

#### Concept

The bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers and the crash of Wall Street brought down not just financial centers, like the City of London, but plunged the whole of the global economy into a deep crisis. In Europe the political repercussions of the crisis have materialized as substantial political volatility and semi-permanent emergency politics. The problems of the financial sector have also revealed major shortcomings in the construction of the Euro. The problems became a crisis of the Euro-zone and the European Union at large.

Social democratic parties in Europe have developed under the concept of the 'Good Society' a new social democratic narrative that takes a thorough value-driven analysis of our current economic and political problems as a starting point to craft a new politics. They try to define the 'Good Society' to make a 'better society' possible and sketch the political way towards it. This has implications for Japanese politics. This symposium aims to discuss the efforts and approaches in contemporary Europe and to think about the future political direction of Japan.

**Date** 21 October, 2013 16:00 - 18:00 (Doors open 15:40)

**Place** International Conference Room, Diet Members' No. 1 Office Building (Dai-ichi giin kaikan) of The House of Representatives (2-2-1, Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)

**Program - Panel Discussion -**

**Panelists:**

- Christian Kellermann

Deputy Head Strategy and Content at the executive board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany. Previously he was the director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation for the Nordic Countries, based in Stockholm. Before that he was a Program Manager at the Foundation's International Policy Analysis Department in Berlin, specializing in European economic and social affairs and financial markets.

- Henning Meyer

Editor of Social Europe Journal, Director of New Global Strategy, and a Research Associate of the Public Policy Group at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Before that, he was a Senior Visiting Fellow at LSE's Government Department, Head of the European Programme at the Global Policy Institute in London and a Visiting Fellow at the School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University.

- Taro Miyamoto (political science / Professor, Faculty of Law, Chuo University)

**Moderator:**

Hiroki Sumizawa (political science / Professor, Department of *Domestic Science*, Japan Women's University)

**Language:** German and Japanese, with simultaneous interpreting

**Organized by:** Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Tokyo (FES)

**Support:** The Economic Policy Institute for Quality Life (EPI)

**Registration:**

Prior Registration is needed. Participants will receive a visitor's pass at the entrance of the Diet Building. To register for the conference, please apply by email at The Economic Policy Institute for Quality Life. (Tel: 03-3253-3772 E-mail : [info@seikatsuken.or.jp](mailto:info@seikatsuken.or.jp) )

Please provide your name and affiliation. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; max. seat capacity is 50 persons.

Admission is free of charge.