



Institute for Japanese Studies Lecture Series

The Impact of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement on Japan and East Asia

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Monday, February 8, 2016

4:30-6:00 pm (Lecture)

6:00-7:00 pm (Reception)

Room 190 Knowlton Hall

Abstract: The agreement of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) in October 2015 among the twelve Pacific Rim nations has generated political and economic repercussions in Japan and East Asia. Direct effects from the TPP commitments on the Japanese economy may not be large, but indirect effects on its political economy over agriculture will be substantial. The most significant benefits for Japan will come from the expansion of Japanese firms' production/distribution networks due to improved business conditions that the TPP is expected to bring about in the developing economies of East Asia. In this regard it is noteworthy that the TPP agreement has already generated a domino effect among the Asian and Pacific Rim countries to consider joining the TPP pact. The TPP agreement provides a novel basis of domestic reforms and presents a path to a new tier of economic development, particularly to a fully developed high-income stage, for the East Asian economy.

Bio: Fukunari Kimura has been Professor, Faculty of Economics, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan since 2000 and Chief Economist, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia since 2008. Professor Kimura received his Bachelor of Law from the Faculty of Law, University of Tokyo in 1982, M.S. and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison respectively in 1990 and 1991. He was Researcher at the International Development Center of Japan (1982-1986), Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics, State University of New York at Albany (1991-1994), and Associate Professor at the Faculty of Economics, Keio University (1994-2000). Professor Kimura was also the President, Japan Society of International Economics (2010-2012) and the Representative Director, Tokyo Center for Economic Research (2012-2014). His recent publications include books and articles on international production networks and economic integration in East Asia.

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