

The Third Year of Abenomics: Political Will for Structural Reforms – It's time!

KOJIMA Akira

There are increasing signs that the Japanese economy is finding its way out of the unprecedented period of recession that has continued for more than 15 years. The economic policy of the ABE Cabinet ("Abenomics") is entering into its third year. Whether Japan's economy can free itself completely from the recession and re-embark on a path toward sustainable growth depends on the success of prompt, painful structural reforms.

The Abenomics policy presented when the government took office in December 2012 consists of "three arrows": a policy of monetary easing, flexible fiscal policy and growth strategy. This policy raised expectations in relation to a revival of the economy and the Nikkei index rose in 2013 by 60%. This clearly exceeded the 26% increase in

New York and the 13% increase in London. As a result the world's view on Japan's economy and economic policy has changed. Nobel laureate economist Paul KRUGMAN commented with his usual irony: "I've suggested that American economists who used to be very harsh in their condemnations of Japanese policy, a group that includes Ben BERNANKE and, well, me, visit Tôkyô to apologize to the emperor. We have, after all, done even worse."

Similar fears of recession are becoming more apparent in Europe and discussions have been held about the danger of the "Japanization" of the Euro economy. There is a growing interest in Abenomics. However, it still faces enormous challenges and 2015 will be regarded as the decisive year. Reasons include: (1) the ag-

ing population and declining birth rates have further intensified; (2) the time is therefore quickly approaching when the gigantic budget deficit of the country will no longer be financed solely by the saving efforts of private households; and (3) the huge trade deficits continue with a sharp increase in the imports of fossil fuels after the shutdown of all nuclear power plants, the relocation abroad of Japanese companies' manufacturing plants and similar developments. If nothing changes in the situation of the Japanese economy, there is a danger of falling into a "twin deficit" in the national budget and current account. Local discussions often speak of the "lost decade". But now it's time to look harsh reality in the eye, and to see that the "remaining time" for a regeneration of Japan is rapidly running out, and much needed reforms must be accelerated accordingly.

Among the three arrows of the reform program, the first arrow is the monetary



The Governor of Tôkyô, MASUZOE Yôichi and the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Klaus WOWEREIT, at the symposium "Urban Development on the Path to becoming a Smart City" held on 29 October 2014 at the JDZB. In cooperation with the Tôkyô Metropolitan Government, the Berlin Senate Chancellery and the Senate Department for Urban Development and the Environment, the JDZB held a symposium where the city leaders presented their views for the future development of both cities. The symposium was held on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the town twinning partnership Berlin-Tôkyô 2014 and the visit of the Governor of Tôkyô to Berlin (© Dirk Enters).

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easing policy of the Bank of Japan. As the second arrow, fiscal policy is directed toward financial consolidation, but currently this only consists of an increase in the value added tax from April 2014. Although expansionary fiscal policy measures have been taken to stimulate economic activity and demand, the national debt continues to rise. The third arrow, the growth strategy, is a painful structural reform policy and a matter of political will. Since the easing of monetary policy and expansionary fiscal policy will lead only later to adaptations (and pain), no one is against them in the short term. Hopes are awakened. These measures are a gain in time until the pain accompanied by structural measures kicks in. If they prove to be inadequate, hopes will be smashed and the remaining time to act becomes shorter.

The sharp rise in share prices in 2013 was driven solely by the largest net stock of 15 trillion Yen purchases by foreign investors of all time. Japanese investors were net sellers. This means the Japanese stock market activity was based solely on foreign investors. The interest of these foreign investors was focused on structural reforms, the third arrow of Abenomics.

There are symbolic movements of stock markets. In mid June 2013, share prices rapidly declined immediately after the ABE government passed a cabinet decision on growth strategy ("Japan Revitalization Strategy", subheading "Japan is Back"). The reason: out of disappointment that many measures were simply enumerated without priorities, there was a sudden sale of Japanese equities by foreign investors.

In June 2014 the ABE Cabinet then delivered an improved paper on its growth strategy. This time it appears the expectations of investors were met, the price drop did not occur. But unlike in 2013, foreign investors restrained from buying on the day in 2014 so that the trend for higher share prices disappeared.

And it's not only government policies that are causing concern, but also the private sector. The IMF drew attention to this point in a working paper published in August 2014 titled, "Use your bunkered money! Corporate governance reform in Japan."

This addresses the problem of Japanese companies often just accumulating liquidity and internal reserves instead of investing

them. The proportion of cash balances by market value is remarkably high here compared to other G7 countries. In the 1970s, and not to forget the high growth period of the 1960s, Japanese companies actively pursued strong capital investment and investment in research and development, and because they could not meet the equity requirements with their own capital, they actively borrowed from the banks. In contrast to then, approximately 50% of Japanese companies are not borrowing money in today's economy.

The reason for this passive behavior was the drastic reduction in loans of financial institutions during the financial crisis of 1998. Moreover financial institutions still remain today, even where balance sheets have improved, very careful with extending loans. Since banks are passive in financing and companies are careful with investing, government policy of ultra-cheap money on the side of the Bank of Japan supports the recovery of the stock market, but this has not led to a revitalization of the real economy. Therefore, there are now calls for a restoration of the "profitability" of the company through corporate governance reform via the third arrow.

The litmus test for the third year of Abenomics is whether corporations, financial institutions and each and every individual renew their awareness and stimulate actions. The task is large. The competition against the clock and "time remaining" continues.



KOJIMA Akira is Member of the Board of Trustees of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS, Tōkyō), Chairman of the World Trade Center Tōkyō and Vice-Chairman of the JDZB Foundation Council.

Dear Readers!

The joint visit to the JDZB by Tōkyō's Governor MASUZOE Yōichi and Governing Mayor of Berlin, Klaus WOWEREIT, on a sunny autumn day was a wonderful highlight in the anniversary year of the twinning of the two cities, all the more so as both agreed to work more closely together in the areas of urban development, environment and cultural exchange. With this, the partnership between Tōkyō and Berlin has been given fresh impetus, which the JDZB will support to the best of its ability.

With Germany's presidency of the G7 and a planned visit to Japan by the Chancellor, there will also be many opportunities in 2015 to deepen the political relationship on a personal level. There is definitely a need for coordination in the light of global problems and plenty of themes in which an exchange of experience would prove helpful. Some of these themes, such as the difficult decommissioning of nuclear power plants, can be explored in the current edition of "echo".

For us, however, 2015 will be above all the year in which we celebrate 30 years of the JDZB! We want to look back at colleagues, events and achievements but we also want to look forward. We want to continue to play a constructive role in German-Japanese relations in the future, too, and to commit to common challenges and projects.

We will keep you informed about all of our activities and look forward to having you celebrate with us. Until then, the JDZB team wishes you a good start to a healthy, happy new year.

Dr. Friederike BOSSE
Secretary General of the JDZB

jdzb echo

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In mid-April 2015 the JDZB is planning to hold a conference in Tôkyô on the dismantling and disposal of nuclear facilities, together with the Technical University of Dresden, the German Research and Innovation Forum Tôkyô and the University of Fukui. For this reason we have interviewed the physicist and science journalist Ranga YOGESHWAR. He was honored in 2011 with the German Television Award in the category "Best Information" as an expert in the Fukushima-reporting (ARD); his current report on Fukushima was shown on November 3, 2014, on the German public television broadcaster ARD.

You have visited the nuclear power plant Fukushima Daiichi many times for filming, most recently in September of this year – What's the current situation? Have the individual units now been transformed into a more manageable state?

No. During this accident, there was a total of four units that were partly damaged or destroyed. There have been successes in some of them and not in others.

Let's take unit 4 as an example. Here, the fuel assemblies were stored in a cooling pond, the entire structure threatened to collapse. Meanwhile, a huge steel structure was built much to everyone's admiration, to compensate for the destroyed roof etc, and a large part of the destroyed fuel elements has been removed. An unprecedented task - I'm really impressed by how this was executed.

Basically we can say: the whole Fukushima Daiichi plant is now a giant construction site. I was in Chernobyl, and in comparison, I can observe here a wide range of activities with wide-reaching knowledge about how to solve the many problems.

Take for example the problem of cooling. Apart from unit 4 all the other reactor units still need to be constantly cooled. The contaminated cooling water must then be stored temporarily - these are the tanks that are located on the site in huge numbers. But since you cannot build tanks endlessly, they built the third nuclear wash plant to clean the contaminated water and to establish a closed water circuit.

They estimate that huge efforts will be required to get the current problems under control. How is the planning for the next year, when can they expect to start with the actual dismantling of the plant?

Different priorities have been set. All fuel will be removed from unit 4 by the end of this year so they can start with dismantling.

Unit 1 was completed with a canopy, which now has to be opened in order to remove all the radioactive parts from the inside. The project, however, has sparked a new debate: If the roof is reopened, there is a danger that

radioactive substances can escape into the air again.

Unit 2 is still a huge mystery; outwardly, it is hardly destroyed, but the radioactivity inside the building is extremely high. We still do not know exactly where the fuel or the partially molten reactor core is located.

All their efforts are seeking to ensure that there no further radioactivity escapes after this meltdown - and this is not always successful.

What is special about the situation in Fukushima? What is the main difference to the planned dismantling of decommissioned nuclear power plants - which is indeed a big issue in Germany and not only since the decision to phase out nuclear power?

During planned decommissioning the entire radioactive inventory is encapsulated, or included; there are no open fuels, no contamination; from a handling aspect it is much easier because the system has not been destroyed. The radioactive elements must be classified and disposed of correctly in the dismantlement process. When we classify and temporary store radioactive waste, we encounter the problem of waste disposal, which so far has not been satisfactorily accomplished anywhere in the world. We have here a central argument against the use of nuclear power - the legacy of a generation that has recklessly made the first step, without thinking of the second.

First and foremost, any contact between waste and groundwater must be prevented. Another problem is that in Japan and Germany storage must take place in very densely populated regions.

How would you assess the overall situation in Japan nearly four years after the three-fold disaster?

One aspect is very important to me: so far we have spoken only of the nuclear power plant itself. The disaster did not occur in 2011; indeed this is just the beginning of the disaster. The real disaster is the existence of a giant radioactive contaminated area with a restricted zone and vast empty tracts of land and still



tens of thousands of people evacuated. With enormous efforts, for which I have the greatest respect, soils and earth are restored - but these steps are condemned to failure despite all their hard work.

To give an example: once the soil is removed it is filled in black sacks, these are deposited in landfills, and then? Based on the actual mass you can't just dispose of the whole region; the result is therefore a strange landscape: a decontaminated field sits next to a contaminated meadow.

Another example: The city of Fukushima is quite far from the Fukushima nuclear power plant. But you pass by a park on the way that has been decontaminated and thus has only low radioactivity; then you go two steps further into the bushes and you encounter ten times the radioactivity - that's the disaster! Despite all great efforts, this will not be solved. Another important message: such a disaster surpasses everyone's imagination, even mine! It's about the loss of home and social structures; it's about the huge impact on the Japanese economy and society, and much more. Additionally, I'm worried that homesickness leads to a collective displacement process: the people want to return to their homes and villages, although everything is still contaminated.

I have much respect for the conscientiousness and the great attention to detail: I bought fruit and honey in Fukushima and I am sure that it has been carefully checked. In contrast, for example, game and wild mushrooms are still contaminated in southern Germany, because hardly anything has been done...

I have the highest regard for what is happening in Japan - but these are heroes who are failing, and that hurts.

Symposium: “Cultural Policy as a Regeneration Strategy for Demographic Change in Medium-sized Cities – Germany, Central Europe and Japan in Dialog”, 4–7 September 2014

Prof. KOBAYASHI Mari, University of Tôkyô, Chair of the Japan Association for Cultural Policy Research

From 4 to 7 September, the Japan Association for Cultural Policy Research in collaboration with the JDZB and the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony organized a symposium and seminars on the above topic.

We are generally aware that the formation of huge markets in modern society, in which the world of domestic and foreign policy is ruled by the logic of capital and markets, promotes the distribution of goods and services and concurrently creates apparent wealth, favoring the development of a consumerist, competitive society, but also creates inequality between regions and leads to an exodus of regional cultural organizations. The shrinking and aging societies currently witnessed in developed countries, and the unprecedented catastrophe of the great earthquake in the region Tôhoku which additionally hit Japan, strengthen these phenomena so that obvious impoverishment and decline in some regions becomes evidently clear. Small and medium-sized cities are adversely affected by this extremely delicate situation. What can culture align with there? This question was the focus of the event.

The focus of cultural policy for many years was the promotion of art and culture in the narrower sense, and it seemed important to revive and broaden both areas. Historically, the formation of a modern unified state in Japan as in Germany took place in the mid-19th century. However, the paths taken for art and culture differed considerably. In Germany the branches of powerfully devel-

oping intellectual culture (music, theater, literature, visual arts, etc.) associated with civil society were institutionalized (creation of theaters, museums, etc.) to solidify their development. In Japan, there were artists who actively prescribed to government policies and the westernization of society, and at the same time there were those who were the carriers of historical traditions. In view of this, steps to cultural institutionalization were postponed and more efforts were made after the Second World War, and I’m not sure if this institutionalization has been successful. Perhaps the exact opposite of institutionalization occurred in which we refer to *art* with the English loanword *âto* (“art[s]”) and then proceeded to derive new possibilities *per se* or to open up regional potential in this way.

Projects were presented by YOSHIMOTO Mitsuhiro from NLI Research Institute and Prof. Gorô Christoph KIMURA of Sophia University Tôkyô at the symposium in Berlin as well as those presented by Japanese students in Görlitz on regional regeneration through art in case studies, which gave an immediate impression of how regionally based and themed festivals and cultural events as well as typical art projects impact the revival of regions, strengthen important connections, and help shape identities as well as arouse interest of young people or entrepreneurs to their region. Professor KAWASHIMA Nobuko from Dôshisha University in Kyôto pointed out that cultural ideas based on cultural urges for creativity stimulate economic development and may develop new, innova-

tive industries. They also have the power to contribute toward shaping identity in the regions. Again, the unanimous opinion of the Japanese experts was that stakeholders of cultural policy should not be limited to government and public administration, but should give greater importance to businesses and non-profit organizations for support. Many examples were presented from Japan where culture and art develop social potentials.

The lectures and presentations given by the German side clearly outlined the tasks that institutionalized art and cultural institutions must deal with. Most impressive was the issue of social inclusion of cognitively impaired people through culture, which was presented by the President of the Cultural Foundation of Saxony, Ulf GROßMANN. In the 1970s there was a tendency in western Germany to question the hitherto primarily directed high culture of art and culture, and policies for the dissemination of culture that were operated from above. Attention was drawn not so much to the fact that culture is the subject of politics, but the approach that the problems facing regions and local authorities could be solved with the help of culture. However, this was not implemented by existing art and cultural institutions, but through initiatives by artists with greater sensitivity to social problems.

The Berlin symposium was well attended, and we had many interesting discussions with various lectures and presentations given in Görlitz as well. I would have liked a panel discussion to encourage more exchange among students. In addition, more lively comments and greater student participation from the German side would certainly have further promoted real dialog.



German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum 2014

UMEDA Toshiharu, Journalist (Chûnichi Shimbun)

The Summer School of the “9th German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum 2014” and an alumni meeting, co-organized by the JDZB and the Robert Bosch Foundation, was held in Potsdam and Berlin from 22 to 31 August 2014. “The Future of Work and Globalizing Labor Markets” was the topic of this year’s Summer School in which 16 young leaders from Japan and Germany participated.

Wide Range of Topics

For each topic there were several important studies examining the future of both countries. One study dealt with the problems associated with shrinking and aging populations and a decreasing workforce in Japan and Germany.

The comments made by the Summer School’s director, demographics expert Dr. Steffen ANGENENDT, on the opening day examined the wide reaching significance of the topic. Ultimately, his remarks were about Japanese and German “future prospects”; extrinsically, shrinking and aging populations and a decreasing workforce tend to be the same in both countries. However, due to geographical and historical reasons, a wide range of social differences became apparent in the course of the discussions. For example, these differences were clearly evident in the organization of social security and work methods.

I have the impression that Germany is way ahead in accepting migrants than Japan. Japan has never had a clearly defined immigration policy, and the German participants wanted to know why this is so.

It was very valuable for the Japanese participants to learn more about the different case studies in Germany. Many Japanese associate negative feelings with immigration policy. As we learned more about German immigration policy, this negative image gradually started to fade. I had the feeling that this is a potential policy option for Japan’s shrinking and aging society, which is classified as “extreme” according to world standards. The German participants demonstrated that it is important to mobilize all efforts to counter the effects of a shrinking and aging society.

Discussions from a Micro and Macro Perspective

One of the goals of the Summer School is training young people, the leaders of the

future. In total we were 16 participants aged between 25–35 years – employees from government ministries, departments and research institutes, lawyers, academics, journalists and employees of foreign companies and large enterprises in both countries. Even for me, who at some point in the future will hold a leadership position, it’s very difficult to be so forward-thinking, let alone for normal staff or citizens. Since 16 different people with different professional backgrounds contributed to this topic, we were able to analyze current situations and record different perspectives. Every day at the Summer School different experts were invited to present which gave participants further impetus for discussions. The topic on how to better utilize the strengths of women led to heated discussions after the experts’ presentation. In Japan, Prime Minister ABE, who has placed the advancement of women as a focus of government policy, just announced a cabinet reshuffle that seeks to address this issue. At the hotel, we discussed the foundations and the necessity for appropriate government measures.

Various topics were touched upon, for example, utilizing the talents of housewives, assistance in child-rearing, such as the development of child care facilities, but also men becoming more involved in childcare. In addition to a description of such aspects from a macro perspective, i.e., the socio-political level, we could also look at how

employees approach issues at the micro level, i.e., on a personal level – such as questions, “What does it mean to work?” or “Why do we work?” I think the Summer School’s discussions enabled views to be seen from both angles, from above and from below. It became clear that it’s not about, “fostering women into employment out of social necessity”, but rather to create a society in which women and men irrespective of their gender, seek to work on their own accord.

Learning about Culture, History and People

During the Summer School in Potsdam and at the Berlin alumni meeting we had the opportunity to learn more about culture and places of interest, and to meet interesting people. We visited a few companies, the Japanese Embassy and the German Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. Everywhere we encountered people who gave us new insights and ideas.

Although we had only “ten days”, they were extremely worthwhile. Within the course of the Summer School the 16 participants became “colleagues” and as the program came to a close they were “good friends”. The words of a German participant particularly resonated with me: “How the world has changed! It is good to have a place where we can examine our arguments.” We were able to build “human networks” during the Summer School. These connections, which will continue into the future, were the greatest gain.



Summer School participants with the Japanese Ambassador to Germany, NAKANE Takeshi, and the German Ambassador to Japan, Dr. Hans Carl von WERTHERN. (© Embassy of Japan)



The participants of the 23rd meeting of the German-Japanese Forum with the German Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel. This advisory board of both governments met on 5th and 6th of November 2014 in the Reichstag/Bundestag (photo: Bundesregierung/Denzel).



The former UN High Commissioner for Refugees Oigata Sadako in discussion with the Ambassador of Afghanistan, H.E. Dr. Sayed Mohammad Amin Fatime, at the conference "Afghanistan – Lessons Learnt and the Road Ahead" that was held on 24 and 25 September 2014 at the Hotel New Otani in Tôkyô in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Institute for International Policy Studies (Tôkyô).



Participants at the symposium "Encouraging Entrepreneurs – Start-Ups in Berlin and Tôkyô" held on 19 September 2014 in the Tôkyô International Forum. The symposium was an event held within the framework of the 20th anniversary of the twinning of Tôkyô and Berlin and was carried out in cooperation with the Tôkyô Metropolitan Government and the State of Berlin.

CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

Conference: Germany – Japan – USA

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin; Institute for International Policy Studies, Tôkyô
Date: to be confirmed in 2015, in Tôkyô

Security Policy Workshop, Track 1.5

C: German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Tôkyô
Date: to be confirmed in 2015, in Tôkyô

Conference: Fiscal Integration in East Asia and Europe – Has the Global Financial Crisis Promoted the Development of Regional Institutions?

C: Institute for Asian Studies, German Institute for Global and Area Studies GIGA, Hamburg
Date: to be confirmed in 2015, in Tôkyô

ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Conference: Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants

C: German Research and Innovation Forum Tôkyô; Technical University of Dresden; Fukui University
Date: 21 or 22 April 2015, in Tôkyô

Conference: Challenges for a Sustainable Energy Supply in Germany, Japan and China

C: Mercator Institute for China Studies MERICS, Berlin
Date: early June 2015

Symposium: Resilient Cities

C: Climate Alliance, Frankfurt/Main; Nagoya University
Date: to be confirmed in 2015, in Nagoya

DEMOGRAPHY

Symposium on Health Policy

C: German Federal Ministry of Health, Berlin; Ministry for Health, Labor and Welfare, Tôkyô
Date: early May 2015

Symposium: Decent Work for All – Why Families in Germany and Japan are Reliant

C: Gießen University; Tsukuba University
Date: November 2015, in Tsukuba and Tôkyô

PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Symposium: The rise of Asia and the State of Asian Studies in Germany: A Critical Evaluation

C: German Association of Asian Studies, Hamburg
28–29 May 2015

Denkwerk 3 (Think Tank 3) "Japan in the 21st Century – Society in Transition?"

C: FU Berlin; Robert Bosch Foundation, Stuttgart
Date: June 2015

Conference: Transformation of Everyday Nutrition in Family Households in a Japanese-German Comparison

C: Gießen University
Date: December 2015

STATE, ECONOMY, SOCIETY

Workshop: Consumer Protection and Food Safety in Asia and Europe: Transnational Perspectives on the Global Agri-Food System

C: Graduate School of East Asian Studies, Free University of Berlin
Date: 18–19 May 2015

Conference: Diversity – Women in Science/ Academia and Politics

C: University Halle Wittenberg; The Japan Foundation, Tōkyō
Date: Autumn 2015, in Tōkyō

Conference: Risks

C: German Institute for Japan Studies, Tōkyō
Date: Autumn 2015

Conference: Future perspectives of young people in Japan and Europe

C: The Japan Foundation, Tōkyō (tbc)
Date: to be confirmed in 2015

Conference: Antitrust Compliance

C: German-Japanese Lawyers Association (Deutsch-Japanische Juristenvereinigung), Hamburg
Date: to be confirmed in 2015, in Berlin or Tōkyō

Conference: Reforms for Successful Economic Locations – Germany and Japan

C: Fujitsu Research Institute FRI, Tōkyō; Institute of the German Economy, Cologne
Date: to be confirmed in 2015, in Tōkyō

DIALOG OF CULTURES

European Policy Seminar

C: European Academy of Otzenhausen, the Center for German and European Studies at the University of Tōkyō in Komaba
Date: September 2015

Symposium: 70 Years after the End of World War II – Remembering the Deployment of Nuclear Weapons in Political Discourses in Japan and Germany

C: Graduate School of East Asian Studies, Free University of Berlin
Date: to be confirmed in 2015

SPECIAL PROJECT

24th German-Japanese Forum

C: Federal Foreign Office, Berlin; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Tōkyō
Date: Autumn 2015, in Tōkyō

CULTURAL EVENTS

DAHLEM MUSICAL SOIREE

New Year's Concert: "Duo Imaginaire" (harp and clarinet)

Simone SEILER (harp) and John CORBETT (clarinet) with works written by contemporary Japanese composers, following the style of Claude DEBUSSY
Date: 16 January 2015, 7.30pm
(Registrations open: 8 January 2015)

Kotomusic (Nishi Yōko, Koto)

C: The Japan Foundation, Tōkyō
Date: February 2015

10 Minutes: German-Japanese Jam Session of Young Musicians

Date: Autumn 2015

EXHIBITION

"Between the Shadows" Paintings and Sculptures by SHIKATA Nanako and Stefan SEITZ

On display until 23 January 2015

ISHII Kanako, N.N.: Photography, Pictures

Date: early February to mid April 2015

FURUKAWA Aika, N.N.: Images, Installations

Date: end of April to end of June 2015

SUZUKI Nanae, Eva-Maria SCHOEN

Date: end of August to end of October 2015

OTHERS

Boys'/Girls' Day: 23 April 2015

JDZB Open House: 20 June 2015

JAPANESE COURSES

Beginning of new language courses on 19 January 2015!

Registration for 2015

on 16 January from 10 am to 2 pm and
17 January from 2 pm to 4 pm
at the JDZB!

CALLIGRAPHY + KANJI COURSE
from 19 January 2015!

Information (in German):

www.jdzb.de/japanischkurse/Kurse

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
- 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

Registration for the Dahlem Musical Soirees will open close to the date

C: = in cooperation with

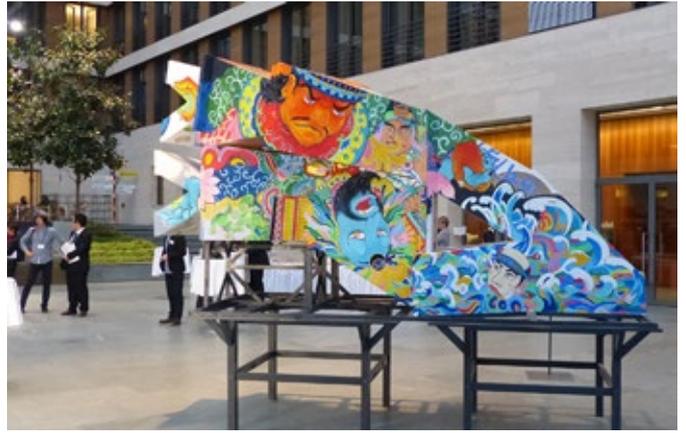
Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise

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



"dreamed/undreamed", the newest piece of music by Iroh Seyko for flute, saxophone, drums, piano and video (violin) at the portrait concert Japallmande of the composer on 31 October 2014 at the JDZB.



Exhibition "Thinking of Energy – from the Experience of Fukushima" by the group of Japanese artists DANDANS that was displayed from 16 October to 13 November 2014 in the atrium of the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin.



Symposium "Scaling the Nation-State – Religion, Language and Ethnicity in Contemporary Japan and Germany" held on 10 and 11 October 2014 at the JDZB, in cooperation with the University of Marburg, Dokkyo University (Tōkyō) and the Japan Association for Asian Studies (Tōkyō).



"European Policy Seminar" held on 15 and 16 September 2014 at the JDZB; in cooperation with the European Academy Otzenhausen and the Center for German and European Studies of the University Tōkyō Komaba.

Visitors watching the video installation at the opening of the joint exhibition "ge schicht et" by GUP-py & Harriet Groß on 11 September 2014. The exhibition was on display until 4 November 2014 at the JDZB.



Lecture by Prof. NARAOKA Sōchi (University of Kyōto) on "The Fate of Interned Japanese during the First World War in Germany" on 2 September 2014 at the JDZB.



129th Dahlem Musical Soiree on 12 September 2014 at the JDZB: The Art of Subtle Sound – Concert with Koto and Shamisen Music from the Edo Period (Tōkyō) from around 1800. (From left) MIYAKO Ryōchū (vocals), KAWAMURA Kyōko alias MIYAKO Ichisumi (vocals and koto), MIYAKO Itchū XII (shamisen), YAMASHITA Naono alias MIYAKO Ichie (vocals and koto).