



# The Fourth Japan-EU English Haiku Contest



## Information about the contest

Organizers: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Delegation of the European Union to Japan

Sponsors: Matsuyama City (Ehime Prefecture, Japan), Flemish Haiku Center (Belgium)

Entry period: **From 3<sup>rd</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> August**

Awards: Winners will be invited to Japan (Matsuyama City) or to Belgium.

Theme: Rainbow

Submission: **Please find guidelines and the entry form via our website**

**([www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000109.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000109.html)).**

### What is English Haiku?

Haiku is considered to be the shortest poem in the world. Japanese Haiku generally contains Kigo, a seasonal word/reference, to describe the season and consists of three phrases. But, there are no strict rules on English Haiku composition, and Kigo is not essential. Three-line haiku is desirable.

### Winners' Haiku from the last contest (Theme:Dawn)

*Light breaks free, A new day is born, The mantis comes out to pray*

Mr. Zeshan HAYAT (UK)

*Dawn of summer solstice, Coming out of, A vivid dream*

Ms. Yasuko KURONO (Japan)

### President of the European Council and Haiku

President of the European Council, **Mr. Van Rompuy**, is an active Haikuist and even published his own Haiku book. At the press conference of the 20<sup>th</sup> Japan-EU Summit, held in Brussels in 2011, Mr. Van Rompuy delivered his haiku, expressing his sympathy for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake.



*The three disasters  
Storms turn into a soft wind  
A new humane wind*