



INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

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ΕΛΙΑΜΕΠ
ELIAMEP

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ & ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ
HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN & FOREIGN POLICY

30+ χρόνια | years

Japan as a Significant Partner of the EU and Greece

Outline

This event, jointly organised by the Institute of International Economic Relations (IIER) and the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP), aims to contribute to a better understanding of the significant role played by Japan on a global scale at a challenging juncture of the early 21st century.

Japan is the third largest economy in the world, with a GDP in the range of \$4.9 trillion. Some of its biggest enterprises are global trend-setters and promote state-of-the-art technologies. The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), which entered into force on 1 February 2019, is the biggest trade agreement ever negotiated by the EU and creates an open trade zone covering over 600 million people.

Japan has been a traditional ally of the West and liberal democracies in the post-WWII era, and a pillar of stability in East Asia. An active member of the United Nations and a major donor, Japan has been contributing to poverty alleviation, socio-economic development and combating climate change as a global player.

This year Greece and Japan celebrate the 120th anniversary of their diplomatic relations. Both countries are firmly committed to the values of peace, democracy and socio-economic development, and look forward to advancing their friendship and co-operation to an even higher level.

Audience and interaction

- ✓ The co-organising institutions will use their extensive networks of contacts to target and mobilise the most appropriate interlocutors, with ample knowledge of and interest in Japan.
- ✓ The audience, in the range of up to 100 invitees, will bring together representatives of the diplomatic corps, leading businesses in Greece, the academic community and the media.
- ✓ After the 20-minute presentations made by the panelists, the moderators will engage the audience in a Q&A discussion at the end of each session.
- ✓ The panels and Q&A discussions will be held in English.

Venue

The event will take place in the premises of IIER (16 Panepistimiou Av., Athens) on **12 April 2019, from 5 to 8 pm.**

Programme

17:00 Greeting by H.E. Yasuhiro Shimizu, Ambassador of Japan

17:05 Greeting by Ministry of Foreign Affairs (TBC)

Session 1: Japan on the Global Scene

Moderator:

Ms Athena Korlira, Editor-in-chief, Int'l News Dept, 98.4 FM Radio Station

17:15 Dr Thanos Dokos, Director General, ELIAMEP

“Japan’s Role in an Increasingly Complex World”

17:35 Mr George Cunningham, Strategic Advisor on Asia-Pacific Affairs, EEAS

“Europe's and Japan's Connectivity Agendas – Building Prosperity in Eurasia”

17:55 Mr Plamen Tonchev, Head of Asia Unit, IIER

“Japan as a Major Economic Actor – EU-Japan EPA and Quality Infrastructure”

18:15 Q&A

18:30 Coffee break

Session 2: Greek-Japanese Economic Relations

Moderator:

Prof Charalambos Tsardanidis, Director, IIER

18:45 Mr Ioannis Goroyas, Export Manager, MEVGAL S.A.

“Exporting to Japan since 1996: Experiences and Lessons Learned”

19:00 Mr Panagiotis Theocharakis, Vice President & Managing Director,

Nissan/Theocharakis I. Nik. S.A.

“My Experiences of Doing Business in Japan”

19:15 Mr Panagiotis Soulis, Technical Superintendent, Tsakos Group

"Experience Gained by Living and Working in Japan"

19:30 Mr Seiichi Gyobu, Regional Manager, Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (ClassNK)

“Greek & Japan: Best Partnership in the Maritime Industry”

19:45 Q&A

20:00 Reception with Japanese food