

# Learning about Glocal issues for working towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): the US-Japan Telecollaborative Online Magazine Project

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## Abstract

This presentation introduces a project that involved Japanese language students at a college in the US and university students in Japan. It was designed and implemented as a collaboration between professors in the US and Japan with vital support from an educational technology specialist. The theoretical foundations for the project are “international telecollaboration,” “critical content-based learning,” “translingual practice” and “civic engagement.” The project offered spaces for students to learn diverse views on social issues, develop communication capacities by drawing on various language resources, and collaborate in creating online magazines whose purpose is to contribute to the betterment of societies. Throughout the semester, the students worked together using such tools as Zoom, Slack, and Google Slides. Based on the analysis of surveys and post-project interviews, I discuss how students negotiated their subject positions and communication strategies in accomplishing the tasks. Challenges and future implications will also be discussed.

## Bio

**Yuri Kumagai** (Ed.D.) is a Senior Lecturer of Japanese at Smith College. Her specializations are critical literacy and multiliteracies in world language education. She has been developing projects collaboratively with practitioner-researchers internationally. Her journal articles and book chapters appear in English and Japanese. Her recent publications include: *Collaborative curricular initiatives: Linking language and literature courses for critical and cultural literacies* (2018) and *“Ekkyō-bungaku” as crossing the border of language: Implications for learners of Japanese* (2020).