



**International Symposium:
Globalization and Inequality – Views from the Social Democratic
Party of Germany, the Democratic Party of Japan,
and on the US Political Parties**

Rapid globalization and social and economic inequality have become hotly debated issues in many industrialized countries. In Japan, recent structural reforms under the cabinet of Jun'ichiro Koizumi have led to more market-oriented policies, but they have also heightened regional, economic, and social inequalities. Japan's Democratic Party as well as the other smaller opposition parties are currently struggling to find new answers for these problems.

How are issues of globalization, liberalization, and inequality currently being discussed in other industrialized countries, and how are policy makers tackling these issues? Reflecting on the current situation in Japan, we will discuss how policy makers in Germany and the United States are addressing such problems in their political agendas and election campaigns. In this respect, recent political developments in both countries are noteworthy: In October last year, Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) adopted new policy guidelines in its Hamburg Program. In the United States, the Democratic Party is busily preparing itself for the next presidential election in November this year.

Date and time: March 26, 2008, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Hall SHINSENZANKAN at Japan Women's University, 2-8-1,
Mejirodai, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Tel. 03-3943-313 (access map below)

Co-organized by: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Tokyo Office (FES)
Economic Policy Institute for Quality Life

Simultaneous English-Japanese translation will be available

Program

14:00-14:05: Opening

Harald CONRAD (Representative of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Tokyo Office)

14:05-14:20: Introductory Remarks

SUMIZAWA Hiroki (Professor, Japan Women's University, Member of the Advisory Board of the Policy Institute for Quality of Life)

14:20-14:40: The New Hamburg Program of the Social Democratic Party of Germany – Readdressing Issues of Globalization and Inequality

Oliver SCHMOLKE (Deputy Head, Department for Planning and Communication, Executive Board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD))

14:40-15:00: A Progressive Perspective on the U.S. Democratic and Republican Parties' Approaches to Globalization and Inequality

Jonathan JACOBY (Associate Director for International Economic Policy, Center for American Progress Action Fund)

15:00-15:30:

FUJISUE Kenzo (Member of the House of Representatives, Democratic Party of Japan)

15:30-15:40: Coffee Break

15:40-16:30: Panel Discussion

16:30-16:55: Questions from the Audience

16:55-17:00: Closing Remarks

OGAWA Masahiko (Chief Researcher, Economic Policy Institute for Quality Life)

17:00-18:30: Reception