



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST ASIAN STUDIES CENTER

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**THE INSTITUTE FOR JAPANESE STUDIES,  
BRAD RICHARDSON MEMORIAL FUND,  
AND CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL  
BUSINESS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
PRESENT**

## "THE INDO-PACIFIC AS JAPAN'S 21ST-CENTURY GRAND STRATEGY"

**SAORI KATADA**

**University of Southern California**

**with respondent:**

**JI YOUNG CHOI**

**Ohio Wesleyan University**

The rise of Japan's Indo-Pacific strategy in the late 2010s crystalizes the configuration of Japan's 21st century grand strategy. This grand strategy utilizes Japan's liminal power between the East and the West, and its interchangeable use of economic and security foreign policy instruments with the aim of maintaining rules and standards in regional and global governance. With the evident decline of the US presence in the region, and China's rising dominance as a global power, Japan now sits in a critical position where it can engage the regional order constructively by enforcing liberal rules constructed under the US hegemony and check China's unreasonable behavior including the use of economic coercion. I will discuss Japan's Indo-Pacific grand strategy with the emphasis on how it utilizes the Free and Open Indo-Pacific framework flexibly to create "like-minded" coalitions and advance Tokyo's interest through rule-setting strategy towards stable regional order.



**Free and open to the public**

**<https://easc.osu.edu/events/saori-katada>**

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The Ohio State University East Asian Studies Center**

23  
FEBRUARY

Friday  
1:30-3:30pm  
Journalism Building 300