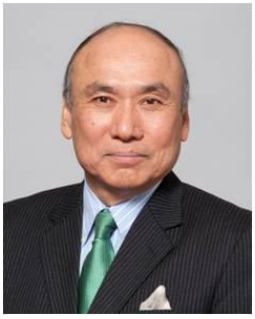
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JEF Japan Economic Foundation

Biographies



Hideichi Okada

Chairman and CEO, Japan Economic Foundation (JEF)

Hideichi Okada has served as Chairman & CEO of Japan Economic Foundation (JEF) since June 2026, following his tenure as an Advisor from April 2024.

Before he joined JEF, Okada was Special Advisor, Japan Petroleum Exploration Co., Ltd. (JAPEX) from 2019 to 2024 after he served for JAPEX as President & CEO from 2016 to 2019.

Okada was Senior Executive Vice President in NEC Corporation responsible for its global business strategy from 2014 to 2016, and Senior Advisor in NTT Data Institute of Management and Consulting from 2013 to 2014.
He served as Vice Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Government of Japan, from 2010 to 2012. In that capacity, he promoted international trade and investment, including negotiations of major free trade agreements. He also served as Director General of Trade Policy Bureau (2008-2010) and Director General of Commerce and Information Policy Bureau in METI (2007-2008).

Prior to assuming these positions, he worked for Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi as his Executive Assistant, where he dealt with policies on economy, industry, energy, science and technology, and environment, and with public relations (2001-2006).

From September 2013 to March 2014, he was Sasakawa Peace Fellow at the Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University, and took initiative to promote Japan-U.S. cooperation on energy. In March 2014, he was a Pacific Leadership Fellow at UC San Diego. He was a Professor at National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) (2006-2007) and a Visiting Scholar at Harvard Law School and the School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, University of California, San Diego in 2007.

Okada was born in Tokyo in 1951. He received a LL.M. degree from Harvard Law School (1981) and graduated from the University of Tokyo with LL.Bs. (1975, 1976).



Naoyuki Haraoka

Advisor, Japan Economic Foundation (JEF)

Mr. Naoyuki Haraoka has served as Executive Managing Director of the Japan Economic Foundation (JEF) since 2007 and became an advisor in June 2026. After graduating the University of Tokyo in 1978 (Bachelor of Economics), he joined MITI (Ministry of International Trade and Industry) of Japanese government.

Having been posted in the industrial policy section and the international trade policy section for a few years, he was enrolled in a two year MPA (Master of Public Administration) programme at Woodraw Wilson School of Princeton University in the US on a Japanese government sponsorship. After having acquired MPA at Princeton, he rejoined MITI in 1984 as an economist. Since then he had been posted as Deputy Director and Director of a number of MITI divisions including Research Division of International Trade Policy Bureau. He was also posted in Paris twice, firstly, Principal Economist of Trade Bureau of OECD (Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development) from 1988 to 92 and secondly Counselor to Japanese Delegation of OECD from 1996 to 99. After coming back to MITI from his second stay in Paris, at the occasion of the government structural reform in 2001 when MITI was remodeled as METI (Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry) he joined the efforts to found METI research institute, Research Institute of Economy Trade and Industry as its Director of Administration. He became Chief Executive Director of JETRO San Francisco in 2003 and stayed in San Francisco until 2006. He was Director-General of METI Training Institute from 2006 until July, 2007 when he left METI permanently.



Sumiko Takeuchi

Senior Fellow/Member, Board of Directors, International Environment and Economy Institute; Specially Appointed Professor, Tohoku University; Co-founder/Co-President, U3 Innovations, LLC

Ms. Takeuchi graduated from Keio University's Faculty of Law and joined TEPCO in 1994. She had been engaged in Oze National Park nature preservation for over 15 years and was involved in international negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

After leaving TEPCO at the end of 2011, she became an independent researcher on energy and environmental policy. She received her PhD in March 2022 from the University of Tokyo's Graduate

School of Engineering. She works for several thinktanks and universities and served on government committees including the Japan's Growth Strategy Council and the GX (Green Transformation) Implementation Council chaired by the Prime Minister.

Ms. Takeuchi founded U3 Innovations LLP in October 2018 and continues to pursue initiatives as President to connect a broad range of industries and companies to ensure that Japan has an abundant supply of sustainable energy by 2050.

She wrote many books such as “20 Tips for Protecting Everyone‘s Nature”, “The truth of energy policies", “Is the nuclear power plant ”safe“? –A report on the Fukushima nuclear accident written by one single researcher”, "Energy industries in 2050 – The game change to Utility 3.0", “Energy Industries’ Strategy toward 2030 -Implementing Utility 3.0 (Nihon Keizai Shimbun Publishing)”. The latest was published at the end of 2022, “Energy Policy Collapse - The Energy Defeat of a Nation without Strategy”.



Ryo Sahashi

Professor of International Politics, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, The University of Tokyo

Ryo Sahashi is Professor of International Relations at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo. His research focuses on U.S.–China relations, East Asian international relations, and international order. He received his Ph.D. from the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, the University of Tokyo.

He serves on government advisory bodies, including the Council on the Use of Real Estate and the Advisory Board for Promoting Science and Technology Diplomacy. He is also an Executive Visiting Fellow at the Keidanren Policy Research Institute, a non-resident scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and Japan's representative on the ASEAN Regional Forum Register of Experts and Eminent Persons. He serves on the boards of the Japan Center for International Exchange and the National Bureau of Asian Research. He has been a visiting scholar at Stanford University, the Wilson Center, and Seoul National University.

His publications include *In a Search for Coexistence: The United States and Two Chinas During the Cold War* (2015) and *US–China Rivalry: A Shift of American Strategy and Divided Worlds* (2021). He has also edited the English-language book *Asia Rising* (2024) and *America Under Trump* (2025). His research has appeared in leading journals, notably *Pacific Affairs*.



Yukari Yamashita

Senior Adviser for Research, Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ)

Yukari Yamashita became Senior Adviser in June 2026. She joined the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) in 1985 and has served as a Managing Director, in Charge of the Energy Data and Modelling Center (EDMC) for the last 15 years. EDMC is responsible for quantitative and qualitative analyses on energy policy issues. Her team's analyses and recommendations contribute greatly to debates surrounding policy making either in Japan or by international communities such as ERIA, APEC and IEA. The annual IEEJ's Energy Outlook is globally recognized for its timely analyses and pragmatic approach towards climate change.

Until very recently, she has been serving as a member of various government councils and committees in the fields of energy and science & technologies. Her latest contributions include participation to the policy discussions of the Nuclear Energy Subcommittee. She continues to be an active advisor and member of a few science and technologies committees. In academic area, she has been a visiting professor at Kyushu University and a Council member of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) for 2015-22 for which. she was President in 2020.

Her favorite hobby of gardening is closely followed by pastimes such as long walks within Kamakura or regular weekend BBQs with her lovely French-Canadian husband. She pays close attention to events and news on her fast-growing 5 grandchildren. It adds colors to her life.



Mitsuhiro NISHIDA

Director, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) NY

Mr. Mitsuhiro Nishida is the Special Advisor for the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) in Japan. He is also the Director of Industrial Research at the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) New York Office. He is a senior METI representative in the U.S., covering economic, trade, and technology policies.

Prior to this post, he was engaged in energy and environmental policy from 2020 to 2025, where he played a key role in promoting Japan's nuclear energy policy and launching its

carbon pricing mechanism. From 2011 to 2013, he also worked on supporting evacuees from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident.

Mr. Nishida joined METI in 2003 after earning a Master of Laws from Kyoto University. He also holds a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). He currently resides in New York.

Work Experience:

2003 – Joined the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

2011 – Cabinet Office, Nuclear Disaster Victims' Life Support Team

2013 – Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, Mineral Resources Division

2015 – Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, Finance Division

2016 – Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, General Policy Division (Special Accounts)

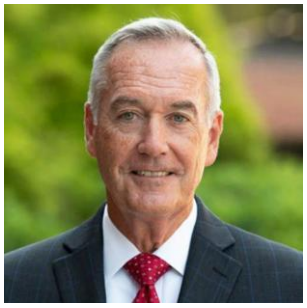
2018 – Minister's Secretariat, General Affairs Division

July 2020 – Director, Strategic Planning Office, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy

July 2023 – Director, GX Investment Promotion Office, Industrial Science and Environment Bureau

July 2024 – Director, GX Investment Promotion Division, GX Group

July 2025 – Present – Director, JETRO New York Office



Joseph F. Dunford Jr.

Chief Executive Officer, CSIS

General Joe Dunford serves as the CEO of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. He previously served as the 19th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation's highest-ranking military officer. In this role, he was the principal military adviser to the president, secretary of defense, and National Security Council from 2015 to 2019.

While on active duty, he served as an infantry officer at all levels, to include commanding the 5th Marine Regiment during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He served as the 36th commandant of the Marine Corps, the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, and commander of all U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan.

He is a graduate of Boston College High School and Saint Michael's College. He also earned master's degrees in government from Georgetown University and in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

He currently serves as chairman of the board for the Semper Fi & America's Fund, which supports wounded, ill, and injured active-duty personnel and veterans from all services. He is a partner at Liberty Strategic Capital and serves as the chairman of the board for the Adams Presidential Center. He is a member of the board of directors for Bessemer Trust and the Travis Manion Foundation.



Clara Gillispie

Senior Fellow for Climate and Energy, Council on Foreign Relations

Clara Gillispie is senior fellow for climate and energy at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). She is a leading expert on Asian energy security strategies and their implications for U.S. national interests. Gillispie's research explores a wide array of topics related to U.S.-Asia energy cooperation. This includes how to develop sound partnerships for addressing shared and distinct national economic, environmental, and geopolitical security concerns. She is the author of numerous policy essays and reports, including several exploring outlooks for U.S. exports of natural gas to Asia; scenarios for maximizing the role of zero-carbon solutions in various national energy mixes; and opportunities for bolstering U.S. engagements with Japan, South Korea, and regional fora such as ASEAN. Gillispie is regularly called on to brief U.S. and Asian government officials, senior industry representatives, and the media, with citations in the New York Times, Washington Post, and NPR's Marketplace.

Gillispie joined CFR from the National Bureau of Asian Research, where she most recently served as senior advisor for trade, economic, and energy affairs. From 2016-2025, she also served as the official U.S. delegate to the Energy Research Institute Network—an East Asia Summit-linked network whose inputs are designed to inform the summit's formal processes. Her previous fellowships include appointments at Carnegie India, the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, and the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy. Earlier in her career, she also held roles with the U.S. in House Committee on Science, Technology, and Space; Detica Federal Inc. (now part of BAE Systems); and the American Chamber of Commerce in China. In addition to energy and environmental security, Gillispie researches and writes on sustainable development, public health, and technology policymaking in the Indo-Pacific.
Gillispie holds a BS in foreign service from Georgetown University and a dual MSc in international affairs from the London School of Economics and Peking University. She also attended Sophia University in Tokyo for language training.



Kristi Govella

Senior Advisor and Japan Chair, CSIS; Associate Professor, University of Oxford

Kristi Govella is senior adviser and Japan Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). She is also associate professor of Japanese politics and international relations at the University of Oxford. Dr. Govella was previously the inaugural director of the congressionally funded Center for Indo-Pacific Affairs at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where she was also assistant professor of Asian studies from 2018 to 2024. From 2021 to 2022, she was senior fellow and deputy director of the Asia Program at the Washington, DC, headquarters of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, where she led the Japan and Korea portfolios. From 2017 to 2018, she conducted research as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University's Program on U.S.-Japan Relations. From 2016 to 2017, Dr. Govella was associate professor at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, where she taught security-related courses for military and civilian representatives of the United States and Indo-Pacific countries and briefed U.S. government officials on regional issues. She has also been a visiting research fellow at the University of Tokyo and Waseda University and an adjunct fellow at the East-West Center and Pacific Forum. Dr. Govella is a widely published author and commentator in major outlets, and her work has examined topics such as economic statecraft, government-business relations, regional institutional architecture, military alliances, critical and emerging technologies, and the governance of the maritime, outer

space, and cyber domains. She also serves as co-editor of the journal Asia Policy. She holds a PhD and an MA in political science from the University of California, Berkeley and a BA in political science and Japanese from the University of Washington, Seattle.



Jane Nakano

Senior Fellow, Energy Security and Climate Change Program, CSIS

Jane Nakano is a senior fellow in the Energy Security and Climate Change Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Her research interests include U.S. energy policy; energy geopolitics; global market and policy developments concerning natural gas, hydrogen, nuclear energy, and critical minerals; and energy security and climate issues in the Asia- Pacific region. She frequently writes and speaks on these issues at domestic and international conferences and to media around the world. She has also testified before Congress on China's competitiveness in energy technology manufacturing and exports as well as U.S. liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports and before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission on U.S.-China nuclear energy cooperation. Prior to joining CSIS in 2010, Nakano worked in the Office of International Affairs in the U.S. Department of Energy, where she covered a host of energy, economic, and political issues in Asia. From 2001 to 2002, she served at the U.S. embassy in Tokyo as a special assistant to the energy attaché. Nakano graduated from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and holds a master's degree from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.



Matt Pearl

Director, Strategic Technologies Program, CSIS

Matt Pearl is director of the Strategic Technologies Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), where he focuses on the intersection of technology, national security, and geopolitics. A veteran of the White House and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), he brings more than a decade of experience shaping U.S. technology policy. Prior to joining CSIS in 2025, Mr. Pearl served on the White House National Security Council as director for emerging technologies and special adviser to the deputy national security adviser. In this role, he coordinated interagency strategy and helped lead initiatives such as the National Spectrum

Strategy, the U.S. Cyber Trust Mark for Internet of Things security, and the International Joint Statement on 6G Principles. His portfolio spanned data security, cloud computing, space governance, critical infrastructure resilience, and the national security review of foreign investments through the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and Team Telecom. Previously, Mr. Pearl spent more than ten years at the FCC, where he rose to associate bureau chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. There, he managed major spectrum transitions to support next-generation wireless networks. An expert on U.S.China technology competition, he has testified before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. His commentary has appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, Politico, and NPR. Mr. Pearl was a research affiliate at Harvard's Berkman Klein Center and clerked for both federal district and appellate courts. He earned his JD from Yale Law School, where he served as an editor of the Yale Journal on Regulation.



James L. Schoff

Distinguished Senior Fellow (Non-Resident), Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Jim Schoff's career spans 38 years working in the fields of business, education, government, and the non-profit sector, all related to Japan, East Asia, and the US-Japan alliance. From 2021-2026 he was senior director at Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA and led the foundation's "US-Japan NEXT Alliance Initiative," which mixes bilateral dialogue and research to stimulate new alliance connections across foreign, security, and technology policy areas. Schoff is also president of the consulting firm Asia Defense & Alliance Management (ADAM), Llc and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Japan-America Society of Washington, DC. At Sasakawa USA, Schoff will continue his work on artificial intelligence and the US-Japan alliance with a quarterly bilateral roundtable and related research and interviews on AI governance, safety and security.

Previously, Schoff was a senior fellow and director of the Japan Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace for nine years, following two years as senior adviser for East Asia policy at the U.S. Office of the Secretary of Defense and seven years as Director of Asia-Pacific Studies at the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis. His publications include "Updating Alliance Strategies to Sustain Nuclear Deterrence," (Sasakawa USA, April 2025), "US-Japan 'C3' Modernization: Past, Present, and Future (Command, Control, and Coordination for the US-Japan Alliance)" (Sasakawa USA, co-author, March 2025), "Allied on AI Assurance: Technology to Enhance AI Security & Safety" (Sasakawa USA, October 2024), "US-Japan Technology Policy Coordination: Balancing

Technonationalism with a Globalized World" (Carnegie, 2020), and Uncommon Alliance for the Common Good: The United States and Japan after the Cold War (Carnegie, 2017).