



## THE EU AND JAPAN – RISING TOGETHER ABOVE THE STORM

The European Union and Japan are facing unprecedented challenges, both global and domestic, for our lives, economies and societies. With disruptions of global value chains, a sudden fall in tourism, and exports/imports being deeply impacted, our economies have come to a standstill - with a sharp increase in unemployment, and thousands of struggling businesses, especially SMEs. The economic impact of Covid-19 could become the gravest global crisis since the Second World War. Hence the need for the EU and Japan to rise together above this major storm to influence global dynamics and to defend our common interests and values.



The position paper (see page 2) from the EU-Japan Business Round Table on the Covid-19 pandemic is therefore particularly timely and pertinent. The BRT calls for EU-Japan cooperation, leadership and concerted policies to fight together the huge health and economic impacts of the crisis, working on several fronts (i) to coordinate efforts for supporting the development and deployment of a vaccine and medical treatment, (ii) to ensure that markets remain open and for the EU and Japan to keep trade flowing and supply chains open – crucial for economic recovery, (iii) to help the most vulnerable countries including via further promoting EU-Japan business collaboration in third countries, and (iv) to reflect on forward-looking strategies for the “world after” by being more inclusive, greener, fairer, safer.

On the later dimension, it is a particularly important signal given by European and Japanese industry that efforts to revive the Japan, EU and global economy in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic must ensure a green recovery that helps the world tackle climate change that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions in coming years. The Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals will remain crucial to help equip the world to address future systemic shocks, avoid future pandemics, and harness globalisation.

The ability of both the public and private sectors of the EU and Japan, to react and to be resilient will more than ever depend upon our willingness to act together and coordinate our policies and industrial responses. And to build together a better world.

Dr. Philippe de Taxis du Poët

EU-side General Manager (DG GROW), EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation

Minister Counsellor, Delegation of the EU to Japan



**EU-Japan Centre**  
for Industrial Cooperation  
日欧産業協力センター

日欧産業協力センターでは、季刊英文ニュースレター「EU-Japan News」を通じて、さまざまな日・EU関係の情報を発信しています。

欧州連合日本政府代表部/欧州委員会より

- News from the EU .....11-13
- 日・EU関係イベント案内 ..... 14-17

日・EU中小企業間のパートナーシップ促進支援  
エンタープライズ・ヨーロッパ・ネットワークより

- ビジネスパートナー募集情報、他 ..... 18-20

### IN THIS ISSUE

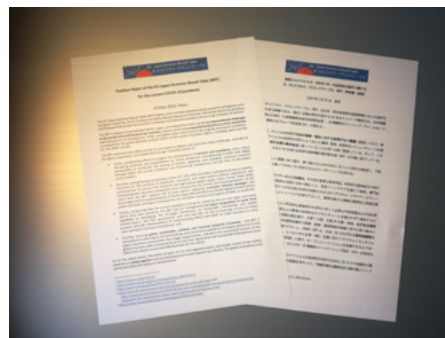
- > CENTRE'S NEWS ..... 1-10
- > EU NEWS ..... 11-13
- > EU-JAPAN NEWS ..... 14-17
- > ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK ..... 18-19
- > PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES ..... 20
- > CALENDAR ..... 21

## THE EU-JAPAN BRT HAS ISSUED A POSITION PAPER ON THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC AND OTHER CHALLENGES POSED BY CORONAVIRUS

The EU-Japan Business Round Table (BRT) is a forum for senior executives from 55 Japanese and European companies and business organisations, led by Masaki Sakuyama (Chairman, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation) and Philippe Wahl (Chairman and CEO, Le Groupe La Poste). On 19 May, the BRT issued a Position Paper on the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The first part of the Position Paper focused on the impact that the coronavirus pandemic is having on health, society and our economies. As well as listing some of the challenges the EU and Japan are currently experiencing, the BRT welcomed measures taken by the EU and Japanese Authorities and gave examples of areas in which it believes EU-Japan cooperation and leadership could have an important impact. In the second part of the Position Paper, the BRT made some specific recommendations aimed at mitigating some of the medical and economic aspects of the current crisis.

The Position Paper emphasised the importance of the EU and Japanese public and private sectors acting together and coordinating policies and response by industry.



The final part of the Position Paper identified a range of issues that the BRT believes will remain important trends and opportunities for Japan and the EU, namely the EU-Japan EPA, digital economy, ensuring a green and sustainable recovery and EU-Japan connectivity (cooperation in third countries).

English and Japanese versions of this BRT Position Paper are available on the BRT website.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan-brt.eu>

## MAPPING A FUTURE FOR AUTONOMOUS DRIVING – TOMTOM JOINS THE EU-JAPAN BRT

On 28 April, Alain De Taeye, Member of TomTom N.V.'s Management Board was confirmed as the 55th member of the EU-Japan Business Round Table (BRT).

A leading global independent location technology specialist, TomTom ([https://www.tomtom.com/en\\_us](https://www.tomtom.com/en_us)) is highly regarded in the fields of digital mapping, navigation software, real-time traffic, connected services and autonomous driving. In Japan, TomTom has been providing their products and services to automotive and enterprise customers since 2008, supporting them with software integrations, deployment and maintenance. With connected and automated mobility being a growth industry and a key area for EU-Japan collaboration and cooperation, TomTom is joining the BRT's Working Party on Digital Innovation & Mobility, and Alain will be sharing his knowledge and expertise in high definition mapping (<https://www.tomtom.com/products/hd-map>) for safe autonomous driving.

BRT EU-side Chairman, Philippe Wahl (Chairman and CEO, Le Groupe La Poste) said, *"I am delighted that TomTom has joined the EU-Japan Business Round Table and I would like to warmly welcome Mr De Taeye to our business community. I am sure that TomTom's highly recognised expertise in terms of mobility and the development of new transport solutions will contribute to foster the works of the BRT in this area and continue to open it more to the services."*

Alain De Taeye said, *"I am honoured to represent TomTom on the EU-Japan Business Round Table and I look forward to collaborating with the other BRT members to encourage industrial cooperation for new mobility concepts and developments in smart, safe and sustainable transportation solutions."*



Mr. AlainDeTaeye

➔ <https://www.eu-japan-brt.eu/brt-members>

## REMEMBERING **TOM HARDIMAN**

A look back at Dr. T.P. Hardiman's links with the EU-Japan Centre.

Tom Hardiman, the Irish industrialist, committed European and ardent advocate for EU-Japan relations has died aged 91. An engineering and science graduate, his broad career took him from Irish radio and television, through chairmanship of Irish business and other organisations, roles in Brussels, London and Paris, to a governorship of the Asia Europe Federation in Singapore. Widely respected internationally in business and public life, he was an approachable, relatable and loyal individual, who took time to get to know and support the people he encountered.



(3rd from right) Tom Hardiman speaking at his final meeting of the EU-Japan Business Round Table in Rome in 2011.

Tom's formal links with the EU-Japan Centre go back to our early years, initially as a Member (until 2016) of our Supervisory Body and from 1999 as Deputy Chairman of the EU-side of the EU-Japan Business (Dialogue) Round Table (or BRT). Previously there had been two EU-Japan business assemblies – the EU-Japan Round Table of Industrialists and the EU-Japan Business Forum (Tom was its final EU-side Chairman). At the suggestion of the EU and Japanese Authorities, these two bodies came together to form the present day BRT. Tom remained in the BRT until 2011 and for several years co-led its Working Party on Accounting and Tax Issues.

Tom's influence on the Centre went beyond these formal roles. His interest in business and personnel development led him to support our Vulcanus internships placing European students of science and engineering with Japanese host companies and vice versa.

A suggestion of his helped develop our lean activities in Japan and start similar activities in Europe aimed at helping EU industry adopt Japanese manufacturing best practice. (Tom encouraged Richard Keegan, then working for the Irish National Science and Technology Agency, to 'support the Centre', creating a relationship that has guided our lean activities for over 20 years.)

Tom was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star, by the Emperor of Japan in 1986 for his efforts to promote European-Japanese business relationships and mutual understanding.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis*

## NEW REPORT ON **EU-JAPAN BUSINESS COOPERATION IN THIRD MARKETS**



**How important is European and Japanese business cooperation in third markets? What are the characteristics of such cooperation (sectors, location, drivers, challenges, etc.) and how to encourage them further?**

This new report of the EU-Japan Centre prepared by Masami Marbot as part of the MINERVA Market & Policy Intelligence Programme, aspires to give a better understanding of these business partnerships, notably by a review of 30 case studies. It also provides suggestions for companies, as well as some recommendations for trade promotion organisations to support and encourage further EU-Japan business partnerships worldwide. Cooperation between European and Japanese enterprises in third markets is indeed a promising business trend as it enables companies to join their complementary strengths in technologies, local know-how, financing, and existing infrastructures and facilities. For example, a study conducted by the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan in 2019 reveals that 69% of German companies in Japan are involved in business activities with Japanese partners outside Japan.

In addition, collaborations between European and Japanese companies overseas also advances common values and principles of freedom, democracy, and open markets; as well as promote globally high social, environmental and technological standards. As such, it builds on the Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure signed by Japan Prime Minister Abe and President of the European Commission Juncker in Brussels on 27 September 2019.

The report follows a seminar organised by the EU-Japan Centre on 3 December 2020. On this occasion, European and Japanese companies, chambers of commerce and officials shared their experience and views on collaborations in third countries, in a variety of sectors and markets.

The full report and a 19-min podcast are available online.

For the report: [https://www.eu-japan.eu/sites/default/files/publications/docs/report\\_masami\\_marbot\\_april\\_2020.pdf](https://www.eu-japan.eu/sites/default/files/publications/docs/report_masami_marbot_april_2020.pdf)

For the podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2MjUjqY7Nc>

For the EU-Japan Centre's seminar on 3 December 2020:

<https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/eu-japan-business-collaborations-third-markets>

---

## **EU-JAPAN REGION & CLUSTER COOPERATION: BENEFITS FOR SMES**



The report about EU-Japan region & cluster cooperation, published in May 2020, was conducted in the framework of the MINERVA EU-Japan Market & Policy Intelligence Programme the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation by Réka Lóczy. The objective of this report is to provide an analysis of the practices, successes and challenges of existing EU-Japan region-to-region, cluster-to-cluster and region-to-cluster cooperation with a focus on cooperation within the field of regional innovation and business networks.

Moreover, this report will serve to give organisations, offering services to promote industrial cooperation between the EU and Japan, like the Centre, practical advice on ways to improve this type of cooperation. Regions and clusters play an important role in the development and internationalisation of SMEs. To support existing region & cluster cooperation to further industrial collaboration for SMEs, the research also investigated the benefits for SMEs participating in EU-Japan region & cluster cooperation schemes. In order to provide an overview of the current state of region & cluster cooperation, a survey and multiple interviews have been conducted. It can be said that a great potential for region & cluster cooperation has been identified. EU-surveyed stakeholders from a variety of industries that do not have any region & cluster cooperation with Japanese entities as of the moment, are generally interested in developing such cooperation activities. Moreover, Japanese-surveyed and interviewed stakeholders from a variety of industries who have ongoing region & cluster cooperation activities are generally interested in expanding their activities through cooperation with other EU entities.

For more information about the topic, including common underlying drivers for and challenges faced during EU-Japan region & cluster cooperation as well as the benefits for SMEs involved, please see the full report, which you can access via the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation's website on the MINERVA past reports (2014~2020) page or in the Library section of the website.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/publications/report-eu-japan-cluster-region-cooperation>

In addition to the report, a podcast about the main findings of the research is available at:

➔ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWRD10ia5BI>

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: NEXT WCM TRAINING MISSION IN JAPAN



The 5-day World Class Manufacturing training mission (WCM) will give participants an opportunity to visit some of the world's most advanced factories.

**Training dates: 16-20 November 2020**

**Application deadline: Thursday, 2 July 2020**

During this 5-day mission in Nagoya participants will learn:

- how leading Japanese companies use world-class manufacturing techniques to drive their businesses
- how to interact with senior Japanese production engineering managers and lean experts.

The training mission in Japan provides participants with:

- In-depth analysis of Japanese manufacturing methodology
- Lectures, seminars and panel discussions presented by experts from Japanese industry
- Company and factory floor (Gemba) visits
- Preparation and post-visit review

No tuition fee for SMEs and the European Commission grants €600 to participants from SMEs.

*At this stage, the EU-Japan Centre doesn't know yet how long this "unlocking process" will last but the Centre is committed to continue promoting the World Class Manufacturing mission until 2 July, without excluding the possibility to organise a virtual mission, in case of persisting travel restrictions and shutdown of borders in November 2020.*

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing-november-mission>

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/wcm-november-2020-application-form>



By **RUBEN CENTENO**, Plant and operations manager, Productos y Mangueras Especiales SA, WCM 2019 participant ➔ [www.productosmesa.com](http://www.productosmesa.com)

*"Regardless the step in the lean journey your company might be, the mission provides an in-depth approach and a striking experience that forces you to review how well your vision is grounded. Well-known concepts as continuous improvement, training or leadership, acquire a new dimension and challenges you to go the extra mile. Personally, main take-away have been the importance of continuously sharing vision, goals and outputs in the most visual way and throughout all training activities; the crucial role of the leadership by example and presence at Gemba, from top management to group leaders, in the commitment and participation of all the staff; the constant improvement action at the workshop and the amazingly lean approach to 'muda' removing that karakuri is. I am strongly committed to transferring this best practices to my company and do my best to somehow transmit this spirit to all the team.*

*Finally, sharing the mission with other professionals enrich the experience in such a way that I am sure that, for most of the participants, it will remain as a cornerstone for our future professional performance."*

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: **BIOTECH MISSION 2020**

The Biotech mission is now heading towards its 8th edition, set to take place in Japan, on 13-16 October 2020.

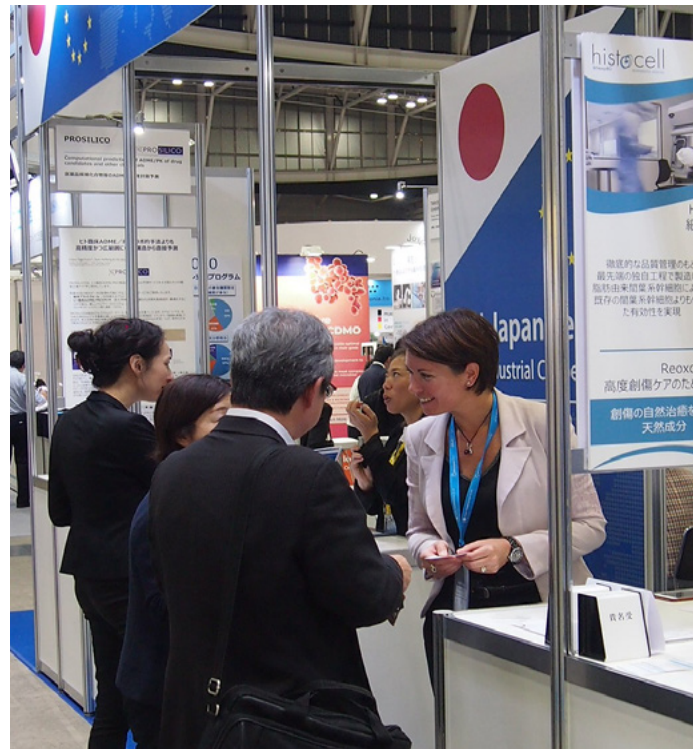
During this 4-day mission, participants will have the opportunity to meet/discuss with Japanese companies and have a (free) exhibition space at the "BioJapan" Expo. The programme targets EU companies and clusters from the EU or COSME partnering countries, active in sectors covered by the trade fair:

- Drug and Drug Discovery (Biologics, Vaccine Small-Molecule Drug etc.)
- Digital Technologies and AI for Drug Development, Bioinformatics
- Cell therapies, Regenerative Medicine
- Drug Discovery Support and Contract Services (Drug Synthesis Services, Analysis Contract Services, Compound Libraries and Screening etc.)
- Medical Treatment, Diagnosis
- Medical Devices and Equipment
- SmartCell industry

**Mission dates: 13-16 October 2020**

**Application deadline: 25 June 2020**

Venue: Osaka (Day 1), Yokohama (Day 2-3-4)



*At this stage, the EU-Japan Centre doesn't know yet how long this "unlocking process" will last but the Centre is committed to continue promoting the Biotech mission until 20 June, without excluding the possibility to organise a virtual mission, in case of persisting travel restrictions and shutdown of borders in October 2020.*

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-clustersme-mission>

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/biotech-2020-application-form>

## **2020 GET READY FOR JAPAN** TRAINING MISSION

In support of the recommendations of health officials, the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation is postponing the 3rd edition of its successful programme "Get Ready for Japan" until September 2020. In this occasion, the Centre has confirmed the selection of 14 EU entrepreneurs willing to discover more about the Japanese culture and business market opportunities.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/get-ready-for-japan-training-programme>



By **SANDER SULANE**, Founder and export manager, Artisan Honey OÜ, GRFJ 2019 participant ➔ <http://www.artisanhoney.ee>

*"Participating in the course gave me the confidence to continue working within the Japanese market, now that my knowledge about different layers of Japan is even better and deeper. Among many things, I learned how important it actually is to read the air - a skill that requires a lot of experience.*

*During this mission to Japan, I have strengthened or established relationships with many old and new business contacts which hopefully will lay the future path for our success.*

*Now, the focus is to actively stay connected and make sure that follow-up trips are always in the horizon. In addition, I am looking forward to using more of the services provided by the EU-Japan Centre in the future.*

*Advice for the future participants - going to Japan firsthand is inevitable for being successful there. Just be patient and humble, try to adopt and learn from the Japanese-way. Getting ready for Japan makes everything much easier in the future."*

## THE IMPORTANCE OF LEADERSHIP, A STRATEGIC VISION AND ENGAGING EVERYONE IN AN ORGANISATION

In this recorded lecture, Dr. Richard Keegan (Advisor to the EU-Japan Centre's World Class Activities and Adjunct Associate Professor of Lean Operational Excellence at Trinity Business School in Dublin) examines leadership, engagement and strategy in the EU and Japan. He compares and contrasts how successful EU and Japanese companies work and are structured.

The lecture covers how these companies ensure that they offer clear leadership, engage everyone in their organisation, have a strategic vision and prepare for the future, and the impact that the vision has on the way the company operates. It underscores the benefits of having a 'servant leader' who empowers the team by supporting their ability to deliver and of combining innovation and continuous improvement to drive the organisation's capabilities forward.

This is the first in an occasional series of recorded lectures on issues shaping business in Europe and Japan now and in the future.



➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/shaping-business-investigating-issues-affecting-eu-and-japanese-industry>

## VULCANUS IN EUROPE – GET A JAPANESE PERSPECTIVE ON YOUR R&D ACTIVITIES

As we emerge from the current global crisis, next year will be an opportunity for companies to begin new projects to address niches and shortcomings identified during the current crisis, or to restart existing projects. Having a Japanese perspective may help your projects flourish.

In summer 2021, 30 Japanese postgraduate students of science, technology or engineering will come to Europe for 7-month internships. We are looking for European companies that might be interested in hosting one or more of them. Whilst the main focus of the internship should be to draw on the student's technical studies to support and feed into your R&D activities, many previous host companies say that their Vulcanus students also made an important contribution to developing their business with Japan. Given the broad range of studies on offer, this activity is open to all sectors of industry and to companies of all sizes. We would especially welcome applications from Central and Eastern Europe.



### OPPORTUNITY FOR EU INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES



[www.eu-japan.eu/events/vulcanus-europe](https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/vulcanus-europe)

You would get to choose your students. To help you in your choice, the EU-Japan Centre will propose a short-list tailored to each company, based on the students' field of studies, academic scores, personal background and testimonials from their tutors. Before they join you, to help them fit in to your workforce, the students will have followed a 4-month intensive language course in your company's working language.

Please see our website for more information or email: [vulcanus@eu-japan.eu](mailto:vulcanus@eu-japan.eu)

Period of internship: 23 August 2021 – 18 March 2022 (7 months) - Deadline to apply: 15 October 2020

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/vulcanus-europe>

## EPA HELPDESK: MAKING THE EPA WORK FOR BUSINESSES

The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) marked the start of a new era for the European Union and Japan. From the start, the priority for us at the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation has been implementing the EPA. We should ensure that businesses, in particular SMEs, reap the maximum benefits from the agreement. This means raising awareness with promotion campaigns, making information accessible, providing guidance and reaching out to SMEs throughout Europe. It is the objective of the EPA Helpdesk which was actually put in place at the end of 2018, anticipating the entry into force of the EPA on 1 February 2019.



The EPA Helpdesk provides fact sheets, practical guides and organises a series of webinars on key aspects of the EPA such as rules of origin, public procurement, geographical indications, as well as sectors, wine, cheese, etc. In order to spread the message and help European SMEs take advantage of the EPA, the Helpdesk is mobilising important relays in Europe, in particular existing pan-European networks, such as the Enterprise Europe Network, the European network of industrial clusters, regions and European industry sectors. After 18 months of operation, below you can find some figures illustrating the EPA Helpdesk-related activities.

### EPA FACTSHEETS

More than 32 factsheets were published on our websites, which generated a total of 21000+ visits. Factsheets covering topics, such as GIs, dairy, meat, spirits and wines were the most read. <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/tags/factsheet>

### EPA WEBINARS

More than 20 webinars were organised, gathering 1300+ registrants. The webinar on Rules of Origin received the most of our viewers' interest. As a result, the Helpdesk will keep organising webinars on this topic: <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/past-events>

### EPA INFODESK

382 EPA-related inquiries were received and answered. Majority of the inquiries focused on the rules of origin 23.4% (still difficult to understand) and tariffs 22.7%. In addition, 11% of queries on 'how to use the EPA' were received from companies, which recently discovered opportunities provided by the EPA. For the most relevant Q&As, please check the following link: [https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/question-answer?field\\_category\\_value=EU-Japan+EPA](https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/question-answer?field_category_value=EU-Japan+EPA)

### EPA WORKSHOPS IN THE EU

Complementary to the EPA webinars and the Infodesk, several workshops were co-organised all over the EU, in cooperation with member organisations of Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), during which the EPA was promoted.

### EPA PROMOTION

The EPA and its opportunities were also presented during the Annual Conference of Enterprise Europe Network in October 2019 in Helsinki, which gathered more than 700 representatives from EU regional organisations, Member States and the European Commission: <https://www.b2fair.com/eenconf2019>. Interview on the EPA Helpdesk was also broadcasted on Euronews "Business Planet" TV Programme: <https://www.eu-japan.eu/news/eu-japan-trade-deal-interviews-eu-japan-centre-general-manager>

In the coming months, the EPA Helpdesk will keep providing information sessions either through webinars or through workshops across the EU (if the current COVID-19 outbreak is tamed), co-organised with member organisations of Enterprise Europe Network (EEN).

Starting early September, 16 online training sessions will be organised to present (in a practical manner) key points EU companies should know when exporting to Japan. Each session will tackle a different topic and will be related to business rules, regulations, standards, various conformance assessment practices and other.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/epa-helpdesk>



## PAST EPA WEBINARS RECORDINGS AND RELATED FACTSHEETS

### EPA Helpdesk Webinar 24: Services & Insurances

This webinar explained about the changes brought by the EPA in terms of insurance. 4 factsheets have been released covering life insurances, non-life insurances, reinsurance and postal insurances.

Factsheet: Life <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-insurances-life>

Factsheet: Non-Life <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-insurances-non-life>

Factsheet: Reinsurance <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-insurances-reinsurance>

Factsheet: Postal <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-insurances-postal>

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/epa-helpdesk-webinar-24-services-insurances>



## PAST EPA WEBINARS RECORDINGS AND RELATED FACTSHEETS



### **EPA Helpdesk Webinar 17: Leather and Footwear Products**

The webinar focused on market access opportunities offered by the EPA, and gave further information on tariff rate quotas.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-footwear-and-leather-products>

### **EPA Factsheet: Footwear and Leather Products**

The factsheet presents the opportunities offered by the EPA for EU footwear and leather products exporters.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-footwear-and-leather-products>

### **EPA Helpdesk Webinar 18: Forestry Products**

For EU companies seeking to export forestry products to Japan and wishing to know more about the market access opportunities offered by the EPA. The webinar outlined the different types of concessions, and informed about the preliminary information on related Rules of Origin.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-forestry-products>

### **EPA Factsheet: Forestry Products**

The factsheet presents the opportunities offered by the EPA for EU forestry products exporters.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-forestry-products>

### **EPA Helpdesk Webinar 19: Services & Finances**

This webinar focused on the various market actors in the financial services and fintech industry, and gave details on how EPA treaty-coverage impacts various SME-dense segments of the financial services and fintech industry.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/epa-helpdesk-webinar-19-services-finances>

### **EPA Factsheet: Blockchain, Cryptocurrency and Tokens**

The factsheet focuses on the regulatory impact the EPA has on this sector.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-blockchain-cryptocurrency-and-tokens>

### **EPA Factsheet: Payment and Transfer Services**

The factsheet takes a close look at the specificity of the sector and at its regulatory landscape in Japan with the EPA implementation.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-payment-and-transfer-services>

### **EPA Factsheet: Crowdfunding and P2P Lending**

The factsheet takes a close look at the regulatory landscape in Japan and the EPA impact in the sector.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-crowdfunding-and-p2p-lending>

### **EPA Helpdesk Webinar 20: Vehicles**

For EU companies seeking to export vehicles and parts products to Japan. The webinar focused on the opportunities offered by the EU-Japan EPA in this sector, giving details on tariffs and standards. It also informed about the related rules of origin.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-vehicles>

### **EPA Factsheet: Vehicles**

The factsheet presents the special EPA provisions applicable to vehicles and parts which includes standards, dispute settlement procedure and safeguard clause.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-vehicles>

### **EPA Helpdesk Webinar 21: SME Chapter**

The webinar focused on the specificities of Chapter 20 of the Agreement covering SMEs. It also gave relevant websites for SMEs and their different contact points on the matters.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-smes>

### **EPA Factsheet: SMEs**

The factsheet takes a close look at chapter 20 of the agreement dealing with SMEs.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-smes>

### **EPA Helpdesk Webinar 22: Fisheries**

For EU companies seeking to export fishery products to Japan. It focused on the tariff lines and different types of preferences applied under the EPA on EU fish products. It then outlined on the Rules of Origin under the EPA for fisheries.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-fishery-products>

### **EPA Factsheet: Fishery Products**

The factsheet presents the opportunities offered by the EPA to EU fishery products.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-fishery-products>

### **EPA Helpdesk Webinar 23: Services & Maritime Transport**

The webinar focused on the coverage of obligations in the agreement, and gave information on different aspects of maritime transport.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-maritime-transport>

### **EPA Factsheet: Maritime Transport**

The factsheet takes a close look at international maritime transport services defined in the agreement.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/factsheet-epa-maritime-transport>

## FUTURE WEBINARS “ABOUT JAPAN”

### WEBINAR 156: THE JAPANESE MEAT MARKET

23-06-20 | 10:30 h - 11:30 h CET

The webinar is targeted to EU companies seeking to learn more about the specificities of the Japanese meat market. The consumption of beef and other types of meat has increased gradually in Japan over recent years, especially among the younger generations. On the other hand, the EU-Japan EPA is reducing tariffs on meat products. These elements are creating new business opportunities for EU meat producers.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/webinar-156-the-japanese-meat-market>



## PAST RECORDED WEBINARS “ABOUT JAPAN”

### Webinar 150: Cross Cultural Issues: Communicating Effectively with Japanese Partners (Part 1)

This webinar provides different techniques to accelerate the quality of communication with Japanese partners and enhance the effectiveness of meetings.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/webinar-150-cross-cultural-issues-communicating-effectively-with-japanese-partners-part-1>

### Webinar 151: Cross Cultural Issues: Influence decision making processes in Japanese organisations (Part 2)

The webinar gives concrete advice on optimal timing, and information on the Japanese way of making decisions, emphasising on tools of decision such as nemawashi and ringi processes.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/webinar-151-cross-cultural-issues-influence-decision-making-processes-in-japanese-organisations-part-2>

### Webinar 152: Cross Cultural Issues: Trust, Networking and Relationship Building (Part 3)

The webinar provides information on the Japanese view of trust and put it in perspective with the European's one. It also gave key recommendations on ways to build trust with Japanese business partners.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/webinar-152-cross-cultural-issues-trust-networking-and-relationship-building-part-3>

### Webinar 153: Cross Cultural Issues: Aligning strategy with Japanese counterparts (Part 4)

This webinar focuses on strategies and planning with Japanese business partners. It proposed different frameworks and techniques for accelerating the transparency, quality and smoothness of strategic planning with Japanese partners.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/webinar-153-cross-cultural-issues-aligning-strategy-with-japanese-counterparts-part-4>

### Webinar 154: Opportunities in the Japanese Leather and Footwear Market

The webinar gives information on preparing EU products to the Japanese markets, with focus on market size and identification of its structure, and outlining on key competitors on the market. It also gave information the specificities of packaging for Japan and different entry models to sell in Japan.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/webinar-154-opportunities-in-the-japanese-leather-and-footwear-market>

### Webinar 155: Artificial Intelligence in the Japanese Medical Sector

The webinar gives insight of the sector presenting the needs for AI in this sector. It then outlined the AI medical markets, presenting its structure and the key actors in this area, as well as the opportunities for EU SMEs in entering this market.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/event/webinar-155-artificial-intelligence-in-the-japanese-medical-sector#>

## PUBLICATIONS - REPORTS “ABOUT JAPAN”

### JAPANESE FOOTWEAR & LEATHER MARKET

Japanese appreciation for European manufacture, design, craftsmanship is well known and remains a constant feature of the market. This report titled provides readers with a clear overview of the size of the Japanese leather and footwear market, the scope and potential, as well as lists of the potential retail targets and the distributors and trading companies that could partner in reaching them.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/report-the-japanese-leather-and-footwear-markets>

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE JAPANESE MEDICAL SECTOR

This report provides readers with a comprehensive overview of the impact of the Artificial Intelligence on the Japanese medical sector. It first defines its characteristics with its key drivers and current trends. It then highlights the AI regulatory framework in Japan and its applications in the Japanese healthcare system. Finally, it presents various recommendations to EU companies for a successful market entry.

➔ <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/report-artificial-intelligence-in-the-japanese-medical-sector>

## JAPAN-EU **LEADERS' MEETING**

H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr. Charles Michel, President of the European Council, and H.E. Dr. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, held a Leaders Meeting via VTC on 26 May 2020.

During the meeting the following points were covered:

### COVID-19

The leaders recognised that global solidarity, cooperation and effective multilateralism are required more than ever to defeat the virus as well as to ensure economic recovery.

### RESILIENCE

The leaders emphasised the importance of strengthening preparedness and of improving the international response including through relevant international organisations while reaffirming the role of the WHO in coordinating the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

### RECOVERY STRATEGY

The EU and Japan leaders stressed their determination to ensure a robust recovery and rebuild more sustainable, inclusive and resilient economies.

They emphasised that the green transition and the digital transformation will be part of the recovery strategy.

### JAPAN-EU STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the Japan-EU strategic partnership in tackling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and other common challenges. They also expressed their determination to continue implementing the Japan-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement and the Economic Partnership Agreement.

Source: European Council

➔ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/05/26>

➔ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/05/26/joint-press-release-japan-eu-leaders-meeting>



### FUTURE STEPS

Leaders look forward to holding a summit meeting when conditions allow in order to take cooperation between Japan and the EU further in areas such as:

- connectivity, transport and energy
- global environmental issues and challenges
- climate change
- digital transformation
- health
- free, fair and rules-based trade
- security and defence

Content of discussed topic and the joint press release are available on the European Council website.



## EU-JAPAN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FACTSHEET

The European External Action Service (EEAS) released a factsheet on the EU-Japan strategic partnership.

The European External Action Service (EEAS) released a factsheet on the EU-Japan strategic partnership. The EU-Japan strategic partnership is based on longstanding cooperation, shared values and principles such as democracy, the rule of law, human rights, good governance, multilateralism and open market economies. Japan is one of the EU's closest, like-minded partners. Under the Strategic Partnership Agreement, the EU and Japan are strengthening their relations across a wide range of areas, from enhanced political cooperation to trade and investment, from development to the digital transformation, from climate action to research and innovation, and from security cooperation to sustainable growth.

Source: EEAS

➔ [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/48463/eu-japan-relations\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/48463/eu-japan-relations_en)



## SPEECH BY **PRESIDENT VON DER LEYEN**

On 13 May, the European Commission President von der Leyen made a speech at the European Parliament Plenary on the new MFF, own resources and the Recovery Plan.

The full text is available on the European Commission website.

Source: European Commission

➔ [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_20\\_877](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_20_877)

## SPEECH OF **COMMISSIONER BRETON**

On 24 April, the Commissioner Breton made a speech at the European Parliament Committee on Industry, Research and Energy on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the industrial ecosystems and possible recovery plan. The full text is available on the European Commission website.

Source: European Commission

➔ [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/breton/announcements/speech-commissioner-breton-european-parliament-committee-industry-research-and-energy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/breton/announcements/speech-commissioner-breton-european-parliament-committee-industry-research-and-energy_en)



## **COMMON EUROPEAN RESPONSE** TO THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

### **CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE**

The European Commission is coordinating a common European response to the coronavirus outbreak. The Commission is taking resolute action to reinforce public health sectors and mitigate the socio-economic impact in the European Union.

The Commission is mobilising all means at its disposal to help the Member States coordinate their national responses and is providing objective information about the spread of the virus and effective efforts to contain it. Source: European Commission

➔ [https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response_en)

## **CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE** BY DG GROW

The Commission's top priorities are safeguarding the health and wellbeing of our citizens and using all available tools to mitigate the socio-economic consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak. The Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) plays an important role in this regard, within its remit.

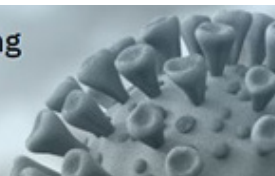
The Directorate-General is contributing to the Commission's economic response to the outbreak, ensuring the exchange of essential protective equipment on the internal market, as well as helping affected industries mitigate the effects of the coronavirus outbreak. Source: European Commission

➔ [https://ec.europa.eu/growth/coronavirus-response\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/coronavirus-response_en)

## **EUROPEAN COVID-19 DATA PLATFORM**

On the 20 April, the European Commission together with several partners launched a European COVID-19 Data Platform to enable the rapid collection and sharing of available research data.

Accelerating research through data sharing



The platform, part of the ERAvsCorona Action Plan ([https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research\\_and\\_innovation/research\\_by\\_area/documents/ec\\_rtd\\_era-vs-corona\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research_and_innovation/research_by_area/documents/ec_rtd_era-vs-corona_0.pdf)), marks another milestone in the EU's efforts to support researchers in Europe and around the world in the fight against the coronavirus outbreak.

The new platform will provide an open, trusted, and scalable European and global environment where researchers can store and share datasets, such as DNA sequences, protein structures, data from pre-clinical research and clinical trials, as well as epidemiological data.

Source: European Commission

➔ <https://www.covid19dataportal.org>

## **EU-JAPAN WEBINAR SERIES ON COVID-19**

The EU Delegation in Japan will organise a series of nine online webinars in different policy areas ranging from green recovery to trade to public health, bringing together EU and Japanese experts to discuss the impact, policy response and EU-Japan cooperation regarding COVID-19.

Dates & Times:

between 11 June and 24 September 2020

Language: Japanese and English (simultaneous interpretation)

Participation fee: Free

Registration:

<https://www.eujapanspa.jp>

Enquiries: [aiichiroy@eujapanspa.jp](mailto:aiichiroy@eujapanspa.jp)



## EU-JAPAN HIGH LEVEL DIALOGUE ON ENVIRONMENT

The European Commission and Japan held a High Level Dialogue on Environment via videoconference on the 1st of April 2020 to discuss two of the key environmental issues - biodiversity and circular economy. It was co-chaired by Daniel Calleja, Director General of DG Environment of the European Commission, and Morishita Satoru, Vice Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment Japan.

The discussions took place against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic. Both sides stressed the need to strengthen the resilience of people and planet and ensure a green recovery. The partners expressed their continued commitment to advancing the environmental agenda at the national and multilateral levels, in particular in relation to the UN Biodiversity Summit and UNEA5. Both sides reiterated the importance of moving towards an ambitious and realistic post-2020 global biodiversity framework and strengthening the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue. Source: European Commission

➔ [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-japan-high-level-dialogue-on-environment-2020-apr-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-japan-high-level-dialogue-on-environment-2020-apr-01_en)

## NEW LOOK ECCP LAUNCHED IN JUNE

In June the European Cluster Collaboration Platform was re-launched with new functionalities and content



The European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) undergo a refresh in June 2020 to enable industrial clusters, stakeholders and policymakers to better connect, communicate and collaborate. The ECCP provides a unique one-stop shop for news, opportunities and collaboration, and boosts the visibility and impact of European clusters in cutting-edge industries and expanding markets throughout the world.

The new look ECCP will continue to support international business co-operation through showcasing industrial cluster news and calls for funding, policy information, events and webinars. During the COVID-19 crisis the ECCP has been a knowledgeable source of information on the efforts of industrial clusters to address the challenges posed by the crisis, and continues to signpost to resources and support for action and economic recovery.

The ECCP regularly promotes news and opportunities of interest to Japanese and EU companies interested in expanding their activities within the EU and Japan respectively. Over 1,100 industrial clusters representing more than 100,000 SMEs are mapped on the site and can be searched by sector, geographical area, keywords and more providing comprehensive information to anyone looking for information or collaboration opportunities. Subscribe to the ECCP newsletter at [clustercollaboration.eu](https://www.clustercollaboration.eu) to find out more about the re-launch and how setting up an ECCP user account can benefit industrial clusters, SMEs, stakeholders and policymakers.

➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu>

## COVID-19 INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS RESPONSE PORTAL



The insightful webpage set up by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform, funded by the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs (COSME), provides reliable information on European Commission's actions related to industry and industrial clusters. Furthermore, it provides an open discussion forum where registered users can share their experiences, needs and solutions.

Source: European Commission

➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/coronavirus>

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR EU-JAPAN COOPERATION

H2020 call: LC-SC3-RES-25-2020: International cooperation with Japan for Research and Innovation on advanced biofuels and alternative renewable fuels

Deadline: 1 September 2020

JST (Japanese side funding) pages

Japanese: [https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/program/announce/announce\\_eujoint\\_horizon2020.html](https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/program/announce/announce_eujoint_horizon2020.html)

English: [https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program\\_e/announce\\_e/announce\\_eujoint\\_horizon2020.html](https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program_e/announce_e/announce_eujoint_horizon2020.html)

➔ <https://eu-japan.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b41acd97097856d431984e640&id=2c30496c59&e=ade991c850>

## PROMOTION OF EU FOOD PRODUCTS IN JAPAN

The Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency of the European Commission has launched a website in Japanese to promote EU food products in Japan.

Source: CHAFEA

➔ <https://europa.eu/food-match-japan>

## EUROPEAN TRADE PROMOTION ORGANISATIONS' ASSOCIATION COVID-19 SURVEY ON CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY STRATEGIES

In March 2020, ETPOA – the European Trade Promotions Organisations' Association (<http://www.etpoa.eu>) – conducted a survey on the impact of COVID-19 on exhibitions participations and on crisis management and recovery measures by European Trade Promotion Organisations (TPOs). In total, 28 organisations responded, including 21 national TPOs from Member States.

Exhibitions play an important role in foreign trade promotion, as most respondents organise pavilions for companies to join. All ETPOA survey participants planned a total of 1.283 pavilions in exhibitions in 2020. At the time of the survey, 255 were cancelled and 307 were postponed and affected around 9.000 European companies, mostly SMEs. This number has increased since.

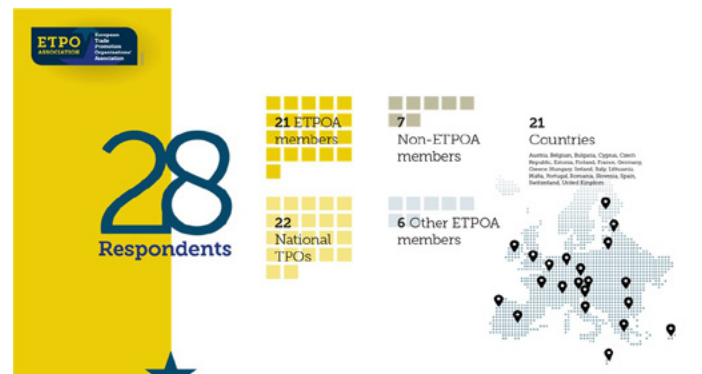
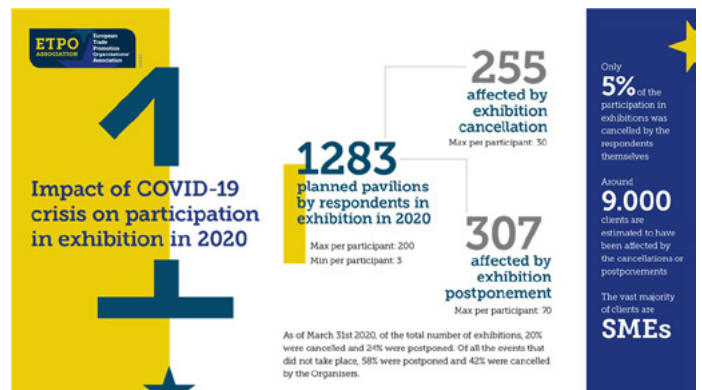
The survey demonstrates that TPOs had to switch to teleworking in order to continue to provide services to their SME clients and adapt their services by moving towards digitalisation and the use of AI in order to support SMEs. More particularly:

- Increase the use of tools, such as webinars and virtual B2B events
- Move services online, such as digital business matching tools
- Create COVID-19-related webpages, helplines and chatbot services
- Start communication campaigns on provided support
- Offer reduced prices or free access to otherwise paid services
- Extend new or increased grants or expedite payment of grants
- Provide e-commerce training
- Assist producers and importers of COVID-19-related products
- Strengthen tailor-made support to SMEs
- Use multiple sources for data collection and analysis

During the recovery period, they will continue to build on new initiatives taken, based on consultations of exporters' needs. Many indicate to favor more actions in key markets and to re-think their exhibition participation strategy. Understanding newly emerging value chains is important.

You can see the full survey results in below link.

➔ <https://etpoa.eu/uncategorized/european-trade-promotion-organisations-association-covid-19-survey-on-crisis-management-and-recovery-strategies/>



All ETPOA survey respondents wish to work together on a European level to devise recovery measures and solutions, besides national and regional ones.

## CO-SPONSORED RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Together with the European University Institute, San Fiesole, Italy, the Canon Foundation jointly awards one co-sponsored Canon Foundation Research Fellowship annually for post-doctoral research at the EUI. This Fellowship is open to candidates of Japanese nationality or permanent residents of Japan. The annual deadline for applications is 15 September and applicants can apply either via the Canon Foundation or the European University website.

Source: Canon Foundation

➔ <https://www.canonfoundation.org/programmes/co-sponsored-research-fellowships>

## **EUREKA GLOBALSTARS CALL FOR JOINT R&D PROJECTS LAUNCHED**

Within the GlobalStars initiative of EUREKA, based on mutual consent, Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Israel, Spain, the UK and Japan are launching a common call. Participants from Japan and the respective EUREKA member countries are invited to submit joint project proposals in the research and development of innovative products and applications with a strong market potential.



The call for proposals will be an open call inviting projects from any sector area. Partners must meet the following qualifications:

- The consortium should include at least two companies that are independent from each other, one company from Japan and one company from one of the EUREKA member countries participating in the call.
- The project partners must express their will to cooperate on a win-win/fair basis in an R&D project leading to a new product, industrial process or service.
- The product, process or service must be innovative, and there must be a technological risk involved for all involved partners.
- The project must benefit all involved partners.
- The project should have an obvious benefit and added value resulting from the technological cooperation between the participants from the different countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure etc.).
- A signed Consortium Agreement (CA) is required upon approval, before the actual start of the project. It ought to include, amongst others, the ownership and use of know-how and IPR settlements.
- The maximum duration of a project may not exceed 24 months.
- No individual organisation, or individual country, can claim more than 70% of the total eligible costs of a joint project.
- Military projects are excluded.

Please click in the link below for further details and information about your national contact point.

➔ <https://www.eurekanetwork.org/Japan-Globalstars-call-project-2020>

---

## **EIG CONCERT-JAPAN JOINT CALL 2020: NOW OPEN**

The ICT for Resilient, Safe and Secure Society call aims to contribute to the challenge of transitioning into a digital society by inviting research teams from Europe and Japan to collaboratively explore new areas of resilience and security in the information communications technology field.



Given the significant threats that exist at the intersection of cyberspace and the physical world, it is of the highest priority to ensure that the digitally transformed society is both resilient, able to withstand and quickly recover from potential damage, secure, and able to prevent damage being done to it in the first place. The EIG CONCERT-Japan is hopeful that this call can support research which will ultimately stimulate practical solutions in the ICT area.

The "ICT for Resilient, Safe and Secure Society" call is open to public and private RTD entities, higher education institutions and non-university research organisations based in Japan and several European countries, including Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and Turkey. Each project consortium should include at least one (1) partner based in Japan, and two (2) or more partners based in different European partner countries.

EIG CONCERT-Japan is an international and multilateral joint funding initiative founded to support and enhance cooperation in science, technology and innovation (STI) research between European countries and Japan. Inclusive and flexible in nature, EIG CONCERT-Japan supports diverse types of collaboration to advance impactful research while simultaneously fostering meaningful international exchange between research communities.

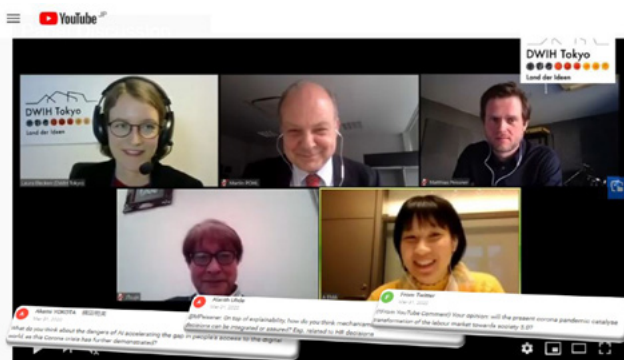
➔ <http://www.concert-japan.eu/spip.php?article77>

## WEB TALK: “THE FUTURE OF WORK IN INDUSTRY 4.0 & SOCIETY 5.0”

On 31 March, the DWIH Tokyo welcomed panellists from Germany and Japan to a web talk on “The Future of Work in Industry 4.0 & Society 5.0”. More than 150 viewers from Germany and Japan followed the web talk via the live stream on YouTube and engaged in the online discussion.

In the first hour, the panellists provided insights into how the future of work is envisioned in Japan and Germany – in political roadmaps as well as in practical research. The web talk featured presentations on:

- “Political Roadmaps and Management Challenges for the Work of the Future in Industry 4.0 and Society 5.0” (Dr Martin Pohl, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Tokyo)
- “AI and Work – How We Can Shape the Collaboration between Man and Machine” (Dr Matthias Peissner, Fraunhofer Institute of Industrial Engineering)
- “Co-existence, Co-operation and Co-evolution between AIs and Humans” (Prof. Dr Junichi Tsujii, Director, Artificial Intelligence Research Center, AIST Japan)
- “Ethical Questions Concerning the Collaboration of Human and Artificial Intelligence in Society 5.0” (Prof. Dr Arisa Ema, Institute for Future Initiatives, the University of Tokyo)



The presentations were followed by a 40-minute Q&A session. The audience’s questions covered the different ethical approaches of Japan and Germany in general, as well as concrete issues of data security, the prevention of job losses and widening social gaps due to economic inequality. The question of how the current Covid-19 pandemic impacts the future of work in our countries was also brought up, as changes in our work environment and in society have never been so rapid and so easily observable as now.

➔ [https://www.dwih-tokyo.org/future\\_work/](https://www.dwih-tokyo.org/future_work/)

## URBAN EXPERIMENTS IN JAPAN, WHICH LESSONS FOR FRANCE?

The Fondation France-Japan has launched a new research project on urban experiments in Japan, focusing in particular on the case of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo. This project mobilises diverse partners from academic institutions but also from private sector.

While the previous Games were an opportunity to demonstrate the power of cities and states through the construction of major infrastructures, the next two editions in Tokyo and then Paris will seek above all to build on their pre-existing infrastructures.

The Games of 2020 (postponed to 2021) and 2024 are presented as the embodiment of good management, social and territorial cohesion and ecological sobriety. The objective is not to “shake up” the city, but to accompany and support its dynamics, in particular through the development of public transport and urban regeneration.

The ambitions are no longer for major Olympic projects, but for experimenting with sustainable and complementary mobility solutions in urban spaces fitted out for the occasion as a laboratory. The postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Games implies many transformations in order to adapt to a new, changing and uncertain context. In all respects, Tokyo 2020-2021 will be an exceptional event. The aim of this research program is to identify under what conditions the Olympic Games, through the capacity they give city actors to mobilise the resources necessary to improve urban performance, can serve as a springboard for profound transformations in urban mobility.



➔ [http://ffj.ehess.fr/urban\\_exp.html](http://ffj.ehess.fr/urban_exp.html)



## INTO THE FUTURE WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HOW MEJOIN ENCOURAGES THE DIGITAL BRAINS



MeJoin, one of ten research networks funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), advises German and Japanese small and medium-sized companies that are interested in exploring the advantages of artificial intelligence.



The consortium of the project, which passes on the accumulated expertise, consists of the Chair of Manufacturing Automation and Production Systems at Friedrich-Alexander University, the Mechatronics and Automation Cluster from Germany, the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at Saitama University and the Saitama City Foundation for Business Creation from Japan. This tailors individually to the participating companies by means of market studies and catalogues of measures developed by MeJoin. The catalogues show the companies which measures are taken when expanding abroad and which developments in the field of artificial intelligence are relevant for the business conduct.

MeJoin helps companies to open up a new market and strengthen the relationship between Germany and Japan on the one hand, and to recognise, evaluate and use the advantages of artificial intelligence in their own companies on the other. MeJoin also provides the companies with additional information required in the respective situation during the entire project duration (07.2019 - 12.2020).

The findings of the market studies and further research will be published as part of the research marketing to generate additional attention for the project and the companies. One of these measures are Master Workshops where all representatives meet and discuss the current developments and ideas.

The next workshop will take place in Saitama at the end of the year and a detailed report is scheduled for the next newsletter.

➔ <https://www.mejoin.org/>

➔ <https://www.research-in-germany.org/the-future-of-work/research-networks/research-network-mejoin.html>

### SPOTTED PUBLICATION

#### USE OF ROBOTIC DEVICES IN ELDERLY CARE IN JAPAN

As part of a study conducted by the IGES Institute, Berlin, Franz Waldenberger (Director of DIJ) and Sieun Park (Scholarship student at DIJ) investigated to what extent robotic devices were applied in elderly care in Japan, how practitioners assessed their potential and what difficulties stood in the way of the spread of the technology. Given the severe labor shortage in elderly care, these questions are of utmost importance.

The study was prepared for the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. An abridged version of the final report (in German) can be downloaded on the link below.

➔ <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Publikationen/Studien/einsatz-von-robotischen-systemen-pflege-japan.html>



## SPECIFIC COVID-19 RELATED SUPPORT INITIATED BY ORGANISATIONS MEMBERS OF ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK



### ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK HELPS FIGHT AGAINST COV-19 WITH MARKETPLACE “CARE & INDUSTRY TOGETHER AGAINST CORONA”

The “Care & Industry together against CORONA” platform aims to bring together actors in healthcare, industry, academia and government in Europe to gather and showcase initiatives in various EU regions and share knowledge and best practices. It offers a market place to match offers and requests for products, services, partnerships, project cooperation and investment. EEN partners are ready to help identify potential partners, support SMEs and all actors to provide reliable proposals for cooperation.

➔ <https://care-industry-together-against-corona.b2match.io/home>



### CAP INNOVE NIVELLES, WALLONIA, BELGIUM



Cap Innove is a non-profit Business Innovation Center (BIC) supporting innovative companies whatever the sector but with a strong focus on 2 main topics: Autonomous systems (mainly drones) in ID2Move (<http://id2move.eu>) and Food & AgriTech (project ID2Food – <http://id2food.be>).

Their clients are badly impacted by the lockdown situation as airspace and HoReCa are closed.

Cap Innove took several initiatives to help them in this tricky situation:

- Online coaching sessions on how to rethink the business model;
- List of (free) webinars/ online trainings to skill them up;

- Facebook page to share needs/requests and “buy local” initiatives;
- Digitalisation of our networking events;
- International EEN matchmaking events on Robotics & Aeronautics technologies (<https://robotic-aeronautic-tech-foro.b2match.io>);
- The 3D printers in its Maker’s Lab are used to produce medical devices.



### BIOWIN, THE HEALTH CLUSTER OF WALLONIA GOSELIES, WALLONIA, BELGIUM

In the context of the COVID-19 epidemic, BioWin, the Health Cluster of Wallonia, has set up an interactive platform to gather healthcare initiatives and foster interaction between industrial, academic players and other contributors. The platform will be active until the 28 of June and targets companies operating in: the development and manufacturing of new diagnostic approaches; data science; artificial intelligence; the development of new treatments; new sources of funding; manufacturing, supply and recycling of masks and individual protections for companies; development and repair of ventilators; others.

➔ <https://biowin-cooperation-platform-covid-19.b2match.io/home>



### TURKU SCIENCE PARK TURKU, FINLAND

Turku Science Park, has launched a platform Alihankintaverkosto – subcontractor network to match the companies who are in need of raw materials, services and production capacity and those who can offer them. The aim is to keep the local resources and supply chain. Targets are manufacturer, retailer / wholesaler, service providers.

➔ <https://alihankintaverkosto.b2match.io>



### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY BRANDENBURG

#### BRANDENBURG, GERMANY

The Brandenburg Economic Development Board has developed a platform Cluster-helfen-Unternehmen (Cluster help companies). Any Brandenburg company offering something or looking for support can make use of it. So, this channel may also initiate regional cooperation.

➔ <https://smartcountrybrandenburg.de>



## SPECIFIC COVID-19 RELATED SUPPORT INITIATED BY ORGANISATIONS MEMBERS OF ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK



### STAROPOLSKA CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

KIELCE, ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKI, POLAND

The Chamber launched three distinct support projects:

#### Regional Cooperation Portal

A Regional Cooperation Portal aiming to promote and support the active co-operation of companies representing key industries for the development of the Świętokrzyskie region, matching regional partners and establishing business contacts.

Companies with spare production / service capacities, resources, products, semi-finished products, looking for sub-contractors, suppliers, recipients or other forms of cooperation are invited to take advantage of the offer of the Regional Cooperation Portal for business.

➔ <https://een.siph.com.pl/regionalny-portal-wspolpracy>

#### Set of webinars titled: Running a company in times of storms

A series of selected free webinars is devoted to issues considered as important these days by SMEs during the conducted survey. The topics covered include currency risk management during the crisis, anti-crisis shield - support for entrepreneurs during the COVID-19 pandemic, planning company's digital transformation, preparing new strategy for new times, optimising processes benefiting from LEAN tools, and many more.

➔ <https://een.siph.com.pl/oferta-szkolen>

#### Free consultancy for the companies

These one-line consultation cover such topics as currency risk management during the crisis, anti-crisis shield - support for entrepreneurs during the COVID-19 pandemic, preparing new strategy for new times, optimising processes benefiting from LEAN tools, and many more.

➔ <https://een.siph.com.pl/oferta-szkolen>

### UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES OSNABRÜCK

OSNABRÜCK, LOWER SAXONY, GERMANY

What is really exceptional given the current Covid-19 outbreak, is that the University of Applied Sciences in Osnabrück is available for its clients at all times via all media (telephone, mail, video conference), despite their home office. In addition, the contacts to the international EEN colleagues are closer today than before the crisis.

In the video conferences, which are held regularly but also ad hoc, the requests of the clients are dealt with much faster and more efficiently. The close cooperation with NBank assures to the clients quick access to the most important government agency in Lower Saxony, which distributes corona subsidies here. The corona specific services of the entire network, which the organisation of course provides for their clients, can be found on the central website of EEN (<https://een.ec.europa.eu>).

University of Applied Sciences Osnabrück:

➔ <https://www.hs-osnabrueck.de/en>

Enterprise Europe Network in Lower Saxony:

➔ <https://een-niedersachsen.de>

### NRW.BANK (NRW.EUROPA - EEN) AND NMWP.NRW (CLUSTER NANOMIKROWERKSTOFFEPHONTONIK) DÜSSELDORF, NRW, GERMANY

In cooperation with the regional high-tech cluster NMWP.NRW the Enterprise Europe Network partner NRW.BANK organised two webinars that focused on Access to Finances (A2F) for SMEs and startups. Moreover, other public initiatives that support companies during the crisis to stay in business and to further develop their innovation projects were presented.

These webinars were very well received by the audience and it is foreseen to maintain this cooperation with more webinars to come. The webinars were targeting SMEs and startups with a nano/high-tech background.

➔ <https://portal.nmwp.de/event/event/view/manage/75654>

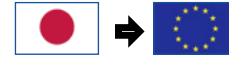
➔ <https://portal.nmwp.de/event/event/view/manage/75997>

### AGRO BUSINESS PARK TJELE, DENMARK

Organisation of "Digital Tuesday Talks": short online meetings including topics such as EU funding opportunities, Innovation Health Check service. The events target various Danish actors, e.g. SMEs/startups resident in Agro Business Park's incubators, and operating within the food sector.

## PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

JAPANESE COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN THE EU



<http://een-japan.eu/opportunities>



### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR OR AGENT Sector: Industrial equipment

A Japanese company producing a pipe renewal device that increases the longevity of pipes is looking for partners in the EU  
Profile ID: **BOJP20200520001**



### REQUEST FOR SUPPLIER Sector: Electronics, IT

A large Japanese electronic appliance distributor is looking for EU equipment suppliers of disruptive consumer products in electronics and similar sectors that are yet to be released in Japan

- Products of interest are:
- Virtual Reality devices
  - Camera Equipment
  - Healthcare devices
  - Communication devices
  - Mobile Printing devices

Profile ID: **BRJP20200417001**

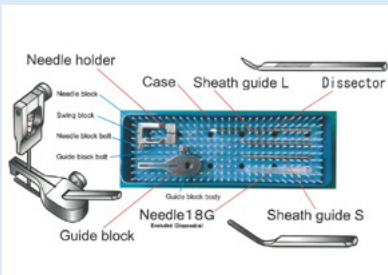
### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR Sector: Industrial equipment

A Japanese producer of hydraulic pumps competitive for their light weight and compactness is looking for distribution partners in the EU  
Profile ID: **BOJP20200406001**



### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR Sector: Healthcare

Japanese manufacturer of surgical instruments for the treatment of trigger finger is looking for distributors in the EU  
Profile ID: **BOJP20200401001**

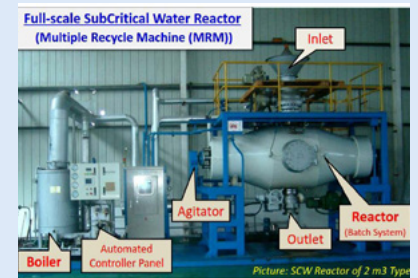


### TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER REQUEST Sector: Construction

A Japanese company is seeking 3D printing technology for building constructions to distribute in Japan  
Profile ID: **BRJP20190214001**

### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR OR AGENT Sector: Environment, cleantech

A Japanese company developed a multifunctional organic matter disposal device and is looking for EU partners  
Profile ID: **BOJP20190301001**

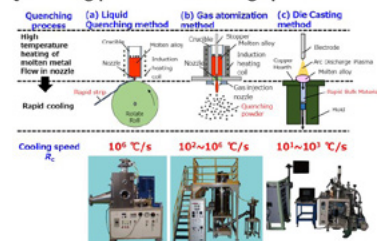


### SERVICES OFFERED

#### Sector: Industrial equipment

A Japanese manufacturer of gas atomisation devices and metal powders offers its services targeting France and Germany  
Profile ID: **BOJP20190313001**

#### Quenching process and cooling speed

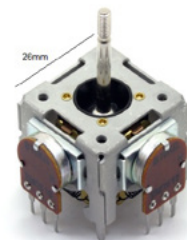


### REQUEST FOR SALES AGENT Sector: Industrial equipment

A Japanese manufacturer of conveyor systems looking for sales agents in the EU  
Profile ID: **BOJP20190415001**

### REQUEST FOR SALES AGENT Sector: Electronics

A Japanese electronic components manufacturer specialised in miniaturised potentiometers, joysticks and slip rings, is looking for commercial agents  
Profile ID: **BOJP20190322001**



## LOOKING FOR A JAPANESE PARTNER?

Visit EEN Japan database presenting Japanese companies offering their services / products or looking for EU suppliers.

<http://een-japan.eu/opportunities>



DATE/LOCATION	DETAILS	CONTACTS
18 June 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & Business	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
25 June 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & Energy	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
2 July 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & Digitalisation of Society	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
9 July 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & International Trade	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
16 July 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & Public Health Systems	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
24 August 2020 Berlin, Germany	<b>CONFERENCE</b> Climate-friendly Mobility	JDZB <a href="https://www.jdzb.de/en/events/single-view/id/2081/">https://www.jdzb.de/en/events/single-view/id/2081/</a>
10 September 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & Connectivity	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
17 September 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & Research + Innovation	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
7-18 September 2020 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Training Mission: Get Ready for Japan	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/get-ready-for-japan-training-programme">https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/get-ready-for-japan-training-programme</a>
24 September 2020 Internet	<b>WEBINAR</b> COVID-19 & Climate Change	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="https://www.eujapanspa.jp/">https://www.eujapanspa.jp/</a>
13-16 October 2020 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Sectoral Mission: Biotech Cluster & SMEs Mission Application deadline: 25 June 2020	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-cluster-sme-mission">https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-cluster-sme-mission</a>
13 October 2020 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Brokerage event at the European Biotech and Pharma Partnering Conference 2020 in Osaka, Japan	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="https://bio-pharma-osaka-2020.b2match.io/">https://bio-pharma-osaka-2020.b2match.io/</a>
20 October 2020 Tokyo, Japan	<b>SYMPOSIUM</b> Visions of a Cashless Society - Approaches in Germany and Japan	DJW <a href="https://www.djw.de/de/veranstaltungen/djw-veranstaltungen/djw-symposium-2020">https://www.djw.de/de/veranstaltungen/djw-veranstaltungen/djw-symposium-2020</a>
16-20 November 2020 Nagoya, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Training Mission: World Class Manufacturing - session II Application deadline: 2 July 2020	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing-november-mission">https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing-november-mission</a>



**EU-Japan Centre**  
for Industrial Cooperation  
日欧産業協力センター

is a joint venture co-financed by the European Commission and the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Its aim is to foster the development of industrial cooperation between companies from both regions through training programmes for businesspeople, for EU and Japanese students and researchers, and through information services and an industrial dialogue. This quarterly newsletter is produced by the EU-based office of the EU-Japan Centre, and is primarily intended to provide EU/Japan-related news.

## ANY EU-JAPAN-RELATED NEWS?

Feel free to contact us if you would like your EU-Japan-related news/event to be announced in our forthcoming newsletter :

[michelson@eu-japan.eu](mailto:michelson@eu-japan.eu)

### HEAD OFFICE IN JAPAN

Shirokane-Takanawa Station bldg 4F  
1-27-6 Shirokane, Minato-ku  
Tokyo 108-0072, Japan  
T +81 3 6408 0281  
F +81 3 6408 0283

### OFFICE IN THE EU

Rue Marie de Bourgogne 52  
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium  
T +32 2 282 00 40  
F +32 2 282 00 45  
[office@eu-japan.eu](mailto:office@eu-japan.eu)

[www.eu-japan.eu](http://www.eu-japan.eu)

The European Office of the EU-Japan Centre alone is responsible for the information contained in its communications or publications. Neither the European Commission nor the Government of Japan is responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein. Editor: J. Michelson