

# EU-JAPAN

## READY FOR A NEW STAGE IN RELATIONS?



Spring 2014

*Media partner*

**Europe's World**



***Friends of Europe* is a leading think-tank that aims to stimulate thinking on key global and European political challenges.**

**We are a key player in five policy areas:**

**Global Europe | Greening Europe | Future of Europe  
Competitive Europe | Life Quality Europe**



Some of the familiar faces and household names who have used *Friends of Europe's* high-profile yet neutral platform to put across their ideas to decision makers and to public opinion

For more information on *Friends of Europe's* work and to download our publications, please visit

**[www.friendsofeurope.org](http://www.friendsofeurope.org)**



# EU-JAPAN

## READY FOR A NEW STAGE IN RELATIONS?

Report of the High-level Conference

In commemoration of the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake

co-organised by *Friends of Europe*

with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

and with media partner *Europe's World*

Spring 2014

Brussels

This report reflects the conference rapporteur's understanding of the views expressed by participants. Moreover, these views are not necessarily those of the organisations that participants represent, nor of *Friends of Europe*, its Board of Trustees, members or partners.

Reproduction in whole or in part is permitted, provided that full credit is given to *Friends of Europe* and that any such reproduction, whether in whole or in part, is not sold unless incorporated in other works.

**Rapporteur:** George Ellis

**Publisher:** Geert Cami

**Director:** Nathalie Furrer

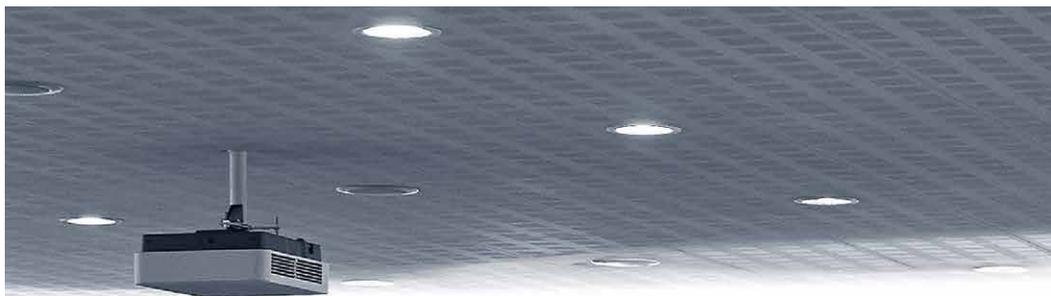
**Programme Manager:** Patricia Diaz

**Photographer:** Phillippe Molitor

**Design & Layout:** Cristina Frauca

# Table of contents

Executive summary	7
Passion and guts	9
A Changed trading relationship	12
Abenomics and the EPA	15
Learning resilience from Japan	20
Building home-grown democracy	23
Different words, common vision	25
ANNEX I - Programme	29
ANNEX II - List of participants	31



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On the 3rd anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake, European Union (EU) and Japanese representatives met for a *Friends of Europe* conference organised in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to consider prospects for further deepening and expanding bilateral relations.

Negotiations on an EU-Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) and a Free Trade/Economic Partnership Agreement (FTA/EPA) are expected to boost political and economic relations, liberalise trade, and ensure greater regional security. Japanese Ambassador to the EU Kojiro Shiojiri said that Japan and the EU “must lead by example” in promoting democracy supporting basic human needs and strengthening governance. “By acting together and setting norms and standards in these areas, Japan and the EU will inject new added values to global dynamism”, he said.

Various panel members noted that the EU and Japan were no longer, as was the case 30 years ago, at odds over trade. Today, Japanese companies investing in Europe are seen as “part of the fabric” of the European economy. Another panel member referred to a “new paradigm of cooperation between Japan and the EU”. With respect to the FTA/EPA, “Things are going well, but they can go better and faster”, said another. The SPA was seen as a “chance to provide a template or model of what can be achieved in Asia”. Various panellists noted that the agreement “is not about signing and shelving”, but that it needed to adapt to changing circumstances and be able to function for decades to come. “We want the SPA and we want it fast, but even if it takes some time, Japan and the EU are already cooperating on the ground a lot. The track record is better than the headlines”, said one panellist.

The area of disaster management and relief was highlighted as one area where the two sides can work even more closely together. EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, Kristalina Georgieva, said the EU can learn from Japan on “how to engage with society to create a mind-set of preparedness” – and praised the resilience of the Japanese people when faced with the devastating earthquake and subsequent nuclear meltdown at Fukushima. The Commissioner highlighted three areas where the

EU and Japan can cooperate and build a “more resilient future”, namely:

1. Making the economic case for disaster risk management;
2. building a broad-based domestic coalition for action (in particular with the insurance industry); and
3. building a broad international coalition for action.

“The best way to commemorate those who have fallen because of the force of nature is to make the world safer”, she said.

In the area of human security, various panel members discussed that although there are differences in terminology, “in the end, we militate for the same principles and we have a common vision”. Japan’s national security strategy recognises the random, intertwined nature of security challenges and calls for a whole-government approach. “The main pillar of the strategy is a proactive contribution to peace – with two wheels, diplomacy and defence, but also development”, said one leading academic on human security. Although it is true that Japan has a less interventionist approach, preferring home-grown institutions, while the EU has a more normative approach, there was wide agreement that the two powers should continue to work closely together, as was recently the case in last year’s Philippines disaster. JICA provided some examples of where it is active in building a more resilient future, specifically in promoting democracy, but not imposing it.

## Passion and guts

Japanese Ambassador to the European Union (EU) **Kojiro Shiojiri** opened the conference by asking participants to remind themselves of the overall vision of the Japan-EU relationship. “The starting point in my thinking is that Japan and the EU have the responsibility to lead others by example”, he said, given that both Japan and the EU are two global leaders with mature democracies, as well as being “robust ‘soft power’ countries”. The way one leads is by setting norms and standards, he said.

**“The starting point in my thinking is that Japan and the EU have the responsibility to lead others by example.”**

**Kojiro Shiojiri, Japanese Ambassador to the European Union (EU)**



In which areas should the two lead, he asked? Besides, promoting universal values, democracy, human rights, rule of law, peace and security, promoting free trade, safeguarding the environment, health, safety, and the leveling up science and technology, he called for greater economic development. “We need to cooperate with each other to enhance democracy, support basic human needs and strengthen governance of the world. By acting together and setting norms and standards in these areas, Japan and the EU will inject new added values to global dynamism”, he said.

**“We need to cooperate with each other to enhance democracy, support basic human needs and strengthen governance of the world. By acting together and setting norms and standards in these areas, Japan and the EU will inject new added values to global dynamism.”**



Kojiro Shiojiri, Japanese Ambassador to the European Union (EU)

The Ambassador also said that the SPA and EPA are the tools which will enable us to “ceaselessly and consciously” inject new added value to global dynamism. He noted that this would not be without its challenges. “We must endeavor to make sure that the content of the agreements is substantial and will have real impact for decades to come,” he said. He added that the agreements need to be “relevant to the speed of the global dynamism”, and for this reason, ought

to be concluded swiftly. Roadblocks along the way would be overcome “with a common vision, accompanied by our wisdom, imagination, passion and guts”.

“What are the main drivers of the thriving trade and economic relationship between Japan and the European Union?” asked **Shada Islam**, Director of Policy at *Friends of Europe* and the event’s co-moderator.

“What are the main drivers of the thriving trade and economic relationship between Japan and the European Union?”

Shada Islam, Director of Policy at *Friends of Europe*



## A changed trading relationship

**Shigehiro Tanaka**, Director General of the Multilateral Trade System Department at the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), noted there have been many changes in the relationship over the last two decades. In the past, the EU's trade deficit with Japan was substantial and this created certain political problems. But today, Japan is "in the red" with respect to trade with the EU. "Investment has become very much part of a pillar of our engagement in Europe. There are now more than 2,600 Japanese companies investing in Europe, creating more than 460,000 jobs directly", he said.



**“Investment has become very much part of a pillar of our engagement in Europe. There are now more than 2,600 Japanese companies investing in Europe, creating more than 460,000 jobs directl.”**

**Shigehiro Tanaka**, Director General of the Multilateral Trade System Department at the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

Tanaka noted that in the automotive sector, 12% of cars in Europe are Japanese, but only 3% are imported from Japan, with the rest manufactured in Europe by Europeans. "The situation has dramatically changed", he said. The share of European cars sold in Japan stands at approximately 5%, he said, but all of these are imported. "Last year, the Car of the Year in Japan was the German VW Golf. This was the Car of the Year, not the Imported Car of the Year", he said.

"Speaking about Japanese procurement, a market seen as traditionally difficult to penetrate, we see lots of success stories", he said, from railroads and airlines to pharmaceuticals and medical devices. "How can we make this change more stable and how we pin down this change, this is our challenge", he said.

**Mauro Petriccione**, Chief EU Negotiator for the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement agreed with Tanaka in that the European attitude with respect to Japanese trade had changed dramatically. "In past, Japan was seen as pulling the blanket more

towards its side. We all thought of Japan as being a bit too selfish. The perception has changed thanks to Japan's investment in Europe", he said.

"Japanese companies were seen 30 years ago as infiltrators, which damaged our economic fabric. But today, they are part of that economic fabric", he said. He added that Japan has "woken up" European industry, forcing it to confront issues of competitiveness.

With respect to the FTA/EPA, Petriccione said that the focus should be on non-tariff measures and the more complex issue of procurement in Japan. "Things are going well, but they can go better and faster", he said.

**"Japanese companies were seen 30 years ago as infiltrators, which damaged our economic fabric. But today, they are part of that economic fabric"**



**Mauro Petriccione, Chief EU Negotiator for the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement**

But if the bar is very high countries would find it difficult to clinch trade deals with the EU. Petriccione agreed, but countered that access to the huge EU market obviously made it worth the while. He added that despite what one might think, the "European car industry has been our closest ally in this negotiation".

**Yukio Tada**, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Sojitsu Research Institute, was asked if he was sceptical about the implementation of the FTA/EPA agreement. He said that in trade agreements with other countries, that may be the case, but not with respect to the EU. “Here in Europe, there is a government reach and a private reach. The government is allowed to negotiate agreements. But with the actual implementation, government cannot do that. Japan is like Europe, we are democracies, and everything must be implemented through competition and cooperation”, he said.

“Here in Europe, there is a government reach and a private reach. The government is allowed to negotiate agreements. But with the actual implementation, government cannot do that. Japan is like Europe, we are democracies, and everything must be implemented through competition and cooperation.”



**Yukio Tada**, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Sojitsu Research Institute

“The EPA is like a level playing field for both Japanese and European corporation”, he said. For the past years, economically and politically, Japan has been in the “doldrums”, he said, adding: “Its about time to change the course – I see so many opportunities to work together”.

## Abenomics and the EPA

Gerhard Sabathil, Director of North East Asia and the Pacific at the European External Action Service (EEAS), said our agreement is all about comprehensiveness. Trade and economics is the narrow path towards other agreements. “We are happy that the momentum to engage in free trade also gives us the opportunity – the EU being in such a strong moment of power - to also engage in other areas”, he said. The EEAS is chief negotiator on the

**“We are happy that the momentum to engage in free trade also gives us the opportunity – the EU being in such a strong moment of power - to also engage in other areas.”**

Gerhard Sabathil, Director of North East Asia and the Pacific at the European External Action Service (EEAS)



FTA, but that there were other areas such as research and development, human rights, security and stability among others issues which merit our continued cooperation. “In the end, speed is not all. It is quality and substance which counts in concluding the negotiation”, he said.

**Jiro Okuyama**, Deputy Chief of Mission of Japan to the EU, was asked how the potential for the SPA and EPA was going to be unleashed. He said that despite the huge trade disputes between Japan and the EU decades ago, over time, there has been a realisation of shared values and freedom which bind the two.

“Right now what we are going to do is a new paradigm of cooperation between Japan and the EU to more actively contribute to peace and security, development, fight against terrorism, climate change and all the other agenda items where we can cooperate.”



Jiro Okuyama, Deputy Chief of Mission of Japan to the EU

“Right now what we are going to do is a new paradigm of cooperation between Japan and the EU to more actively contribute to peace and security, development, fight against terrorism, climate change and all the other agenda items where we can cooperate”, he said. Already, both Japan and the EU are looking for areas

of further cooperation, specifically in the fight against piracy in the Horn of Africa, helping with a training institute in Djibouti. Considering our cooperation at the OSCE, the Council of Europe and NATO, “we are trying to advance to the next level our cooperation with the EU”, he said.

Asked about this “next level” of cooperation, [Axel Berkofsky](#), Senior Associate Fellow at the Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (ISPI), Italy, answered: “Japan’s record of cooperation was very good,” citing its role in the reconstruction of the Balkans. “We want the SPA and we want it fast, but even if it takes some time, Japan and the EU are already cooperating on the ground a lot. The track record is better than the headlines”, he said.

**“We want the SPA and we want it fast, but even if it takes some time, Japan and the EU are already cooperating on the ground a lot. The track record is better than the headlines.”**



[Axel Berkofsky](#), Senior Associate Fellow at the Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (ISPI)

What would the SPA change? Would this be the next level? What is the next step in terms of quality? How much cooperation would we have if we had the SPA? asked Berkofsky.

**Giles Merritt**, Secretary General of *Friends of Europe* and co-moderator of the conference asked everyone to “look over the horizon and the geo-politics of East Asia and ponder where Japan and its relationship with Europe was going to fit in”. In the past, the arguments over cars were linked to the notion that the trade surplus with Japan was upsetting the balances of the world economy, he said. Then after the years of the Japanese “doldrums”, it was the other way around. What sort of policies does Japan expect to see from Europe in answer to Abenomics? And on the security side, the EU has a huge “interest” but not “involvement” in the security of East Asia. What does Japan expect in terms of EU “involvement” with respect to security in East Asia?



**“Look over the horizon and the geo-politics of East Asia and ponder where Japan and its relationship with Europe was going to fit in.”**

*Giles Merritt, Secretary General of Friends of Europe*

Tanaka said that not only goods but also services needed to be dealt with in the negotiations. “We see the EPA as providing a model for the 21st century in setting new global rules. We are committed to multilateralism in dealing with global issues”. Sabathil replied that we do have a model for the 21st century, and it’s called an EU treaty”. He said he saw FTAs fitting into this model.

The discussants were also asked about the various challenges in negotiating the SPA and FTA and about its longevity. Sabathil said that the EU already has a similar agreement with South Korea, so there was a track record in negotiating such agreements. Nevertheless, “this agreement is not about signing and shelving – it is a living agreement”, and would adapt to changing circumstances. Okuyama, agreed, adding that “Japan’s idea is to establish this as a foundation document. That is targeted for decades to come”. The agreement talks about the fundamental principles of cooperation, he said. “We need to strike a balance between the abstract and the concrete. We don’t want this foundation document

to be revised every two to three years". He said it should be a "solid driving force for cooperation".

Berkofsky cautioned, however: "We shouldn't look for a big-bang of cooperation", he said. Tanaka added that the reason to negotiate with Japan was that the size of its consumer market was still bigger than China's and European companies still sell twice as much in Japan than their American counterparts. "Japan is at the heart of the global supply chain", he said. This SPA is a "chance to provide a template or model of what can be achieved in Asia", he added.

With respect to Abenomics, Tanaka said the real thrust of the government's policy was in line with the EPA. Sabathil called for a widening of Abenomics to encompass 'Abepolitics'. "For us, Abenomics and the EPA are two sides of the same coin", Tanaka said.



Mauro Petriccione, Chief EU negotiator for the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement and Gerhard Sabathil, Director of North East Asia and the Pacific at the European External Action Service (EEAS)

## Learning resilience from Japan

The 2nd session of the conference was addressed by European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response [Kristalina Georgieva](#) who focused on the building of resilience, disaster management - in the face of disasters.

The EU can learn from Japan on “how to engage with society to create a mindset for preparedness”, said Georgieva who praised the resilience of Japanese people in the face of the devastating earthquake and subsequent nuclear meltdown at Fukushima. In fact, she said the best way to honour the victims and heroes of that disaster is “through collective efforts to build more resilient societies”. She added that Europe is already benefitting from Japan's determination, because it has made disaster risk management a component of bilateral cooperation.

The Commissioner called for three areas to build a more resilient future where the EU and Japan share a common vision:

### 1. Making the economic case for disaster risk management.

“Not only do we now understand better that it is in our self- interest to invest in resilience, but we also have the data of the benefits of investing in resilience. A dollar, a euro or a yen invested in resilience leads to 4 to 7 times returns in terms of reduction of cost”, she said. Today, 96% of funding goes to response activities and very little to preparedness and investment, she said, adding that it was time to “turn upside down the pyramid”. Thanks to new legislation, the EU now requires disaster risk reduction to be integrated into its structural and cohesion funds.

### 2. Building a broad-based domestic coalition for action.

The Commissioner called for ways to bring the business community – and in particular the insurance industry - and policymakers together. “The insurance industry needs to be regulated by the policymakers in a way that it becomes a powerful tool for signalling danger, in other words relating insurance premium to risk”, she said. She also spoke about a certification scheme similar to eco-labelling: “Businesses could be given low insurance premium if they are more resilient and certified for having invested in disaster risk management”, she said.

### 3. Building a broad international coalition for action.

The Commissioner said special emphasis needed to be given to building resilient societies in the most disaster-prone countries, especially in low-income disaster-prone countries where there are also conflicts. “Otherwise they will stay forever in a status of permanent crisis,” she said. In March 2015, Japan will host a Disaster Risk Reduction conference in Sendai, she said, urging a new vision which addresses global challenges, with particular emphasis on:

- Creating accountability and transparency for preparedness and prevention;
- working towards indicators for resilience and a framework for results;
- integrating disaster risk management into smart green growth;
- thinking of disaster risk management in a comprehensive manner – covering both policy and diplomacy;
- becoming strong in building bridges across the world – citing the current disaster involving the Malaysian Airlines search and rescue which has united some South East Asian nations despite their competing territorial claims.

**“The insurance industry needs to be regulated by the policymakers in a way that it becomes a powerful tool for signalling danger, in other words relating insurance premium to risk”**



**Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response**

“But why do we have to wait for the terrible thing to happen to be united, why don't we have the capacity to not unite beforehand?” she asked.

The Commissioner closed her remarks by stating: “The best way to commemorate those who have fallen because of the force of nature is make the world safer”.

Commissioner Georgieva said Niger, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso were successfully building disaster prevention into their overall strategy. The key was to “move the issue to be a responsibility of the whole government”, she said. Georgieva also called for creative solutions, particularly in disaster-prone countries which were also very poor. She cited the example of Bangladesh, which she termed “impressive”, and which has come up with a “most interesting, creative and low-cost solution” to dealing with disaster preparedness. Many Bangladeshi farmers, apparently, have switched from raising chickens to ducks, because they can swim, as a way to address the endemic floods which seasonally ravage the country.



Patrick Simonnet, Deputy Head of Unit at European Commission's Directorate General for Development and Cooperation and Akiko Kiki Fukushima, Visiting Research Fellow at the Joint Research Institute for International Peace and Culture (JRIPEC)

## Building home-grown democracy

**Keiichi Hashimoto**, Senior Advisor on Peace-building issues and Democratisation at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the co-organiser of the conference, said that “Japan will give priority to developing countries that make positive efforts towards peace, democratisation and human rights. We are not imposing but only assisting those active countries which want to be democratised”. He cited specifically Japan’s role in supporting free and fair elections, providing capacity building to parliamentarians in a number of areas, such as drafting of bills, as well as support for mass media. As an example, he noted Japan’s support to the state broadcaster in South Sudan even before independence, as well as Nepal, Egypt and Algeria, with plans for Kosovo. In terms of election support, JICA has a track record in more than 20 countries, he said.

**“Japan will give priority to developing countries that make positive efforts towards peace, democratisation and human rights.”**

Keiichi Hashimoto, Senior Advisor on Peace-building issues and Democratisation at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



Deputy Head of Unit at the European Commission’s Directorate General for Development and Cooperation, **Patrick Simonnet** called for “a multidimensional approach to security, with all the different elements and policies and instruments to address the various aspect of fragility in those countries”. In 2010 the EU set up a development dialogue with the Japanese government. What the EU has realised is that Japan sometimes has a different terminology than the EU, which doesn’t use for example the terms “human security”. Nevertheless, when you compact the two, there is much agreement on the two sides, he said. “In the end, we militate for the same principles and we have a common vision”, he said.

Shada Islam noted that while Japan doesn't believe in imposing democracy from the outside, the EU does and often makes it a condition for engagement. Simonnet replied that it was true that Japan has a less interventionist approach, preferring home grown institutions, while the EU has a more normative approach to those issues. For governance we have a different approach, he said, but there was no reason why the two could not work together.

**“A multidimensional approach to security, with all the different elements and policies and instruments to address the various aspect of fragility in those countries.”**



Patrick Simonnet, Deputy Head of Unit at European Commission's Directorate General for Development and Cooperation

Philippines Ambassador to the EU, [Victoria Bataclan](#) referred to her country's experience following the Typhoon Haiyan which devastated parts of the country last year. The Ambassador praised the “strong, united” coordination in terms of disaster relief and management from the United Nations, noting that there were 80 countries participating in the relief effort. “Our EU friends were the first on the ground, in particular Belgium,” she said, “although Japan and Asia were just as quick”.

The Ambassador wanted to thank the world and in particular Japan for all the assistance. “The cycle of giving and receiving across and beyond one’s community – this is the shared value and vision – and the basis of why we help each other. We want to break the cycles of disasters, but the cycles of giving and receiving will never be broken”, she said.

“Our EU friends were the first on the ground,  
in particular Belgium, although Japan and  
Asia were just as quick”

Victoria Bataclan, Philippines Ambassador to the EU



## Different words, common vision

Leading academic in human security [Akiko Kiki Fukushima](#), Visiting Research Fellow at the Joint Research Institute for International Peace and Culture (JRIPEC), Aoyama Gakuin in Tokyo, spoke about the link between development assistance and security cooperation. Although the EU and Japan use different terminology, we share a common vision, she said. “How else can we be effective in helping fragile states?”, she asked.

On the issue of human security, which is critical in terms of disaster relief, Japan applies the broader definition of “freedom from want”, which includes poverty, lack of healthcare, climate change, terrorism, etc. The EU instead applies a more narrow definition of “freedom from fear”, which includes conflicts and violence. The UN has adopted a more comprehensive definition to human security which brings together both freedom from want and freedom from fear. “If we try to limit security to freedom from violence, are we secure? No”, she said. “We need to address the issue along the whole spectrum”, she added. “Japan’s national security strategy recognises the random, intertwined nature of security challenges and calls for a whole government approach. The main pillar of the

strategy is a proactive contribution to peace – with two wheels, diplomacy and defence, but also development”, she said.

Given that Japan intends to be more proactive, there are therefore more ample opportunities for Japan and the EU to work together, such as:

1. Create a working a working group on a comprehensive approach to share lessons learnt and innovative ideas;
2. look for ways for joint capacity-building assistance;
3. work more closely in terms of disaster relief coordination (specifically in terms of equipment and the legal systems).

“I hope that Japan and the EU can cobble together a hybrid scheme to build a resilient society in their respective neighbourhoods and beyond, working in synch”, she said.



**“I hope that Japan and the EU can cobble together a hybrid scheme to build a resilient society in their respective neighbourhoods and beyond, working in synch.”**

**Akiko Kiki Fukushima**, Visiting Research Fellow at the Joint Research Institute for International Peace and Culture (JRIPEC)

**Marie Söderberg**, Director of the European Institute of Japanese Studies at the Stockholm School of Economics, agreed with Fukushima that human security was also a very important point, “even if we don’t call it that”. She added: “Security cooperation should also focus on conflict and post-conflict fragile states and be motivated that local conflicts will become global if we don’t tackle them”. She said the reason for piracy in the Gulf of Aden was the region’s extreme poverty and urged consideration of the core issues before anything else.

Söderberg also called on Japan and the EU to cooperate more at the UN level – each with their respective funds: Japan with its human security trust fund and the EU with its peace building trust fund. “Why don’t they cooperate? That would be very natural. Why have two different funds if we are talking so much about cooperation”, she asked.

**“We see very few people from the EU working on development issues in Tokyo - maybe at the EU Mission, but not on the ground.”**



Marie Söderberg, Director of the European Institute of Japanese Studies at the Stockholm School of Economics

Söderberg also noted that there were many Japanese officials in Brussels who were working on development, including from JICA, “we see very few people from the EU working on development issues in Tokyo - maybe at the EU Mission, but not on the ground”. She called for greater information exchange between the EU and Japan as well as a stronger exchange of officials, and a stronger presence in the media. “If we want to promote our common global values – we need to show our voice”, she said. Instead of looking always towards the US, “we need to change attitude. The EU and Japan should be closer”, she concluded.



Moderators, Giles Merritt, Secretary General of *Friends of Europe*, and Shada Islam, Director of Policy at *Friends of Europe*

# ANNEX I – Programme

---

## WELCOMING REMARKS BY

Kojiro Shiojiri, Ambassador of Japan to the EU

---

## SESSION I

Preparing for a new era

---

Relations between the European Union (EU) and Japan have grown steadily over the years as both sides seek stronger and more comprehensive ties. Negotiations on an EU-Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) and a Free Trade/Economic Partnership Agreement (FTA/EPA) mark an important step forward in relations, with the two deals expected to boost political relations, enhance discussions on global and regional security challenges and bolster trade and investment ties. Do Japan and the EU have a “grand vision” for a future strategic partnership? How will the FTA/EPA help promote bilateral trade and investment flows and what does this mean for businesses in both sides? What are the main roadblocks? How can Japan and the EU strengthen cooperation in areas such as research and innovation and people to people exchanges to boost growth? Can the EU and Japan deepen their relations beyond economic areas and consider joint endeavours to tackle non-traditional security challenges capitalising on their “soft power” expertise? To what extent can Japan and the EU step up efforts to cooperate in international fora such as the UN, the WTO or the G20?

**Axel Berkofsky**

Senior Associate Research Fellow at the Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (ISPI), Italy

**Jiro Okuyama**

Deputy Chief of the Mission of Japan to the EU

**Mauro Petriccione**

Chief EU Negotiator for the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

**Gerhard Sabathil**

Director for North East Asia and the Pacific at the European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Yukio Tada**

President and Chief Executive Officer of the Sojitsu Research Institute

**Shigehiro Tanaka**

Director-General of the Multilateral Trade System Department at the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

Co-moderated by **Giles Merritt**, Secretary General of *Friends of Europe*, and **Shada Islam**, Director of Policy at *Friends of Europe*

---

## SESSION II

### Working together on democracy, human security and resilience

---

Japan and the EU can become important partners in implementing a “comprehensive approach” to tackle complex 21st Century political, development and security challenges and improve the delivery of global public goods. Despite their different approaches to encouraging democracy, can the EU and Japan work together to promote good governance, democracy and the rule of law? Could this be based on a “hybrid approach” in democracy assistance? Given that both emphasise the importance of building resilience in the face of internal and external shocks, how can the EU and Japan share their expertise and step up cooperation in areas such as disaster management and relief? What are the prospects for further coordination in the delivery of humanitarian aid? How can Japan and the EU intensify their bilateral development dialogue to better coordinate their contributions to the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda? What is the potential for further EU-Japan cooperation in areas such as crisis management, counter-piracy, peacekeeping to enhance human security?

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY

**Kristalina Georgieva**, EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response

<b>Victoria Bataclan</b>	Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to the EU
<b>Akiko Kiki Fukushima</b>	Visiting Research Fellow at the Joint Research Institute for International Peace and Culture (JRIPEC), Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo
<b>Keiichi Hashimoto</b>	Senior Advisor on Peace-building issues and Democratization, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
<b>Patrick Simonnet</b>	Deputy Head of Unit at European Commission Directorate General for Development and Cooperation (DEVCO)
<b>Marie Söderberg</b>	Director of the European Institute of Japanese Studies at the Stockholm Schools of Economics

Co-moderated by **Giles Merritt**, Secretary General of *Friends of Europe*, and **Shada Islam**, Director of Policy at *Friends of Europe*

## ANNEX II – List of participants

**Pilar Aleu**, Assistant, CEOE delegation to the EU

**Sandra Alvera**, Senior Manager, Government Affairs Panasonic Europe

**Jun Arima**, Director General, Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), London Office

**Kazuhito Asakawa**, Director General, Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA)

**Juan Luis Barbolla Casas**, Policy Officer, Gender Equality, European Commission, Directorate General for Justice

**Leanda Barrington**, Director, External Relations Practice, Cambre Associates

**Axel Berkofsky**, Senior Associate Research Fellow, Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (ISPI)

**Marion Bernodat**, Dow

**Alison Birkett**, International Relations: China, Japan, Korea, European Commission, Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

**Pierre Borgoltz**, Coordinator, Cooperation Central Asia, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Nilgün Bükülmez**, Commercial Counsellor, Mission of Turkey to the EU

**Lucrezia Cassetti**, Technical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO), Representation to the European Union

**Susanne Connolly**, Media Relations and Outreach Officer, Mission of Canada to the EU

**Martina De donno**, Assistant, European Commission, Directorate General for Enlargement

**Nicolas De Sadeleer**, Professor, University of St Louis

**Vladymyr Dedobbeleer**, Bilateral and Multilateral Negotiations Tariff Analysis, European Commission

**Isabelle Delattre**, Deputy Head of Division, Multilateral Relations, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Patricia Diaz**, Programme Manager, *Friends of Europe* Les Amis de l'Europe

**Milena Dimitrova**, Minister Counsellor for Culture, Audiovisual Policy & Copyright, Permanent Representation of Bulgaria to the EU

**Francois Ducrotte**, Programme Manager, International Security Information Service Europe (ISIS Europe)

**Tanapoj Ekkayokkaya**, Minister Counsellor (Commercial), Royal Thai Embassy to Belgium and Luxembourg

**Daniele Ermito**, Junior Researcher, European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS)

**Julia Ewert**, Research Fellow, EU-Asia Centre

**Florika Fink-Hooijer**, Director for Strategy, Policy and International Cooperation, European Commission Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO)

**Maria Fladl**, Policy officer for Trade policy in Agriculture, European Commission, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development

**Tetsuro Fukunaga**, Executive Director, Japan Machinery Centre for Trade & Investment (JMC)

**Akiko Kiki Fukushima**, Visiting Research Fellow Aoyama Gakuin University, Joint Research Institute for International Peace and Culture (JRIPEC)

**Nathalie Furrer**, Director, *Friends of Europe* Les Amis de l'Europe

**Kristalina Georgieva**, Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid & Crisis Response, European Commission

**Daniel Giorev**, Member of Cabinet, European Commission, Cabinet of EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid Kristalina Georgieva

**Servet Gören**, International Trade Manager European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)

**Tomas Hartman**, Deputy Director, Czech Business Representation to the EU (CEBRE)

**Keiichi Hashimoto**, Senior Advisor on Peace-building issues and Democratization, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

**Kojiro Hatada**, First Secretary, Mission of Japan to the EU

**Tomonori Hayashi**, Vice Chairman, Funai

**Bruno Hellendorff**, Research Fellow, Group for Research and Information on Peace (GRIP)

**Takeshi Hirabayashi**, First Secretary, Economic Section, Mission of Japan to the EU

**Yuki Hirajo**, Senior Consultant, Grayling

**Joelle Hivonnet**, Senior Policy Officer, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Shada Islam**, Director of Policy, *Friends of Europe* Les Amis de l'Europe

**Dilek Istar Ates**, Project Manager, Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSIAD)

**Adam Jirousek**, Official, European Commission Directorate General for Competition

**Helene Juramy**, Case Handler, European Commission

**Siti Arfah Kamaruzaman**, Counsellor, Economic Affairs, Mission of Malaysia to the EU

**Shinji Kanno**, President, Eurovision & Associates

**Leonidas Karapiperis**, Adviser, Relations with International Organisations, European Commission, Directorate General for Research and Innovation

**Yukihiko Kawaguchi**, Deputy Executive Director, Japan Machinery Centre for Trade & Investment (JMC)

**Cornelis Keijzer**, Administrator, European Commission, Directorate General for Trade

**Anne Kemppainen**, Member of Cabinet, European Council

**Gauri Khandekar**, Researcher, Head of Asia Programme, Fundacion para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Dialogo Exterior (FRIDE) Brussels Office

**Maen Khreasat**, Counsellor & Deputy Head of Mission, Mission of Jordan to the EU

**Jana Klimova**, Desk Officer for Japan, European Commission, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development

**Hanne Knaepen**, Research Assistant, Climate Change, European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)

**Katsuru Kobayashi**, Research Manager, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

**Wataru Komai**, First Secretary, Mission of Japan to the EU

**Borys Kremenetskyi**, Defence and Military Adviser, Mission of Ukraine to the EU

**Tilmann Kupfer**, Vice President, Trade & International Affairs, BT Group

**Athina Kylafi**, EU Government Relations, BASF EU Liaison Office

**Stijn Lambrecht**, Project Coordinator, European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS)

**Justyna Lasik**, Administrator, European Commission, Directorate General for Trade

**Michel Lavollay**, Founder, Public Private Partnership Europe

**Lars Jorgen Magnusson**, Principal Administrator, European Commission, Directorate General for Budget

**Felix Mallin**, Research & Executive Assistant, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP), German Institute for International and Security Affairs

**Nevena Mateeva**, Policy Officer, European Commission, Directorate General for Internal Market and Services

**Akihisa Matsuda**, Deputy Director for Economic Partnership Division, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI)

**Eliane Matti**, Assistant, Political Affairs, Security and Development, Mission of Switzerland to the EU

**Niels Meinderts**, Policy Adviser, Mission of New Zealand to the EU

**Jean-Luc Meriaux**, Secretary General, European Livestock and Meat Trading Union (UECBV)

**Giles Merritt**, Secretary General, *Friends of Europe* Les Amis de l'Europe

**Lucia Montanari**, Junior Researcher, European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS)

**Valérie Moutal**, Business Continuity Coordinator, European Commission, Directorate General Human Resources and Security

**Yu Muraoka**, Researcher, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

**Tracy Murphy**, Associate Consultant, APCO, Worldwide Brussels Office

**Hiroataka Nakamura**, Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Office in the United Kingdom

**Pedro Narro**, Member, European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

**Sylvain Naulin**, Policy Officer, EC Wine Committee (CEEV)

**Nick Ni**, Deputy Director of Economic Division, Taipei Representative Office to the EU & Belgium

**Lars Nilsson**, Deputy Head of Unit, Chief Economist and Trade Analysis, European Commission, Directorate General for Trade

**Jun Nojima**, Bureau Chief, Asahi Shimbun

**Maaike Okano-Heijmans**, Research Fellow, Netherlands Institute of International Relations (Clingendael)

**Jiro Okuyama**, Deputy Chief of Mission, Mission of Japan to the EU

**Eng Chuan Ong**, Ambassador, Mission of Singapore to the EU

**Jugatz Ortiz González**, Policy Advisor, Delegation of the Basque Country to the EU

**Jogi Humberto Oshiai**, Director, Public Affairs, Fratini Vergano

**Masakuni Oshirabe**, Correspondent, EU Affairs, Nihon Keizai Shimbun

**James Padgett**, Research Assistant, Agora

**Kameliya Palazova**, Programme Assistant, European Commission, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development

**Ewa Perfikowska**, Trade and CSR Officer, European Cocoa Association (ECA)

**Marc Perves**, Senior Consultant, Weber Shandwick

**Mauro Raffaele Petriccione**, Director for Asia and Latin America and Chief EU negotiator for the EU-Japan Free Trade Area (FTA), European Commission Directorate General for Trade

**Regina Piovesana**

**Enrico Ponzone**

**Daniel Postek**, Action Officer, European External Action Service (EEAS), European Union Military Staff (EUMS)

**Roswitha Preininger**, Consultant, Representation of Steiermark to the EU

**Michael Reiterer**, Principal Advisor, Asia & Pacific Department, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Jean-Yves Roger**, Policy Officer, International Relations, European Commission, Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

**Gerhard Sabathil**, Director for North East Asia and the Pacific, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Lailuma Sadid**, Journalist, Wakht News Agency

**Els Samyn**, Brussels Bureau Assistant, The Yomiuri Shimbun

**Ana Sanchez Cambon**, EU Affairs Consultant, Indra

**Motohiko Sato**, Director, Japan Machinery Centre for Trade & Investment (JMC)

**Timothée Sautter**, Administrator, European Commission, Directorate General for Trade

**Eric Sayettat**, Conseiller économique (relations avec l'Asie et le Pacifique, COASI), Comité de Politique commerciale, Permanent Representation of France to the EU

**Stefanie Seedig**, Counsellor, COASI Delegate Permanent Representation of Germany to the EU

**Kojiro Shiojiri**, Ambassador, Mission of Japan to the EU

**Samuel Simon**, Regional Policy & Programme Analyst, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Regional Office for the European Economic Area, the European Union and NATO

**Patrick Simonnet**, Deputy Head of Unit, European Commission, Directorate General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid (DEVCO)

**Victoria Sisante Bataclan**, Ambassador, Mission of the Philippines to the EU

**Marie Söderberg**, Professor and Director of European Institute of Japanese Studies Stockholm School of Economics

**Elia Sosa**, Counsellor, Political Affairs, Mission of Mexico to the EU

**Dinos Stasinopoulos**, Former EC official  
**Yvonne Stinson**, Minister, Economy, Mission of Mexico to the EU

**Gergely Sulyok**, International Coordination Officer, European Commission, Directorate General for Internal Market and Services

**Yukio Tada**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Sojitsu Research Institute

**Ichiro Takahashi**, JR East

**Shigehiro Tanaka**, Director-General of the Multilateral Trade System Department, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan

**Nagayo Taniguchi**, Journalist, International Press Association

**Szabolcs Tapasztó**, Official, European Parliament

**John Taylor**, Administrator, European Commission, Directorate General for Justice

**Fredrik Beckvid Tranchell**, Assistant, Counsellor Björn Arvidsson, Permanent Representation of Sweden to the EU

**Takehiro Tsuchiya**, Deputy Director for Europe Division, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI)

**Lynn Tytgat**, Manager, Educational Programmes Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Institute for European Studies (IES)

**Hana Umezawa**, Researcher, United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies

**Hans van der Loo**, Partner, Global Resource Security & Resilience Initiative

**Robert F. Vandenplas**, Managing Director, Belgoprocess

**Paul Vandoren**, Former head of delegation, European Commission, Delegation to Croatia

**Tuuli Vihko**, Master Student, College of Europe

**Alessandro Vitro**, Legal Adviser, External Relations (Asian countries and Crisis management), Council of the European Union, Legal Service

**Kaat Wagemans**, Assistant Economic Relations, Mission of Mexico to the EU

**Kaiyuan Wang**, First Secretary, Mission of the People's Republic of China to the EU

**Qiong Wang**, First Secretary, Mission of the People's Republic of China to the EU

**Christoph Wiesner**, Coordinating Desk Officer for Japan, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Dirk Wouters**, Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Belgium to the EU

**Aiichiro Yamamoto**, Associate Fellow & Representative of JICA to the EU, *Friends of Europe* Les Amis de l'Europe

**Sebastian Zaleski**, Policy Officer, Trade in raw materials, European Commission, Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry

*Friends of Europe – Les Amis de l'Europe*

4, Rue de la Science, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: +32 (0) 2 893 98 17 – Fax: +32 2 893 98 29

Email: [info@friendsofeurope.org](mailto:info@friendsofeurope.org)

Website: [www.friendsofeurope.org](http://www.friendsofeurope.org)



**flickr**





**With the support of the Europe for Citizens  
programme of the European Union**

This project has been funded with the support of the European Commission.  
The Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.