

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL JAPAN: A YEAR IN REVIEW

JULY 2024 - ISSUE 5

CENTRE FOR
THE STUDY OF
GLOBAL JAPAN

munkschool
OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



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Message From the Director

Greetings from Toronto! The Centre for the Study of Global Japan (CSGJ) had an exceptionally active and busy 2023-2024 academic year. Among other things, we held the largest number of public events since the beginning of our Centre, and these events attracted some of our largest audiences on record. It is wonderful to see the burgeoning interest in Japan among the scholars, students, and community members who make up our audience.

This year, CSGJ hosted 18 public events as part of our own event series. This included a major symposium on “Overcoming Challenges to a Peaceful and Prosperous International Order: A Proactive Role for the G7,” jointly

hosted with the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto, G7 Group, and Bill Graham Centre. We also co-hosted 11 events as part of the Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series, our virtual collaboration with colleagues at Dartmouth, Harvard, NYU, University of Pennsylvania, and University of Southern California. You can read more about the diverse range of our events below.

The Initiative for Education Policy and Innovation (IEPI), directed by Rie Kijima, has quickly become an integral part of our activities. IEPI hosted a major symposium on “Cultivating STEM/STEAM Thinkers: Linking Policy, Research, and Practice” and an associated event at the University of



Phillip Lipsky

Director, Centre for the Study of Global Japan

Chair in Japanese Politics and Global Affairs

Professor, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy

Professor, Department of Political Science

Toronto Schools that attracted over three hundred attendees. In Japan, IEPI has been actively promoting STEM/STEAM programs for the next generation of student leaders. We are deeply grateful to Richard and Satoko Ingram of the Newton Foundation for their generosity and vision in supporting this initiative.

This year, we inaugurated an Associates program to support Ph.D. students who are pursuing research on contemporary Japan. Ryo Kiridori and Jiajia Zhou have contributed their thoughtful reflections based on their field research in Japan below. We also recognized Reem Baghdady and Jared Ren as the recipients of the inaugural CSGJ Student Excellence Award. Congratulations! The daily activities of our Centre are supported by Sophie Bourret-Klein, our Events and Program Coordinator, and Sakura Armstrong and Thomas Yue, our work study students. Please join me in thanking them for all that they do to make CSGJ such a vibrant and intellectually stimulating community.

Last year, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace published a major report on United Nations Security Council reform after the Biden administration announced a willingness to accept a significant expansion of council membership. I was invited to

contribute a section on Japan's approach to UN Security Council reform. This piece is reproduced below. As I note, "Security Council reform is long overdue, and there is no doubt Japan deserves a seat at the table."

Our Centre has a spectacular group of enthusiastic student affiliates who contribute actively to our events, programming, and social media. If you are a UofT student interested in Japan, please consider joining us by reaching out to Sophie Bourret-Klein, our wonderful Events and Program Coordinator (csgj.munk@utoronto.ca). We would love to have you join our community!

We look forward to seeing you at our events in the coming academic year and many more to come.

Phillip Lipsy
Director, CSGJ
July 2024

Program and Event Highlights

September 18th, 2023

Is the Professionalism of Teaching Hurting Teachers in Japan?



In the first event of the year, Professor Aki Sakuma (Keio University) examined Japanese government initiatives to professionalize teaching alongside restrictive policies imposed on teachers. Sakuma explored the concept of “teaching as a profession” in Japan and its development. The event was moderated by Professor Rie Kijima (University of Toronto).

September 20th, 2023

Cultivating STEM/STEAM Thinkers: Linking Policy, Research, and Practice



The Initiative for Education Policy and Innovation hosted a symposium on the importance of cultivating STEM in education. The event was jointly hosted with the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto, the Rotman School of Management, and the Munk School. The keynote speaker for the event was associate professor Ge Wang (Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics, Stanford University).

September 21st, 2023



Artful Design + Artificial Intelligence: What do We (Really) Want from AI?

Professor Ge Wang (Stanford University) delivered a presentation on the intersection between STEM and music, coding, art, and artificial intelligence. Wang included a live demonstration of an iPhone app functioning as a ocarina to consider the relationship between AI and artistic design. Professor Rie Kijima (University of Toronto) organized the event in collaboration with University of Toronto Schools among various other partners.

October 5th, 2023

"Zeitenwende" in Germany and Japan? Continuity and change in Germany and Japan's foreign policy after Cold War

Professor Takumi Itabashi (University of Tokyo) delivered a presentation discussing the changes in foreign and security policies by the German and Japanese governments against the backdrop of recent upheavals. Itabashi discussed the development of foreign policy plans after the Cold War to compare and contrast the two countries. The event was moderated by Phillip Lipsy (Director, Centre for the Study of Global Japan, Munk School).

An event poster with a dark blue background. On the left, white text reads: "Zeitenwende" in Germany and Japan? Continuity and change in Germany and Japan's foreign policy after the Cold War. Below this, in red and white: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM. At the bottom left, in white: ROOM: 208N 1 DEVONSHIRE PLACE, TORONTO, ON UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO. On the right, there is a circular portrait of Professor Takumi Itabashi. To the right of the portrait, white text reads: Presentation by: Professor Takumi Itabashi University of Tokyo, Japan. At the bottom right, there is a red double arrow icon and the Munk School logo.

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/munkitabashi>

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EUROPEAN, RUSSIAN,
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November 2nd, 2023

Overcoming Challenges to a Peaceful and Prosperous International Order: A Proactive Role for G7



The symposium considered the role that Japan, Canada, and the United States can play along with other G7 partners in confronting global challenges, building on the progress of the Hiroshima G7 meeting in May 2023. The event was jointly hosted by the Centre for the Study of Global Japan, G7 Research Group, and Bill Graham Centre at the University of Toronto with generous support from the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto. The event took part in three sessions. The first session focused on security, the second session focused on economy, and the last session focused on societal transformation.



November 3rd, 2023

Marital Dissolution, Remarriage, and Fertility in Japan



Professor Jim Raymo (Princeton University) explored the role of marriage dissolution and remarriage in Japan's low total fertility rate. Raymo analyzed how Japan's evolving rate of fertility could be affected by remarriage and discussed the lack of scholarship on the subject along with possible policies to address concerns of the public. The event was moderated by Professor Ito Peng (University of Toronto).

November 7th, 2023

An Indo-Pacific Update: Expert Perspectives from Australia, the USA and Canada

This online seminar featuring experts of the Indo-Pacific was organized by the Centre for the Study of Global Japan and co-sponsored by the Wilson Center's Asia Program. Panelists included Professor Rory Medcalf (Australian National University), Shihoko Goto (Wilson Center), and Trevor Kennedy (Business Council). Moderating the event was Deanna Horton (University of Toronto) and additional questions for the panelists were provided by Jeff Nankivell (Asia Pacific Foundation).



November 16th, 2023

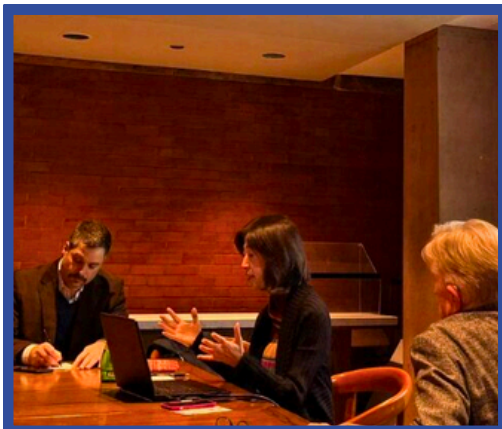
Engendering Success in STEM: International Perspectives



Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges (BBBB) was the capstone knowledge-sharing conference of the Engendering Success in STEM (ESS) Research Consortium. The Initiative for Education Policy and Innovation, Centre for the Study of Global Japan, was pleased to co-sponsor the "Engendering Success in STEM: International Perspectives" panel. The event was organized by the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. Speakers included Professors Glenn Adams (University of Kansas), Takako Hashimoto (Chiba University of Commerce), and Toni Schmader (University of British Columbia). The event was moderated by Professor Steven Spencer (Ohio State University).

November 16th, 2023

Harney Lecture Series: Understanding Race Beyond The Transatlantic Paradigm



In her presentation, Professor Yasuko Takezawa (Kansai Gaidai University) explored a new understanding of race through the three dimensions of "race," "Race," and "race as a Resistance." She discussed the misconceptions of the concepts of race and distinctions between physical and non-physical representations of race. The event was jointly sponsored by the Harney Program in Ethnic, Immigration, and Pluralism Studies, Asian Institute, and the Centre for the Study of Global Japan.

November 17th, 2023



Nuclear Ghost: Atomic Livelihoods in Fukushima's Gray Zone

Professor Ryo Morimoto (Princeton University) delivered a presentation on the effects of the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster on communities in coastal Fukushima. In one of the first in-depth ethnographic accounts of coastal Fukushima written in English, *Nuclear Ghost* tells the stories of a diverse group of residents who aspire to live and die well in their now irradiated homes. The event was jointly organized by the Dr. David Chu Program in Asia Pacific Studies, Asian Institute, and the Centre for the Study of Global Japan.

December 1st, 2023



Discriminatory Clubs: The Geopolitics of International Organizations

The Centre for the Global Study of Japan and the Department of Political Science jointly hosted Professor Christina Davis (Harvard University), for a presentation on her book, *Discriminatory Clubs: The Geopolitics of International Organizations*. The book presents a new theory of how states become members of international organizations, focusing on geopolitical alignment rather than conventional explanations based on economic benefits and other functional rationales.

January 18th, 2024



Energy, Complexity and Geopolitics in Japan

Professor Akira Tokuhiro (Ontario Institute of Technology) delivered a presentation on the geopolitics of nuclear issues through the opportunities and risks that nuclear energy presents and its impact on Japan's role as a G7 country. Tokuhiro explored the questions about nuclear safety and regulatory practices brought forth after the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster and considered energy system analyses post-"3.11" transitions to 2030 and 2050.

February 2nd, 2024



Entanglements in World Politics: The Power of Uncertainty

Professor Peter J. Katzenstein (Cornell University) delivered a presentation on his book manuscript, "Entanglements in World Politics: The Power of Uncertainty." Katzenstein reflected on the importance of eclecticism in social scientific research, the development of his interest in German and Japanese politics, and the role of uncertainty. The discussion was moderated by Professor Louis Pauly (University of Toronto) and was jointly hosted by the Centre for the Study of Global Japan and the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

February 5th, 2024

Disparities in Teachers' Workload: A Comparison between Japan and the U.S.



Dr. Motoko Akiba (Florida State University) explored the distribution and disparities in teachers' workload using nationally representative teacher and school survey data from the 2018 Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) in Japan and the U.S. to create policy and leadership suggestions. The event was organized by the Initiative for Education Policy and Innovation, Centre for the Study of Global Japan.

February 6th, 2024

Is Nationalistic Internationalization Possible? Japan's Education Reform and Interactions among the Cabinet, Ministry of Education, and Teachers



In this presentation, Professor Kazuaki Iwabuchi (University of Tokyo) discussed how Japan's attempt at internationalisation emerged, changed, and exercised influence through the International Baccalaureate program. Iwabuchi highlighted how complex interactions affected policy processes and outcomes. The event was organized by the Initiative for Education Policy and Innovation.

February 12th, 2024



Who Benefits from the Revolving Door? Evidence from Japan

Professor Trevor Incerti (University of Amsterdam) delivered a presentation on the relationship between political influence and the employment patterns of former bureaucrats in non-profit organizations in Japan. Based on his new dataset, "Amakudata," Incerti discussed what motivates the practice of hiring former bureaucrats, and how it may represent a form of unofficial government assistance to politically-connected organizations. The event was moderated by Professor Phillip Lipsky (Director, CSGJ)

February 14th, 2024



Japan, A Discrete Leader in International Relations

Japan's increasing role in international relations under the leadership of Shinzo Abe was the primary focus of Professor Guibourg Delamotte's (French Institute of Oriental Studies) presentation. Delamotte discussed topics such as Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) vision, the three-fold strategy developed by the Japanese government to increase international connectivity, and the role of the Self Defense Forces in Japan's evolving security strategy.

March 8th, 2024



A New Twist in Female Political Representation in Japan

Professor Margarita Estevez-Abe (Syracuse University) delivered a presentation on female Japanese political representation with a specific focus on Tokyo city assemblies and the growing rate of female participation in Tokyo politics despite otherwise low rates. Three factors were emphasized for Japan's low rates of female participation in politics: culture, institutions, and political gatekeeping. This event was jointly organized by the Centre for the Study of Global Japan and the Centre for Global Social Policy, University of Toronto.

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To stay up to date with all the latest news in the CSGJ community and any opportunities to get involved, sign up to get updates through our email newsletter!

The link can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/29dd4sbd>

JPOSS WEBINARS

2023-2024

The Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series (JPOSS) is a virtual forum to present and discuss research-in-progress on questions related to Japanese politics, broadly defined. We intend to build a community of students and scholars who seek to foster collaboration and scholarship on Japanese politics. The organizers of JPOSS are Amy Catalinac (New York University), Christina L. Davis (Harvard University), Yusaku Horiuchi (Dartmouth College), Saori Katada (University of Southern California), Phillip Y. Lipsky (University of Toronto), and Daniel M. Smith (University of Pennsylvania). Administrative support is provided by the staff of Harvard University's Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, and Jiajia Zhou (University of Toronto) writes the event summaries.



JPOSS WEBINARS

2023-2024

38.

COMPARATIVE ONE-PARTY RULE: JAPAN AND MEXICO COMPARED

- Hiroki Takeuchi (Southern Methodist University)
- Keely McNeme (Southern Methodist University)

39.

MODERATING ROLE OF COUNTRY-OF-ORIGIN STEREOTYPES ON ATTITUDES TOWARDS IMMIGRANTS

- Boyoon Lee (Vanderbilt University)

40.

PROFESSIONALIZATION SESSION: STRATEGIES FOR TEACHING JAPANESE POLITICS

- Yusaku Horiuchi (Dartmouth College)
- Saori Katada (University of Southern California)
- Megumi Naoi (University of California, San Diego)

41.

DOES DIVIDED GOVERNMENT CONTROL UNILATERAL POLICYMAKING? EVIDENCE FROM CHAIR ELECTIONS

- Takaharu Saito (Nagoya University of Commerce and Business)

42.

CAREER TRAJECTORY OF POLITICAL SCIENTISTS' PUBLICATION IN THE FIRST AND SECOND LANGUAGE: JAPAN AS AN EXAMPLE OF INTERNATIONALIZATION OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, 1971-2023

- Masaru Nishikawa (Tsuda University)

JPOSS WEBINARS

2023-2024

- 43.** MECHANISMS OF RESISTANCE: INFORMAL INSTITUTIONAL IMPEDIMENTS TO JAPANESE POSTAL PRIVATIZATION
- Patricia Maclachlan (University of Texas Austin)
- 44.** DEINDUSTRIALIZATION AND ELECTION OUTCOMES – EVIDENCE FROM JAPAN
- Matthew Morris (University of Nottingham)
- 45.** CLARIFYING THE THREAT OF POPULISM: PLACE AND PARTY ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH
- Jiajia Zhou (University of Toronto)
- 46.** DETERMINANTS OF DEOCCUPLING AND FRIEND-SHORING OF JAPANESE MCS
- Timothy Cichanowicz (University of Kansas)
- 47.** LEGACIES OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: EVIDENCE FROM WORLD WAR II “COMFORT STATIONS”
- Risa Kitagawa (Northeastern University)

REPORT ON CULTIVATING STEM/STEAM THINKERS: LINKING POLICY, RESEARCH, AND PRACTICE

The “Cultivating STEM/STEAM Thinkers: Linking Policy, Research, and Practice” Symposium kicked off with opening remarks from Dr. Phillip Lipsky, Director of the Centre for the Study of Global Japan at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy. After a land acknowledgement, he expressed gratitude to key supporters, including the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto, the Rotman School of Management, and the Public Policy and Governance undergraduate program. Dr. Lipsky also acknowledged the pivotal role played by Dr. Rie Kijima in conceptualizing and implementing the Symposium. The Consul-General of Japan in Toronto, Sasayama Takuya, outlined his government’s policy in education and affirmed a commitment to STEM education, emphasizing investments in human resources and education to address gender disparities. Next, Dr. Sonia Kang, Canada Research Chair in Identity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Professor of Organizational Behaviour and HR Management at the University of



Dr. Rie Kijima, Director, Initiative for Education Policy and Innovation

Toronto, spoke about the rationales for why we must address the gender gap in STEM. She emphasized the importance of greater access and inclusion and framed it as a social justice issue.

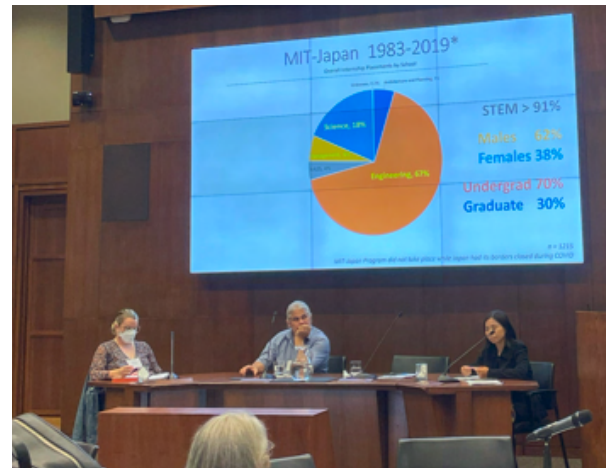
The first session featured Dr. Ekuia Bentil, Senior Education Specialist at the World Bank, who delivered an insightful presentation on the state of education and STEM in Sub-Saharan Africa. She spoke about the need to improve enrollment rates, combat learning poverty, and promote STEM education while addressing gender disparities. She also spoke about

Africa's Centre of Excellence (ACE), which creates STEM hubs at universities across the African continent to train and educate STEM students, supported by the World Bank. Then, Dr. Francesca Borgonovi, British Academy Global Professor at the Institute of Education at University College London, highlighted gender disparities in STEM education across OECD countries. She spoke about the multifaceted factors contributing to these disparities, including societal and cultural factors, differences in mindsets, and the gap in the STEM pipeline that largely stem from students' perceptions towards STEM. The third presentation was by Dr. Aki Sakuma from Keio University. Her talk focused on Japan's gender gap, referring to Japan's low ranking in the 2023 World Economic Forum Gender Gap Index. She identified various factors that contribute to the



Dr. Sonia Kang, Canada Research Chair in Identity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Professor of Organizational Behaviour and HR Management delivering her remarks.

gender disparity in STEM in Japan and advocated for government's support to increase women's representation in STEM fields.



Session 2 panelists speaking on "Active Learning, Climate Change, and Cross-cultural Experiences".

Session 2 was entitled, "Active Learning, Climate Change, and Cross-cultural Experiences," In the first presentation, Dr. Chihiro Nakagawa highlighted the benefits of introducing debate in Japanese schools. Debates help learners hone their English-speaking abilities, strengthen their logical thinking, and develop critical thinking skills through debates about the ethical usage of technology. In the second presentation, Chris Pilcavage discussed the MIT-Japan Program's success in promoting STEM intercultural exchanges in the Tohoku region. The third presentation, delivered by Dr. Cassie

Brownell from OISE, focused on children's communication of ecological awareness through curiosity walks, which combines both art and science for children to make meaning of the environment that surrounds them. In the last presentation, Dr. Jim Slotta discussed his work on Critical Action Learning Exchange that aims to provide young minds with skills that are necessary to address complex global challenges, harnessing their sense of social justice and critical thinking skills.

The lunchtime speech was delivered by Dr. Mariko Yang-Yoshikara at the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education. She is also Co-founder of SKY Labo. In her talk, she argued for greater emphasis on STEAM (rather than STEM) education. She defined STEAM education as the intersection between STEM and Liberal Arts. She highlighted the need for more humanistic approaches to STEM. In particular, she explained the importance of empathy in identifying, solving, and addressing the world's wicked problems and introduced the STEAM and design thinking programs that were implemented in the City of Kyotangoshi in partnership with the Board of Education, Okinawa Institute for Science and Technology Graduate University, and an online program supported by PwC Japan.



Dr. Mariko Yang-Yoshikara and Elizabeth Morley

The third session focused on innovation and entrepreneurship in STEM and was moderated by Christine Nakamura, Vice-President of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. In this panel, Takara Small, a technology journalist, and Allison Sekular, a cognitive neuroscience professor and entrepreneur, shared their experiences, their passion for advancing STEM for all genders, including women, and their groundbreaking projects that address the STEM gap, especially in underserved communities.



Third session panelists Christine Nakamura and Allison Sekular.



Keynote presenter Dr. Ge Wang playing his iPhone virtual instrument, Ocarina.

The keynote presentation was delivered by Dr. Ge Wang, Associate Professor at Stanford University in the Centre for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics. His talk, "Artful Design: Why the 'A' in STEAM," also emphasized the importance of aesthetics in STEM. He urged the participants to take courage when approaching the unknown, emphasized the need for playfulness and curiosity, and to understand what technology can do for us – including technology that creates a sense of calmness in the midst of chaos. The Symposium offered a wide range of data and ideas to help educators and policymakers bridge the

intersection of policy, research, and practice in STEM and STEAM education. The rich dialogue generated many insights about how to create more opportunities for young children, youths, and adults to explore and understand the importance of STEM/STEAM learning. The symposium attracted a large, engaged audience, and we look forward to continuing the conversation to enhance educational opportunities in Canada, Japan, and beyond.

A PROACTIVE ROLE FOR THE G7

The Centre for the Study of Global Japan hosted a major symposium on November 2, 2023, on the topic of “Overcoming Challenges to a Peaceful and Prosperous International Order: A Proactive Role for the G7.” The symposium built on the progress of a prior event on February 15, which examined how universities can contribute to the agenda of the Hiroshima G7, which took place in May 2023.



Sasayama Takuya, Consul-General of Japan in Toronto, presenting his opening remarks.

The symposium kicked off with opening remarks from Phillip Lipsky (Director, Centre for the Study of Global Japan). Lipsky outlined the key themes and objectives of the symposium and acknowledged the event co-hosts – the G7 Research Group and Bill Graham Centre at the University of Toronto. He then introduced Sasayama Takuya (Consul-General of Japan in Toronto),

who outlined Japan’s leadership role as host of the Hiroshima G7 and emphasized the importance of the G7 in tackling pressing international issues such as geopolitical conflicts and nuclear non-proliferation.

The first session on international security issues began with a presentation by Dani Nedal (University of Toronto), who set the stage by outlining major challenges that confront the international order. Nedal divided the potential challenges of great power confrontation into direct and indirect risks. He argued that nuclear proliferation and proxy conflicts were the main sources of direct risks, while cooperation breakdown was a principal indirect risk.



Dani Nedal from the University of Toronto discussing the challenges confronting the international order.

The second presentation was by Ayumi Teraoka (Columbia University), who analysed Japan's security policy shifts and contributions to maintaining stability in the Indo-Pacific. Teraoka noted that Japan would need to raise revenues to cover its ambitious defence spending targets, but that raising taxes could be politically challenging.



The second session discussing economic and geoeconomic issues.

The final presentation was delivered by Nobumasa Akiyama (Hitotsubashi University), who focused on nuclear issues, a major theme of the Hiroshima G7 meeting. Akiyama noted that Japan faces a nuclear dilemma: on one hand, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced the "Hiroshima Vision," which aims to pursue a world without nuclear weapons; however, on the other hand, Japan relies heavily on the US nuclear umbrella to guarantee its own security.

The second session centered on economic and geoeconomic issues, and it was moderated by Louis Pauly (University of Toronto). In the first presentation, Deanna Horton (Munk School and Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada) noted the importance of Japanese initiatives to strengthen international institutions and agreements. For instance, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) came together in large measure based on Japanese leadership after the Trump administration pulled out of the agreement. Horton observed that Indo-Pacific strategies published by various countries had China as the common "elephant in the room." In the second presentation, Glen S. Fukushima (Center for American Progress) offered a US perspective on economic security. He emphasized the importance of government-to-government relations as well as the role of the nongovernmental actors, drawing on his extensive experience in the public and private sectors. The third presentation, delivered by John Kirton (G7 Research Group), analysed the level of compliance of G7 members in key commitment areas based on data collected by his research team. Kirton also discussed the potential impacts of major developments, such as US-China high-tech protectionism and disruptions in agricultural supplies.

The third session focused on societal transformation. Jim Raymo (Princeton University) kicked off the session with an overview of demographic trends, elaborating on the challenges posed by declining fertility and aging in major countries, including members of the G7. Carin Holroyd (University of Saskatchewan) painted an optimistic portrait based on technological innovations emerging from Japan in areas like cyberspace, green growth, and disaster resilience. James Tiessen (Toronto Metropolitan University) examined challenges and innovations in the healthcare sector, using data on COVID-19 response to draw comparisons and lessons from major countries. Finally, Daisaku Higashi (Sophia University) drew on his extensive experience in countries like Afghanistan and South Sudan to offer innovative prescriptions for advancing human security and economic development.



Carin Holroyd from the University of Saskatchewan presenting on technological innovations in Japan.



The third session of panelists kicked off the session with an overview of demographic trends.

The symposium attracted an exceptionally enthusiastic and engaged audience, with standing room only in the largest conference venue at the Munk School. Each panel was followed by a lively Q&A session with incisive and thoughtful questions from students, scholars, and members of the surrounding community. Although the symposium identified myriad challenges confronting the G7, the panelists also proposed a variety of creative and innovative solutions to advance the global agenda. We thank the participants, event co-sponsors, the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto, and audience members for helping to make this event such a great success.

INITIATIVE FOR EDUCATION POLICY AND INNOVATION

We are delighted to bring you the latest news and achievements from the Initiative for Education Policy and Innovation (IEPI). Launched in July 2022 with a generous gift from The Newton Foundation, IEPI is committed to driving education reform in Japan and beyond through evidence-based policy initiatives with global impact.

IEPI's mission is to accelerate:

1. Research on education reform;
2. Understanding the role of education in sustainable human development, equity, and inclusion globally;
3. Intellectual exchange to advance innovative solutions to contemporary policy challenges, with a particular focus on Japan.

It has been an exceptional year of operations for IEPI!

STEAM Conference at the Munk School with support from the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto, the Rotman School of Management, and the Public Policy and Governance undergraduate program

We received 130 registrations and 95 people attended the Symposium, which indicates the interests of the Munk community on the topic related to STEAM learning. The keynote speaker was Ge Wang (Stanford University).

Guest panelists included:

- Dr. Ekoa Bentil, Senior Education Specialist at the World Bank
- Dr. Francesca Borgonovi, OECD & University College London
- Dr. Aki Sakuma, Keio University
- Dr. Chihiro Nakagawa, Osaka Metropolitan University
- Chris Pilcavage, MIT- Japan Program
- Dr. Cassie Brownell, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto

- Dr. Jim Slotta, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto
- Takara Small, Tech columnist for CBC's Metro Morning, contributor to CanadaTonight with Ginella Massa, on-air technology expert for ETalk and Founder of Venture Kids Canada
- Allison Sekuler, President & Chief Scientist, Baycrest Academy for Research and Education. President & Chief Scientist, Centre for Aging & Brain Health Innovation. Sandra A. Rotman Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience, Department of Psychology, University Of Toronto. Professor, Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour, McMaster University



2023 US-Japan Women's Leader Dialogue Working Group Meeting

US-Japan Women Leaders Dialogue Working Group Meeting

Invited to the US-Japan Women Leaders Dialogue Working Group Meeting at Capitol Hill Women in STEM Roundtable in September 2023 co-chaired by Hon. Seiko Noda (former Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications and former Minister in charge of Women's Empowerment and Minister of State for Gender Equality, among other posts) and Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO).

Research on education policy and practices in Japan

Invited scholars who conduct research on education policy and practices related to Japan. This year, we invited four scholars:

Aki Sakuma (Keio University), Kazuaki Iwabuchi (Tokyo University), Motoko Akiba (Florida State University), and Takako Hashimoto (Chiba University).

Extensive research training of undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Toronto

We are proud to share that IEPI supports research related to education reform, cultivating prosocial tendencies, empathy in learning, and active learning. We rely on our research assistants to make progress on our various research agendas related to education!

This summer, we will administer the third STEAM/Design Thinking workshop in Kyotango and begin a teacher training program in collaboration with the Board of Education. We are really excited for these programs next year!



2023 Cultivating STEM/STEAM Thinkers: Linking Policy, Research, and Practice Symposium

NEW AFFILIATES

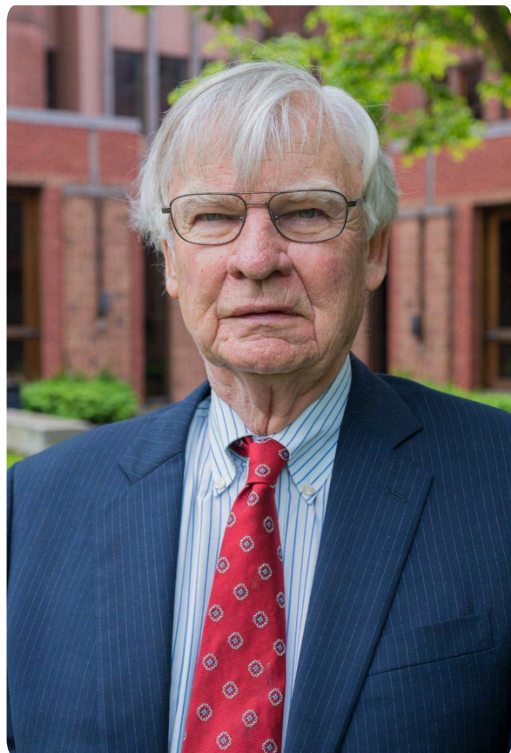
Ambassador Rust Deming, Jiajia Zhou, and Ryo Kiridori

The Centre for the Study of Global Japan is delighted to welcome Ambassador Rust Deming as Senior Associate and two Ph.D. students, Jiajia Zhou and Ryo Kiridori, as Centre Associates. Associates enrich our Centre by contributing insights based on their research about contemporary Japan, actively participating in our programming and activities, and engaging with other centre affiliates.

Ambassador Rust Deming

The Centre for the Study of Global Japan is pleased to announce the appointment of Ambassador Rust Deming as Senior Associate of the Centre. Ambassador Deming was a career public servant in the United States Department of State for nearly four decades. Among many distinguished appointments, he was Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Director of the Office of Japanese Affairs, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy in Japan, and Ambassador to Tunisia.

In 2011, he took on a leadership role in the U.S. response to the Tohoku



Rust Deming, Senior Associate of the Centre for the Study of Global Japan

earthquake and Fukushima nuclear disaster, including the implementation of Operation TOMODACHI. Among numerous accolades and awards, he received the Secretary of State's Career Achievement Award in 2003 and the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays and Neck Ribbon

from the government of Japan in 2014.

Ambassador Deming will enrich the activities of the Centre by contributing his insights, participating in our events, and sharing his expertise with students and affiliates. We are delighted to welcome him to the CSGJ community.

Ryo Kiridori

Ryo Kiridori is a PhD student at the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto, with expertise on international relations and comparative politics. Since 2016, Kiridori has also been a research fellow at the National Institute for Defense Studies, a Tokyo-based think tank affiliated with Japan's Ministry of Defense. Kiridori's research focuses on foreign policy analysis and security studies with a specific examination of the evolution of Japanese defense policy over time. Ryo holds a B.A. in political science from the University of New Brunswick, where he was awarded the

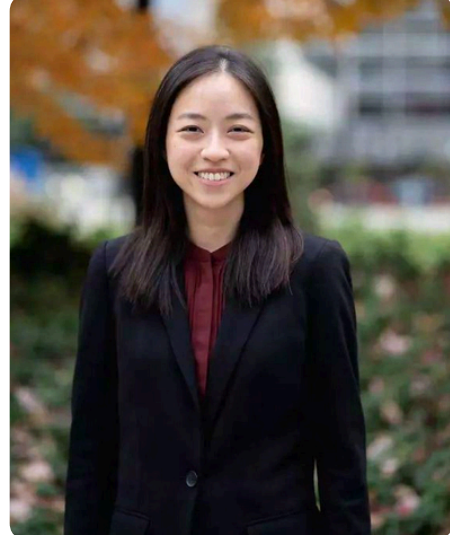


Ryo Kiridori, PhD candidate,
Political Science

Richard B. Hatfield Prize in Political Science, and an MSc in international relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Jiajia Zhou

Jiajia Zhou is a PhD candidate in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto. Zhou's research focuses on clarifying populist threats to democracies through comparative perspectives. Her research is supported by the Japan Foundation, the Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) Association, and the Tan Kah Kee Foundation. She holds an M.A in Regional Studies: East Asia from Columbia University and a B.A. (Hons) in Japanese Studies and Economics from the National University of Singapore. She is currently conducting field work in Japan with an affiliation at the University of Tokyo.



Jiajia Zhou, PhD candidate,
Political Science

Reflections from Our Affiliates

JAPAN AND UN SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM



Phillip Lipsky

Director, Centre for the Study of
Global Japan

Chair in Japanese Politics and
Global Affairs

Professor, Munk School of Global
Affairs & Public Policy

Professor, Department of Political
Science

Permanent membership in the United Nations (UN) Security Council has been a significant diplomatic objective for Japan since it joined the UN in 1956. Japanese policymakers have typically supported Security Council reform proposals that package permanent membership for several countries, such as members of the G4 (Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan). There is a compelling substantive and normative case for Japanese permanent membership, but the diplomatic obstacles remain formidable.

Japanese policymakers have often made the case that their country's weight in the world and long-standing contributions

justify permanent membership. Japan has the third-largest economy and eleventh-largest population in the world, and it consistently ranks among the top international aid donors. Although constitutional constraints have limited its military capabilities, Japan has contributed actively to UN peacekeeping operations since 1992. Recent security policy shifts announced by the government of Prime Minister Fumio Kishida are set to position the nation's Self-Defense Forces among the top global militaries, as measured by defense expenditures.

Attaining a permanent Security Council

“JAPAN HAS THE THIRD-LARGEST ECONOMY AND ELEVENTH-LARGEST POPULATION IN THE WORLD, AND IT CONSISTENTLY RANKS AMONG THE TOP INTERNATIONAL AID DONORS.”



seat also has symbolic importance for Japan. Until its ignominious departure in 1933, Japan had been a permanent member of the Council of the League of Nations. The current composition of the permanent five (P5) Security Council members still mirrors the leading allied powers of World War II, and the UN Charter singles out the defeated Axis powers in anachronistic so-called enemy clauses, though these are widely considered obsolete. It is not unreasonable for Japanese policymakers to feel that change is well overdue after nearly eighty years since the end of World War II, especially in view of Japan’s postwar commitment to multilateralism and global peace.

However, permanent Security Council membership is not simply a matter of status or symbolism. It would also

enable Japan to exert international influence and assume its share of responsibility for matters of global peace. Under the current status quo, Japan can only join the Security Council as a nonpermanent member, and immediate reelection is precluded after a single two-year term. This creates lengthy gaps in Japan’s presence. Although Japan has been elected to the Security Council more frequently than any other UN member, the country is still absent from the organ most of the time. For example, Japan was a rotating member from 2016 to 2017 but was only recently reelected after a gap of five years for a term starting in 2023.

This status quo imposes real costs for Japanese diplomacy. When Japan rotates off the council, it loses influence and

access to critical information that comes from having a seat at the table. A Japanese diplomat once pointed out to me that countries are literally unsubscribed from the Security Council email listserv when they step down. Japanese officials attribute their botched response to the 1991 Persian Gulf War, when Japan was widely criticized for offering too little too late, in part to being shut out of relevant closed-door discussions at the Security Council. More recently, nonmembership has made it difficult for Japan to shape resolutions regarding North Korea, which poses a major security threat to Japan and routinely launches missiles over Japanese airspace with little warning.

The need to periodically campaign for nonpermanent membership also imposes diplomatic costs on Japan. Election requires a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly. Although these votes are often uncontested, successful countries must secure widespread support from well over a hundred UN member states to be viable. Japanese diplomats note that this situation puts their country at a disadvantage amid intensifying geopolitical and geoeconomic competition with China. While Japan must expend precious diplomatic capital every few years just to secure a nonpermanent seat, China can leverage its permanent status and veto power as bargaining chips in support

of its other diplomatic priorities.

Why has Japan failed to obtain a permanent seat thus far? Formal amendments to the UN Charter are difficult, requiring a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly and support from all P5 members. As a practical matter, the former condition implies widespread backing from the Global South, and the latter requires the unanimous consent of China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States—countries often at geopolitical odds with each other.

Furthermore, Japan has no attractive outside options it can use to sidestep the Security Council and increase its bargaining leverage. It has significant influence in international institutions like the Group of Seven (G7) and Asian Development Bank, where its economic weight carries heft, but these are functionally distinct from the Security Council. Japan is not a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which the United States has occasionally used as a second-best solution for international legitimation, as in the 1999 intervention in Kosovo. Finally, potential multilateral alternatives like the Community of Democracies are either nascent or noncredible as alternative vehicles for multilateral

security cooperation.

Perhaps counterintuitively, Japanese diplomats have historically seen the United States as a principal roadblock to its aspirations for a permanent seat. This is not because of direct U.S. opposition—Washington has consistently supported a permanent seat for Japan. Rather, traditional U.S. opposition to a major expansion of the Security Council’s membership—on the grounds that it would hinder the organ’s decisionmaking and effectiveness—has made it impossible to propose the sort of package deal necessary to secure two-thirds support in the General Assembly. In this context, the apparent willingness of U.S. President Joe Biden’s administration to support permanent seats for a wider range of countries, as well as new elected ones,

represents a welcome development for Japanese policymakers.

Unfortunately, the new U.S. attitude does not imply smooth sailing for Japan. Security Council reform today is inevitably intertwined with intensifying geopolitical competition between the United States and its allies on the one hand and Russia and China on the other. As P5 members, the latter two countries can unilaterally veto any reform proposal. Japan has taken a firm stand against Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, which makes Moscow’s support highly unlikely for the foreseeable future. Chinese resistance will be no less formidable. Indeed, Japan’s diplomatic push for Security Council reform in 2005 was met with large protests across China, accompanied by violence and vandalism against Japanese business interests.

“SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM TODAY IS INEVITABLY INTERTWINED WITH INTENSIFYING GEOPOLITICAL COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES ON THE ONE HAND AND RUSSIA AND CHINA ON THE OTHER”



Nonetheless, Security Council reform is not a lost cause. It is conceivable that years of failed reforms, combined with a descent into Cold War–style paralysis in the aftermath of the war in Ukraine, will severely delegitimize the Security Council and facilitate more serious discussion of potential alternative frameworks. The war has already revived the so-called Uniting for Peace Resolution 377A(V), first employed during the Korean War, which empowers the General Assembly to consider matters of peace and security when the council is deadlocked due to lack of consensus among the P5.

Both China and Russia have a stake in maintaining the primacy and legitimacy of the Security Council. Given their P5 status, they stand to lose from the proliferation of alternative institutions in which they exercise less authority. Furthermore, competition among the great powers to curry favor with countries in the Global South has intensified, creating conditions reminiscent of the only successful prior Security Council reform effort of 1965. Under these circumstances, developing credible alternatives for acting outside Security Council auspices—such as through a coalition of democracies that provides an alternative source of international legitimation—should be given serious consideration. Although the G4 countries have traditionally eschewed such alternatives, combining a credible outside

option with a reform proposal popular in the Global South could be the most viable strategy to compel reluctant Chinese and Russian support for Security Council reform.

The success of such a reform effort, provided it results in a significant enlargement, will improve the representativeness, and thus reinforce the legitimacy, of the Security Council. An expanded council will still face significant challenges, of course. The P5 veto will continue to foreclose meaningful action on many major international issues where perceived great power interests are at stake. New permanent members will likely possess no veto power, creating a new form of second-tier status. Nonetheless, Security Council reform is long overdue, and there is no doubt Japan deserves a seat at the table.

This piece was originally published as Phillip Y. Lipsky. 2023. "Japan." In Stewart Patrick ed. UN Security Council Reform: What the World Thinks. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. It is reprinted with permission from the Carnegie Endowment. The full report is available here: <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2023/06/un-security-council-reform-what-the-world-thinks?lang=en>

VISITING NUCLEAR EXPERTS AND PRACTITIONERS IN WASHINGTON DC



Ryo Kiridori

Associate, Centre for the Study of Global Japan

Ph.D. Student, Department of Political Science

As strategic competition among world's great powers becomes prominent, their nuclear forces attract global attention more than ever since the end of the Cold War. The last decade has marked a rapid increase in Chinese nuclear forces both in quality and quantity. Putin's Russia reminded us of the reality that a nuclear power would threaten the use of nuclear weapons in a deadly situation, such as the stagnant war between Russia and Ukraine. In 2019, the United States withdrew from the Cold War-era Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty, condemning Russia of having violated the pact and aiming to counter China's missile capabilities. International politics appears to shift

gradually from cooperation to competition and from arms control to arms race.

It was in this context that I was motivated to participate in the Next Generation of U.S.-Japan Nuclear Policy Experts, a program offered by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and designed for graduate students who are interested in a range of nuclear issues. A series of webinars that entailed pre-assigned reading and lively seminar discussions between guest speakers and program participants undoubtedly deepened my knowledge on the complicated theory and practice of nuclear policy and further sparked my interests in the study of nuclear security. That being said, the

“INTERNATIONAL POLITICS APPEARS TO SHIFT GRADUALLY FROM COOPERATION TO COMPETITION AND FROM ARMS CONTROL TO ARMS RACE.”

highlight of the program was the seven-day travel to Washington DC where we met and discussed with key nuclear experts from think tanks as well as practitioners from the U.S. government.

The program, especially the DC trip, was highly beneficial to me in three ways. First, the travel allowed me to reconfirm the importance of Japan’s role in global nuclear issues, whether deterrence or non-proliferation. In discussions with defense experts and policymakers, I learned that Japan’s recent defense buildup is considered to help ease the burden of its ally, the United States, and contributes to reinforce the Alliance’s deterrence architecture, both conventional and nuclear. Although its strategic weight



Next Generation of U.S.-Japan Nuclear Policy Experts program.

is admittedly leaning toward deterrence, Japan, as the world’s only atomic-bombed nation, continues to play active role in areas of nuclear non-proliferation, such as supporting international export control regime and frameworks, spreading non-proliferation education, and leading initiatives and action plans to achieve a nuclear free world. These efforts are seen, particularly in agencies like the State Department and the Department of Energy, to be crucial for reinforcing the wider international efforts to counter and control nuclear proliferation.

Second, different visits provided different insights, which broadened my understanding of global nuclear issues. One of the greatest lessons I personally learned throughout the program was

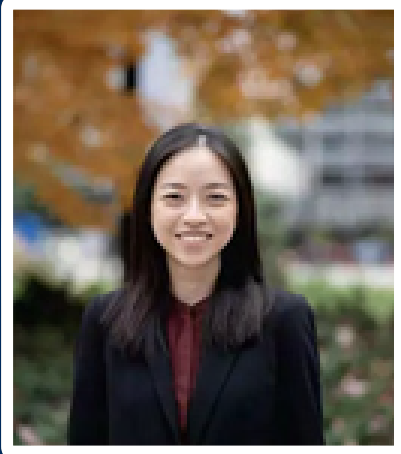
that pursuits of non-proliferation and deterrence can sometimes be conflictual. That the United States has prioritized strategic competition with China and Russia means that resources to address other global risks including those of proliferation will decline, given the limited federal budget. Some officials shared their interesting experience over the last decades: governmental investments in non-proliferation programs dramatically increased after the 9.11, but those investments became stagnant as the White House shifts its focus from the global war on terror to great power competition. With cooperation with China and Russia being crucial for non-proliferation, balancing competition and cooperation is the challenge not only for the United States but also for any other countries that possess global interests, including Japan.

Lastly, the program provided me with the opportunity to expand personal network with other participants with whom I share the same interests. I learned from conversations with them as much as I did from interactions with experts and practitioners. With a variety of background areas, such as

academic policy, journalism, and business, they provided diverse perspectives on nuclear issues. The intensive seven-day training in DC helped closely connected all the participants. We have been staying in touch to discuss our research projects and exchange ideas and feedback, even after the end of the program. I expect to work more with them in the future as our career develops further.

The Washington trip was a great opportunity not just for solidifying a knowledge base for nuclear policy but also for strengthening ties with other participants. This program was exceptionally well-organized by the program director Dr. Sayuri Romei and the program manager Ms. Peyton Goodman, for whom I am deeply grateful. Without their hard work to plan and arrange the program, I could not have had such a meaningful experience. I am also thankful for my supervisor, Professor Phillip Lipsky, who introduced me to the program and encouraged me to expand personal networks.

EXPERIENCES IN CONDUCTING FIELDWORK IN TOKYO, JAPAN



Jiajia Zhou

Associate, Centre for the Study of
Global Japan

Ph.D. Candidate, Department of
Political Science

On January 1, 2024, I arrived in Japan to begin my fieldwork, roughly a decade since my initial foray into Japanese studies as an undergraduate. I touched down in Tokyo shortly after the Noto earthquake and before the plane collision at Haneda airport. A few days later, I reached out to an organization I had volunteered with during the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake. There was little activity. Volunteers were helping to plan for mid-term and long-term response instead of immediate aid to the region. Among those I knew to be involved with volunteer coordination, there was noticeable discord. Most would agree on the unique constraints this time around, but there was little agreement on the tepid response. More than that,

the silence was great.

Many things feel different from the last time I was in Japan. I was meeting friends who spoke of their remote work experiences, mothers whose remote work enabled them to easily shuttle their children to and from nearby childcare, and hearing about “flex-time” work arrangements. But trying to feel the pulse of a people from one’s immediate circle is never quite reliable, akin to a blind man feeling out the elephant.

While the actual fieldwork aspires to be otherwise, the reality involves some clumsy adventures. After one of my interviews with a retired politician in a



Public speech rally by the political party, Sanseitō, during the Saitama prefecture's Yoshikawa City assembly election.

city of population around 50,000, my interviewee's wife mentioned that their close friend was a retired mayor in a neighboring city and that I should talk to him. She rang him up immediately and got me on the next train to meet him an hour later, on a rainy Sunday afternoon. "Just tell the taxi driver that you're visiting the office of the recently elected prefectural assembly member located at 89 [omitted street name]," the retired mayor's wife advised me over the phone. Their daughter had just been elected to the prefectural assembly, and their son to the municipal assembly. The taxi driver was not familiar with the newly elected official, but the moment he heard the retired mayor's name, he said he knew the way. He dropped me off at the retired mayor's residence instead—

"BUT TRYING TO FEEL THE PULSE OF A PEOPLE FROM ONE'S IMMEDIATE CIRCLE IS NEVER QUITE RELIABLE, AKIN TO A BLIND MAN FEELING OUT THE ELEPHANT."

hankfully only a few blocks away from where I needed to be.

This fieldwork marks a major milestone in the culmination of my PhD research, but a part of me hopes that this is but the beginning of a long journey. I am grateful to the Centre for funding my travels to present at conferences, as well as to my advisor and mentor, Professor Phillip Lipsky, for his support. I am also grateful to Professor Kenneth Mori McElwain for hosting me at the University of Tokyo. This fieldwork has received support from the Japan Foundation and the Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) Association.

The Hachioji Higashi High School Learning Trip

On March 26th, 2024, the Centre for the Study of Global Japan (CSGJ) and University of Toronto Schools (UTS) hosted students from Hachioji Higashi School from Tokyo, Japan, for an exchange and mentorship workshop for the second year in a row.

The event began with refreshments and time to get to know one another. Student Affiliate mentors from CSGJ mingled with the Hachioji Higashi students and UTS student volunteers. The event formally commenced with a series of introductions. Garth Chalmers, vice-principal of University of Toronto Schools, welcomed the Hachioji Higashi students and introduced the history of how UTS came to be. Following was Mr. Masahiro Matsui, the Consul General of Japan, who expressed his gratitude and excitement for the event. Finally, Sophie Bourret-Klein, program coordinator of CSGJ, greeted the students and provided some insight into the work of the Centre and the history of the mentorship event.

Following the introductions was a group activity where mentors from CSGJ, volunteer students from UTS, and Higashi



Hachioji Higashi Students participating in activity with UTS and CSGJ students

Hachioji students answered a series of prompts to get to know one another better. Students learned about the differences between high school and university life, what an average school day is like in Japan and Canada, favorite areas of Toronto, and future goals. Despite the many differences between schools in Canada and Japan, students still bonded over similarities such as waking up late for school, favorite extracurricular activities, and excitement for the future.

After the group activity, UTS volunteers took CSGJ mentors and Hachioji Higashi students on a tour around the UTS building. Students toured the library, gym, auditorium, art rooms, and robotics room. Everyone then reconvened in the multipurpose room to exchange contact information to maintain connections with their mentors and say their goodbyes. Students from UTS and CSGJ gave Hachioji Higashi students some souvenirs to remember their experience in Toronto. Hachioji Higashi students distributed an English newspaper that they made in Japan featuring some fascinating stories on Japanese culture along with some Japanese snacks.

Students learned from each other and from the mentors through this cross-cultural experience, forging long-lasting connections. We would like to thank



Newspaper and activity completed by the Hachioji Higashi High School Students

Hachioji Higashi High School for their participation in the mentorship program and University of Toronto Schools for hosting the event.

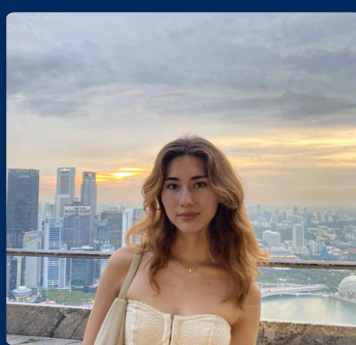


CSGJ STUDENT AFFILIATES

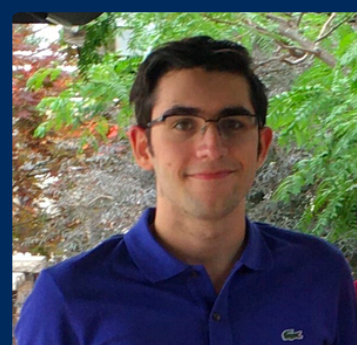
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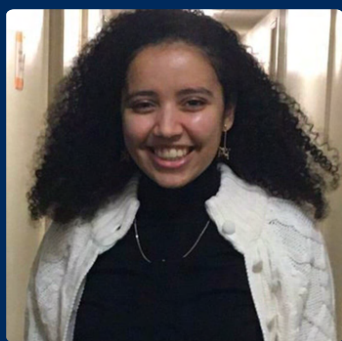
Izumi Ando



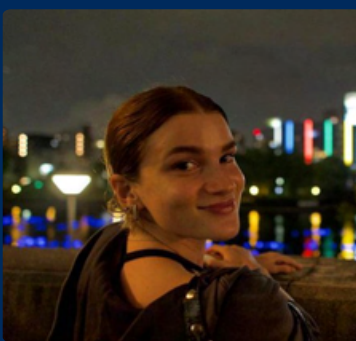
Sakura Armstrong



Nicholas Arruda



Reem Baghdady



Emma Beserman



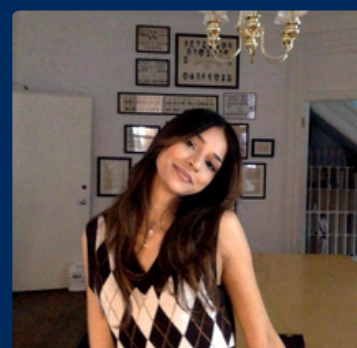
Chris Coates



David Daigneault



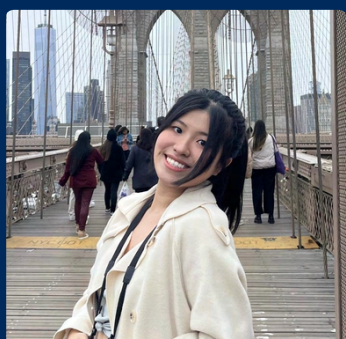
Adley Ho



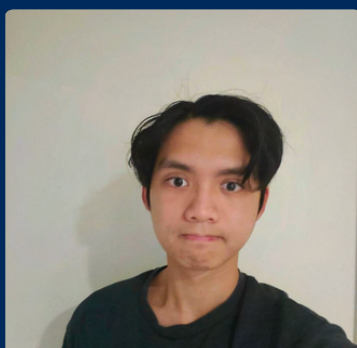
Suha Kazmi

CSGJ STUDENT AFFILIATES

2023-2024



Charlotte Lo



Young Luk



Jackie Pang



Jared Ren



Gary Tetreault



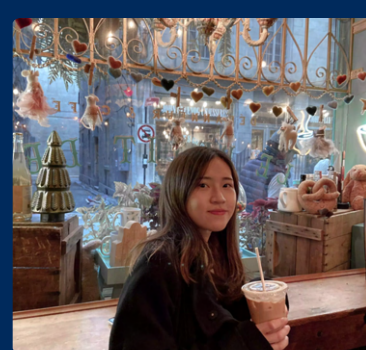
Jonathan Wang



Tom Whalen



Thomas Yue



Elva Tsz Pui Yung

STUDENT AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT

THOMAS YUE

I had the privilege to engage in the Centre for the Study of Global Japan's events for two consecutive years from 2022-2024. Last year, I joined the Centre as a student affiliate out of pure curiosity and interest in Japan. Today, I have discovered that the two-year journey with the Centre to be far more rewarding than I expected.

Guided by the Centre's director, Phillip Lipsky, and the Program Coordinator Sophie Bourret-Klein, I had the opportunity further to support the Centre's projects and daily operations. I was fortunate to participate in projects like drafting the annual newsletter, designing social media posts, as well as planning and executing academic events.

One of the most valuable experiences that I had with the Centre was participating in the "Overcoming Challenges to a Peaceful and Prosperous International Order: A Proactive Role for G7" conference in November 2023. Unlike other academic seminars, the conference had three sessions and lasted the entire afternoon. I had the chance to connect with scholars coming from institutions within and outside Toronto, and the scholars had substantial knowledge of Japan and Canada. The conference was divided into sessions focused on security, economy, and societal transformation, and experts from each sector



Thomas Yue

B.A. '24. Contemporary Asian Studies and History

Why did you join the Student Affiliate Program?

"I wanted to join CSGJ because Japan has very special modernisation experiences, and I am passionate about the culture and history that it has. I am looking forward to attending CSGJ events!"

Fun Fact About Me:

I don't know how to ride a bicycle.



“ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE EXPERIENCES THAT I HAD WITH THE CENTRE WAS PARTICIPATING IN THE “OVERCOMING CHALLENGES TO A PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS INTERNATIONAL ORDER: A PROACTIVE ROLE FOR G7” CONFERENCE”

had an hour to share their insights. The whole conference was a valuable opportunity to study how scholars from different sectors engage their expertise in future global peace-making.

The G7 conference was only part of my fruitful journey in the Centre. I wrote event reports for every academic event I attended and I had the chance to attend seminars about the diplomatic, educational, and even anthropological side of Japan. Overall I gained a comprehensive understanding of Japan from the grassroots to broader geopolitical influences. I was invited to conferences partnered with the Rotman School of Management, the Centre for Global Social Policy, and the Initiative for Educational Policy and Innovation. However, there was also a more ‘chill’

side to being involved in the Centre! For example, I volunteered to organize cultural exchanges with visiting Japanese high school students and participated in lunch socials with fellow student affiliates. Without the support and encouragement from the Centre, I would have never been exposed to such a diverse array of academic and social activities.

My affiliation with the Centre for the Study of Global Japan not only immersed me in rigorous intellectual discussions, but also trained me to become a future professional in communications. I am particularly grateful to Professor Phillip Y. Lipsky, staff, and fellow student affiliates in the Centre, who share the same passion and interest in Japan.

STUDENT AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT

JARED REN

In 2023, my participation in the Kakehashi program reignited my passion for studying global Japan. Discovering the Centre of Studies of Global Japan, I eagerly joined, excited about the opportunities and experiences it promised. My anticipation was well-founded.

The past year at the Centre of Studies of Global Japan has been an enlightening journey, marked by a series of intellectually stimulating seminars and presentations. As a student affiliate, I had the privilege of attending several key presentations that not only expanded my understanding of various academic and policy issues but also deepened my appreciation for the complexities and nuances of global Japan studies.

Two presentations that stood out to me the most were Professor Kazuaki Iwabuchi's "Nationalistic Internationalization in Japan's Education System" and Professor Guibourg Delamotte's "Japan's Discreet Leadership in International Relations."

Professor Iwabuchi's presentation on Japan's education reform was another highlight. The concept of 'Global Human Resources' and the paradox of nationalistic internationalization provided a fascinating



Jared Ren

B.A. '24. East Asian Studies and Sociology

Why did you join the Student Affiliate Program?

"My interest in Japanese culture and politics has led me to enriching experiences learning about Japan and the world that it is connected to. As a student affiliate, I hope to not only continue to build my expertise in Japan but also disseminate my own experience and knowledge to the student body and beyond."

Fun Fact About Me:

I have done an exchange semester at the University of Tokyo and I am a Kakehashi alumni!

lens through which to examine Japan's efforts to adapt its education system to global demands. Not only did the presentation shed light on the intricate interactions between the Cabinet, Ministry of Education, and business actors in driving these reforms, it also provided analysis of the policy process and the response of teachers to these imperatives revealed the complexities of implementing internationalization measures within a traditionally nationalistic framework. For me, this session was particularly thought-provoking as it highlighted the delicate balance required to modernize education while preserving national identity and values. The insights gained from this seminar will undoubtedly influence my perspective on educational policies and internationalization efforts in Japan and beyond.

Finally, Professor Delamotte's seminar on Japan's discreet leadership in international relations underlined the country's strategic positioning in the Indo-Pacific region. The discussion of Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) vision and its defense diplomacy initiatives was particularly relevant in the current geopolitical climate. The seminar provided a nuanced understanding of how Japan navigates its international relations, balancing its regional aspirations with

global challenges. Personally, the analysis of Japan's response to the war in Ukraine and its economic security concerns vis-à-vis China was particularly illuminating. This session enriched my understanding of Japan's foreign policy strategies and its role as a discreet yet influential leader on the global stage.

Reflecting on my experiences over the past year, I am deeply appreciative of the opportunities provided by the Centre of Studies of Global Japan. Each event not only broadened my academic horizons but also deepened my understanding of Japan's complex global interactions. The knowledge and insights I've gained will significantly influence my future studies and career. This journey has been transformative, reinforcing my passion for global Japan studies and inspiring me to continue exploring this fascinating field. I am excited to carry forward the rich learnings and experiences as I progress in my academic and professional journey.

STUDENT AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT

YOUNG LUK

Being a part of the CSGJ student affiliate program as an undergraduate student studying in political science, urban studies, and anthropology was a very rewarding experience. With speakers and discussions at these events focused on the Japan and Asia-Pacific region, I had the opportunity to reflect on my existing understandings of different policy issues, whether that be democracy, climate change, and demographic shifts, and consider how perspectives on and experiences of these issues in the region compare to what I have learned in my courses.

As a fourth-year student about to graduate, being part of this program has been important to understanding my own interests for my future career path. Speaking with professors and actors in the field, and building connections with my fellow student affiliates at the CSGJ program who each have their own experiences and are in different stages of their academic and career paths, have been critical and meaningful experiences for my own self-reflection. These experiences and discussions have helped me in my decision to move forward and attend the Master of Public Policy program at Munk School.



Young Luk

B.A. '24. Urban Studies and Political Science

Why did you join the Student Affiliate Program?

I've been interested in comparative politics since coming to UofT, and have always been interested in East Asian and Japanese politics. I hope that, as a CSGJ student affiliate, I can further develop these interests.

STUDENT AFFILIATE REFLECTION

DAVID DAIGNEAULT

“JAPAN: A DISCREET LEADER IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS”

Attending Professor Delamotte's seminar on Japan's strategic endeavors in the Indo-Pacific region proved to be an enlightening experience, offering a comprehensive overview of Japan's evolving role in global security dynamics. Delamotte's analysis shed light on Japan's proactive stance in assuming defense leadership, notably through initiatives like the Free and Open Pacific Concept (FOIP), the Quad, AUKUS, and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), alongside bilateral agreements with key allies.

One key takeaway from the seminar was the concept of 'security diplomacy' introduced by Prime Minister Abe. Delamotte effectively showcased how Japan, under Abe's leadership, strategically integrated security dimensions into its diplomatic engagements with major powers, thereby elevating its standing among important allies. This shift in approach has not only strengthened Japan's ties with the United States but also fostered closer relationships with allies like Australia, the United Kingdom, and France.

Furthermore, Delamotte's analysis underscored Japan's pivotal role in



David Daigneault

4th Year Student in Peace, Conflict, and Justice, International Relations, and Economics

Why did you join the Student Affiliate Program?

"I have a keen interest in the Asia-Pacific, specifically looking at the intersectionality of economic development and security studies. Being from Hong Kong has deepened my interest in foreign relations in the region, especially Japanese foreign policy and Sino-Japanese relations."

Fun Fact About Me:

I have a cat named Monsoon

“DELAMOTTE'S PRESENTATION PROVIDED VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO JAPAN'S STRATEGIC CALCULUS AND ITS EFFORTS TO NAVIGATE THE COMPLEX GEOPOLITICAL DYNAMICS OF THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION”

spearheading initiatives like FOIP, which have catalyzed the adoption of Indo-Pacific strategies by other nations. The seminar highlighted Japan's robust relationship with the US, emphasizing its resilience amidst changes in US leadership. Additionally, the proactive engagement in the CPTPP and participation in alliances like the Quad and AUKUS further underscore Japan's commitment to shaping the security landscape in the Indo-Pacific.

Delamotte's presentation provided valuable insights into Japan's strategic calculus and its efforts to navigate the complex geopolitical dynamics of the



Indo-Pacific region. It underscored the significance of proactive and robust security diplomacy initiatives in advancing Japan's interests and contributing to regional stability. This seminar has not only deepened my understanding of Japan's strategic priorities but also highlighted the importance of ongoing diplomatic efforts in shaping the future of global security.

STUDENT AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT

REEM BAGHDADY

It has been an honour to be a student affiliate for the Centre for the Study of Global Japan for this past academic year. As someone who has been involved in Japanese language and cultural events and centers for my whole life, I have found that same community here within the Munk School, in the form of CSGJ. Complementing my studies of political science, the academic events that I've had the pleasure to attend as an affiliate regarding Japanese politics have been truly enlightening and stimulating to learn from. Similarly, the social events and time spent with fellow affiliates, eating Japanese snacks and making origami together, have left lasting memories.

My favourite event held by the Centre, which I participated in last year as well, is the visitation and mentorship event we hold for the high school students from Hachioji Higashi. It is a pleasure to get to know the students, learn a little bit more about their life in Japan, and show them what our life is like here at the University of Toronto. This year, we collaborated with University of Toronto Schools, wherein Canadian high school students from UTS shared more about their high school lives and gave us a tour around



Reem Baghdady

5th Year Student in Psychology and Political Science

Why did you join the Student Affiliate Program?

"From a young age I have always appreciated Japanese culture and language, and I involved myself in Japanese speech competitions, language meetings, and generally involved myself in the Japanese community where I lived. At UofT, I decided to take on political science as one of my majors, and the Centre for the Study of Global Japan is an intersection of my passion for Japan and political science. My work as an executive member and leader of the University of Toronto Japan Association brought me to get to know the Centre better and the people involved, and I am very happy to be a student affiliate!"

Fun Fact About Me:

I'm from Egypt but grew up in Qatar.

their school. This was an undoubtedly fun and exciting experience for the Hachioji Higashi students, and for us mentors too to get to know them better.

Finally, I am honoured to be the recipient of the Centre for the Study of Global Japan's Student Excellence Award for Student Affiliates this year

I have made a lot of memories this year and look forward to making more with the Centre next year, and even beyond as an alumnus. I am so grateful to have had access to events within the Centre thanks to the student affiliate program, and being a part of this growing yet tight-knit community.

BECOME A STUDENT AFFILIATE AT THE CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL JAPAN!



Qualifications:

- Current U of T student (undergraduate & graduate)
- Commit to attending at least two CSGJ events per academic year
- Demonstrated interest or experience related to Japan (this can be through Japan-related coursework, time spent in Japan, or a brief written statement explaining plans to engage with Japan)

Benefits:

- Attend Invitation-Only Events
- Be Featured on the CSGJ Website and Social Media
- Lead future student initiatives related to the Centre
- Submit written reflections to be published on the CSGJ website
- Earn a Co-Curricular Record (CCR) Credit for your participation



2023-2024 CSGJ STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD



Reem Baghdady, a rising fifth-year student majoring in Psychology and Political Science, joined as a student affiliate during the 2023-2024 academic year.



Jared Ren, who recently graduated with a Bachelor's degree in East Asian Studies and Sociology, joined as an affiliate during the 2023-2024 academic year.

The Centre for the Study of Global Japan (CSGJ) is thrilled to announce Reem Baghdady and Jared Ren as the recipients of the 2023-2024 Student Excellence Award. Winners were chosen based on their active engagement with Centre activities, including attendance at events, community-building, and involvement in volunteer activities. Student affiliates are integral members of the CSGJ community, and the award recognizes particularly proactive students for their contributions during the academic year.

Congratulations to Reem and Jared for the well-deserved award! We look forward to seeing our student affiliate community continue to grow and foster life-long engagement with Japan.

DEANNA HORTON

Horton, Deanna, and Nicholas Bouchard. 2023. "Two Three-Ocean Countries in the 21st Century: Canada, the United States, the Indo-Pacific and the Arctic." *Thinking Canada* 2 (2): 1-8.

Horton, Deanna. 2023. "Despite strained Indian ties, Canada must stay the course on Indo-Pacific strategy" *The Globe and Mail*. 9/22/2023.

RIE KIJIMA

Kijima, R., & Lipsy, P. Y. (2024). The politics of international testing. *The Review of International Organizations*, 19(1), 1-31.

Kijima, R., & Lipsy, P. Y. (2023). Competition and regime complex architecture: Authority relations and differentiation in international education. *Review of International Political Economy*, 30(6), 2150-2177.

Classen, J., Vea, T., Kijima, R., Yang-Yoshihara, M., & Ariga, S. (2023). Interactional role negotiation among co-facilitators in an online design workshop. *Classroom Discourse*, 1-19.

PHILLIP LIPSCY

Rie Kijima and Phillip Y. Lipsky. 2024. "The Politics of International Testing." *The Review of International Organizations*. 19: 1-31.

Rie Kijima and Phillip Y. Lipsky. 2023. "Competition and Regime Complex Architecture: Authority Relations and Differentiation in International Education." *Review of International Political Economy*. 30 (6): 2150-2177.

Phillip Y. Lipsky and Pinar Temocin. 2023. "Can Japan Be a Climate Change Leader?" *The Diplomat*. October 1.

Phillip Y. Lipsky. 2023. "Japan as the Future: The Harbinger's Curse." *Tokyo Review*. July 25.

Phillip Y. Lipsky. 2023. "Japan." In Stewart Patrick ed., *UN Security Council Reform: What the World Thinks*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. June 28.

"The US-Japan Partnership in the 21st Century: Current and Future Policy Challenges," Georgetown University (School of Foreign Service), 4/19/2024.

"The Resurgence of Japan in a Shifting International Order," Stanford University (Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center), 4/5/2024.

“U.S.-Japan Climate Collaboration,” World Affairs Council Pittsburgh and Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania, 3/21/2024.

“Economic Statecraft and Security in the Indo-Pacific: Views from Japan, US, and Southeast Asia,” Japan Society Boston, 2/9/2024.

“Institutional Racism in International Relations,” Princeton University (The Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance and Global Japan Lab), 2/8/2024.

“Japan’s Free and Open Indo-Pacific Vision,” Japan Studies Association of Canada, 9/30/2023.

“The Political Economy of Energy Security and Climate Change Response: Korea and Japan in Global Perspective,” Harvard University (Weatherhead Program on U.S.-Japan Relations), 9/18/2023.

MARK MANGER

Gavin, Michael, and Mark S. Manger. 2023. “Populism and de Facto Central Bank Independence.” *Comparative Political Studies* 56 (8): 1189–1223. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00104140221139513>.

LOUIS PAULY

“Beyond self-reliance in a world of global risks and deepening uncertainty,” chapter in Economic, technological, and security challenges and the political foundations of international order, edited by Chul Chung, Bernard Hoekman, and Yves Tiberghien, Canberra: Australian National University Press, forthcoming.

“The Politics of Global Financial Stability,” chapter in Global Political Economy, Seventh Edition, edited by Erin Hannah and John Ravenhill, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2024, pp. 207-230.

“Stress and Adaptation in Hong Kong’s Financial Markets,” Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, April 4, 2024.

“Insuring cross-border risks in commercial nuclear energy production,” Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, April 3, 2024.

CONTACT US

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