

*“There isn’t a night without a dawn.”*

*We the polar law scholars, like the rays of light, will  
Rise again from the devastation caused by COVID-19,  
Gathering physically or through online in Kobe, Japan, to re-think  
Our Mother Earth, from the Poles, through the force of Law.*

*Polar Cooperation Research Centre of Kobe University  
Will set the stage for  
Academics, students, indigenous representatives and practitioners  
From around the whole world to  
Discuss the international law and policy challenges faced by both  
The Arctic and the Antarctic.*

*Wholehearted welcome to the 14th Polar Law Symposium.*

*Akiho Shibata*

*Convenor, 14th Polar Law Symposium  
Professor and Director, Kobe PCRC  
30 May 2021*