

Tuesday May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016

12:30 - 14:00 | room 601 | in English (no translation)

# Lunch Seminar on Japanese Economy and Society

With the generous support of the French Chamber  
of Commerce and Industry in Japan (CCIF).

**French Research  
Institute on Japan**

UMIFRE 19 CNRS-MAEDI

Maison franco-japonaise

Tokyo, Ebisu



## What is the Lunch Seminar at MFJ?

This event has been organized at the Maison franco-japonaise (Nichifutsu Kaikan) since 2004. It offers a presentation followed by a discussion dedicated to a specific issue of the time and aims to bring about a better understanding of Japanese economy and society.



This is a brown bag lunch seminar,  
please bring your bento or sandwiches.



Coffee available.

## How to attend the Lunch Seminar?

Participation in the Lunch Seminar is free but  
registration is required.

Please apply via our website (from the event  
page in the Agenda) :

[www.mfj.gr.jp](http://www.mfj.gr.jp)

**French Research  
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## Lessons from the Japanese Experience. Towards a New Economic Policy

**Speakers** Sébastien LECHEVALIER (EHESS), Brieuc MONTFORT (EHESS)

**Moderator** Jean-Michel BUTEL (MFJ, UMIFRE 19)

### Summary

Is Europe threatened by an economic slowdown similar to the one experienced by Japan after the bursting of a financial bubble in the early 1990s? Should a new economic policy be implemented to avoid such an outcome?

The aim of this seminar is to answer these two questions by revisiting the Japanese economic experience over the past twenty years in a comparative perspective, from the bursting of the bubble in 1990 to the more recent set of policies known as Abenomics, implemented since 2012. We argue that there is an urgent need to learn from Japan, whose experience is much more complex than the conventional perception of an economy at a standstill. Deflation and the evolution of public debt in particular have been studied closely by policymakers in the United States, but less so in Europe. Overall, the Japanese experience has contributed to the evolution of macroeconomic thinking and to the development of new economic policies following the Great Recession of 2008. The challenge is less about preventing countries from entering a financial crisis than about providing the means to avoid long-term stagnation. This presentation will be based on a book published in French by ENS Editions (collection CEPREMAP)."



### Profiles

Sébastien Lechevalier is an associate professor at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS, Paris), president of the Fondation France-Japon de l'EHESS (<http://ffj.ehess.fr/>) and director of the French Network of Asian Studies (<http://www.eurasiane.eu/>). A specialist in inequalities and industrial dynamics, he is the author of various articles and books, including *The Great Transformation of Japanese Capitalism* (Routledge, 2014, published in Japanese by Iwanami Shoten in 2015 as 日本資本主義の大転換).



Brieuc Monfort, PhD, is an associate researcher at the Center for Advanced French-Japanese Studies (CEAFJP) at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS, Paris). He previously worked for the IMF in Washington and the French Treasury in Tokyo.

