

## Why Japan?

**Volker KAUDER, MP**

**Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag**

Let's look back about 30 years ago: Japan was the model economy for the West and was duly celebrated in the German press. Japan's rise to number one in the global economy seemed unstoppable. I can still clearly remember the cartoon depicting protesting American workers standing in front of a Japanese factory with the sign "Buy American", from which a Japanese manager emerged with the sign "Buy America". Then, in the nineties, Japan went out of fashion and was somewhat forgotten in Germany. From a political perspective, this is unfortunate. A danger in the fast world we live in, especially for distant friends.

When I visited Japan for the first time in 2010, I was struck by the intense exchanges that exist between Germany and Japan at the scientific level. There are reasons for this: Japan as the world's third largest economy and Germany as the fourth have to deal with quite a few common challenges. What connects them both: it is easier to ascend to the top of the world economy than to remain there permanently.

Our two countries are facing major challenges, such as those associated with a, fortunately, ever longer living population. Or the need to innovate in order to remain economically vi-

able in the leadership team, as well as re-integrating women into the work force market after having children. There are many others: how do we supply energy and raw materials as countries without natural resources? How do we ensure rural and regional areas remain liveable? Do we want immigration, and if yes, in what form? And what does Industry 4.0 mean for us?

Likewise, we are faced with external challenges such as how to deal with an ever stronger China and our common neighbor Russia, which is becoming increasingly unpredictable. We could literally fill libraries



Lecture by Kudō Yasushi on "Civil Diplomacy and International Relations in East Asia" held on 9 February 2015, at the JDZB, in collaboration with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Tōkyō office. Mr. Kudō is the founder and president of the well-known NGO in Japan *The Genron NPO*, whose goal is to improve neighborly relations in Northeast Asia. A report of the lecture will be provided in the next *jdzb echo* edition.

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with the answers to these questions in Germany and Japan, especially as sometimes different approaches in both countries can be highly instructive. This alone shows how important is the political exchange between Japan and Germany.

Needless to say, I have never been short of conversation topics during my past five visits to Japan – and further visits will follow for that reason. And naturally I've fallen for the charms of traditional Japan with my previous stays in Kyôto, Nara and on the island of Miyajima and in Tôkyô, for the wonderful paintings, the artistic ceramics and of course the incomparable cuisine!

The fact that Japan, threatened by colonial powers at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century, so quickly found a place as a world leader was probably because outside of Europe and the United States nowhere else was there a population so well educated – and this despite centuries of isolation. The Japanese people of today have always impressed me with their vast knowledge. An important reason for this is the major Japanese newspapers published with world leading daily circulations in their millions. In my interviews with Japanese journalists

I learned over and over again about how excellent their knowledge is of Germany. I also felt that Germany is currently en vogue not only for its traditional strengths such as classical music and German intellectual life but also for issues such as the energy transition and Industry 4.0 and soccer – after all, there are only a few Bundesliga teams left with no Japanese players – and for modern quality products.

Unfortunately, we also have to admit that the once far-reaching exchange between our two countries among the younger generation is again in need of reinforcement. Against this background, I think it's important to support the existing institutions and to think hard about more opportunities. Only when enough young Japanese people visit our country and young Germans can experience first-hand Japanese culture, can we succeed in keeping the bridge that connects us so stable.

I am very pleased all the more that the political exchange between Japan and Germany has found enormous momentum again lately. Last year, Prime Minister ABE and Foreign Minister KISHIDA visited Germany, the intense and lively discussions of the German-Japanese Forum were held in the Reichstag building, and soon our Federal Chancellor will

visit Japan. We should now use this dynamic to create advantages for mutual interest. Rest assured, I will continue to make every effort.

(Photo: CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group)



Dear Readers!

Chair of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, MP Volker KAUDER, comments in his front page article how interest in Japan has dwindled in Germany since the 1990s, however both countries are facing similar problems in international relations and domestic politics. Although the way these problems are addressed is different, wide-ranging and useful information can still be drawn. This is an idea based on a very constructive approach. It is highly encouraging that influential MPs from the German governing political parties can attach such positive meaning to Germany-Japan exchange.

It is well known that Germany and Japan are currently pursuing different strategies in terms of fiscal and monetary policy, or nuclear power generation. However, it would be hasty to think that they are following different global directions. As pointed out in the article by Mr KAUDER, there are numerous commonalities in both countries, both in social foundations as well as prevailing social conditions. And above all, both countries are very much involved in peaceful and democratic developments around the world. Overall, a united Germany and Japan can play an important role in many areas.

The reports on food safety, robot ethics and work-life balance also show how both countries can learn from each other and together play a positive role in the world.

SAKATO Masaru  
Deputy Secretary General of the JDZB

#### jdzb echo

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**The JDZB will hold a workshop on “Consumer Protection and Food Safety in Japan and East Asia” on 18 and 19 May 2015. Below is an interview with Prof. Cornelia REIHER, Graduate School of East Asian Studies GEAS at the Freie Universität Berlin, who provided conceptual and organizational support for the workshop.**

*In your research you deal a lot with the production, trade and consumption of food. What do we mean by the term “food safety”?*

Food safety cannot be defined clearly and permanently. What consumers are presented with as “safe” is the result of countless and ever ongoing negotiations between governments, scientists, the food industry, agricultural representatives, consumer advocates and many other stakeholders. For example, the limits for radioactivity in Japan were determined after the nuclear disaster at the end of March 2011 and then revised a year later. The provisional limits were first shown to be safe and many Japanese citizens accordingly asked themselves why more stringent limits were required a year later. There is a huge uncertainty related to food safety, especially among consumers.

*Most literature states that foods today are safer than they ever were in history, however, at the same time we have regular recurring food crises (BSE, avian flu, E. coli, dioxin etc.) that lead to continued uncertainty - how can they go together?*

Through the globalization of the food industry, the complexity and geographical range of supply chains has increased. Food passes through many more hands today, and if something happens the spatial distribution of pathogens is much larger and occurs more quickly. However, mass media plays an important role in our perception of food scandals, risks and diseases since it can both inform and irritate.

*This is a complex issue: What is the starting point of the workshop, are there any focus areas, who are the target groups?*

The workshop on food safety and consumer protection in Japan focuses on policy-making at the government level, such as the setting of standards, international policies or the work of the Food Safety Commission. At the same time

we will have presentations on how food safety risks are dealt with in Japanese society, for example, the protest against free trade agreements such as the TPP or the important role of measuring radioactive contaminated food after Fukushima. A third panel is concerned with food security in East Asia. Presentations on China and Korea should make it possible to identify links between the East Asian countries and draw comparisons. The target audience includes both scientists and the general public. I would be particularly pleased to attract consumer advocates as participants.

*What kind of room to maneuver do government and non-government actors have at all when trying to protect consumers from hazards that could originate from food? Is there any kind of risk communication?*

Risk communication strategies are carried out by the government, companies and civic groups. However, for example, the Japanese government’s risk communication for Fukushima was heavily criticized for its delay and vagueness; whereas reactions following incidents with foreign foods are often very quick and excessively cautious. Information from different stakeholders often contradicts one another (not only) in Japan, and consumers have to consider whom to believe and what consequences they ultimately take from this information. Nevertheless, consumer advocate groups have always made it easier in the past for consumers to access information, for example, by successfully enforcing the labeling of genetically modified foods.

*During your two research visits to Japan you have already worked on food standards labeling and weighing the importance of consumer and producer interests, for example radioactive contaminated food after Fukushima. What insights have you gained?*

One of the main lessons for me has been that it is not possible to talk about food



safety in Japan without considering the complexity of regional and global supply chains. In particular, China and the United States are continually mentioned in the context of food scandals and the currently negotiated free trade agreements TPP. Of course in a country like Japan, which needs to import more than 60% of its food, this is not surprising. This made me think that when we talk about food risks, spatial relationships often play a role. This can be in, for example, the construction of risk-areas. Contaminated growing regions are demarcated differently, place of origin labeling are based on consumer strategies, to avoid foods from certain countries or prefectures, and Chinese or American agricultural products are demonized. These assessments are often not based on rigorous scientific risk assessment; instead, they draw on the experience of individual food scandals and national stereotypes. I find how these issues are intertwined with politics and consumer behavior very exciting.

A second important finding is that the different stakeholders involved in the commodity chain must be involved in the investigation of food safety in order to be able to cope with the complexity of the issue. This includes farmers, food processing companies, supermarkets and consumers, among others. What does it mean for the individual farmer when, for example, supermarkets set certain standards for food safety? Who pays for the inspection, documentation systems and certification? These are extremely important issues not only for farmers in Japan.

## Symposium “Roboethics”: Technology Assessment and Responsible Innovation in Japan and Germany

Sebastian HOFSTETTER, Department of Political Science and Japanese Studies, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

Japan and Germany are two countries that rely increasingly on technology in many aspects of everyday life; this was the focus of a symposium held on 4 December 2014 at the JDZB. The aim of the symposium was to discuss how ethical issues, quality of life issues, taking into account the interests of users and risk assessment, can be integrated into the development of robotic technology at an earlier stage in order to promote sustainable dialogue between all stakeholders. At the same time, the conference also sought to open up the possibility of encouraging interdisciplinary and cultural exchange on questions related to how we should shape a future life of living closely together with technological artifacts, and how much power of influence, action and design still belongs to the individual.

Japan and Germany are now more than ever affected by demographic and economic changes, but also changes in values. The age of technology will increasingly infiltrate everyday life and personal living environments. Two engineers, a specialist in technology assessment and a philosopher provided insights into their work at the symposium. The main focus was on the range of service and personal service robotics, where they discussed to what extent overall social changes in the post-industrialized nations of Japan and Germany, in view of their specific cultural and demographic contexts, contribute toward increasing acceptance of autonomous technical artifacts within a defined scope.

The JDZB’s Secretary General, Dr. Friederike BOSSE, highlighted the similarities and differences between the two countries Japan and Germany, and pointed out how the symposium could be seen as a “follow-up” to the conference “Human-robot interaction from an intercultural perspective: Japan and Germany as a comparison” (December 2010); she underlined its importance through the JDZB’s decision to hold another event on the topic.

Dr. Cosima WAGNER (FU Berlin), who was responsible for the conference concept, highlighted the expectations of a “next generation” of Japanese robotics. At the same time she made it clear that research on robotics has now also reached a level in Germany that makes it necessary to accelerate the formulation and discussion of ethical principles. For this reason WAGNER concluded, it was especially interesting to learn which measures the two nations are taking to incorporate ethical issues and user interests in research and development early on, how we can create sustainable discussions and what role is played especially by government agencies – e.g., in the field of regulation and financing. She also suggested a paradigm shift from a retrospective engineers-only access towards a more forward-thinking approach to accomplish a development of “responsible innovation”.

Two panels, each with two lectures approached the problem areas from technological, ethical and social aspects. Both in Japan and Germany diverse policies promoting social technologies have been initiated already. Prof. Michael DECKER (Karl-

sruhe Institute of Technology KIT) argued that innovation is always associated with “creative destruction”. Under the heading “responsibly – responsible – accountable”, DECKER clearly outlined his concept of social and technical innovation. Prof. SANKAI Yoshiyuki (Cyberdyne/Tsukuba University) highlighted the importance of human modification as social innovation. For example, using the robot suit HAL he illustrated the technical possibilities for a way to a “zero intensive nursing care society”. Increasing mechanization of everyday life in Japan brings many positive aspects to the field of caring for older people, commented Prof. HONDA Kōjirō (Kanazawa Medical University). Nevertheless, HONDA stressed that increased public debate on the one hand and a shift from a retrospective to a proactive approach to development on the other is more urgent in Japan, whereby his co-drafted “Charter of Roboethics” provides initial recommendations. In the last lecture of the symposium Horst-Michael GROSS (TU Ilmenau) presented the SERROGA project, a completely hands-on project. At the same time GROSS expressed his wish for a rapid introduction of regulatory standards in order to provide developers with security, which is socially desirable.

The presentations of the four researchers showed that there are similar backgrounds in Japan and Germany for an increased use of technology in social sectors; however the approaches to implementation differ in both countries. One conclusion was that social robotics will play a key role in addressing the implications of demographic change and the associated increased need for care. Another outcome of the conference was that increased interdisciplinary and social debate is now more urgent than ever in terms of establishing a socio-ethical approach.



## German-Japanese Exchange Program for Young Employees

HATAYAMA Kôji, Sales Representative

Nakamura Co. Ltd. (Baked goods and food), Store Tôkyô

“I would like to form a new perspective of how Japanese work, of whom it is said, they work too much and aren’t very happy, and point out a possible approach for changing how we organize work.”

This was my goal for attending the exchange program in Germany (5 to 18 August 2014). I would like to report here especially on actual learning, and in particular about the “work-life balance”.

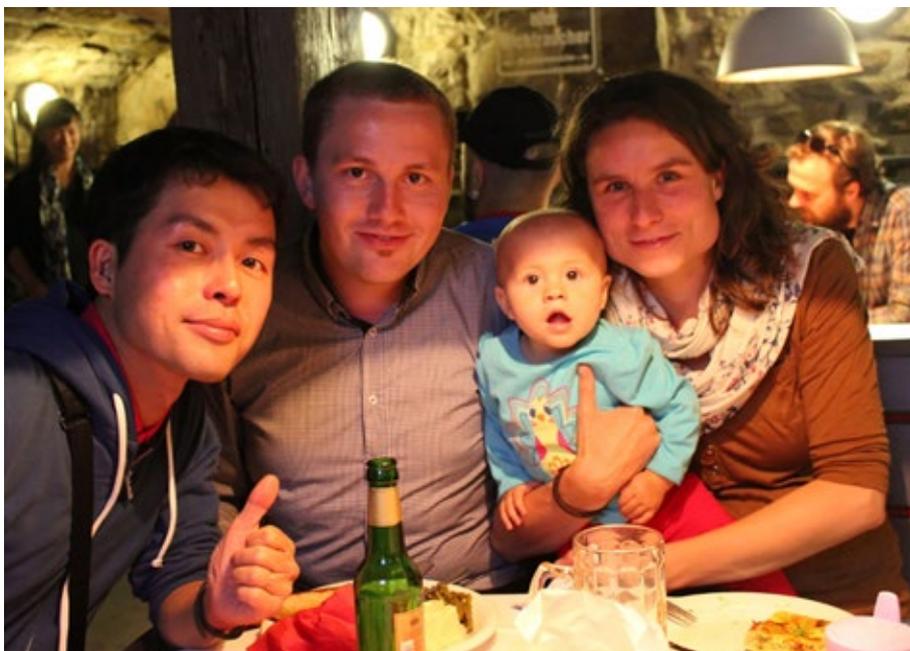
The differences in attitude to “work” were striking to me. I had a vague idea of the “realization of the Work-Life Balance = unifying work and family (especially parenting)”. But this is too simplistic. The attitude of the Germans to work is based on the idea of being able to live a better life if various, individually different factors are in equilibrium: vacations, a pleasant working environment, time for family and friends, hobbies, health, religion, etc. It was clearly felt that work is above all a key factor for intellectual satisfaction. What I did not find in Germany, however, was the Japanese mindset which can be happy in the ceaseless work of the individual, the system and finally the family. When I was invited to a birthday party at my host family I was confronted with the question, “Why do Japanese work every day until late and without a break?” and I felt embarrassed. More progressive than in Japan, in Germany men and women – even mothers with children – work when they want. The realization of the work-life balance enriches lives and provides greater perspective. This is the real meaning of work-life balance. However, when we were visiting a German company and we talked about the issue of parental leave for men and I asked, “You’re married and you’ve just had a baby – can you imagine taking parental leave yourself?” The men smiled and didn’t answer. At this moment, the difference between expectation and reality became clear and I had a familiar feeling.

The second thing I realized were the differences in ideas and initiatives for work-life balance within the companies, for example, with regard to paid leave, how overtime is dealt with or the diversity in forms of

employment. In Germany, state and local governments work together to develop initiatives to improve the work-life balance. In Japan, the youth unemployment is of great concern, and even formal recognition of this problem is still difficult. Paid vacation leave is taken for granted in Germany. In Japan, most employees feel guilty and many companies still work according to the old philosophy that there is no need to take a vacation. With the exception of certain fields, there is no overtime in Germany, and when they occur, they are paid or compensated with time off. Permanent overtime is the responsibility of the supervisors within the labor organization; optimization of time management and writing up progress reports and results are dealt with more strictly than in Japan. I came to understand that the difference between the principle of self-responsibility in Germany and the Japanese group principle is also related to overtime. In Japanese companies, things develop simultaneously and there is a spirit of mutual assistance. This makes it difficult to stop work punctually and favors overtime. Both models have advantages and disadvantages: In Germany, where work is done in a completely individual arrangement, and in Japan, where we sit at desks facing each other. Overtime probably has a

bit to do with national characteristics. Upon my return, I explained to my supervisors and colleagues the different ways of dealing with paid leave, optimizing work and using leisure time after work. For our own field, I proposed the following initiatives: (1) eliminate the waiver on paid leave, (2) introduce two days per week without overtime, and (3) give highest priority to increasing efficiency; for work that is time consuming or difficult, solutions should be sought for by the team. These three initiatives will be implemented as short-term objectives.

My company is part of the manufacturing sector and we work around the clock. Since our customers (wholesale buyers) work throughout the year almost without a break and are open from morning until late at night, it is difficult for us to take leave. In particular sales representatives like us, with irregular working hours, spend little time in the office, and we have to be flexible and adjust to local conditions, and things often don’t go to plan. Nevertheless typical Japanese working practices persist, such as supporting colleagues during heavy workloads in short turn-around periods etc., and I will continue to support better work processes. Above all, I would like to continue to spend as much time as possible with my family, i.e., finish work punctually two days a week so I can put my two year old son to bed and read him a story or help my wife with chores.



The author with his guest family during his stay in Germany (© HATAYAMA)



Prof. Ellis KRAUSS (University of California, San Diego) at the annual meeting of the German Association for Social Sciences Research on Japan that dealt with the topic "Trust and Mistrust in Contemporary Japan" from 21 to 23 November 2014 at the JDZB. Prof. KRAUSS (born 1944), one of the leading American experts on Japan and Japan-US relations, was commemorated for his work at the conference and congratulated on his imminent retirement.



NAKAMURA Yoshitoshi (Deputy Director General, Dept. of Non-Proliferation and Science, Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and the German Ambassador to Japan, Dr. Hans Carl von WERTHERN, at the opening of the workshop on security issues in the Center for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (CPDNP) at the Japan Institute for International Affairs in Tōkyō on 9 December 2014. Chair was TARUI Sumio, Director of the CPDNP; co-organizer was the Heinrich Böll Foundation.



New Year's Concert on 16 January 2015 at the JDZB: The Duo Imaginaire with Simone SEILER (harp) and John CORBETT (clarinet) with "Japanese Echoes" – Japanese compositions, a homage to Claude DEBUSSY.



Advent Concert held on 19 December 2014 at the JDZB: Danjulo ISHIZAKA (cello) and Michèle Yuki GURDAL (piano) with works by TAKEMITSU Tōru, Robert SCHUMANN, L. v. BEETHOVEN, W. A. MOZART and César FRANCK.



Left photo: Dance performance by NAGAO Akemi at the opening of the exhibition "Habitus" by Stefanie REICHEL (photography) and FURUKAWA Aika (paintings) on 6 February 2015 at the JDZB.

Right photo: 132<sup>nd</sup> Dahlem Musical Soiree held on 11 February 2015: "Timbre of Koto" solo concert with Japanese multiple-stringed zither played by NISHI Yōko.



The participants of the symposiums "Children's Health", held on 1 December 2014, at the JDZB. Cooperation partners included the University of Chiba, the Berlin School of Public Health of Charité – University Clinic Berlin and the Embassy of Japan; including the Japanese Ambassador NAKANE Takeshi (front row 7<sup>th</sup> from right) and medical doctor Prof. MORI Chisato (5<sup>th</sup> from right), the great-grandson of the writer and military doctor MORI Ōgai, who studied in Berlin in the 1880s. (photo: ENTERS)

## CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

## GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

**Conference: Security Missions Abroad**

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin; Institute for International Policy Studies, Tôkyô  
15 or 16 September 2015, in Tôkyô

**Security Policy Workshop, Track 1.5**

C: German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Tôkyô  
Date: Autumn 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: Technological and Educational Resources for the Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities**

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

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

C: Mercator Institute for China Studies ME-RICS, Berlin  
9 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  
22–24 October 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: Food Safety and Consumer Advocacy in Japan and East Asia**

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

**Conference: Antitrust Compliance**

C: German-Japanese Lawyers Association, Hamburg  
15 June 2015

**Conference: Reforms for Successful Economic Locations – Germany and Japan**

C: Fujitsu Research Institute FRI, Tôkyô; Institute of the German Economy, Cologne  
Date: September 2015, in Tôkyô

**Conference: Diversity – Women in Science/Academia and Politics**

C: University Halle Wittenberg; The Japan Foundation, Tôkyô  
Date: October 2015, in Tôkyô

**Conference: Risks**

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

## DIALOG OF CULTURES

**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, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Berlin  
16 October 2015

## SPECIAL PROJECT

**24<sup>th</sup> German-Japanese Forum**

C: Federal Foreign Office, Berlin; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Tôkyô  
28–29 October 2015, in Tôkyô

## CULTURAL EVENTS

## DAHLEM MUSICAL SOIREE

**10 Minutes: German-Japanese Jam Session of Young Musicians**

Date: Autumn 2015

## EXHIBITION

**"Habitus" by Stefanie REICHEL (photographs) and FURUKAWA Aika (paintings)**

On display: 9 February until 31 March 2015

**"Borders" Photographs by ISHII Kanako**

Opening: 24 April 2015

On display: 27 April until 26 June 2015

**"MITATE/als wenn" by Eva-Maria SCHOEN (paintings) and SUZUKI Nanae (paintings & photographs)**

Opening: 26 August 2015

On display: 27 August until end of October 2015

**Paintings by MURAYAMA Nobuhiko**

On display: November 2015 until January 2016

## OTHERS

Boys' Day: 23 April 2015

JDZB Open House: 20 June 2015

## 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

**“Borders” Photographs by Ishii Kanako Opening on 24 April, on display from 27 April to 26 June 2015**

The photographer Ishii Kanako, who lives in Berlin, deals with landscapes and the state of cities that have evolved from historical urban development processes. She is interested in highlighting the transition between the visible and the seemingly hidden in her pictures. (above right photo © Ishii).



**“MITATE/als wenn” by Eva-Maria SchöN (paintings, © photo left) and Suzuki Nanae (paintings and photographs, © photo above); Opening on 26 August, on display from 27 August to end of October 2015**

Both artists live in Berlin and use art to track the repetitions and variations of certain movements or patterns. Amazing, unexpected images emerge that somehow seem familiar, but at the same time take the viewer into an unknown world.

**“Habitus” by Stefanie Reichelt (photographs) and Furukawa Aika (paintings); on display from 9 February to 31 March 2015**



The Leipzig-based Japanese artist Furukawa (photo left © Furukawa) is interested in conditions, situations and gestures of everyday people. As examples, she presents large image formats of crumpled pieces of clothing or bedding, which draw the viewer into a mysterious vortex.



The photographer Stefanie Reichelt (photo left © Reichelt) presents a series of portraits that were taken in Japan and show how much hidden information we can read through people's sitting posture, and how cultural identities are revealed in their postures.



The Japanese artist Murayama Nobuhiko lives in Berlin since 2010. He paints on the back of the canvas pushing the oils through to the front, whereby small dots of color create a picture. By using this technique the entire surface is divided into a detailed material reaction where Murayama lets the image appear as phenomena. (photo © Murayama)