

## **Conferment Ceremony of the Decoration by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan on 27 September 2017**

13 Sep 2017

The Government of Japan awards two Finnish citizens in recognition of their outstanding contributions to promote friendly relations and mutual understanding between Japan and Finland with the prestigious decoration conferred by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

**Mr. Leo Nieminen**, Former Chairman of Finnish Japanese Society

Decoration: *The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon*

**Dr. Juha Kaila**, Former Chairman of Finnish Japanese Society; Former Professor of Aalto University and Research Director, Lahti Center

Decoration: *The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon*

Awards in the form of decorations and medals of honor are bestowed by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan upon individuals of merit, in recognition of their national or public services, and in honor of their distinguished accomplishments in various areas of society.

On this opportunity, the Foreign Minister's commendation will be conveyed to Mr. Norio Tomida for his contribution in promoting mutual understanding between Japan and Finland.

**Mr. Norio Tomida**, Managing Director of Tokyokan,

Former Chairman of Suomen Japanilaisten Yhdistys Ry (Association for the Japanese in Finland)

Commendation: *The Foreign Minister's commendation*

On 27 September Ambassador Jota Yamamoto will convey the Imperial Decorations to Mr. Leo Nieminen and Dr. Juha Kaila, and the Foreign Minister's commendation to Mr. Norio Tomida respectively. It will be followed by the reception to celebrate the conferment. We wish the conferment of decoration and the commendation will be also a part of "Suomi 100" celebration.

For further information, please contact Hiroko Noguchi, Protocol Affairs: 09-686 0200 / culture@hk.mofa.go.jp