



Hideichi Okada

Chairman & 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).