IN-EAST
INSTITUTE OF
EAST ASIAN STUDIES

EU-JAPAN EPA CONFERENCE 2020

EUROPEAN UNION – JAPAN ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT AND BEYOND

November 10 and 19, 2020
Online via ZOOM

The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) entered into force on 1 February 2019. After some time has lapsed, the conference will shed light on the first experiences and on outlining future-oriented perspectives for deepening the bilateral economic cooperation between Japan and the EU further. One issue for the discussion will be what impact the current COVID-19 pandemic may have.

The conference is organised by the **Institute of East Asian Studies IN-EAST** at the University of Duisburg-Essen with support from the Consulate General of Japan in Düsseldorf and other partners. It is split between a more academically focused workshop on November 10 and a symposium for a wider audience on November 19.

The **Research Workshop** will take up a number of analytical aspects. It is divided into two sections, with contributions from renowned experts. Part 1 will deal with analytical issues of the bilateral EPA itself. Part 2 will cover future options. As the time is limited, this part will focus on one aspect in particular, namely the potential of the EU-Japan Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality signed in September 2019. Key take away-messages of the workshop will be used as input for the symposium.

The **Symposium** shall be concerned with a stock-taking of the EU-Japan EPA and outlining future options. The core contribution will be a panel discussion with renowned representatives of stakeholders in government and business. Two eminent scholars will provide focussed input statements, and the results of the preceding research workshop will be introduced.

Please register via the conference website **https://eu-jp.info** or by E-mail to **events@in-east.de** mentioning the name of the event (Research Workshop EPA and/or Symposium EPA), your name and your institution/organization. After registration, you will receive a conformation mail and a mail with the access data for the events.

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IN-EAST
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RESEARCH WORKSHOP

UNDERSTANDING THE EU-JAPAN EPA AND THE PARTNERSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIVITY AND QUALITY

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

9.00–11.30 *Central European Time in Germany*
17.00–19.30 *Japan Standard Time*

Introduction and Moderator

Werner PASCHA *Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen*

Part 1: Issues of interpreting the EU-Japan EPA

The EU-Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement in a Longer-Term Perspective: Issues of path dependence and plasticity

Julie GILSON *University of Birmingham*

Estimating the Economic Impact of the EU-Japan EPA

Jens WRONA *Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen*

Q&A

Part 2: EU-Japan: From a Trade Agreement to a Partnership on International Connectivity?

Japan's Export of Infrastructure Systems in the Context of Its Foreign Economic Policies

YOSHINO Naoyuki *Keio University, Tokyo, and ret. Dean of Asian Development Bank Institute*

The EU-Japan Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality: Towards a privileged strategic relationship?

Maaike OKANO-HEIJMANS *Clingendael Institute (Netherlands Institute of International Relations), The Hague*

Q&A

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SYMPOSIUM

THE EU-JAPAN EPA IN ACTION: FIRST EXPERIENCES AND FURTHER STEPS

Thursday, November 19, 2020

9.00–11.00 *Central European Time in Germany*
17.00–19.00 *Japan Standard Time*

Greetings, incl. Organizational Remarks

Markus TAUBE *Director, Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen*

IWAMA Kiminori *Consul General of Japan in Düsseldorf*

Short Input Statements

The Significance of the EU-Japan EPA from a European Perspective

Rolf LANGHAMMER *Kiel Institute for the World Economy*

The Significance of the EU-Japan EPA from an East Asian Perspective

URATA Shujiro *Waseda University, Tokyo*

Insights from the Preceding Research Workshop

Werner PASCHA *Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen*

Panel Discussion (incl. Q&A)

Moderator: **Nicole BASTIAN** *Head of Department Foreign Affairs, Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf*

NAKANISHI Yumiko *Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo Pref.*

SHIMOKAWA Makita *Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Japan in Belgium and to NATO / Ambassador in charge of External Communications in Europe*

Petra SIGMUND *Director, Directorate General for Asia-Pacific, Foreign Office, Berlin*

Friedolin STRACK *Head of International. Markets BDI (the Federation of German Industries), Berlin*

N.N. *European Commission, DG Trade*