Growth, Innovation and Inequality
What the World Can Learn from Japan

Tuesday 4 June 2019, 10:00 - 19:00
Maison de la Culture du Japon à Paris
101 bis Quai Branly, 75015 Paris
Simultaneous English-French translation
Free entry on registration: ffj@ehess.fr

This international conference is organized for the 10th anniversary of the Fondation France-Japon de l’EHESS (FFJ) and hosted by the Maison de la culture du Japon in Paris (MCJP). It aims to discuss some of the major economic, political and societal challenges of the 21st century – growth, innovation, inequality – with the belief that it is possible to learn from Japan’s answers to these challenges, especially in terms of public policy. It is crucial to delve into these issues in this atmosphere of increasing uncertainty and tension in various forms. From a perspective that is both multidisciplinary and combines the views of France and Japan, this event will bring together figures from the worlds of academia, institutions and business.

Programme

9:30 │ Welcome to the participants
10:00-10:30 │ Opening Session
10:30-12:30 │ Round Table n°1 “Growth: a secular stagnation?”
14:00-16:00 │ Round Table n°2 “Innovation beyond technology”
16:30-18:30 │ Round Table n°3 “What inequality? What answers? Inclusive growth or redistribution?”
18:30-19:00 │ Closing Session
10:00-10:30 | Opening Session

Opening Speeches

Tsutomu Sugiura, MCJP, President
Maurice Gourdault-Montagne, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Secretary-General
Christophe Prochasson, EHESS, President

Introduction

Sébastien Lechevalier, EHESS, President of FFJ

10:30-12:30 | Round Table n°1 “Growth: a secular stagnation?”

Like many other OECD countries, France and Japan have experienced low growth for the past few decades, after a period of high growth, fuelling debates on secular stagnation. The purpose of this round table is to compare perspectives from different disciplines, geographic areas and sectors on this complex phenomenon. In particular, the following topic will be discussed: the link between demography and economic growth; the notion of optimal growth from an environment point of view; the relevance of indicators for measuring national wealth and well-being; the growth prospects in non-OECD regions such as Africa, China and other Asian countries, as well as those of sectors (information and communication technologies, ICT); the more material aspects of growth and urban reduction.

Chair

Christian Sautter, EHESS, Professor and Vice President of FFJ, Economist

Speakers

Beatriz Fernández, EHESS, Associate Professor, Urban planner
Yoshinori Hiroi, Kyoto University, Professor, Public policies and philosophy of science
Dominique Méda, Paris-Dauphine University - PSL, Professor, Sociologist
Brieuc Monfort, Sophia University, Associate Professor, Economist
Hugh Whittaker, University of Oxford, Professor, Economic sociologist
Bernard Yvetot, Orange, Vice President International Strategy

12:30-14:00 | Lunch break

14:00-16:00 | Round Table n°2 “Innovation beyond technology”

If there is one subject on which there is consensus today, it is the importance of innovation, whether at the level of a nation’s economy or of a company. However, the innovation paradigm has been heavily criticized for several years now following disasters (e.g., nuclear), health scandals (e.g., related to the use of specific medications or pesticides), but also after the realization of a discrepancy between the growth of R&D investment and the stagnation of well-being. In this context, this round table aims to contribute to the debate on the nature and goal of innovation. Experts on innovation, those responsible for science and technology policy in governments, for research policy in the major scientific institutions, for R&D in the most innovative companies, will discuss the importance of social innovation beyond technology, the criteria for evaluating desirable innovation from a social point of view, but also the role of the social sciences and humanities, basing this discussion on many examples in the fields of artificial intelligence, robotics, transport, healthcare and the environment.

Chair

Saadi Lahlou, London School of Economics, Professor and Paris IAS, Director, Social psychology

Speakers

Guillaume Devauchelle, Valeo, Vice President, Innovation and scientific development
Yuko Harayama, Tohoku University, Emeritus Professor, Sciences and research management
Romain Huret, EHESS, Professor and Vice President for research, Historian
Yukiko Ito, Tsuda University, Professor, Economist
Akira Morita, JST, Director General of RISTEX
James Wright, EHESS, FFJ/Michelin Fellow, Anthropologist

16:00-16:30 | Break
Neither Japan or France have escaped the current trend of rising inequality. However, this increase has a specific and worrying form for each country, with the emergence of new forms of poverty. Faced with this situation, we must ask ourselves, how do we define the new social compromises that will effectively reduce inequality to a more acceptable level for society as a whole. Two main options are on the table: a more substantial ex-post redistribution (mainly through tax); and/or outlining a more inclusive growth model for ex-ante reduction of inequality. This round table aims to discuss these two options through contributions from scholars and the major international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as by extending the discussion to other regions of the world.

Chair
  Sébastien Lechevalier, EHESS, Professor and President of FFJ, Economist

Speakers
  Romina Boarini, OECD, Senior Advisor and Coordinator of the Inclusive Growth Initiative
  Pedro Manuel Monreal Gonzalez, UNESCO, Sector for Social and Human Sciences
  Serge Paugam, EHESS, Professor, Sociologist
  T.J. Pempel, University of California, Berkeley, Professor, International relations
  Virginie Troit, French Red Cross Foundation, Director
  Toru Yoshida, Hokkaido University, Professor, Political scientist

18:30-18:30 | Round Table n°3 “What inequality? What answers? Inclusive growth or redistribution?”

18:30-19:00 | Closing session

Speeches
  Masato Kitera, Ambassador of Japan in France
  Louis Schweitzer, President of the MCJP Advisory Board
Romina Boarini is Senior Advisor and Coordinator of the Inclusion Growth Initiative. In this capacity, Romina assists the Chief of Staff in coordinating the Inclusive Growth (IG) Initiative and advancing the IG framework, including better understanding of the policy levers and instruments to foster a strong agenda for inclusive growth; she also works with the senior managers to ensure strong contributions from the Organisation to the IG initiative. Romina has worked as Deputy Head of the Well-Being Division of the Statistics Directorate and the Head of the Well-Being and Progress Section, where she was responsible for OECD Better Life Initiative, the statistical pillar of the OECD Inclusive Growth Initiative and the OECD Pilot Study on SDGs. She holds a PhD in Economics from the École Polytechnique (Paris). Her research interests include wellbeing, poverty, distributive justice, experimental and behavioural economics.

Guillaume Devauchelle has been Vice-President, Innovation and Scientific Development of the Valeo Group for the past five years. Prior to this, he headed up the Group’s R&D teams starting in 2004. He joined the Valeo Group in 2000 following the acquisition of Sylea, where he was Vice-President. Since graduating from École Centrale de Paris in 1981, he has spent his entire career in the aerospace and automotive equipment industries. He is particularly involved in public-private research initiatives in his capacity as: Member of the National Academy of Technologies of France; Vice-President of French graduate school of engineering ESIGELEC; Member of the Bureau at French urban mobility institute Vedecom; Member of the Board of Directors of CETIM, a technical center for mechanical industries; Member of the Board of Directors of the French National Research and Technology Agency (ANRT).

Beatriz Fernández is an architect and urban planner. Beatriz Fernández joins the EHESS as an Associate Professor proposing an interdisciplinary research project on urban studies, where she crosses spatial, policy and social approaches. Her research focuses on the territorial transformations of contemporary cities in a comparative and historical perspective. She is particularly interested in the socio-spatial impacts of urban growth and shrinkage, as well as in the urban policies and planning guiding these processes. She is a member of the research lab Géographie Cités (UMR 8504) and co-chair of the PhD Academy of the Shrinking Cities International Research Network (SCiRN). She has been a visiting scholar at Columbia University, Institut d’urbanisme de Paris, Bauhaus Dessau Foundation and Dortmund Technical University.

Maurice Gourdault-Montagne is Secretary-General of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs since 2017. From 1979, he has held several positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and within the French government. He has been Principal Private Secretary to Prime Minister Alain Juppé (1995-1997) and Senior Diplomatic Counsellor to President Jacques Chirac and G8 Sherpa (2002-2007). From 1998 to 2002, he was French Ambassador in Tokyo, then, French Ambassador in London (2007-2011), in Berlin (2011-2014) and in Beijing (2014-2017). He is a graduate from the Paris Institut d’Études Politiques and from INALCO (French school of oriental studies, Hindi and Urdu Studies).

Dr. Yuko Harayama is the former Executive Member of the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, Cabinet Office of Japan. She is the former Deputy Director of the Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD. She is a Legion D’Honneur recipient (Chevalier), and was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Neuchâtel. Previously, she was Professor in the Department of Management Science and Technology at the Graduate School of Engineering of Tohoku University. She holds a Ph.D. in educational sciences and a Ph.D. in economics, both from the University of Geneva.

Yoshinori Hiroi is Professor at Kyoto University and Vice Director of the Kokoro Research Center. After earning B.A. and M.A. from University of Tokyo, he became a government official of Ministry of Health and Welfare in 1986. He became Professor at Chiba University in 2003, and he moved to Kyoto University in 2016. He was a visiting scholar at MIT between 2001 and 2002. Professor Hiroi’s major concerns are public policy and philosophy of science, and he has written many books in Japanese including Social Security of Japan (1999), Steady-state Society (2001) and Post-Capitalism (2015). He received Japan Economist Award in 2000 and Osaragi Award in Social Sciences in 2010. Professor Hiroi has served as a member of several committees of the Japanese government, including the Committee for the 21st Century Vision of Japan, advisory body to Prime Minister in 1999, Committee for the Revival of Education, advisory body to Prime Minister in 2009, Committee on the Measurement of Well-Being of the Cabinet Office in 2010.
on the trial of Andrew W. Mellon for tax evasion in the 1930s. He also initiated two investigations: one on the practice of inheritance in the 19th and 20th centuries; the other on singles from colonial times to the present.

Yukiko Ito
Yukiko Ito is Professor of Policy Studies at Tsuda University, Tokyo and holds visiting appointments at University of Tokyo, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, and Mie University. Her research examines how companies choose locations for their production/delivery of goods and services, and how these choices affect their company-wide productivity. She approaches cross-national and cross-regional comparison using multi-level statistical modelling. Her current projects examine the sustainable hospital location and services in Japan under population onus. She received her B.A. in Economics with Honors from the University of Tokyo, and Ph.D. in Economics from Brown University, USA.

Masato Kitera
Masato Kitera is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to France since 2016. He graduated from The University of Tokyo (Law Faculty) in 1976 and entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA). In 1995, he was Private Secretary to the Chief Cabinet Minister. In 2006, he became Ambassador in charge of United Nations Affairs, Foreign Policy Bureau and in 2008, Director-General for African Affairs. In 2012, he was Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary to the Cabinet Secretariat before becoming Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the People’s Republic of China.

Saadi Lahlou
Saadi Lahlou is Director of the Paris Institute for Advanced Study and Chair in Social Psychology at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He has a multidisciplinary background (statistics, economics, human biology, and a habilitation in Psychology). He has directed four research units (Consumer Research at the Crédoc, Social Forecast Group and then Laboratory of design for Cognition at EDF R&D, Department of Social Psychology at the LSE) and served in the steering committee of the French Prime Minister’s Commissariat Général du Plan. His recent research focuses on digital ethno-graphy and the impact of context on behaviour.

Romain Huret
Romain Huret is a historian, Professor and Vice President for research at EHESS. His main focus is on economic and social inequalities in the United States. His first books, published by EHESS, focused on poverty in the United States. In 2014, he published American Tax Resisters at Harvard University Press. He is currently completing a book on the trial of Andrew W. Mellon for tax evasion in the 1930s.

Sébastien Lechevalier
Sébastien Lechevalier is an Economist, Professor at EHESS (School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences, Paris), he holds the Chair “Asian Capitalisms: Diversity and Institutional Change”. Founder and President of the Fondation France-Japon de l’EHESS (FFJ), he currently coordinates the INCAS Project (Understanding Institutional Change in Asia: A Comparative Perspective with Europe) under the EU Horizon 2020 programme. His book, The Great Transformation of Japanese Capitalism (Routledge, 2014) was published in three languages. It posits an alternative analysis of the Japanese economic trajectory since the early 1980s, and argues that whereas policies inspired by neo-liberalism have been presented as a solution to the Japanese crisis, these policies have in fact been one of the causes of the problems that Japan has faced over the past thirty years. Based on his experience in studying the Japanese economy case, he wishes to extend his research to other forms of capitalism in Asia in a comparative perspective with Europe.

Dominique Médé
Dominique Médé is a former student of the École Normale Supérieure and the École Nationale d’Administration, with a degree in philosophy. Inspector General of Social Affairs, she is currently Professor of Sociology at Paris Dauphine University, Director of the Institut de recherches interdisciplinaire en sciences sociales (Irisso), holder of the Chair of Ecological Conversion, Work, Employment, Social Policies, CEM (FMSH). Among her latest publications: Cassiers Isabelle, Maréchal Kevin, Médé Dominique (eds.), 2017, Post-growth Economics and Society: Exploring the Paths of a Social and Ecological Transition, Routledge; in French: Eric Heyer, Pascal Lokiec, Dominique Médé, Another path is possible, Flammarion, 2018; The mystique of growth. How to free oneself from it, 2013, Flammarion.

Briec Monfort
Briec Monfort holds a Ph.D. in economics and is Associate Professor in the Department of French Studies at Sophia University in Tokyo and Associate Researcher at the Fondation France-Japon de l’EHESS (FFJ). He is also a fellow at the European Institute at Sophia University. He previously worked for the International Monetary Fund in Washington and at the French Ministry of Finance in Paris and in Tokyo. His current research is part of the INCAS project (Understanding institutional change in Asia: a comparative perspective with Europe).
Pedro Manuel Monreal Gonzalez

Pedro Manuel Monreal Gonzalez is a programme specialist, Sector for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Paris, and member of the secretariat of UNESCO’s Management of Social Transformations Programme (MOST). He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Havana. His research interests include social inclusion, the research–policy-making nexus, and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Akira Morita

Akira Morita is Director-General of the Research Institute of Science and Technology for Society (RISTEX) at the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and Professor of School of Policy Studies at Tsuda University. His research has focused on public administration as well as public policy and health care policy. He previously held positions at the University of Tokyo, Gakushuin University, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.

Serge Paugam

Serge Paugam is Professor at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and Director of Research at CNRS, in charge of the Research Team on Social Inequalities at the Maurice Halbwachs Centre. His research programme is part of a comparative approach, both quantitative and qualitative, to the basic forms of poverty in modern societies, particularly in Europe. It includes both the analysis of the dynamics of inequality and the study of the roots of social ties from which it is possible to define and conceptualize different types of social disruption. This programme also includes a comparative analysis of contemporary forms of solidarity.

T.J. Pempel

T. J. Pempel (Ph.D., Columbia) is Jack M. Forcye Professor of Political Science in U.C. Berkeley’s Department of Political Science which he joined in July 2001. He served as director of the Institute of East Asian Studies from 2002 until 2006. There he held the II Han New Chair in Asian Studies. Professor Pempel’s research and teaching focus on comparative politics, political economy, contemporary Japan, and Asian regional ties. Professor Pempel is on the editorial boards of a dozen professional journals, and serves on various committees of the American Political Science Association, the Association for Asian Studies, and the International Studies Association Council. His current research involves Asian adjustments to the rise in global finance and the decline in security bipolarity.

Christophe Prochasson

Christophe Prochasson is a former student of the École normale supérieure de Saint-Cloud. In 1999, he was elected Professor at EHESS. Christophe Prochasson has also regularly taught at several foreign universities (Columbia, New York University, Duke, Cornell, Bryn Maw), including European universities such as Freiburg and Bucharest. In September 2015, he was appointed Education, Higher Education and Research Advisor to the President of the République Française Hollande. Specialist of the political and cultural history of France in the 19th and 20th centuries (history of French intellectuals, history of the First World War, history of the French left and the role of emotions in political life). He is the editor of the review **Mil Neuf Cent - Revue d’histoire intellectuelle**. He was elected President of the École des hautes études en sciences sociales on 25 November 2017.

Christian Sautter

Christian Sautter is Professor at EHESS, Honorary President of France Active and Vice President of the Fondation France-Japon de l’EHESS. He co-founded the Centre de recherches sur le Japon (formally known as the Groupe de recherches sur le Japon) at EHESS in 1973. He served as Minister for Economics, Finance, and Industry from 1999 to 2000, and Deputy Mayor of Paris between 2008 and 2014.

Louis Schweitzer

Louis Schweitzer is Chairman of Initiative France, an association dedicated to the creation of small businesses. He serves on the board of Véolia Environnement, as well as on the board of a number of not-for-profit institutions. Formerly he was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Renault from May 1992 to April 2005 and Chairman of the board from 2005 to 2009. During his tenure he was also President of the Management board of Renault Nissan BV from 2002 to 2005. Formerly, he was a Civil Servant at the Budget Department then served for five years as chief of staff of Laurent Fabius, who was Minister of Budget in 1981, Minister for Industry and Research in 1983, and Prime Minister from 1984 to 1986. Louis Schweitzer holds a Master’s degree in Law and studied at the “Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris”. He carried on as a student at the “École Nationale d’Administration” from which he graduated in 1970 as “Inspecteur des finances”.
Tsutomu Sugiura
Mr. Tsutomu Sugiura is now President of the Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris (The Japan Cultural Institute in Paris). He was Ambassador of Japan to Burkina Faso from 2009 to 2013 after having been Adviser to the Marubeni Research Institute from 2006 and Director of the Institute for five years since 2001. He was a member of the Study-Taskforce of the Japan-EU Economic Integration Agreement and Chairman of the EU Sub-Committee of the International Market Committee of Japan Foreign Trade Council, Inc. He was the first Director of Cultural Activities for the Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris from 1997 to 1999. Mr. Sugiura was born in Tokyo. He joined Marubeni Corporation in 1971 after graduation from the University of Tokyo.

Virginie Troit
Virginie Troit is the Executive Director of the French Red Cross Foundation, dedicated to research in social sciences and humanities in the fields of humanitarian and social action. She joined the Foundation when it was created in 2013 after 8 years of experience in international NGOs (Médecins sans Frontières, Handicap International) and a 9-year career in international project management in the private sector. She holds a master’s degree in management (Toulouse Business School), a master’s degree in political science (Panthéon-Sorbonne), an inter-university diploma in ethics (Faculty of Medicine, University of Aix-Marseille). Board member of the International Humanitarian Studies Association, member of the journal Alternatives Humanitaires, her research focuses on the transformations of international aid, representations in the humanitarian sector, emerging donors, NGOs in the South and the circulation of international standards (Ph.D. Candidate, Sciences Po CERI).

Hugh Whittaker
Hugh Whittaker is Professor in the Economy and Business of Japan at the Nissan Institute of Japan Studies, University of Oxford. His research interests include entrepreneurship, management of innovation, corporate governance, and employment relations in Japan, as well as political economy and economic development in East Asia. He is currently completing Compressed Development, a co-authored book about socio-economic development in East Asia and beyond. Past publications include Recovering from Success: Innovation and Technology Management in Japan (2006), Comparative Entrepreneurship: The UK, Japan and the Shadow of Silicon Valley (2009) and (co-edited) Corporate Governance and Managerial Reform in Japan (2009).

James Wright
James Wright recently completed his PhD in anthropology/science and technology studies at the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong. His research focused on the development and implementation of care robots in Japan, and his broader interests include robotics, AI and algorithms, welfare technologies policy. His publications include “Robots vs migrants? Reconfiguring the future of Japanese institutional eldercare”, Critical Asian Studies, 2019.

Toru Yoshida
Toru Yoshida is Professor of Political Science at Hokkaido University and Associate Researcher to the Fondation France-Japon de l’EHESS. His research focuses on comparative politics, including European and Japanese politics, especially on political leadership and political parties. He was previously director of research at JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization), visiting scholar at EHESS, visiting professor at Sciences Po, and visiting scholar at Sciences Po/CEVIPOF. He is currently conducting research on the comparison of populist politics in Japan and in Europe.

Bernard Yvetot
Bernard Yvetot, currently Vice-President international strategy at Orange Group Strategy division, is in charge of coordinating Orange Group relations with Development Financial Institutions (DFI) and partnerships with Asian Telcos. He has previously held several positions in the French Ministry of Economy in Paris and abroad. He has been deputy Economic Counsellor at the French Embassy in Beijing and Economic Counsellor in Tokyo back in the 80’s. After 1992, he has joined the Foreign Investment Promotion division of the French Ministry of Economy, taking part in the creation of the Invest in France Agency in 2001 where he held the position of Executive Vice-President till 2006. He then worked for the French National Agency for Industrial Innovation before joining Orange in 2008.