



LUNCH SEMINAR

on the Japanese Economy and Society

at the Maison franco-japonaise

Friday January 14th, 2011, from 12:30 pm to 2 pm

Maison franco-japonaise, room 601 (6th floor)

Geopolitical Place of Japan in the World

HARAOKA Naoyuki

Japan Economic Foundation (NGO)

Discussant :

Marc HUMBERT

French Research Institute on Contemporary Japan

Summary

Apparently completely westernized, but in the essence far from sharing the values with Westerners such as "individualism" or "democracy" and isolated from the other parts of Asia as well mainly for historical reason, where is Japan, as the third largest economy, heading for in the world after China emerges as superpower in the Asia?

Is its geopolitical position similar to that of UK or France in EU or even Switzerland?

Unfortunately, due to the lack of strong political leadership, Japan seems to have been only drifted passively in the chartless sea with-

out any pilot in the stormy weather called "economic crisis".

How can we restore Samurai spirit and show the world that Japan can contribute to the world peace and prosperity?

The speaker talks about several alternatives of Asian or Asian Pacific regional integration in which Japan could play a catalytic role such as TPP, FTAAP, ASEAN plus 3 or 6 etc. and how these efforts could lead to a better global governance scheme which the globalised world desperately needs in the light of exiting from the Economic Crisis or ironing out an effective international rule on CO2 emission etc. as well as achieving free trade.

Short Biography of HARAOKA Naoyuki



HARAOKA Naoyuki, born in Tokyo in 1955, worked for METI of the government of Japan from 1978 until 2007. Since 2007, he has been working for Japan Economic Foundation, NGO affiliated with METI of which expertise exists in trade and economy, as Executive Managing Director.

Being a graduate of Woodrow Wilson School of Princeton University, he has served for OECD Paris twice as a policy oriented economist. He is also Chief Editor of *Japan Spotlight*, a bimonthly English magazine streamlining the current global economic issues.

Short Biography of Marc HUMBERT



Marc HUMBERT got a French University Professor status in 1981. He has published intensively about industry and technology dynamics of firms and nations and their interactions, with application to Japanese, Latin-American, European, Breton... economies.

He is currently on leave from University of Rennes (France), and is head of the French Research Institute on Contemporary Japan (UMIFRE 19 CNRS – MAEE, MFJ) where, along with other duties, he is carrying on his theoretical research and is able to closely watch the Japanese economy and society.



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



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 : mikasa@mfj.gr.jp ; or by fax (03-5421-7652) specifying your :

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| – name | – adress |
| – company or institution | – phone |
| – position | – e-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.

