The Resilience of the “Open Liberal International Order”: The Situations of the US, China and Europe, and Their Impacts
Sub-Project III: Europe in Turbulence and the International Order

Project Outline (Three-year Project: 2017-2020)
During the past decade, Europe has experienced successive crises such as the Euro crisis, the migrant crisis, and Brexit. In the face of these multiple crises, political forces that call for preserving national interests in a chauvinistic manner have been on the rise as grievances and antipathies to globalization have spread. Following Brexit, a series of general elections scheduled in 2017 could accelerate this trend. If European countries that have long been the core supporters of the values of the liberal international order are tempted to adopt a more inward-looking attitude, the turmoil of the international order will deepen further.

Therefore, it becomes increasingly important to pay careful attention to and analyze the current state of the European integration process. As the migrant crisis since 2015 has shown, incidents happening outside of the EU have had a profound effect on Europe’s integration process and on the domestic politics of the EU’s individual member states, causing a ‘domestication of external problems’. At the same time, deep structural transformations in domestic politics have been observed in many European countries. These changes in domestic politics will inevitably cause changes in the foreign policies of member states and in intra-European politics. Both of those trends are undermining the ideals of European integration.

In this research project, transformations in European politics and diplomatic affairs will be analyzed. While the European Union has steadily progressed from economic integration to political integration, recent crises have forced EU member states to reconsider the raison d’être of the European Union and its future. At this critical moment, the fundamental values of the EU such as the rule of law, democracy, human rights, and freedom of movement are under pressure from both inside and outside. As a like-minded partner of Europe that shares many of those fundamental values, how can Japan cooperate with Europe, and how can Japan and Europe cooperate with the international community to retain the open and liberal multilateral order? This project aims to provide answers to those questions.
Research Group Composition

Group Leader
Ken Endo  Professor, Hokkaido University; Adjunct Fellow, The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)

Members
Daisuke Ikemoto  Professor, Meiji Gakuin University
Takeshi Ito  Associate Professor, The University of Tokyo
Tsuyoshi Goroku  Lecturer, Nishogakusha University
Manabu Sengoku  Professor, Hokkaido University
Michito Tsuruoka  Professor, Keio University
Hiroki Yasui  Professor, Kobe University
Kenichiro Yoshida  Senior Chief Economist, Mizuho Research Institute
Toru Yoshida  Professor, Hokkaido University

Members / Secretaries
Yasunori Nakayama  Director General (Acting), JIIA
Shu Nakagawa  Director of Research Coordination, JIIA
Shunsuke Sato  Research Fellow, JIIA

Project Meetings

First Meeting
Date and Place: June 19, 2017 in JIIA Conference Room
Topics: Planning of FY 2017 Study Group Activities

Second Meeting
Date and Place: October 26, 2017 in JIIA Conference Room
Topics: ‘Populism in France and Its Implications – A Series of Anomalies and Their Consequences’
‘UK Politics after the 2017 General Election’
‘Germany and Crisis in Europe – The German Federal Election in 2017 and Its Implications’

Third Meeting
Date and Place: November 24, 2017 in JIIA Conference Room
Topics: ‘2017 Czech Lower House Election: Comparative Analysis with Visegrad Countries’
‘The Current Situation and Prospects of the Eurozone Economy’

**Fourth Meeting**
Date and Place: March 19, 2018 in JIIA Conference Room
Topics: ‘2018 Italian General Election and Current Political Circumstances’
‘2017 General Election in Austria and Its Implications – Results and Contexts of the National Election and Its Implications in the International Dimension’

**Public Symposium: “Wavering Europe and the International Order”**
Date and Place: March 19, 2018 in JIIA Conference Room
Topics: ‘Japan & Europe in an Age of Developed Country Risk’
‘Security Circumstances in Europe after Brexit’