US-JAPAN NOW:
GEOSTRATEGY
IN A NEW WORLD

THURSDAY
MARCH 25, 2021
7:00PM EDT
MARCH 26, 2021 8:00AM JST

Registration

With new administrations, the U.S. & Japan both face unique GEOSTRATEGIC challenges & opportunities in a changing new world. China, North Korea and the re-emergence of Russia, among others, present new issues for leadership from both nations. Join us for a talk on U.S.-Japan political, security & economic relations and how it couldshape the future of our world.

SPEAKERS:

KOJI MURATA
President Emeritus & Professor of Political Science
Doshisha University

SHEILA SMITH
Senior Fellow for Japan Studies
Council on Foreign Relations

Consulate-General of Japan in Atlanta
在アトランタ日本国総領事館

THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA

National Association of Japan-America Societies

Georgia Tech
Center for International Business Education and Research

SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION
PROGRAM SCHEDULE TIMES IN U.S. EDT
Thursday, March 25, 2021 @ 6:00pm EDT
Friday, March 26, 2021 @ 7:00am JST

- Welcome
  Yoshi Domoto
  JASG Executive Director

- Introduction
  Peter Kelly
  NAJAS President

- Panelist Introductions
  Yoshi Domoto
  JASG Executive Director

- Geostrategy in the U.S.
  Sheila Smith,
  Senior Fellow on JPN Studies
  Council on Foreign Relations

- Geostrategy in Japan
  Koji Murata,
  Professor of Political Science
  Doshisha University

- Panel Discussion

- Audience Q&A

- Closing Remarks
  Al Hodge, JASG Chair
  Founder & CEO
  Hodge Consulting Services
Sheila A. Smith is senior fellow for Japan studies at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). An expert on Japanese politics and foreign policy, she is the author of *Japan Rearmed: Politics of Military Power, Intimate Rivals: Japanese Domestic Politics and a Rising China* (released in Japanese as *日中親愛なる宿敵：変容する日本政治と対中政策*), and *Japan's New Politics and the U.S.-Japan Alliance*. She is also the author of the CFR interactive guide Constitutional Change in Japan. Smith is a regular contributor to the CFR blog *Asia Unbound* and a frequent contributor to major media outlets in the United States and Asia. Smith joined CFR from the East-West Center in 2007, where she directed a multinational research team in a cross-national study of the domestic politics of the U.S. military presence in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. She was a visiting scholar at Keio University in 2007-08, where she researched Japan’s foreign policy towards China, supported by the Abe Fellowship. Smith has been a visiting researcher at two leading Japanese foreign and security policy think tanks, the Japan Institute of International Affairs and the Research Institute for Peace and Security, and at the University of Tokyo and the University of the Ryukyus. Smith is chair of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and the U.S. advisors to the U.S.-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON), a binational advisory panel of government officials and private-sector members. She teaches as an adjunct professor at the Asian studies department of Georgetown University and serves on the board of its *Journal of Asian Affairs*. She also serves on the advisory committee for the U.S.-Japan Network for the Future. program of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. Smith earned her MA and PhD from the political science department at Columbia University.
Koji Murata was born on July 13, 1964 in Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan. Mr. Murata has been a Professor of Political Science, Faculty of Law, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan since 2005. Professor Murata received his B.A. in Political Science from Doshisha University in 1987 and obtained his M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from Kobe University respectively in 1989 and 1998. Also, from 1991 to 95, Dr. Murata, as a Fulbright Student, studied at The George Washington University where he received M.Phil. in Political Science. Dr. Murata was Assistant and Associate Professor of American Studies, Hiroshima University, Higashi-Hiroshima from 1995 to 2000. Then, he became Associate Professor of Political Science, Doshisha University in 2000. Professor Murata was Dean of Faculty of Law from 2011 to 2013 and President of Doshisha University from 2013 to 2016. He was also a Special Advisor to Defense Minister Kono Taro from 2019 to 2020. Dr. Murata was a Visiting Fellow of Henry L. Stimson Center in summer of 2001 and The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation in summer of 2017, respectively. Professor Murata’s specialties include American diplomatic history and Japanese diplomatic history. He has published many books and articles both in Japanese and English. Dr. Murata received the Yomiuri Merit Award for New Opinion Leadership in 1996, Shimizu Hiroshi Award from Japanese Association for American Studies, Suntory Academic Award, and Yoshida Shigeru Award in 1999. Professor Murata is also Acting Chairman of the Board of Governors, Japan Broadcasting Corporation, known as NHK, President of the Japan-America Society of Kyoto, and President of Kyoto International Cultural Association.
In 2013, NAJAS and The Sasakawa Peace Foundation developed the concept of "Japan Update Through Japan-America Societies", to provide public affairs updates across the US. In the six years of the program from 2013 to 2019, 44 "Japan Update" programs were held in 15 cities: Atlanta, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, Indianapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland (Oregon), St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle, Southern California and Washington DC. In 2019, SPF and NAJAS decided to partner on a new public affairs program focusing on the geostrategic challenges Japan and the US face in a changing Asia. A rising China, North Korea and the re-emergence of Russia, among others, present new challenges to both countries, at a time when the US is reconsidering its global engagement. SPF and NAJAS feel that this series is an important contribution to understanding of the alliance, especially when undertaken outside Washington DC. The series involved events in five different cities, hosted by local JAS, each event composed of two recognized experts, one from each country, in a discussion format. We named the series "Geostrategy in the Grassroots". The current program year (April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021) is the second year of the Geostrategy in the Grassroots series, and the eighth combining the Japan Update series. We will add more information as soon as possible.
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The JASG is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to promote mutual understanding between the people of Japan and the State of Georgia through establishing and promoting ties and programs in the areas of culture, customs, education, commerce and politics. For more information about the JASG and its activities, please visit www.JASGeorgia.org or contact the JASG office at 404-842-1400 or Admin@JASGeorgia.org.