

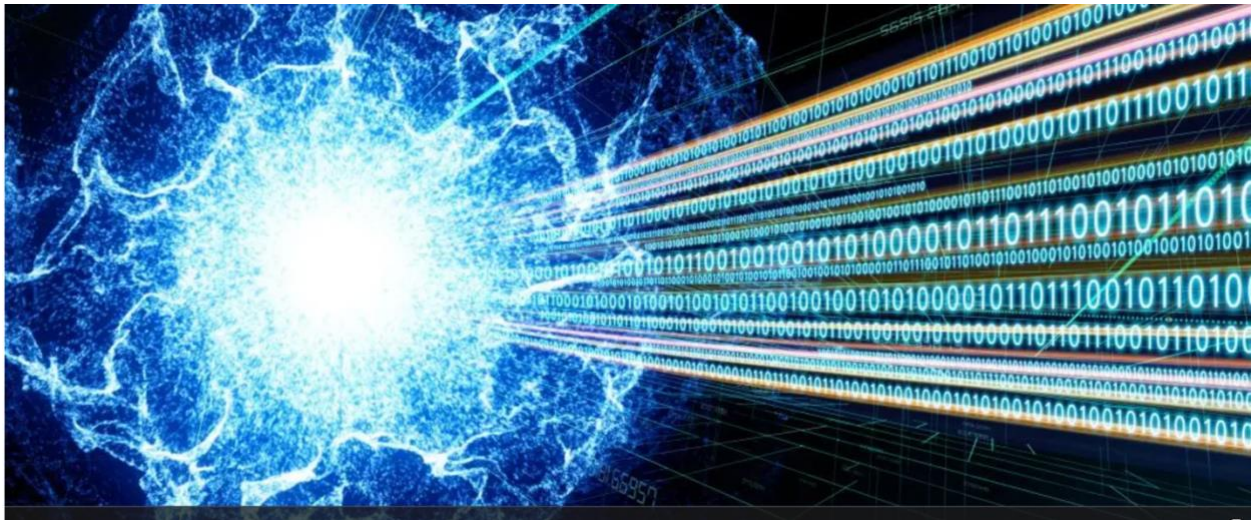
INVITATION - SAVE THE DATE

The 7th Waseda Brussels Annual Conference
Next-Generation Quantum Technology
through the Fusion of Nanophotonics and Atomic Physics
Tuesday, 25 November 2025

WHEN? 25 November 2025, 9:00-18:00

WHERE? BriAS Seminar Hall, Building AB, Bd Général Jacques 210, 1050 Brussels

WHAT? A high-level international symposium, organized by Waseda University Brussels European Office with the support of the ULB-VUB Brussels Institute for Advanced Studies



Background.

Quantum Sciences and Technologies – new technologies and systems using the properties of quantum mechanics - are one of the hottest and most consequential areas for fundamental research and for the development of industrial applications in a wide range of critical fields. These are leading to breakthroughs into advanced computing, sensing and metrology, modelling and simulations, cryptography and telecommunications. Allowing to do tasks which the most powerful supercomputers cannot currently manage, quantum computing will also underpin rapid developments in the field of AI.

At a time when some countries are slashing science budgets, Japan and Europe are stepping up their efforts in quantum research. For both sides, quantum sciences and technologies are a strategic priority, essential to address key societal and economic issues including biomedical research, new materials, seismic/tsunami predictions, weather and climate modelling, cybersecurity and energy sustainability. Given the huge technological and industrial challenges, the EU and Japan are increasing investments, and joining forces through reinforced political coordination and research cooperation. The new *Quantum Europe Strategy*, the *National Quantum Strategy* led by the Japanese Cabinet Office, and the recent *EU-Japan Letter of Intent on Strengthening Cooperation in Quantum Sciences & Technologies* are all indicators of the new alliances between the two partners in a challenging global environment.

Such government efforts and massive funding are supported by public/private partnerships such as the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking; by large industrial players such as IBM, and influential start-ups like IonQ, Quantinuum and others, all of which are committing substantial resources to quantum research and innovation; and by active partnerships developed between EU and Japanese universities and research centres, including Waseda University and ULB.

The Conference.

In this context, the Conference will specifically explore how recent advances in quantum technology have accelerated the development of physical platforms for quantum computing and quantum networks. Among them, nanoscale photonic devices enable strong light confinement and allow for strong interactions between light and matter. At the same time, laser-cooled atoms offer exceptional quantum coherence and precise controllability, making them an ideal medium for quantum information processing. The fusion of these two fields—nanophotonics and atomic physics—is expected to drive the development of innovative next-generation quantum technologies that can realize large-scale distributed quantum computing and global quantum networks.

Beyond the science itself, the Conference will also seek to foster dialogue and develop concrete collaborative projects between participating organisations. It will assess existing and emerging sources of funding (in particular the specific Quantum Calls in Horizon Europe and the future FP10, and the Japanese Moonshot, Q-LEAP and SIP programmes). It will also help strengthen links between EU and Japanese institutions and universities, such as the JST's recent series of ASPIRE calls, and the developing cooperation between Japan National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology and its EU partner universities and infrastructures who will attend the event.

The programme.

The programme will include

- A policy session with by H.E. Kazutoshi Aikawa, Ambassador of the Mission of Japan to the EU and H.E. Jean-Eric Paquet, Ambassador of the European Union to Japan (both invited).
- High-level keynotes and presentations by leading EU and Japanese experts, senior EC officials, and representatives of European and Japanese industry and of quantum research infrastructures.
- Posters Session.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information and draft programme will be available soon on

<https://www.waseda.jp/inst/brussels-office/en/>