



## Report on the SDGs Exhibition at the Main Library

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of goals designed to contribute to the restoration of peace and prosperity for people and the planet of the present and future generations. They were formulated in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and adopted in the UNGA Resolution, with most targets expected to be achieved by 2030. The SDGs were created to raise awareness of the unbreakable link between *“environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainable development by putting sustainability at their center”*.<sup>1</sup>

There are 17 Sustainable Development Goals: 1. No Poverty, 2. Zero Hunger, 3. Good Health and Well-being, 4. Quality Education, 5. Gender Equality, 6. Clean Water and Sanitation, 7. Affordable and Clean Energy, 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth, 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, 10. Reduced Inequality, 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities, 12. Responsible Consumption and Production, 13. Climate Action, 14. Life Below Water, 15. Life on Land, 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, and 17. Partnerships for the Goals.

Sustainable Development Goals also present a platform of shared goals for people from all countries who aim for the same result: better conditions for life on Earth for all living beings. Not surprisingly, Japan

also takes an active role in implementing these 17 goals, and has contributed to their adoption into the plan for a better future. In March 2015, Sendai hosted the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, drawing attention to the remarkable recovery in the Tohoku region following the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. At the conference, UNGA adopted the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030*, which aims to provide guidelines for reducing disaster risks and loss of lives and assets in disasters occurring worldwide.



The library hosted an exhibition for conference attendees in 2015.

In light of the importance of taking worldwide action, the International Student Concierge (ISC) opened its annual exhibition on Sustainable Development Goals in the Main Library this January. The ISC members recommended 17 books corresponding to the 17 goals, in effort to raise awareness about the issues that are occurring in the world, but also to offer suggestions on small steps which each of us can take in support of the cause. The main theme of the exhibition was PEACE and each of the ISC members have shared their definition

of this concept. Feel free to visit the panel exhibition and read their ideas while thinking about what brings peace to your life. We believe that world peace is achieved when each of us achieves peace within ourselves.

<sup>1</sup> Wikimedia Foundation. (2023, January 17). Sustainable development goals. Wikipedia. Retrieved January 18, 2023, from [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable\\_Development\\_Goals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_Development_Goals)



Panel Exhibition



Book Exhibition

*Reported by Petrovikj Hristina*

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## The University Libraries Around the World

*This section introduces university libraries around the world, mainly from the alma mater of our International Student Concierge members.*

### The State University of Campinas (UNICAMP)

The State University of Campinas, commonly referred as UNICAMP, is one of the four public Universities kept by the State of São Paulo, and is considered one of the best educational institutions in both Brazil and Latin America, especially for its focus

on developing research. It is mostly a university focused on STEM and natural sciences, with many kinds of engineering courses, but it also offers arts and humanities related majors, such as Music and Composition, Plastic Arts, Literature, Philosophy, Social Sciences and History.

One interesting aspect of the libraries in UNICAMP, is that there is overall, one library for every institute or faculty within the campus that offers a collection specific to the field of study and research related to each, in addition to a central Library with a more diverse collection, regardless of the subject. All of them are accompanied with study spaces, which is a good feature when you want to make a change or experiment with your study space a little.

As an undergraduate student, I belonged to the Institute of Philosophy and Human Sciences that include the degrees of Philosophy, Social Sciences and History. History was my major. As a consequence, in those four years, I spent most of my time studying at the attached library, which contained most of the materials I needed for my classes and research.

The library of the Institute of Philosophy and Human Sciences was definitely the reason I fell in love with libraries in general. I loved the variety of books I had access to, the brightness of the study spaces, and how quiet and easy it was to concentrate in my study. I would easily spend 3 to 4 hours there each day doing my assignments. When I felt like going to a different study space, I would go to the neighboring library, that belonged to the institute of Letters and Literature. As long as you are a university student and have a student ID, you can use any library within the university regardless of your course. At UNICAMP, most of the departments are in the

same campus, located in a University City, so within a couple of minutes, you can easily go from one library to another.

When it comes to the atmosphere, I believe the libraries at UNICAMP are quite similar to the main library at Tohoku University. There are, however, some differences. For example, even though in the main library it is allowed to bring your bag, in most libraries that is not allowed, and we usually have to put everything except our study materials in a locker before going inside the study areas. Also, there is no eating space provided, nor vending machines. There is only drinking fountain, where you can fill up your tumbler with water for free. When I got hungry, I used to take a break, and go to a nearby store with some of my friends, similar to a coffee shop, to have some coffee and eat a snack, where we would often discuss about our readings, politics, our plans for the weekend, and who would plan to have dinner at the cafeteria later. Those afternoons apart from studying, I could also take a break with my friends, and that was one of my dearest memories of that time.



The Library of the Institute of Philosophy and Human Sciences is the white building at the background.



The view from my study seat around sunset time.

\*Photos taken by writer

Written by **Ana Maria Simplicio**

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## My Hometown: Mandalay,

*In this column, we introduce the hometowns of our members, giving you a glimpse into their culture and some traveling tips from locals!*

On the road to Mandalay,  
Where the old Flotilla lay,  
With our sick beneath the awnings  
when we went to Mandalay!  
On the road to Mandalay,  
Where the flyin'-fishes play,  
An' the dawn comes up like  
thunder outer China 'crost the Bay!

Rudyard Kipling (1890)

Retrieved February 20, 2023, from

[https://www.kiplingsociety.co.uk/poem/poems\\_mandalay.htm](https://www.kiplingsociety.co.uk/poem/poems_mandalay.htm)

I would like to introduce my hometown “Mandalay” with the well-known poem of Rudyard Kipling. Mandalay's strategic location in Central Myanmar makes it an important hub for transport of people and goods. The city has been connected to other parts of the country and to China, India and the world by multiple modes of transportation since many decades ago.

If you visit Mandalay, we can start our day trip at the most famous religious site of Mahamuni Buddha Image. Along the passageway of the entrance, you can see many souvenir shops, especially skillfully crafted marbles and jades. Many local people come to the pagoda every day for meditation, offering flowers to Buddha's image, and so on. After paying homage at the pagoda, we can visit the well-known gold-leaf workshops in Mandalay which are pounding gold ingots into micro-thin sheets of gold leaf.



The next spot that I would like to take you is the Mandalay Palace. Following the traditional Myanmar palace design, inside a walled fort surrounded by a moat, the palace was the primary royal residence of the last Myanmar King Dynasty. The next interesting place is the Golden Palace Monastery which was heavily gilt with gold and adorned with glass mosaic work. The monastery is known for its teak carvings in the traditional architectural style remaining as the original structure of the Royal Palace.



"Mandalay Palace" by Tha is licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Mandalay\\_Palace..JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Mandalay_Palace..JPG)

Then, we can proceed to "The World's Biggest Book" which was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2013. It houses 729 marble slabs on which the teaching of Buddha is sculptured. In Mandalay, the cultural and religious life is still very active. Collections of paintings, manuscripts, art objects and inscriptions are housed in various monasteries and museums. Traditional artifacts and handicrafts are still produced in specialized streets in Mandalay. If we continue the trip to Mandalay Hill for sunset on the top of the hill, we can have panoramic views over the royal city, Mandalay.

## Famous Food in Mandalay

Pickled tea leaves blended with fresh beans, sliced tomatoes, and peanuts are a perfect match to offer the visitors. The oily scent can give us such a pleasant drift to our nose, making us want to take a small bite of the tea leaf salad, which is the original Myanmar food – in the native language, it is called "**Laphet Thoke**". I would especially recommend this to those who are huge tea lovers.



Photo by [Rockrangoon](#) at English Wikipedia is licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0.

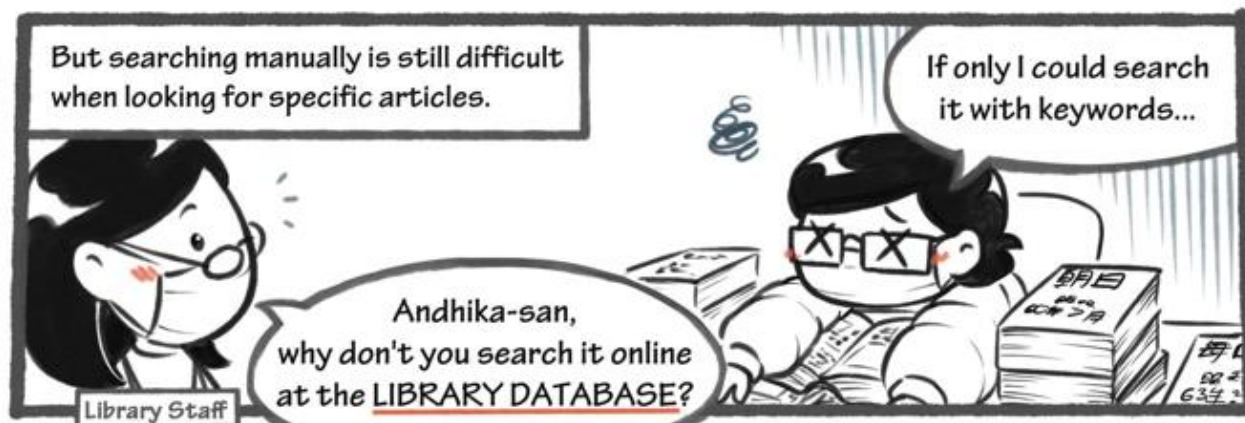
**Nan Gyi Thoke**- Noodle salad's flavor is a heartfelt moment of feeling when we are eating soft and tender noodles blended with fresh ingredients and sliced eggs. The savory flavor and smell can make our stomach grumble. Once eaten, our taste buds will be aching for the noodle salad as well as the seasonings that are added along with them.

*Written by **May Oo Khin***

## Manga Corner

This corner is about things that happen in the library, especially when you are a new student at Tohoku University.

Hi! I am Andhika from Indonesia! I like reading and drawing manga, and I hope you enjoy my short manga.





## Editors



### **Thiri Soe [Editor-in-Chief]**

A language science student from the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. She is from Myanmar, a land of Golden Pagodas, in South East Asia. Thiri is studying applied linguistics, seeking knowledge to benefit her teaching profession. Her hobby is cooking and writing. She believes that things happen for a reason and the reason is to be good.

### **Petrovikj Hristina**

A graduate student from North Macedonia enrolled in the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. She has many hobbies, some of which include: singing, journaling, travelling, reading, watching movies, and photography. She has lived in 3 different countries so far, travelled across Europe, and is hoping to embark on an Asian tour in the near future. Her secret dream is to be a member of a rock band, but since that has not come true yet, you can often find her in a karaoke booth instead!



### **Andhika Wijaya**



A graduate student from Innovative Japanese Studies Major, who was born and raised in Jakarta, Indonesia. She never had seen snow before she came to Japan, so she's always going 'wakuwaku' when the snow is falling down even though she has to struggle a lot with the cold temperature. She loves drawing, reading comics, travelling to scenic places, enjoying nice music, singing at karaoke, and playing with cute animals. Please don't mind her if she makes strange noises when she saw a photo of cute animals. Aside of those, one of her major passion is enjoying food and making review notes about it.

**If you feel unwell, even just a little, please do not come to the campus or to the library. Rest at home and get well soon.**

## How to reach us?

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