategy and Divided Worlds* (Tokyo: Chuko, 2021), *In a Search for Coexistence: the United States and Two Chinas during the Cold War* (Tokyo: Keiso, 2015), and he edits *East Asian Order in the Post-Cold War Era* (Tokyo: Keiso, 2020). In English, his recent articles appear on *China International Strategy Review*, *Contemporary Politics*, and *Journal of Contemporary China*. He sits on government panels including Council on the Actual State of Land Use, Advisory Panel on Science & Technology Diplomacy, and Expert Panel on 50th Year of Japan-ASEAN Friendship and Cooperation. He also works as Faculty Fellow, Research Institute of Economy, Trade, and Industry; Visiting Fellow, 21st Century Policy Institute, Keidanren; Research Fellow of Japan Center for International Exchange. He has served as a visiting scholar at Georgetown University, Seoul National University, Stanford University and Wilson Center. He received his B.A. from International Christian University and his Ph.D. from the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics at the University of Tokyo.