

# "Why Women in Japan Struggle with Economic and Political Activities"

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## **Discussant**Isabelle GIRAUDOU

The Research Institute at the French-Japanese House

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 (Friday), from 12:30 pm to 2 pm Maison franco japonaise, room 601 (6<sup>th</sup> floor)

With the generous support of the Economic Section of the French Embassy and the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan

#### Summary

The presentation will address the following issues:

- 1. The traditional relationships between women and men
- 2. The unusually low participation of women in politics
- 3. The particular motivation of women to stay as fulltime housewives, as well as the tough working conditions and attitudes, cultural and social norms against working mothers
- 4. A turning point: extremely aged society and economic depression
- 5. The women's full-swing challenges against obstacles.

#### Short Biography of HASHIMOTO Hiroko



- Professor, Faculty of Social and Information Sciences (Department of Communication Studies), Jumonji University
- MA in Library and Information Sciences, University of California.
- Former member of the Advisory Committee on Assistance of Afghan Women for the Chief Cabinet minister and the Export Group Meeting of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on ODA "Japanese Women in a Ubiquitous Society", *Issues on Gender Equity in the Knowledge Based Information Society*, Asian Pacific Women's Information Network Center (APWIN), Vol.7, 2005, p. 89-101

The Under-representation of Women in Science and Technology in Japan: What is Going On?", *Journal of Asian Women's Studies*, Vol.14, 2005, p. 101-119.

#### Short Biography of Isabelle GIRAUDOU



- Researcher at Maison franco-japonaise, UMIFRE 19 CNRS MAE
- Associate Researcher, Global COE Program, University of Tohoku (Sendai)
- Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Hosei University (Tokyo)
- Chargée d'enseignement, Faculty of Law, Paul Cézanne University, Aix-en-Provence







#### What is the Lunch Seminar?

This typical event has been organized at the Maison-Franco Japonaise (Nichi-Futsu Kaikan) – Room 601 (6F) from 12.30 to 14.00, since 2004 with the generous support from the Economic Section of the French Embassy and the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan. For more information, please visit the website of the seminar: http://www.mfj.gr.jp/lunch\_seminar/lunch\_seminar.html

Please note that this is a "brown bag lunch seminar" (please bring your sandwiches or "bento").

#### How to attend the Lunch Seminar?

The participation to the Lunch Seminar is free but **registration is strictly required**. Please apply by e-mail to: <a href="mikasa@mfj.gr.jp">mikasa@mfj.gr.jp</a>; or by fax (03-5421-7652) specifying your:

nameadresscompany or institutionpositione-mail

NB: The presentation will be followed by a discussion with the participants (in English, no translation).

#### How to get there?



Nichifutsu Kaikan (MFJ): Shibuya-ku, Ebisu, 3-9-25

> From the Ebisu JR station take the Skywalk Exit, turn left and walk 5 mn alongside Yebisu Garden Place.











