

Friday November 12th, 2021

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

Lunch Seminar on Japanese Economy and Society

With the generous support of the French Chamber
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**French Research
Institute on Japan**

UMIFRE 19 MEAE-CNRS
Institut français de recherche
sur le Japon
à la 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 event will be held on Zoom. An invitation will be sent to the email address you provided when you registered for the event. Enter your Meeting ID and password to join the event.

How to attend the Lunch Seminar?

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

Please apply via our website:

www.mfj.gr.jp/agenda/2021/11/12/hashimoto/

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Who are the New Liberals in Japan?

Results of the Latest Surveys at Synodos Institute in Japan

Speaker Tsutomu HASHIMOTO (Hokkaido University)

Moderator Gilles CAMPAGNOLO (FRIJ-MFJ, CNRS)

Summary

I shall present the result of an analysis based on the Fourth Social Survey conducted by the International Institute for Social Trends at Synodos in 2020. Since the second survey, we have used a statistical method called “latent class analysis” to explore the characteristics of the new liberals in Japan. While the old liberals in Japan are strongly against any amendment of Article 9 of the Constitution, the new liberals are not.

The new liberals are more likely to be women and to have college or graduate degrees. The new liberals rarely engage in political action. They tend to trust a variety of people. They are more likely to say that local communities and volunteer/non-profit organizations should be responsible to cope with various social issues. The new liberals are particularly interested in women’s issues, poverty, and environmental issues. The new liberals are more concerned about the elderly and health care issues. These are some of the results of our analysis.

Profile

Tsutomu Hashimoto is a Professor of Hokkaido University and the president of the Synodos Institute of the International Studies in Japan. Tsutomu has got a Ph.D. in Tokyo University, and has published a number of books in Japanese; *Principles of Freedom* (Iwanami shoten 2021), *The Minimalist Ethics of Consumption and the Spirit of De-Capitalism* (Chikuma-shobo 2021), *Decoding Max Weber* (Kodansha 2019), *Conditions of Empire* (Kobundo 2008), *The Lost-Modernity* (Kobundo 2013), *Economic Ethics = What is your Ideology?* (Kodansha 2009) and so forth. He has been constructing his original normative theory of liberalism, what he calls “spontaneism”, based on a Hayekian perspective. At the same time, he has managed survey studies for many years on the rising middle class with a new liberal consciousness in Japan.

