

Fri. February 28th, 2014

12:30 - 14:00 | **room 601** | **in English** (no translation)

Japan Is Not Exempt from Migration Debates On the occasion of the *Hommes et Migrations*special issue on Japan

Speakers Hélène LE BAIL (MFJ, UMIFRE 19)

Abdelhafid HAMMOUCHE (Lille 1 University)

Moderator Jean-Michel BUTEL (MFJ, UMIFRE 19)

Are there any singularities in Japan's migration policy? What lies behind the statistic that foreign residents make up less than 2% of the Japanese population? How can we explain the fact that the number of foreign residents has decreased every year since 2009 while the total population of Japan is also shrinking?

Our aim, on the one hand, is to present and try to explain current trends in migration to Japan and, on the other, to help characterize part of Japan's migratory relations by drawing a parallel with the French situation: While France is flatteringly presented as a land of welcome and the birthplace of human rights, Japan is usually considered a rather inward-looking country. We suggest putting aside such a distinction by outlining a comparative approach. We will highlight some of the characteristic elements in emigration in the two countries, mainly in the relationship between Japan, Korea and Brazil, and between France and Algeria.



Hélène LE BAIL is an associate research fellow at the French Research Institute on Japan, MFJ, Tokyo. She conducts research on new Chinese migrants and expatriates, and on marriage migrations. She holds a doctorate in Political Science from the Paris Institute of Political Studies and a master's degree in Chinese Studies.



Abdelhafid HAMMOUCHE, a sociologist and full professor at Lille 1 University, is a member of the editorial board of *Hommes et Migrations*. His current research relates to social dynamics and the action of public authorities in urban space, and follows on from his work on the family in a migratory situation.



What is the Lunch Seminar at MFJ

This typical event has been organized at the Maison franco-japonaise (Nichi-Futsu Kaikan) since 2004. It offers a presentation followed by a discussion dedicated to a specific issue of the time and it aims at bringing a better understanding of Japanese economy and society.

This is a brown bag lunch seminar (please bring your bento or sandwiches). Coffee available.

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 contact@mfj.gr.jp or by fax (03-5421-7651) specifying your name, company or institution, position, address, phone and e-mail.

For more information, see: http://www.mfj.gr.jp/web/lunch_seminar/lunch_seminar.html.

French Research Institute on Japan at Maison franco-japonaise

3-9-25, Ebisu, Shibuya-ku, 150-0013 Tokyo



Information

from Monday to Friday from 9:30 to 18:00 Tel: 03-5421-7641 Fax: 03-5421-7651

HP: www.mfj.gr.jp