

The Institute of Directors Japan Business Group host the inaugural IoD Japan-UK Symposium

5th May 2023

Background

Senior business leaders and political figures from the UK and Japan attended the inaugural Japan-UK Symposium on **24th April 2023** at Japan House in Kensington High Street, organised by the [Institute of Directors'](#) Japan Business Group

About the Institute of Directors

The IoD is a thriving member community for directors in the UK and beyond at a time when good directors have never been more important, offering professional development, valuable connections and meaningful influence. The IoD has been at the heart of the business since its formation in 1903. The Royal Charter, awarded in 1906, charged the IoD with promoting free enterprise, lobbying the government and setting standards for corporate governance. Today, IoD remain the authority on entrepreneurialism, professionalism in business and good governance in the UK and beyond.

Leadership

Director General – [Mr Jonathan Geldart, FIoD](#)

About IoD Japan Business Group

The [IoD Japan Business Group](#) was formed to build a platform to connect mainly small and medium-scale enterprises in the UK interested in doing business for trade with Japan. The Group's objective is to promote opportunities for trade and investment between Japan and the UK focused on two main areas.

- Trade and investment relations between the UK and Japan.
- Consider potential commercial engagement areas for the UK and Japanese companies in each country and /or working together in 3rd countries.

Purpose

- **Connect:** build a national platform to connect SMEs in the UK interested in doing business for trade with Japan and vice versa
- **Develop:** provide a window for interest from business and investments information seekers, providing industry specialism and/or representing a sector in doing business between Japan and the UK
- **Influence:** be relevant players in the Japanese and UK business and deal with issues and opportunities that helps IoD members succeed in doing business with Japan and other third countries where we partner.

Leadership

Chairman – [Dr Indranil Nath, FIoD, FBCS, CEng](#)

Vice Chair – [Ms Rie Hamaguchi](#)

The Symposium was supported by

The [Embassy of Japan in the UK](#) (providing official nominal support), The Department of Business and Trade, [Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industries](#) (JCCI), [Japan External Trade Organisation](#) (JETRO), [Japan Society](#), [Japan Exchange Group](#) (JPX), [Japan National Tourism Organisation](#) (JNTO), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Gov.UK, [Japan Foundation](#), [techUK](#), [Japan House London](#), Rotary Club of London, Japan Association, British-Japanese Parliamentary Group

The Symposium was sponsored by [Shimadzu UK Ltd](#)

Keynote Speakers included –

The Rt Hon Nigel Huddleston MP, Minister of State for International Trade; the Rt Hon Greg Clark, MP Trade Envoy to Japan; the Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, Minister of State in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Rajesh Agrawal, Deputy Mayor of London for Business; and His Excellency Hajime Hayashi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the UK. There was a fireside chat discussion, reflections from the Iwakura Mission and four-panel discussions. Masakazu Iwakura, Senior Partner of TMI Associates and Professor of Law at Hitotsubashi University, and the 6th Generation of Tomomo Iwakura provided a recorded message. Former Ambassador Kunisada Kume, the Great-Grandson of Kunitake Kume, the Private

Secretary of Tomomi Iwakura and official diarist of the Iwakura Mission, send his video-recorded message. Rie Hamaguchi, Vice Chair of the IoD Japan Group and Special Advisor to the Osaka Prefectural Government read the congratulatory message from Hon. Hirofumi Yoshimura, Governor of Osaka Prefecture, Japan. The speakers reflected on the importance of the UK-Japan trade relationship, valued at over GBP26 billion in 2022, and discussed topics of importance in the bilateral relationship, including innovation, technology, education, culture, and security cooperation. The Symposium was attended by 170 participants, including guests, speakers and moderators, of which 152 were delegates representing UK and Japanese business, government and other institutions.

Agenda



Institute of Directors (IoD): Japan-UK Symposium
 Monday 24 April 2023, Japan House, 101-111 Kensington High Street, London W8 5SA
 Hosted by the IoD Japan Group

Programme Agenda

Prelude

1:00 – 2:00 pm **Registration**
 Message from Masataka Iwakura (9th Generation of Tomomi Iwakura, who led the Iwakura Mission in 1871)
 Display of the historical mural

Programme

2:00 – 2:10pm **Opening**
 Dr Indrani Nish PND, Chair Institute of Directors Japan Group
 Rie Hamaguchi, Vice Chair Institute of Directors Japan Group

2:10 – 2:15pm **Welcome Address**
 Jonathan Geldart, Director General, Institute of Directors

2:15 – 2:25pm **Chief Guest keynote**
 The Rt Hon Nigel Huddleston MP, Minister of State for International Trade, UK Govt

Keynote speakers

2:25-2:35pm **Keynote Speech from Ambassador of Japan**
 H.E. Mr Hajime Noyori, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the UK

2:35-2:45pm **Doing business in the UK as a powerhouse?**
 Rajesh Agrawal, Deputy Mayor of London for Business

2:45-2:55pm **Keynote**
 The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, Trade Envoy to Japan, UK Govt

2:55-3:05pm **Keynote**
 The Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, Minister of State in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, UK Govt

3:05-3:15pm **Sponsor's speaker**
 Stuart Phillips, Managing Director, Shimadzu UK Limited

3:15-3:40pm **Break - Tea/Coffee**

Fireside discussion & Roundtables

3:40-3:45pm **Message from Former Ambassador Kunitada Kume** (Great Grandson of Kunitada Kume who was the Private Secretary of Tomomi Iwakura and official diarist of the Iwakura Mission)

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3:45-4:00pm 1872 to 2022 Japan and the UK reflections from Iwakura Mission
 o Jason James, Director General of the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation
 o Paul Madden CMO, Former Ambassador to Japan

4:00-4:30pm **What does UK mean to Japan?**
 o Alderman Prof. Michael Mainelli, Former Sheriff, City of London Corporation, and Executive Chairman, Z/ten Group Limited
 o Yasuhiro Nakajima, Chair, Japan H.L. Limited, and Managing Director, Cimson Phoenix Limited
 o Andrew Fraser CMO, Senior Advisor, Mitsubishi Corporation, London
 o Moderator: Doug Wills, Editor Emeritus, Evening Standard, The Independent

4:30-5:00pm **Future business, and security relationships between Japan and the UK**
 o Lord Trenchard DL, Vice Chair British/Japanese All Party Parliamentary Group
 o Emma Wegoda, Head of Asia Pacific, City of London Corporation
 o Minister Hiroshi Matsumura, Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the UK
 o Moderator: David Stringer Lamare, Special Advisor International IoT, Managing Director, Fortis Consulting London Ltd., Master of Glaciers and Painter of Glass.

5:00-5:30pm **Innovation, Technology and Spin-offs from Japan and the UK**
 o Dr Kathryn Walsh, Executive Director, Innovation & Enterprise, University College of London
 o Dr Mike Short CBE, Former Chief Scientific Officer, Department for International Trade, UK Govt, Chief Architect, Satellite Applications Catapult
 o Kunitada Kume, Resident Representative for UK, Japan International Cooperation Agency
 o Moderator: Rose Hyett, Partner, Oxford Investment Consultants LLP

5:30-6:00pm **Education, Arts, Culture and Tourism: opportunities to collaborate between Japan and the UK**
 o Martin Barrow CBE, CBE, Order of Rising Sun, Director, Matheson & Co. Ltd., and Visit Japan Ambassador
 o Jan Jimbuhi, Executive Director, Japan National Tourism Organisation
 o Sam Thorne, Director General and CEO of Japan House London.
 o Takashi Shimizu, Broadcast Interpreter, BBC, and Board Member, International Committee, Japanese Association of Science & Technology Journalists.
 o Moderator: Simon Wright, Japan House

6:00-6:05pm **Closing Comment**
 Alderman Sheriff Alistair King DL, Chair Institute of Directors London

6:05-6:30pm **Japanese Musical programme**
 Hibiki Ichikawa (Samisen) and Akari Mochizuki (Folk Vocal)

Business and Networking event

6:30-9:30pm **Business and Networking event - drinks/canapés**
 9:30pm End of event

Sponsor: Shimadzu UK Ltd

Supported by: British-Japanese Parliamentary Group (APPG), Embassy of Japan in the UK, Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (JCCI), Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), Japan Society, Japan Association, Japan Exchange Group (JPG), Department of Business and Trade (DfT), Japan Foundation, techUK, Japan House, Rotary Club of London, Japan National Tourism Organisation (JNTO)

Photographer: stoveslavy.com
 Dinesh/Canapés/MogiAnglo, a specialist in Japanese Cuisine

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Historical Mural (Digital Panel Display)

At the Symposium, a historical panel (mural) depicting the Choshu-Five and Satsuma Students (1863), Tomoatsu Godai Connections (1865), Iwakura Mission (1871), the Kagoshima Legislature's Inspection Mission in Paris (1873), Anglo Japanese Alliance (1894-1902), the founding of Shimadzu Corporation (1875), and the start of the Craze for Japan in the Victorian and Edwardian Britain was displayed.

1863
The Choshu Five and Satsuma Students
 In 1863, five young samurai students of the Choshu clan were smuggled out of Japan and transferred to England. In Britain, Japan was a closed society, when these five students arrived in a capital.

1865
Tomoatsu Godai connections
 Godai Tomoatsu (佐藤 五郎 大五郎, 1838-1901) was a diplomat who served in Britain, France, and the United States. He was the first Japanese to study in the UK, and he was the first Japanese to study in the US. He was the first Japanese to study in the US, and he was the first Japanese to study in the US.

1871
The Iwakura Mission
 Iwakura Tomomi was the head of the Japanese government's mission to the USA, Canada, and Europe. He was the first Japanese to visit the USA, Canada, and Europe. He was the first Japanese to visit the USA, Canada, and Europe.

1873
The Kagoshima Legislature's Inspection Mission in Paris
 The Kagoshima Legislature's Inspection Mission in Paris was the first Japanese mission to Paris. It was the first Japanese mission to Paris, and it was the first Japanese mission to Paris.

1875
Shimadzu Corporation
 Shimadzu Corporation was founded in 1875. It was the first Japanese company to be founded in the UK. It was the first Japanese company to be founded in the UK.

1894-1902
Anglo-Japanese Alliance
 The Anglo-Japanese Alliance was signed in 1902. It was the first Japanese alliance with a Western power. It was the first Japanese alliance with a Western power.

The Craze for Japan in Victorian and Edwardian Britain
 The Craze for Japan in Victorian and Edwardian Britain was a period of intense interest in Japan. It was a period of intense interest in Japan, and it was a period of intense interest in Japan.

What dignitaries has said:

We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the participants, speakers, government representatives and IoD.



The Rt Hon Nigel Huddleston MP
Minister of State for International Trade, Gov.UK



The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Japan, Gov.UK

Press

Institute of Directors

Institute of Directors Japan Business Group Symposium for UK and Japanese Business and Trade Leaders
<https://www.iod.com/locations/london/news/institute-of-directors-japan-business-group-symposium-for-uk-and-japanese-business-and-trade-leaders/>

Evening Standards

Trevelyan hails close trade links with Japan – Minister speaks at inaugural Japan-UK symposium in London
<https://www.standard.co.uk/business/trevelyan-hails-closer-trade-links-with-japan-b1076299.html>

Embassy of Japan in the UK

Ambassador Hayashi's attendance at "Japan-UK Symposium Celebrating the 150 years of Iwakura Mission" hosted by the Institute of Directors
https://www.uk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/230424amb.html

Yahoo

<https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/trevelyan-hails-closer-trade-security-141607746.html>

Next steps

As a follow-up, the IoD Japan Business Group is planning for a content-driven event focusing on the two-panel themes focusing "Future business, Geopolitical, and Defence/security relationships, opportunities for Japan and the UK" and "Technology, Innovation and Trade Growth" and the next two years making roadways to the Osaka Expo 2025, where the Group is aiming to lead a 20-member delegation visiting Japan - Osaka and Tokyo.



In the picture is the Institute of Directors Japan Business Group Leadership and Ambassadorial team. From L-R: Tim Stanley, Yua (Kanai) Belady, Ai Shimohama, Rie Hamaguchi (Vice Chair), Dr Indranil Nath FIoD (Chair), Andrew Main, Nayano Nomura, Hiten Radia. Not in the picture: Vanessa Dal Busco, Shaun Warren, Ichiro Tominaga, IoD Admin Office Team- Jeremy Warrillow, Yusuf Muntazir, David Gandon, Cassie Chisholm.



Photo: Dr Indranil Nath, Fellow of the Institute of Directors and Chair IoD Japan Business Group, opening the IoD Japan-UK Symposium



Photo: Rie Hamaguchi, Vice Chair of IoD Japan Business Group and Special Advisor to the Osaka Prefectural Government, Japan reading out a congratulatory message from Hon. Hirofumi Yoshimura, Governor of Osaka Prefecture, Japan



Photo: Jon Geldart, Director General, Institute of Directors, welcoming address



Photo: The Rt Hon Nigel Huddleston MP, Minister of State for International Trade, Gov.UK as Chief Guest delivering his keynote speech



Photo: H.E Mr Hajime Hayashi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the UK, delivering his keynote speech



Photo: Rajesh Agrawal, Deputy Mayor of London for Business, delivering his keynote speech



Photo: The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Japan, Gov.UK delivering his keynote speech



Photo: The Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, Minister of State in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Gov.UK as Chief Guest delivering his keynote speech



Photo: Stuart Philips, Managing Director Shimadzu UK Limited delivering his keynote speech



Photo: Former Ambassador Kunisada Kume and Great Grandson of Kunitake Kume, who was the Private Secretary of Tomomi Iwakura and Official diarist of the Iwakura Mission, giving his message



Photo: Fireplace Chat on *1872 to 2022 Japan and the UK reflections from Iwakura Mission*, L to R: Paul Madden CMG, Former Ambassador to Japan, Jason James, Director General of the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation



Photo: Panel Discussion – *What does the UK mean to Japan?* L to R: Doug Wills, Editor Emeritus, Evening Standards, Andrew Fraser CMG, Senior Advisor to Mitsubishi Corporation London, Yuuichiro Nakajima, Chair, Japan H.L. Limited and Managing Director Crimson Phoenix Limited.



Photo: Panel Discussion, *Future business, and security relationships between Japan and the UK* L to R: David Stringer-Lamarre, Special Advisor International IoD, Managing Director Fortis Consulting London Ltd., Emma Wegoda, Head of Asia Pacific, City of London Corporation, Minister Hiroshi Matsuura, Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the UK, Lord Trenchard DL, Vice Chair British-Japanese Parliamentary Group



Photo: Panel Discussion, *Innovation, Technology and Spin-offs from Japan and the UK* L to R: Ross Hyett, Senior Partner, Oxford Investment Consultants LLP Dr Kathryn Walsh, Executive Director, Innovation & Enterprise, University College of London, Kuniaki Amatsu, Resident Representative for UK, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Dr Mike Short CBE, Former Chief Scientific officer, Department of Business & Trade, Gov.UK, Chief Architect, Satellite Application Catapult.



Photo: Panel Discussion- *Education, Arts, Culture and Tourism, opportunities to collaborate between Japan and the UK* L to R: Takeshi Shimizu, Broadcast Interpreter BBC, and Board Member, International Committee, Japanese Association of Science & Technology Journalist, Sam Thorne, Director General and CEO of Japan House London, Jun Jinushi, Executive Director, Japan National Tourism Organisation, Martin Barrow CBE, Order of Rising Sun, Director Matheson & Co Ltd., and Visit Japan Ambassador.



Photo: Alderman Sheriff of City of London Corporation Alastair King DL, Chair of Institute of Directors London Region presenting his closing comments and vote of thanks



Photo: Japanese Musical Programme – Hibiki Ichikawa (playing the Shamisen) and Akari Mochizuki (singing the Japanese Minyo folk songs)



Photo: The audience – magnificent Japan House London Hall



Masakazu Iwakura
Senior Partner, TMI Associates and Professor of Law, Hitotsubashi University (Sixth Generation of Tomomi Iwakura)

Photo: Masakazu Iwakura, Partner TMI Associates and Professor of Law at Hitotsubashi University, is the 6th Generation of Tomotomi Iwakura, who led the Iwakura Mission in 1871, delivering his message.



Photo: Audience



Photo: Business Networking after the Symposium