

## India and Japan: New Strategic Partners in Asia

**Dr. Christian WAGNER, German Institute for International and Security Affairs**

Japan and India have clearly expanded their political, economic and military relations over the past few years. A series of agreements as well as annual summit meetings between the prime ministers have intensified political relations at the highest level. Both countries are united in the desire for greater international responsibility through, for example, a permanent seat on the United Nations' Security Council. Together with Germany and Brazil they make up the group of four countries (G4) which supports a reform of the Security Council.

The comprehensive economic treaty of 2011 builds the foundation for the further development of economic relations. Bilateral trade, which amounted to 13

billion dollars in 2010/2011, is expected to increase to 25 billion by 2014. Japan's technology and export economy as well as the high rate of economic growth in India with its growing middle class are delivering for all sides incentives for closer economic cooperation. In 2012 India cancelled the delivery of rare earth resources to Japanese companies to minimize their dependence on Chinese imports. In turn, the Japanese government supported the urgently required construction of infrastructure in India and has approved extensive investments for the development of industry corridors between Delhi and Mumbai and between Chennai and Bangalore. At the summit meeting in 2012 both heads of state announced their intention to work together

in the field of nuclear energy to alleviate India's chronic energy problems. While India remains firm in its commitment toward nuclear energy, Japan is still to make the final decision about its future use following the Fukushima disaster.

A number of commonalities exist between the two countries with regard to security policy. Japan and India are both highly dependent on external energy supplies. Both governments allocate high priority to the freedom of shipping routes and the battle against piracy, and the maritime services of both countries have collaborated in joint sea maneuvers for some years now.

Security policy collaborations began with



The traditional meeting between business and government, the Asia Pacific Conference of the German Economy was held for the first time in India from November 1-3, 2012. (Photo: Indo-German Chamber of Commerce, Delhi)

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strategic defense dialogs in 2007 and this was then expanded by the joint declaration for security policy cooperation in 2008. In the meantime discussions are being held between representatives of military units of both countries. Japan has shown an interest in the modernization of India's military, and supports India's interest in diversifying its arms import.

The superordinate strategic issue for both countries is dealing with the rise of China. India and Japan have unsolved territorial conflicts with China that lead to tensions time and again. At the same time China is the largest export market for Japan, ahead of the USA, and in the meantime it has become the largest bilateral trade partner for India. Increasing economic integration has to date not resulted in an improvement in political relations with China, neither for Japan nor India.

From a foreign policy perspective both countries have chosen different strategies in dealing with China. On the basis of its historical background, Japan has been closely linked with military collaborations involving the USA since the end of the Second World War. In contrast, India only developed economic, political and military relations with the USA since the 1990s. Under Prime Minister Abe, Japan intensified its quadrilateral initiative with the USA, Australia and India in 2007, underlining common democratic values in order to meet the Chinese challenge. The Diamond Security Initiative was introduced along a similar theme in autumn 2012. India in contrast, does not give much weight to promoting democratic values as a foreign-policy instrument; it rejects military alliances and does not participate in alliances that are explicitly targeted against China. In December 2011 India, Japan and the USA commenced a trilateral dialog about maritime security and regional flash points, and the role of China is the focus of dialog for all three countries.

A close network of economic and political relations binds Germany and Europe to Japan, and to India a developing network. With regard to security policies, the European Union (EU) will not play a hard power role in the Asian security architecture issue in the foreseeable future. However, Germany and the EU have a number of experiences of how to progress rapprochement between states and societies and contain conflicts through processes of regional cooperation. These soft-power abilities will in the long term be at the forefront of Japan and India's dealings with China.

Japan and India demonstrate broad consensus in many areas. The greatest challenge for both countries will therefore be in developing a common strategy with regard to the rise of China. This must take into account the different foreign policy traditions of India and Japan as well as the existing approaches of security policy institutions such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) or the East Asia Summit (EAS).



*Note: The Japanese-German Center Berlin will organize in cooperation with the Tôkyô office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Institute for International Policy Studies (IIPS) a symposium on the topic "Japan, India and Germany in a Changing World" on March 25, 2013, in Tôkyô.*

Dear Readers!

Following on from the last echo newsletter, this edition has a renewed focus on the current interesting developments in Asia. India, similar to Brazil, is an ally of Japan and Germany in their efforts to bring about a reform of the UN Security Council, and India has intensified cooperation in diverse areas with both of our countries. Under Prime Minister ABE agreement was already reached in 2006 for a strategic global partnership, and we are waiting for Japan-India relations to progress further after ABE was reappointed to office late last year. Since 2007 India has deepened its global strategic partnership with Germany as well; comprehensive government consultations were carried out by German Chancellor MERKEL who visited India accompanied by seven members of her cabinet. It is expected that wide-ranging and more in-depth discussions, covering topics such as how India is perceived by Japan and Germany, and how we can improve and further develop relations with India, will be held at the international symposium planned for March this year in Tôkyô. In this edition we also report on issues related to communicating scientific knowledge to the wider public, which is of significant interest since the Fukushima nuclear accident of 2011. We hope this leads to discussions of how to promote a better understanding of science topics and issues among citizens.

SAKATO Masaru  
JDZB Deputy Secretary General

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## Symposium “Science Communication” on December 10, 2012 Juliane Boehm, Free University Berlin

In July 2011 a conference held at the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB) dealt with Japan’s three-fold catastrophe of earthquake, Tsunami, and nuclear power plant accident, and the role of conventional and new media. One aspect of the discussions was the challenge faced by journalists to explain in simple terms the complex topic of nuclear power. The symposium on communicating science tackled these issues, and German and Japanese representatives from the fields of academe, journalism and the economy discussed the various forms, goals and associated challenges of communicating science. The problems encountered in communicating science are similar in both countries. Scientists now report more frequently on their research, but how the science is presented plays a huge role. Currently in Japan after the three-fold catastrophe, the public is distrustful toward scientists and journalists. Major criticisms of science journalism include distorted representation and biased reporting of journalists.

Following the opening ceremony by JDZB Secretary General Dr. Friederike Bosse and Prof. TEZUKA Kazuaki (Japan Foundation), Prof. MIKAMI Naoyuki (Hokkaidô University) in his presentation in the first session introduced forms of communicating science in Japan and Germany. As an example,

he presented the Japanese “Deliberation Forum”. Through this forum, for the first time in Japan public opinion can directly seek to influence government policies and the media. Ms Beate LANGHOLF (Wissenschaft im Dialog – *Science in dialog*) explained how the more complex a topic becomes the more difficult it is to organize appropriate formats. Thus, Wissenschaft im Dialog sees its future tasks as improving science communication to increase participation and include new target groups.

The second session focused on science journalism in Japan and Germany. Prof. Hans Peter PETERS (Jülich Research Center) currently does not see an alternative to science journalism. The task of this type of journalism would be to select topics for a lay public, to transform specialist knowledge, and to build relations between science and academe, and society. Thus, the question is rather: which functions are reserved for science journalism and which functions can be replaced. Prof. TANAKA Mikihiro (Waseda University) argued along similar lines. According to him, journalists working in new media are observers rather than active users. Here, they are no longer the mediators between the scientific community and the public; rather they are observers standing beside both of these players.

The third session utilized concrete examples such as biotechnology and the Future Center to demonstrate which role science journalism plays in the economy and politics. Tobias STEINMANN (BASF) presented AgBalance, a format specifically developed by BASF to communicate ideas more transparently between the scientific community, consumers and government. Prof. SUNAMI Atsushi (National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies) showed how the government-funded Future Center in Japan, based on European models, develops strategies in agreement with industry and society.

The various aspects and goals of science journalism were again raised in the closing discussions. On the one hand there’s the danger of science being quickly taken up by politics. On the other hand other playful forms of communicating science such as films were discussed, and whether we should mediate science concepts in only a serious manner. The complexity of current circumstances was also raised. The more complex a problem, the more important science journalism as a media becomes to make the problem more understandable to the audience. The goal of science journalism should be to attract attention and inform the public in order to enable the participation of more people in developments.



### Conference “Resource Efficiency for a Green Economy – Towards Pioneering Actions in Japan and Germany” on December 3, 2012

Prof. Raimund Bleischwitz, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment, Energy

In view of the increasing cost of raw materials, it is hardly surprising that two leading economic nations such as Germany and Japan are in favor of increasing resources efficiency or improving value-adding in the physical use of resources. Germany has called its current program “ProgRess”, the EU has declared “resource efficiency” as a flagship project for its growth strategy “EU 2020”, and Japan has already developed some ambitious projects along the same theme.

From an economic policy perspective, this flagship project make sense because it is based on real costs of companies – in particular, the cost of raw materials for manufacturing industries is about 40% of their total production costs. The idea is thus: companies can reduce their cost of materials, and thereby save energy and develop innovative potential, and reduce their environmental impact more or less as a consequence of their optimization processes. In the wake of the financial crisis this is an attractive proposition because investment and credit are especially scrutinized. In contrast to traditional topics of environmental policies, this will lead to a potential alliance between the environment and industry lobbies. Nonetheless, how will politicians deal with the topic? To which degree have they planned to take into account international conflicts for raw materials? How will companies evolve in the future? And, what do environmental research specialists think?

A conference dealing with topic “Resource Efficiency for a Green Economy – Towards Pioneering Action in Japan and Germany” was held at the Japanese-German Center Berlin in cooperation with the Wuppertal Institute on December 3, 2012. Fol-

lowing the welcoming address by Raimund BLEISCHWITZ, the first panel discussed the intended resources policies. Birgit SCHWENK (German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Berlin) presented the German ProgRess program. Yasuhiko HOTTA (Institute of Global Environment and Society IGES, Tôkyô) outlined Japanese policies that were interrupted by the Fukushima catastrophe. Ulrike MEINEL (Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V., Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union – NABU, Berlin) stressed future alliances and political approaches.

Nevertheless the topic of resource efficiency must have a strong international focus because on the one hand the source of raw materials and the export of used goods and consequential recycling processes take place beyond national borders, and on the other hand because unfair international trade practices are crippling companies. The second panel was chaired by Susanne DRÖGE (Science and Politics Foundation, Berlin), and Miranda SCHREURS (Research Center for Environmental Policies of the Free University of Berlin) discussed international governance challenges. Michaela SPAETH (German Federal Foreign Office) gave an overview of current and intended projects of German foreign

policy. Raimund BLEISCHWITZ proposed recommendations for an international metals treaty and a stakeholder forum.

It is essential to take into account industry’s perspective on the topic. Vedrana LEMOR (econsense – Forum Sustainable Development of the German Economy, Berlin) chaired a lively panel in which Fraser THOMPSON (McKinsey Global Institute) presented the huge international opportunities for future markets. The reality facing companies was then outlined by Michael NIEMCZYK (Efficiency Agency NRW), Satomi FURUKAWA (Fuluhashi Environmental Institute, Nagoya), and Jonas DREGER (Siemens AG, München), whose company is represented in the European resources efficiency platform.

The crowning finish was the panel discussion held with both members of the International Resource Panel (IRP of the United Nations Environment Program), MORIGUCHI Yuichi (Tôkyô University) and Stefan BRINGEZU (Wuppertal Institute). They discussed trends using national comparisons and outlining different aspects of the measurement process. Without a guiding principle about comprehensive indicators, as for example presented in the concept “total material requirements”, national measures to date could lead to a transfer of the problem to developing countries. Insofar environmental research is raising the bar and serves as an incentive for future work.



## Approaches to Youth Work in Japan and Germany – from the Carer’s Perspective ÔSUMI Kenshi (Clinical Psychology, Children’s Counselling Center Uji, Kyôto)

The Christmas markets were opened and everything was covered by a thick blanket of snow when I visited the various youth centers over a period of about two weeks. I had the opportunity to meet with employees of youth centers, coordinators, legal experts, psychologists and other specialists as well as youths involved in programs. The warm reception I received created a very welcoming atmosphere.

I work as a psychologist in a Japanese children’s counselling center. These centers are publicly funded and are dedicated to supporting children and youth, and their families. Above all they are responsible for protecting children and implementing services at children’s institutions. They carry out forced interventions as well as offer voluntary counselling and support. The employees of these counselling centers who assist children in crisis encounter many difficulties. In order to use every opportunity to find possible solutions or think about potential solutions, I participated in the Japanese-German Study Program for Youth Work Specialists (in the following: specialists’ seminar).

At the specialists’ seminar I had the opportunity to gain new knowledge into youth welfare organizations in Germany and to compare them with my knowledge of Japan. I would like to summarize my thoughts by comparing “approaches to assistance” in three points: 1. the difference in social structures, 2. the different attitudes of carers, and 3. the implementation of assistance.

### (1) Difference in social structures – huge support through public funding

The custody admissions office in Japanese youth welfare institutions are confronted with many difficulties. Widely discussed are problems of shared custody of delinquent youth and abused children of both genders. In addition there are only a few volunteer-based child protection organizations. The organizations I visited in Germany were tailored to suit the children they cared for and the different situations facing youth. I was surprised that there were so many active volunteers. Traditionally in Japan public organizations are responsible and offer fundamental services; there is insufficient financial support for the transfer of public services to the private sector. The

foundation for youth work in Germany is the Social Act VIII, which grounds the cooperative efforts of public and volunteer services and the duty to provide information and financial support. Not only is there a wide range of child protection organisations but there’s a number of after-care services as well. These structural differences enable a much greater diversity in service provisions.

### (2) The attitude of carers – resources and solution-oriented/social-educational approaches

A targeted goal of youth work in Germany is “social integration.” Great emphasis is given to youth receiving education and vocational training to become a member of society. In Japan we often discuss youth who are not working, who receive no training and have withdrawn from society. However, the idea of integrating them into the labor market is not as developed as it is in Germany. The implementation of “social integration”, the availability of resources and a solution-oriented as well as social-educational approach shape the attitude of carers. The focus is not on causal research, rather the utilization of youth resources to seek solutions to the problem, which is where networks and social connections are best utilized. In Japan we also discuss resources and solution-oriented approaches, however my impression is that it’s not as widespread as it is in Germany.

### (3) Actual practice of assistance – forced protection

When emergency measures need to be taken in Japan to protect children quite of-

ten they are forcibly taken into care without consulting legal services. This is occasionally criticized, however all those involved deal with it very sensitively and the welfare of the child has the highest priority. In similar cases in Germany, legal authorities intervene. In my discussion with carers I learnt however that in Germany children are also taken into care before a court order is obtained, which in some cases may take several days. The German carers stated that the form may be different in Japan and Germany, but the assistance is the same.

There are differences and similarities in how we approach care services. Different social structures lead to different attitudes of carers. These lead to youth becoming respected as members of society and appropriate social structures are created. Some German carers were of the opinion that social-educations approaches go too far and assistance was superficial. However, I don’t think a perfect system exists. At the end of the seminar we sensed that the division of duties between agencies and the cooperation between them must become more effective. This requires organic social relations and functional networks with friendly personal relations which strengthen the system and make the changes required. I think this would result in better youth services. It was very important for me to meet Japanese and German colleagues that subscribe to the same beliefs at the specialist seminar. I would like to extend my gratitude to the organizers for this opportunity and for taking care of so many participants. I hope that these sort of personal meetings continue to grow and deepen. Thank you for this valuable experience.

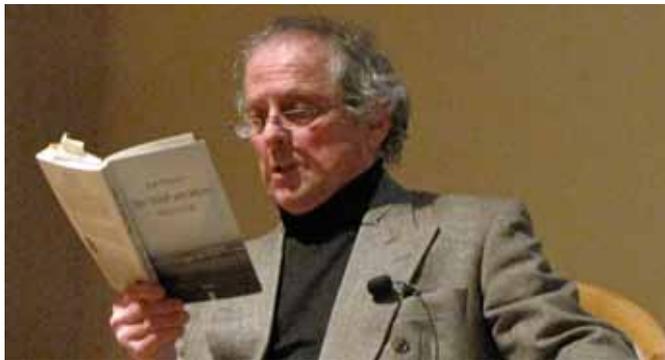


The author with his host family.



Charity concert given by the Lions Club Berlin Philharmonic to raise funds for the orphans of the massive earthquake in Fukushima Prefecture. The concert was held at the JDZB in cooperation with the German-Japanese Association and the JDZB on January 30, 2013 (photo: Gudrun Arndt)

The Berlin author Jürgen EBERTOWSKI reading from his autobiographical novel "Die Stadt am Meer – Berlin-Kamakura Monogatari" (The city by the sea) on January 15, 2013, at the JDZB.



Lea NAGANO at the opening of the photo exhibition "Pulse Tokyo" on December 6, 2012. The exhibition was on display at the JDZB until February 28, 2013.



Panel discussion about "Myths of Japan – Obsolete Relicts or Lively Traditions?" at the JDZB on December 4, 2012: the Japan specialist from Tübingen, Prof. Klaus ANTONI, editor and translator of *Kojiki*, and Prof. Irmela HIJIIYA-KIRSCHNER (Free University Berlin) (photo: Shoresh Fezonis)

## CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

### GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

#### Symposium: Japan, India and Germany in the Changing World

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), Tōkyō; Institute for International Policy Studies (IIPS), Tōkyō  
March 26, 2013, in Tōkyō

#### Symposium: Perceptions of China and Foreign Policy Options for Germany and Japan

C: Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES), Tōkyō; German Association for Asian Studies, Hamburg  
June 4–5, 2013

#### Workshop: Leadership and Authority in Asia

C: German Association for Asian Studies, Hamburg  
June 20–21, 2013

#### Conference: Politics of Memory

C: German Embassy to Japan, Tōkyō; Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES), Tōkyō; Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), Tōkyō  
Date: June 2013, in Tōkyō

#### German-Japanese Workshop on Security Issues IV

C: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin; Center for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (CPDNP) at the Japan Institute for International Affairs (JIIA), Tōkyō  
September 6, 2013

### RAW MATERIALS, ENERGY, CLIMATE ENVIRONMENT

#### Symposium: The Role of Local Government in Climate Policies

C: Nagoya University, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin  
Date: to be confirmed, in Nagoza

#### Symposium: Renewable Energies in Japan and Germany – Implementation and Legal Conditions

C: Waseda University, Tōkyō; Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES), Tōkyō  
Date: to be confirmed, in Tōkyō

### DEMOGRAPHY

#### Symposium: Quality Improvement in Medical Treatment and Care Services Using Electronic Media

C: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW), Tôkyô; Federal Ministry for Health, Berlin  
April 9–10, 2013, in Tôkyô

#### **Symposium: Guardianship Law**

C: Chûô University, Tôkyô; Japan Adult Guardian Law Association, Tôkyô  
October 23, 2013, in Tôkyô

#### **Presentation of Study: Demography and Corporations**

C: Munich University; Mitsubishi Research Institute, Tôkyô  
Date: November 6, 2013, in Tôkyô

### **PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE**

#### **Presentation of Results: Denkwerk: Japan in the 21st Century – Society in a state of flux?**

C: Free University Berlin  
Date: May 2013

#### **Symposium: Challenges in the Protection and Sustainable Use of Cultural Landscapes in Japan and Germany**

C: Tôkyô University; Gießen University; Ecological Society, Berlin  
Date: September 9, 2013, in Potsdam

### **STATE, CORPORATIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY**

#### **Workshop: Compliance**

C: German-Japanese Lawyers Association (Deutsch-japanische Juristenvereinigung DJJV), Hamburg  
Date: May 16, 2013, in Tôkyô

#### **Symposium: CSR and Corporate Governance**

C: Waseda University, Tôkyô; Humboldt University Berlin; Japan Forum of Business and Society, Tôkyô  
Date: September 19–20, 2013, in Tôkyô

#### **Conference: Town and Regional Planning in Tôhoku**

C: Institute for Behavioral Studies (IBS), Tôkyô; University of Duisburg-Essen  
November 1, 2013, in Sendai

#### **Conference: Social Inequality in Japan**

C: German Association for Social Science Japan Research  
Date: November 21–24, 2013

### **DIALOG OF CULTURES**

#### **European Policy Seminar**

C: European Akademy Otzenhausen (EAO); Tôkyô University; German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst DAAD), Bonn  
Date: September 26–27, 2013

#### **Symposium: Public Diplomacy**

C: The Japan Foundation, Tôkyô  
Date: to be confirmed

#### **Panel Discussion: Artists in Foreign Residence – What effects do global circulation and transnational networks have?**

C: Goethe Institute Villa Kamogawa, Kyôto; Free University Berlin  
Date: to be confirmed

### **SPECIAL PROJECT**

#### **22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Japanese-German Forum**

C: German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin; Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tôkyô  
October 29–30, 2013, in Tôkyô

### **CULTURAL EVENTS**

#### **CONCERTS**

#### **121<sup>st</sup> Dahlem Musical Soiree**

URUSHIHARA Keiko (Violin) und Jacob LEUSCHNER (Piano)  
March 7, 2013, 7.30 pm

#### **122<sup>nd</sup> Dahlem Musical Soiree**

German and Japanese Children Choirs  
March 26, 2013, 6 pm

#### **123<sup>rd</sup> Dahlem Musical Soiree**

Biwa Concert  
April 5, 2013, 7 pm

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

#### **Raku Ceramics by Cornelia NAGEL**

Opening: April 5, 2013, 7 pm  
On display until May 24, 2013

#### **Exhibition by DAAD Grant Recipients**

On display from August until October 2013

#### **Photographs by Gerald CHRIST**

Opening: August 15, 2013, 7 pm  
On display until September 27, 2013

#### **Paintings & Sculptures by Axel ANKLAM & Yokoo Tatsuhiko**

Opening: October 10, 2013, 7 pm  
On display until November 27, 2013

### **SUPPORT FOR EAST JAPAN**

#### **Documentary Films on the Earthquake and Tsunami Catastrophe on March 11, 2011**

March 11, 2013, 4 pm, at the JDZB

#### **Memorial Event for the Earthquake and Tsunami Catastrophe in Japan on March 11, 2011**

C: German-Japanese Society Berlin, The Japan Foundation, Japanese Association for Industry and Commerce Berlin, Kizuna in Berlin, Embassy of Japan in Germany  
March 11, 2013, 6.30 pm, at the JDZB

#### **Lecture: What Lessons Can Be Learnt for the Future from the Accident in the Nuclear Power Station Fukushima Daiichi?**

March 12, 2013, 2 pm, at the Embassy of Japan

### **FILMS**

#### **Eclair**

Director: KONDO Akiro, Japan 2011 (Original with English subtitles)  
March 21, 2013, 7 pm

### **OPEN HOUSE**

Saturday, June 8, 2013, from 2 pm

### **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

- Junior Experts Exchange Program
- German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum
- Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program
- Study Program for Youth Work Specialists
- Exchange Program for Young Employees
- Takenoko Fund

For details of the programs, please refer to "http://www.jdzb.de --> Exchange Programs"

Opening hours of exhibitions:

Monday to Thursday 10 am to 5 pm, Friday 10 am to 3.30 pm.

C: = in cooperation with

Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise.

For **more information** please refer to: <http://www.jdzb.de> --> Activities

For **information on JDZB language courses** please refer to: <http://www.jdzb.de> --> Japanese Courses



For more information refer to:  
<http://www.study-japan-fair-eu.jp/>

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“Study Japan! Fair 2013” a higher education information event was held at the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB) on January 18, 2013.

21 leading Japanese universities and science/academic organizations presented their institutions at info booths, and in presentations and short lectures. Other information about the higher education system in Japan included schools and graduate schools, research institutions, English-language courses and international programs, student exchange, Japanese language courses, scholarships and the application process, traveling to and living in Japan.

Waseda University in Tōkyō and the Embassy of Japan were the co-organizers of the event.



The event's cultural program included a performance by the drum ensemble taiko-connection berlin, and a Japanese tea master gave insights into the Japanese tea ceremony. The event also provided information about the activities of the Embassy of Japan, JDZB, The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO).

In total, more than 200 visitors came and showed a lively interest in the comprehensive information about Japan and studying in Japan.

