



14th Europe-Japan Forum

Charting New Paths: Europe and Japan in an Evolving Global Landscape

Institut Aspen France,
9 Avenue Franklin D. Roosevelt, 75008 Paris

Program:

Tuesday, July 8th, 2025

20:30 Opening Dinner

Keynote Address

Laurent Saint-Martin, Minister Delegate to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, in charge of Foreign Trade and French Nationals Abroad

Wednesday, July 9th, 2025

09:30-10:00 Registration – Breakfast/Coffee

10:00-10:15 Welcome Remarks & Introduction

Anne-Gabrielle Heilbronner, President, Institut Aspen France
Masakazu Toyoda, Chairman and CEO, Japan Economic Foundation

10:15-10:30 Keynote introduction

H.E. Makita Shimokawa, Ambassador of Japan to France

10:30-12:00 Session 1: Climate change and energy security during the Trump Administration

- Analyze the challenges posed by the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and explore how France and Japan can strengthen their cooperation on Climate change and Energy transition to drive sustainable and cost-effective solutions

Moderator: Philippe Manière, Vice President, Institut Aspen France

Speakers:

Denis Ferrand, Executive General Manager, Rexecode

Yukari Yamashita, Managing Director, Institute of Energy Economics, Japan

Katsuji Sugimori, Executive Officer, Chubu Electric Power Co.

Guiding questions:

- Will countries like France and Japan face economic setbacks due to the U.S withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, particularly in terms of reduced investment, slowed innovation, and diminished progress in the energy sector, as the U.S advances unrestricted in its projects?
- How can countries respecting the Paris Agreement stay competitive and attract businesses despite the US withdrawal, without losing their legitimacy in global climate leadership?

12:00-13:15 **Lunch**

13:15-14:45 **Session 2: Demography growth in an aging society**

- Examine how both Europe and Japan are facing aging populations, and how they can learn from each other's approaches. Japan's innovations in elder care and workforce integration complement Europe's social welfare and immigration strategies. Cooperation can help develop sustainable models for economic and social stability

Moderator: Philippe Manière, Vice President, Institut Aspen France

Speakers:

Sophie Boissard, CEO, KORIAN

Maxime Sbaihi, Economist, Expert in Demography

Hiroaki Miyamoto, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University/ Chief Economist, Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Finance

Guiding questions:

- Could a widening generational gap lead to long-term challenges in social and economic cohesion, potentially affecting governance, labor markets and intergenerational solidarity?
- What role does technology like Japanese robotics play in supporting aging societies, and how can Europe and Japan share progress in this field?
- How do Japan's community-based aging solutions, such as intergenerational housing and senior employment programs, compare to Europe's reliance on immigration to sustain its workforce?

14:45-15:00 **Coffee Break**

15:00-16:30 **Session 3: Enhancing rules-based global trade amidst the rise of Imperialism**

- Examine the impact of rising imperialist influences on global trade governance, particularly within the WTO, and discuss strategies for strengthening a fair and rules-based international trade system. Assess how to counter protectionist and hegemonic trade practices that challenge multilateral agreements while reinforcing economic and stability

Moderator: Naoyuki Haraoka, Executive Managing Director, Japan Economic Foundation
Speakers:

Louis Schweitzer, Special Representative of the French Foreign Affairs Minister for Japan
Alexandre Imbert, Legal & Public Affairs Manager, Martell Mumm Perrier-Jouët, Pernod Ricard Group
Dr. Akihiko Tamura, Director General, JETRO Paris

Guiding questions:

- How can Japan's regional expertise and understanding of Indo-Pacific help Western countries navigate the new economic challenges posed by China?

- Can France and Japan respond to WTO trade regulations while safeguarding their economic interests against rising protectionism and imperialism?
- To what extent do power dynamics within the WTO and the necessity for compromise shape international trade, potentially limiting the influence of countries like France and Japan?

16:30-16:50 **Closing remarks**

Anne-Gabrielle Heilbronner, President, Institut Aspen France

Masakazu Toyoda, Chairman and CEO, Japan Economic Foundation

16:50-17:30 **Cocktail Reception**