

文化賞

俳句の国際化を通じて、人種信条を超え価値観の共有を目指す政治指導者

ヘルマン・ファン＝ロンパイ 日EU俳句交流大使

〈プロフィール〉

1947年10月31日生まれ。ルーヴェン大学哲学科卒。同経済学修士。2009年12月1日、リスボン条約で新設された常任の欧州理事会議長に就任し、2012年に再任、2014年11月まで2期5年務めた。また2008年12月30日から2009年11月25日までベルギー首相を務めた。それ以前は副首相兼予算相(1993年-1999年)や内務大臣(2004年)、金融・小企業大臣(1988年)などの要職を経験した。現在、欧州理事会名誉議長および欧州政策センター理事長。2015年にベルギー国フィリップ国王より伯爵の爵位を授与され、また同年、旭日大綬章を受章。



〈受賞理由〉

自選の句集を出版するほどの俳句愛好家であり、世界最小の定型詩の魅力にひかれ2004年に句作をはじめ、欧州理事会議長としての多忙中、俳句の制作に時間をとっていた。氏はすでに2句集をオランダ語で上梓し、それらはドイツ語・フランス語・英語に翻訳され、ひとつは日本語にも訳されている。俳句の誰もが軽やかに口ずさめる短詩で平和の尊さを表現する点が、人種や主義の違いを超えて価値観の共有を目指すEUの姿と重なりと強調し、「平和」と「和解」と「一致団結」の世界を信念にEU大統領として政治活動を行ってきたことはアジアコスモポリタンとしての価値観を体現するものである。

Cultural Prize

Prominent political leader aiming to share common values beyond race and ethnicity through globalized Haiku

Herman Van Rompuy Haiku Ambassador for Japan-EU Friendship

〈PROFILE〉

Elected as the first full-time President of the European Council in November 2009, HE Herman Van Rompuy took office when the Lisbon Treaty came into force on 1 December 2009. He held this office for two terms, until November 2014.

At the time of his first election in 2009, HE Van Rompuy was Prime Minister of Belgium. He began his political career in 1973 as national vice president of his party's youth movement. He then held several prominent positions in government as minister of state and in Belgium's Parliament, until he became Speaker of the House of Representatives (2007–2008) and subsequently Prime Minister.

HE Herman Van Rompuy holds a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Leuven. He is currently President Emeritus of the European Council and President of the European Policy Centre.

On 21 July 2015, he was conferred the title of Count by the Belgian King Philip and, after 2 months, the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun by Japan.

〈ACHIEVEMENTS DESERVING OF THE AWARD〉

HE Van Rompuy is a haiku lover and has published two books in 2010 and 2013 from his Haiku collection. The 2013 book was translated into Japanese. Attracted by this form of poetry, he has devoted his time to writing Haiku since 2004, even during his busy days as President of the European Council.

In this complicated modern world where scepticism is widespread, the 'simplicity' of haiku stands out. HE Van Rompuy believes that in the face of today's competition, hostility, and jealousy, Haiku's 'harmony' is a valuable presence. His belief in peace, reconciliation, and unity is reflected in his leadership of the EU Council, which promotes shared values beyond differences in race and principles.

On the challenges brought about by the movement of people in the EU, HE Van Rompuy believes that it is more important than ever to bring harmony through beauty and the recognition that Haiku has the capacity to accept different cultures and natures while respecting diversity.

HE Van Rompuy claims that 'the philosophy behind Haiku is the world's common good' and should be promoted as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The Asia Cosmopolitan Awards Selection Committee is proud to present the Cultural Award to HE Herman Van Rompuy.