

Keeping up the momentum of ten years of collaborative research



"In 2009, EHESS approved the creation of a university foundation tasked with strengthening intellectual exchange between Japan and France. What sparked off this endeavour was our conviction that it was possible to develop new collaboration on transversal topics that go beyond intra-European or transatlantic research and that associate academic and extra-academic actors. Our objective was, and is, to seek alternative methods of organizing conferences and research programmes, as well as to receive our Japanese colleagues by international standards. FFJ wishes to continue making an original contribution to the world of research through its initiatives and collaboration."

Sébastien Lechevalier
Professor at EHESS
President of the Fondation France-Japon de l'EHESS

A prestigious and stimulating environment

FFJ was created within the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, EHESS), a unique and prestigious school within the research community and higher education in France. In 2020, EHESS and FFJ will be relocated to the Campus Condorcet, an international campus for the humanities and social sciences, one of the biggest in Europe. This dynamic and evolving environment in Seine-Saint-Denis will provide FFJ with exceptional opportunities to facilitate exchanges with other universities and to extend its network of partners within the extra-academic sectors.

Achievements since 2009

- 69 Visiting researchers
- 47 Working papers
- 68 Research contracts
- 3 375 400 € Total funding

Promoting an open approach

In line with EHESS, the FFJ team favours an interdisciplinary approach (including economics, sociology, political science, urban planning, anthropology...) in its scientific research. Five strongly interlinked research themes guide FFJ's activities, with a view to allow projects and collaborators to circulate from one theme to another.

Our research themes

- Asian Capitalisms: Diversity and Institutional Change
- Re-exploring the World and Breaking Down Barriers Between Cultural Areas
- Thinking Innovation through the Interactions between Science, Culture and Society
- Rethinking Global Cities: Global Issues and Local Practices
- Inequalities and Social Policies

Cross-cutting research projects

- Global Islamic Market: Asian Perspectives on the Diversity of Capitalism
- Innovation Beyond Technology: Science for Society and Interdisciplinary Approaches
- Impact of the 2020-2024 Olympics on Global Cities' Urban Policies

Encouraging publication

With its Discussion Papers Series, (open-access and in English) FFJ hopes to contribute to the dissemination of scientific results, especially following visits from international researchers.

FFJ is also proud to recognize the quality of students' and young researchers' writing through two awards: the Christian Polak/FFJ Prize for the Best Master's Thesis on Japan and the FFJ/SASE Award for the Best Paper on Asia.

Building an international scientific community

Visiting researchers

One of the core missions of FFJ is to welcome Japanese researchers, as well as other international researchers studying Japan, with a special commitment to diversifying profiles in terms of discipline, age, gender, and country of origin. Our fellowship programme, which covers several thematic fellowships funded by our partners, allows international researchers to be hosted in Paris for a long research stay, thus creating the opportunity for a close collaboration between the fellows, FFJ and its partners.

Research fellowships

- Air Liquide Fellowship: "Visioning the Future of Human-Machine Relationships: Collaborative Researches between Japan and France" (2020-2022)
- Banque de France Fellowship: "Macroeconomics and Economic Policy: Which Lessons from the Japanese Experience?" (2015-2024)
- Fondation Michelin Fellowship: "Transport Systems in the 21st Century" (2020-2022)

International conferences and workshops

FFJ organizes scientific events in Europe and Asia with local universities and research institutions.

Series of international events

- International workshops in Kyoto and Paris on "Inequalities and Preference for Redistribution" in collaboration with Doshisha University and PSE
- Joint symposia in Paris, Berlin and Tokyo on "Labor Market Inequalities - Experiences and Perspectives from France, Germany and Japan" in collaboration with DIJ and JDZB
- Annual meetings in Paris, Tokyo, Oxford and Berlin on "Understanding institutional change in Asia: a comparative perspective with Europe" in collaboration with Waseda University, the University of Oxford and FUB

Le Cercle de la FFJ

Through the years, we have developed a large international network of researchers, young and experienced alike, in the humanities and social sciences, as well as extra-academic experts. To highlight this network and foster cooperation between its members, in November 2019, we launched the Cercle de la FFJ, which will organize an annual meeting and publish a bi-annual journal to share their experience.

Bringing together academic and extra-academic actors

A specific approach

The underlying challenge of the Fondation France-Japon de l'EHESS' collaboration with companies and corporate foundations, and one of its main missions, is to connect the worlds of research and business. This dialogue is based on how the humanities and social sciences can contribute, through a theoretical framework providing the necessary perspective on studied phenomena, to understanding the major challenges we face and identifying how to address these challenges.

Examples of collaboration

- A short-term study focused on a specific topic and discussed in a workshop with the partner
- A fellowship funded by the partner to welcome distinguished international scholars
- A multi-annual and multi-faceted research programme, including a series of meetings, publications and a public conference

Our partners

For ten years, FFJ has been promoting collaboration between the academic and extra-academic sectors through the development of some forty partnerships, bringing together actors from universities and research institutions, local authorities, major companies, French and Japanese ministries and embassies, and private foundations.



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