CALL FOR FULL PAPERS

Kano's Legacy: Judo, Education and Society in the Twenty-First Century

Special Issue of *The Arts and Sciences of Judo* (International Judo Federation)

Rationale

Following the international conference "Jigoro Kano and Education: His Legacy and the Challenges of the 21st Century" (University of Tsukuba, 1–3 October 2026, as part of Tsukuba Global Science Week), this special issue invites full-length contributions on how the Kano method can contribute to the physical, intellectual and moral development of young people facing the complex challenges of the twenty-first century.

Kano Jigoro established Kodokan judo to provide Japanese youth with an education capable of preparing them for the profound transformations of the Meiji era. What role can judo play today, in a context of equally profound social, educational and cultural change? How can its practice help younger generations cope with the pressures affecting families, schools and local communities, and at what social, institutional and ethical cost? These questions, which echo the objectives of the Japanese Ministry of Education's Fourth Basic Plan and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, will guide the issue.

Who may submit

This call is open to all researchers, whether or not they took part in the conference. Conference participants are warmly invited to develop their contributions into full papers. Participation in the conference does not imply acceptance: **all submissions will be evaluated on the basis of the full text, according to the same criteria.**

Topics

Contributions may address, among other themes:

- Kano Jigoro's life, thought and educational legacy
- Judo, peacebuilding and international exchanges
- Judo, values and the threats facing today's youth
- Judo pedagogy: reforms, inclusivity and "judo for all"
- Judo, motivation, pleasure of learning and personality development
- Judo, moral and civic education (in schools and clubs)
- Gender, elite performance and judo values
- Judo, soft power and international influence
- Comparative perspectives on judo and other educational practices

Contributions may be theoretical, historical, empirical (qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods) or comparative. Case studies, policy analyses and practice-based research are welcome, provided they rest on a clear analytical framework. Relevant disciplines include history, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, sports studies, education sciences, political science and psychology.

Submission guidelines

Submissions must be **complete, unpublished manuscripts** and include:

- title, author(s), affiliation(s), position and email address;
- an abstract of up to 250 words and 5-6 keywords;
- the full text 5,000–7,000 words, including notes and references);
- in-text citations and references formatted according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA, 7th edition);
- a statement that the manuscript is original and not under consideration elsewhere.

Manuscripts must follow APA style throughout (title page, abstract and keywords, heading levels, in-text citations, reference list, tables and figures), and any additional requirements of the journal's author guidelines academy.ijf.org/journal. DOIs should be provided for references wherever available. Non-compliant manuscripts may be returned for correction before review.

Please send the manuscript as a single file (.docx), named *Paper_SURNAME_FirstName_ShortTitle*, to michel.brousse@me.com with the subject line "Special issue – Full paper – SURNAME". To support planning, authors are invited to send a non-binding notice of intent (title and a few lines) by end of January, 2027.

Evaluation

All manuscripts will undergo double-blind peer review according to the editorial procedures of *The Arts and Sciences of Judo*, on the basis of:

- relevance to the theme of the special issue;
- scientific quality and originality;
- clarity and coherence of the argument and research design;
- contribution to debates on judo, youth, education and society.

Possible outcomes are acceptance, acceptance subject to minor or major revisions, or rejection. Authors will receive reviewers' comments.

Timeline

- Notice of intent (non-binding): End of January, 2027
- Full-paper submission deadline: Mid March, 2027
- Notification of review outcome: Mid April, 2027
- Revised versions due: End of May, 2027
- Publication: End of June, 2027

Language

The language of the journal is English, and the manuscript should follow APA conventions for style and bias-free language. Authors writing in another language should ensure that the manuscript is professionally proofread before submission.

Guest editor and contact

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