



## TRADE FLOWS & CULTURAL NEWS

Number 99 - June 2013

### EDITORIAL

## Japan-EU: A new chapter

By Ambassador Shiojiri

Japan and the EU will open a new chapter in our relations. A chapter that will see us invigorate our economies and elevate our relations to a level commensurate with our standing in the world. Although rather belatedly, Japan and the EU are at the negotiating table, before us are two agreements, the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and the Political agreement. This undertaking represents an opportunity, not just for us, but for the whole world.

The foundations of the Japan-EU partnership go deeper than our common values. We share a profound commitment to the principles of responsibility and global engagement. Our common challenges further bring us together as we seek to put our economies and societies on a positive bearing.

As two of the leading economies in the world, stagnating growth of the Japanese and EU economies have a grave impact beyond our borders. Therefore, it is imperative that we continue to make an arduous effort to invigorate our economies and boost economic growth. Such economic growth needs more trade and investment and further innovation and competitiveness.

The significance of the Japan-EU EPA must be considered through the context of our combined global output, which is currently 34%. In light of the dynamic transformation of the world economy, the EPA will allow Japan and the EU to jointly play an even more positive role in international rule making for trade, investment, protection of intellectual property rights and other related economic activities, while serving as a platform to create new business opportunities world-wide. This process has already been set in motion, with the most

recent step in April, when Japan and the EU held the first round of negotiations in Brussels.

The EPA is an important tool for the benefit of all industry and society and I believe that the EPA can bring real benefits to businesses, consumers and citizens as a whole. For example, SMEs whose amount of products is smaller will also be able to benefit, and more suppliers in the market means more choice for consumers.

In getting to the negotiating table, Japan and the EU have already gone through 4 years of preparatory work. Now we are being tested on whether we can push the negotiation forward with a sense of speed. Japan and the EU should accelerate our work as we look positively towards the forthcoming rounds.

The benefits of the EPA are for all to share in. Therefore, I would wholeheartedly welcome the input and wisdom that only citizens can offer to deepen the dialogue on what one can contribute to make this agreement as effective and meaningful as possible.

Energized dialogue and input from Japanese and European citizens would help all relevant stakeholders to fully understand the level of expectation and the level of importance that the citizens have towards the conclusion of the negotiation. I believe that cooperation between industrial circles, consumers and citizens and the government is of the utmost importance.

Japan and the EU are now facing a golden opportunity to significantly elevate our relations to the partnership of deeds, instead of a partnership of words. We should not fail to seize this opportunity and work towards the earliest conclusion of our agreements.



Ambassador Shiojiri

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contact: BJA Office  
avenue Louise 287, box 7  
1050 Brussels

info@bjabe  
T 02/644 14 05  
F 02/644 23 60

**BJA REPORT**

**Official handing over of the Royal title bestowed upon the BJA  
日白協会兼商工会議所に対し、「ロイヤル」の称号授与式**

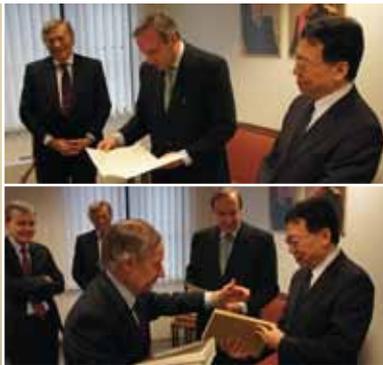
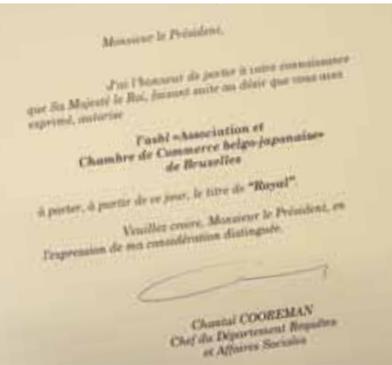
Wednesday, 20 March 2013 - Office of the Governor of Brussels



His Majesty King Albert II of Belgium bestowed upon the BJA the Royal title. This honour comes as the BJA prepares to celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. During these 50 years, the BJA has promoted closer ties between Belgium and Japan, both at the

economic, cultural and personal level.

On 20 March, the Royal Diploma was handed over during an Official Ceremony by the Governor of Brussels, Mr Jean Clément, to Mr Thomas Leysen, the President of the BJA, in presence of BJA Vice-Presidents, Mr Edward De Beukelaer, Mr Atsushi Sudo and Mr Tanguy Van Overstraeten.



The title “Royal” may be granted by the King to Belgian associations that have been in existence for more than 50 years. Other criteria taken into account include good management, the not-for-profit purpose of the association, its vitality and soundness.

The BJA is most grateful for the honor granted by His Majesty King Albert II of Belgium - a historical moment for the association and its members.



**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
GALA DINNER**

**CELEBRATING THE TIES THAT CONNECT JAPAN AND BELGIUM**

**9 November, Colonial Palace**

We have many activities planned to celebrate together this year – a special one to note in your agenda is **November 9** when we will host a memorable Gala Dinner in the **Colonial Palace in Tervuren**.

The night will be full of delicious delight brought to you by star chefs, breathtaking beauty and enchanting music with a touch of Belgium-Japan in all

Invitations will be sent in due time. Keep an eye on [www.bja.be](http://www.bja.be)

We would also like to thank the **'50 year exclusive main sponsors'** making many things possible in this special year: Mr Frans Blondé, Mrs Lieve Blondé-Eelen, JTI, Umicore and Toyota Motor Europe.

**Lieve Blondé-Eelen**  
with a warm & active heart to  
**Japan-Belgium connection**  
(and this since 1974)

**TOYOTA**

**JTI**

**Frans Blondé**  
founding director of **BJA**  
& Chamber of Commerce

**umicore**  
materials for a better life

# Ending the Year in Beauty: Mingei Art Movement at the Bruno Lussato Institute

## ブルノ・ルサト財団協賛の民芸芸術

Thursday 29 November 2012 - Uccle



BJA members discovering the marvels of the Mingei Art Movement



Mr Arie Vos, Art Expert, sharing his passion for things of beauty



HE Ambassador Sakaba and his wife surround Mrs Lussato-Fédier, Co-Founder of the Institute, and Mr Leysen, Chairman of Umicore and BJA President

Thanks to the generous support by the Bruno Lussato Institute, the BJA Cultural Committee was thrilled to invite the BJA Members to an enticing evening in the beautiful private villa of the Institute, drawn by the architect Antoine Pompe, a pupil of Victor Horta, combining the latest traits of modern architecture with Art Deco aesthetics.

This event was attended by the new Japanese Ambassador to Belgium, HE Sakaba, whom the President of the BJA, Mr Thomas Leysen and the General Manager of the Institute, Mr Constantin Chariot, warmly welcomed.

After being introduced to the Institute and its objectives, all the guests enjoyed a first-class presentation of unique antique objects by Mr Arie Vos, who shared its passion for the Mingei Art Movement with everybody.

The event ended with a networking cocktail set among this beautiful and exclusive collection of Mingei Art objects.



# BJA Business Seminar: Customs: Your Partner in International Trade? BJA ビジネス・セミナー税関: 国際貿易のビジネス・パートナー

Wednesday 12 December 2012 - Hotel Metropole



Mr De Prest, Partner at Deloitte and Chairman BJA Legal & Tax Committee, welcomes the highly interested audience and specialist speakers.



The main speakers on the right, Mr Mikuriya, Secretary General World Customs Organization and Mr Colpin, Administrator General, Belgian Customs and Excise Administration, and the moderator on the left, Mr Rutten, Partner of Deloitte, surround some of the panelists, eager to start.



Mr Desloovere, Sales & Logistics Director Lutosa, PinguinLutosa Food Group, Mr Dom, Senior Manager - Finance, Purchasing & ICT, AW Europe, Mr Geypen, Director - General Manager, "K" Line (Belgium) nv as agents "K" Line and Mr van Heukelom, Group Transport & Trade Compliance Manager, Umicore gave their highly appreciated insights into custom matters seen from the industry.

The BJA Legal & Tax Committee organized a business seminar on customs agencies, whose role has shifted from control agencies to real business partners for Industry, with the development of ambitious programs, such as the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO), that facilitate the passage of administrative borders for trustworthy operators and intensify the focus on the criminal and illicit trade of products.

After an introduction by the Legal & Tax Committee Chairman, Mr De Prest, the audience had the privilege of listening to a presentation by Mr Mikuriya, the Secretary General of the World Customs Organization and Mr Colpin, Administrator General of the Belgian Customs and Excise Administration.

The seminar went on with a panel discussion with representatives from the Industry, including companies such as AW Europe, "K" Line, PinguinLutosa Food Group and Umicore, who all discussed the advantages of the Authorized Economic Operator

program and the challenges ahead for customs organizations. After the seminar, the participants continued the discussion during the networking cocktail, while enjoying a light lunch kindly offered by JTI.

All ears and eyes – the audience



# BJA New Year Cocktail Reception BJA 新年カクテルパーティー

Monday 28 January 2013 - Hotel Metropole



The artist STROOK created an inspiring painting about Belgian-Japanese relations and impressed Mr and Mrs Lambrechts of Ichiban Consulting



Breaking the barrel – Mr Leysen, BJA President, HE Ambassador Sakaba and HE Ambassador Shiojiri join forces with hammers



Members enjoying the delicious array of sushi

In honor of HE Mr Mitsuo Sakaba, Japanese Ambassador to Belgium, the Belgium-Japan Association & Chamber of Commerce had a great pleasure in inviting the members to celebrate the New Year and to inaugurate the year of the BJA 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Mr Thomas Leysen, BJA President and Chairman of Umicore, opened the evening with a short welcome speech thanking the members of BJA and everyone involved for their dedicated support to the association. Following, HE Ambassador Sakaba of Japanese Embassy kindly extended his New Year greet-

ings to over 200 members and guests on the occasion of 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year at the BJA. His Excellency also broke the sake barrel, the traditional ‘Kagamiwari’ ceremony, together with HE Ambassador Ambassador Kojiro Shiojiri of the Mission of Japan to the EU and Mr Leysen.

The evening brought a simply exceptional friendly atmosphere - a dynamic Wadaiko performance (Japanese drums) by ‘Araumi Daiko’, a live art performance by Belgian artist, STROOK, while savouring tasty sake and sushi - a perfect start of the year on the occasion of 50th Anniversary at the BJA.



# Cross Chamber Network: First Young Professionals Networking Night

## ベルギーにおける商工会議所間のネットワーク 第一回ヤング・プロフェッショナル・ネットワークの集い

Wednesday 20 February 2013 - BECI



Mr Jeroen Dhanens of JTI, speaking with one of the organizers during the speed networking session



The young professionals busy networking



Mr Jim Cheng of AmCham, and Mrs Sabine Soetens of BECI, managing the speed networking session

The Cross Chamber Network is an initiative born out of the wish of several chambers of commerce, including the BJA, to increase their visibility and organize events together in order to expand the networking opportunities of their members, especially the younger generation.



Together with Amcham, BECI, BCECC, CCBLR and Jong Voka, the BJA invited the young professionals to a thrilling networking night at BECI's premises. After two interventions by Mr Willocx, CEO of Efficcy and Mr Schwartz, former Chief Compliance Officer of Apollo, on the benefits of networking, all 200 participants went on to try out their networking skill during the much-appreciated "speed networking session", animated by representatives of each chamber of commerce.

The evening ended with a more informal cocktail reception, where the participants continued to exchange ideas and build their future networks.

Given the great success of this event, the Cross Chamber Network will organize more events in the future.



# VIP visit to GC Europe & Business Seminar in the framework of the EFQM Excellence Model GC ヨーロッパ社へのVIP 訪問並びにEFQM エクセレンス・モデルに携わるビジネスセミナー

Thursday 7 March 2013 – GC Europe HQ, Haasrode



Mr Gideon Blumental, Head of Business Excellence at GC Europe, explaining the managing philosophy of the group



Mr Walter Bogaerts, VP Technical Operations at GC Europe, guiding the participant through the storage facility



Mr Atsushi Sudo, President of Mitsui & Co Benelux and BJA Vice-President, and Mr Matt Fisher, COO of EFQM, toasting to the success of GC's new premises



Mr Eckhard Maedel, President of GC Europe, welcoming the participants before seminar

To celebrate the opening of its new administrative building, GC Corporation, the leading company in the field of dental care products, kindly invited the members of the BJA and EFQM, to an exclusive visit of its European headquarter near Leuven.

Preceding the visit, the participants attended a business seminar on the EFQM Excellence Model, a comprehensive management framework used by over 30.000 organizations in Europe, including GC, recipient of several management awards.

After the welcome words by Mr Fisher, COO of EFQM and Mr Maedel, President GC Europe, Mr Reul of Umicore and Mr Vandepitte of Ricoh, talked about why customer surveys are interesting for strategic development and how to get a grip on complexity, by focusing on simplicity. Mr Blumental of GC Europe focused with his intervention on leadership. After the seminar, small groups visited the GC facilities, including the impressive storage building, the training center and the new administrative building.

The event was concluded by a networking cocktail inside the training center.



# BJA Annual General Meeting Presentation & Special Visit to Printing Facilities De Tijd & Cocktails

Monday 25 March 2013 – Eco Print Center, Lokeren



Mr Blondé, Co-Founder Marilo Fund, and Mr Leysen, BJA President and Marilo Fund Chairman, eagerly discuss with Mr Bauwens, Marilo Fund laureate, his views on the Japanese Economic Paradox



Opening the Annual General Assembly



Mr Denecker of Honda Europe (at the right) and many other members enjoy the explanation on the production of newspapers and magazines by Mr Wouters of the EPC

On 25 March, thanks to the generous support by Mediafin, the BJA welcomed over 60 members, including HE Ambassador Sakaba of the Japanese Embassy, to its Annual General Meeting held at the Eco Print Center, the printing facility of De Tijd.

The AGM was opened by Mr Leysen, BJA President and Chairman of Umicore, who congratulated the BJA for its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and thanked all the members for their long term support, that led the BJA to receive an honourable ‘Royal’ title from His Majesty King Albert II of Belgium.

The reports of the Committees were presented by Mr Sepulchre, Membership Committee Chairman, Mr Masaki, Cultural Committee Chairman, and Mr Van Overstraeten, Executive Committee Chairman, who also presented the 2012 Financial Results. Following the 2013 Budget report presented by Mrs Oto-Kellens, BJA Executive Director, the members welcomed a guest speaker, Mr Daan Bauwens, Journalist & Laureate Marilo Fund 2012, who

gave a presentation on ‘Japan’s silent revival’.

Following the meeting, all the guests had the unique opportunity to explore the facility of the Eco Print Centre, guided by EPC’s Commercial Manager Mr Wouters. The facility is a world pioneer in the use of a green waterless technology for newspaper printing. After the visit, Mr Leysen thanked Mediafin and the Eco Print Center for this precious opportunity and invited all the participants to share refreshing drinks and delicious canapés together.



BJA REPORT  
Security Seminar  
企業・在留邦人向け安全対策セミナー  
2013年、4月18日(木)、ブラッセル日本人学校



この度、BJA（日白協会兼商工会議所）では、在ベルギー日本大使館、日本人会及びブラッセル日本人学校と協力し、「企業・在留邦人向け安全対策セミナー」を開催しました。セミナーは日常感じられている治安に対する不安を払拭するとともに、防犯意識の向上を目的とし、約60名以上のブラッセル日本人学校生徒の保護者並びにBJA及び日本人会会員の皆様にお集まり頂き、PTA総会後に実施されました。当日は、在ベルギー日本大使館の溝二等書記官より、ベルギーの犯罪発生状況や手口別防犯対策、並びにベルギー警察の概要と防犯のための取り組みについてご説明頂きました。セミナー終了後、多くの参加者の方々よりアンケートにご回答頂き、ご協力賜りましたこと、お礼申し上げます。

On 18 April 2013, the Belgium-Japan Association and Chamber of Commerce co-organised a seminar in cooperation with the Japanese Embassy and Nihonjinkai, held at the Japanese School in Brussels, on (personal) security matters. This seminar was held in the Japanese language only with the aim to enhance the awareness of the Japanese community in Belgium on security measures. With kind cooperation by the Embassy of Japan to Belgium, a thorough overview on the current security situation in Belgium was given with recommended measures. Crime protection efforts implemented by the Belgian Police were presented to the Japanese participants as well.



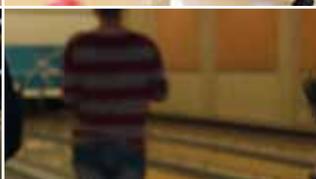
# Bowling Contest and Tea Time ボーリング大会 & ティータイム

Saturday, 24 November 2012 - 2012年11月24日



楽しいイベントを通じて、ベルギー人との交流をより深めることができました。また、日本という、ベルギーとは全く異なった文化を持つ国に、興味を抱き、受け入れてくれる人たちがこんなにもたくさんいたことに驚きと喜びを隠しきれませんでした。僕も、ベルギーの良さをより知ることができ、ベルギーが今まで以上に好きになりました。ベルギー人と日本人が和気藹々とレクリエーションや会話を通して交流できる、そんな場を提供してくれるのが BJA-FC (Belgium-Japan Association Friendship Committee) なのだと思います。

Akimasa Tanaka 田中昭全



# Friendship Cafe & Christmas Market フレンドシップカフェ & クリスマスマーケット

Tuesday, 18 December 2012 - 2012年12月18日

The activities organized by the Friendship Committee are the perfect place for both European and Japanese people who want to increase their understanding of each others' culture, in a friendly and informal context.

*Frédéric Du villier*



## Shinnenkai (New Year Party) at Yamayu Santatsu 新年会ディナー

Saturday, 9 February 2013 - 2013年2月9日



It was my first time attending an event organized by the BJA FCOM, mostly because I live in Paris, and this short story is why I intend to come and join again.

When my friend asked me if I wanted to join his group event on Saturday I was a bit skeptical. Not because I do not fancy having a nice meal with some new people, but simply because I was more looking forward to a night walk in the town. This of course was before I even set a foot outside. It was freezing. The cold got me there very fast and we joined the group for the evening. And what an evening I must say.

We first went for a Japanese restaurant, where we could have a meal and meet the other members. We had a nice private room at the top of the restaurant nicely crowded with Japanese and Europeans chatting together.

As I dived for the sushi rolls I met the Chairman of the FCOM,

Arnaud. We chatted a bit about his passion with the Japanese culture and my presence there tonight, but were interrupted by a strange starter that bumped into us. It was <edamame> as I learned after. I then went to talk with other people, students most of them, and then it was BINGO time. Sadly luck was not on my side and that nice tea set went to a Japanese family.

A little bit after that I was invited to join part of the group who were going for a drink in town. I gladly accepted this Nijikai, as this was my initial intention for the night, and off we went. I must say the evening ended up nicely around 2 o'clock at night with much more memories and pictures than I would have taken if I had gone solo.

I said good night to the group and promised to come back soon for another event. It was a great night, one I will not forget.

Clément Moron

## Hanami Picnic in the Japanese Garden ハッセルト日本庭園での花見とピクニック

Sunday, 21 April 2013, Hasselt - 2013年4月21日



今回初めてBJAFCのイベントに参加させて頂きました。ベルギーに創立 21 周年となるこの様な日本庭園があることは知らず当日を大変楽しみにしておりました。

池には立派な鯉が泳いでいて、お茶室の前方には鯉のぼりが揚がっており、新宿御苑を彷彿とさせる本格的な庭園でした。

薄紅色と白のほほ満開の桜の元、BJAFC のスタッフの方のご挨拶と日本酒での乾杯と和やかに会が始まりました。

初めはぎこちなかった私たちも、スタッフの方の上手な誘導やマジシャンのテーブルショーに助けられ、参加者の方と打ち解けることが出来ました。日本語を勉強中のベルギーの方や、ベルギーで勉強されている日本人の方などと交流でき、楽しいひと時を過ごさせて頂きました。

私自身は渡白して1年不足ですので、出会いの輪を広げながらベルギー文化を学べるなんて、とてもありがたく今後は是非参加させて頂きたいと思いました。

このような機会を設けて頂き、BJAFC の皆様本当にどうもありがとうございました。

宮本真希子



Magician Bob Alan enchanting the Hanami participants



## EU-Japan News

**A FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EU AND JAPAN**

The EU and Japan officially on 25 March 2013 launched the negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The aim is for a comprehensive agreement in goods, services and investment eliminating tariffs, non-tariff barriers and covering other trade-related issues, such as public procurement, regulatory issues, competition, and sustainable development.

The first round of negotiations were held in Brussels from 15 to 19 April 2013.

Japan is the EU's 7<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner globally and the EU's 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest trading partner in Asia after China. Conversely, the European Union is Japan's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest trading partner, after China and the United States. Together the European Union and Japan account for more than one third of world GDP.

An agreement between the two economic giants is expected to boost Europe's economy by 0.6 to 0.8% of its GDP and will result in growth and the creation of 400.000 jobs. It is expected that EU exports to Japan could increase by 32.7%, while Japanese exports to the EU would increase by 23.5%.

**What will the negotiations cover?**

The negotiations with Japan will address a number of EU concerns, including non-tariff barriers and the further opening of the Japanese public procurement market. Both sides aim at concluding an agreement covering the progressive and reciprocal liberalisation of trade in goods, services and investment, as well as rules on trade-related issues.

The negotiations will be based on the outcome of a joint scoping exercise, which the EU and Japan completed in May 2012. In the context of this exercise, both parties demonstrated their willingness and capacity to commit to an ambitious trade liberalisation agenda. The Commission has also agreed with Japan on specific 'roadmaps' for the removal, in the context of the negotiations, of non-tariff barriers as well as on the opening up of public procurement for Japan's railways and urban transport market.

Given the importance that the elimination of non-tariff barriers has for achieving a level playing field for European businesses on the Japanese market, the negotiating directives adopted by the Council foresee a parallelism between the elimination of EU duties and of non-tariff barriers in Japan. They also authorise the suspension of the negotiations after one year, if Japan does not live up to its commitments on removing non-tariff barriers. To protect sensitive European sectors, there is a safeguard clause.

**What has happened so far**

At the EU-Japan Summit of May 2011, the EU and Japan decided to start preparations for both an FTA and a political framework agreement and stated that on the basis of a successful scoping exercise, the Commission would seek the necessary authorisation from the Council for negotiations.

After one year of intensive discussions, in May 2012, the Commission has agreed with Japan on a very ambitious agenda for the future negotiations covering all EU market access priorities. On 18 July 2012 the European Commission asked the EU Member States for their agreement on opening negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with Japan. On 29 November 2012 the Council decided to give the Commission 'the green light' to start trade negotiations with Japan.

**EU-Japan Trade relations**

Japan is the EU's second biggest trading partner in Asia, after China. In 2011 EU exports had reached a value of €49 billion, mainly in the sectors of machinery and transport equipment, chemical products and agricultural products. In 2011 EU imports from Japan accounted for €67.5 billion, with mostly machinery and transport equipment and chemical products. In 2011, EU imports and exports of commercial services from and to Japan were €15.9 billion and €21.8 billion. Japan is a major investor in the EU. In 2011 the EU inward FDI stock had reached a value of €144.2 billion. Japan's inward FDI has increased markedly since the mid-1990s, but remains very low in comparison with other OECD countries (EU investments worth €85.8 billion in 2011).

**For further information**

- › EU trade relations with Japan:

<http://ec.europa.eu/trade/creating-opportunities/bilateral-relations/countries/japan/>

- › Joint statement by the President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, and the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, 25 March 2013, IP/13/276

- › Impact assessment EU-Japan FTA, July 2012:

[http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2012/july/tradoc\\_149809.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2012/july/tradoc_149809.pdf)

**“MINERVA” EU-JAPAN FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT > CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST****Objectives**

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation proposes a 6 months in-house fellowship scheme in Japan, designed to support its research and policy analysis of EU-Japan economic and industrial issues\*.

The Research Fellow will undertake research work on a selected priority topic of the Centre, which should result in a consistent policy report (20-30 pages) to be owned by the Centre.

Apart from research on a pre-determined topic, the Research Fellow would be expected to support the daily analytical activities of the Centre which includes media monitoring, policy briefings, seminar reports, etc.

**Who can apply?**

This fellowship is addressed to EU and Japanese professionals (trade and economic analysts, academics, scientists, civil servants) with a proven interest in Japan and EU-Japan cooperation from multiple perspectives (trade/market access, industrial policy issues, R&D, etc...).

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: EU or Japanese citizenship, university degree, strong interest and motivation in Japan and EU-Japan relations.

The following elements will constitute an advantage in the selection process: previous professional experience with Japan, an already advanced study/research on one of the priority topics, Japanese language abilities.

**The application process**

The candidates should apply for either the July-December or October-March time slots.

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED: CV, Covering Letter, Research Topic-Research Plan (1-2 A4 pages).

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:**

- > 1<sup>st</sup> August (October-March slot)

The application materials and eventual requests for clarification should be sent electronically to the following address: [minerva@eu-japan.gr.jp](mailto:minerva@eu-japan.gr.jp)

**The selection process**

After a first review of the applications a short list will be established. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview (via telephone, Skype or in person). Shortlisted candidates will be required to submit official documents proving that they meet the minimum requirements (citizenship, education etc).

**Practical aspects**

The fellowship is worth 1700 EUR/month (payable in JPY) and covers a period of 6 months, twice a year, July-December 2013 and October 2013 - March 2014. The fellowship is expected to cover basic daily

expenses and accommodation in Tokyo. A Research Fellow selected from outside Japan, will receive an additional a travel subsidy of up to 1000 EUR.

**INSURANCE:**

The Research Fellow shall take out a personal insurance policy for the whole duration of the Fellowship to cover:

- > Travel,
- > Personal health,
- > Accident insurance,
- > Third-party liability (private life): insurance against the loss of, or damage to, his/her personal property, and insurance against any injury, loss or damage suffered by a third person for which the Participant is personally liable.

This policy shall be taken out prior to the beginning of the fellowship. (The Centre undertakes to provide assistance in this matter, if the Participant is an EU national not residing in Japan.)

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation will provide assistance in obtaining the visa for Japan as well as various logistical help (finding accommodation etc).

**Priority topics (2013-2014)**

CURRENT SITUATION AND PERSPECTIVES ON EU-JAPAN TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS:

- > Japan market access issues  
(in the context of the FTA/EPA negotiations)
- > Japanese public procurement issues
- > Energy policy, clean energy aspects and business opportunities
- > Access to critical raw materials, including rare earths

POST-FUKUSHIMA BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES IN JAPAN (disaster management services, clean energy, construction, etc..)

**EU SMES INTERNATIONALISATION TO JAPAN:**

- > Obstacles and opportunities for EU SMEs in Japan  
(including case studies/sectors)
- > Mapping of EU SMEs active in Japan

**SECTORAL ASPECTS:**

JAPANESE BIOTECH CLUSTER AND INDUSTRY LANDSCAPE

The short-listing will be done by the two general managers of the Centre on the basis of the CVs, covering letters and work/research plans submitted. The final selection stage may include an interview in person, by telephone or via Skype.

NOTE: Exceptionally, other well motivated and well defined topic proposals may be considered.

[www.eu-japan.eu/global/minerva.html](http://www.eu-japan.eu/global/minerva.html)

\* Established in 1987 as a non-profit organisation, the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation is a unique venture between the European Commission (Directorate General for Enterprise & Industry) and the Japanese Government (Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry). With two offices (Tokyo and Brussels), it is co-financed and co-managed by both Authorities. In 25 years the EU-Japan Centre has become an effective bridge between European and Japanese business and policy circles, by developing a full range of activities such as seminars, reports, business round tables, and training programmes for executives, internships for technical students, information services, and promotion of R&D cooperation.

## news for the members

**40 YEARS OF TWINNING BETWEEN VILVOORDE AND KOMATSU-CITY**

In 2014 Vilvoorde and Komatsu-City will be celebrating 40 years of official friendship. For this event both cities will construct a garden, a Japanese garden in Vilvoorde and a rose garden in Komatsu-City.

The Japanese garden will be constructed in the park Drie Fonteinien (Three Fountains) in Vilvoorde, at the end of the grass lawn in the Beneluxlaan, next to VTM. The garden will be the final point of the lawn and measures 1000 m<sup>2</sup>.

The Flemish government, through the Agency of Nature and Forests, will provide the budget to construct the garden. Vilvoorde and Komatsu-City will take care of the construction on their own territory. Each city will make the construction plans for the other, and will send all the materials that cannot be found locally. City gardeners from Vilvoorde and Komatsu will visit the gardens during the constructions.

Source: The City of Vilvoorde

**ASIAN ART IN BRUSSELS**

We are delighted to announce the launch of ASIAN ART IN BRUSSELS in 2013. This new event, which will take place from 5 to 9 June, will build on the foundations laid by the Brussels Oriental Art Fair. We aim to bring Asian art to the attention and appreciation of a wider audience and raise the profile of this field which is so rich and diverse. For the first time in Brussels, the program will include conferences by specialists in Asian Art, in cooperation with museums and cultural institutions.

ASIAN ART IN BRUSSELS will provide a platform for the promotion, exhibition, and sales of the arts of Asia, and will coincide and collaborate with two other important cultural events - B.A.A.F. and B.R.U.N.E.A.F - making Brussels a key destination for art enthusiasts in June.



**Arie Vos**

Board Member Asian Art In Brussels  
www.asianartinbrussels.com

**STUDYING JAPANESE****Where to study Japanese in BELGIUM?**

BNK v.z.w./a.s.b.l. is the Belgian Association of Japanese Language Teachers (or in Japanese: Berugii Nihongo Kyoushikai). BNK is an association for people engaged in Japanese language teaching in Belgium and the neighbouring countries and for people interested in the Japanese language.

They organise seminars and study meetings in order to develop Japanese language education and to improve the quality of Japanese language teachers.

For students of the Japanese language BNK has the 'Nihongo Hanasoukai' and they support the Japanese speech contest.

**BNK members are teaching in the following institutions:****Katholieke Universiteit Leuven K.U.Leuven**

- > Taal- en Regiostudies, Japanese Studies
- > Blijde-Inkomststraat 21, 3000 LEUVEN
- > tel: 016-32 49 31, 016-32 49 31 - fax: 016-32 49 32
- > e-mail: [oriental.studies@arts.kuleuven.be](mailto:oriental.studies@arts.kuleuven.be)
- > url: [japanesestudies.arts.kuleuven.be/informatie](http://japanesestudies.arts.kuleuven.be/informatie)
- > Intensive day course at university, from last week of September until end of June
  - » 1<sup>st</sup> bachelor 13 hours/week
  - » 2<sup>nd</sup> bachelor 11 hours/week
  - » 3<sup>rd</sup> bachelor 8 hours/week
  - » Master 6 hours/week

**Brussels Language Activities**

- > Rue J G Eggericx 3, 1150 WOLUWE ST.PIERRE
- > tel: 02-248 2940 - fax: 02-248 2940
- > e-mail: [m.ikeda@skynet.be](mailto:m.ikeda@skynet.be) - url: [www.blact.be](http://www.blact.be)
- > Evening course, once a week. Start and end of the course: every quarter. Beginner's level.

**CLT (Centrum voor Levende Talen) c.v.o.**

- > Dekenstraat 4, 3000 LEUVEN
- > tel: 016-32 56 61 - fax: 016-32 56 95
- > e-mail: [secc@clt.kuleuven.be](mailto:secc@clt.kuleuven.be) - url: [www.clt.be](http://www.clt.be)
- > Evening courses of 120 hours a year (3,5 hrs/week), starting from the last week of September, ending first week of June.
  - » 1<sup>st</sup> year (breakthrough A1, RG 1.1)
  - » 2<sup>nd</sup> year (breakthrough A1, RG 1.2)
  - » 3<sup>rd</sup> year (waystage A2, RG 1.3)
  - » 4<sup>th</sup> year (waystage A2, RG 1.4)
  - » 5<sup>th</sup> year (threshold B1, RG 2.1)
  - » 6<sup>th</sup> year (threshold B2, RG 2.2)

**GLTT c.v.o.****CAMPUS RODE**

- > Schoolstraat 2, 1640 SINT-GENESIUS-RODE
- > tel: 02-358 28 97, 02-358 28 97 - fax: 02-358 44 24

**CAMPUS HALLE**

- › A. Demaeghtlaan 40, 1500 HALLE
- › tel: 02-361 60 96
- › e-mail: info@gltt.be - url: www.gltt.be
- › Day and evening courses of 120 hours a year (3,5 hrs/week), starting from the last week of September, ending first week of June

**CVO Hageland**

- › Schaluin 28, 3200 Aarschot
- › tel: 016-55 11 15, 016-55 11 16
- › e-mail: info@gltt.be - url: cvohageland.sjca.be/index.php
- › Evening courses of 120 hours a year (3,5 hrs/week), starting from the last week of September, ending first week of June

**ICHEC, Brussels Management School**

- › Rue au Bois, 365a, 1150 BRUSSELS
- › tel: 02-739 3769 - fax: 02-739 3759
- › e-mail: info@ichec.be - url: www.ichec.be
- › As the third foreign language, 2 years compulsory from 2<sup>nd</sup> bachelor day course, from last week of September until end of June

**INSTITUT LIBRE MARIE HAPS**

- › Rue d'Arlon 11 and Chaussée de Wavre 249,
- › B-1050 BRUXELLES
- › tel: 02-511 92 90, 02-793 40 42
- › url: mariehaps.be/coursdusoir
- › Evening course 2h/week x 30 (October-June)
- › Saturday morning course 4h/week (October-January and/or February-June)
- › Conversation course (intermediate level) 1.5h/week x 15

**LBC NVK c.v.o.**

- › Te Boelaerlei 40, 2140 BORGERHOUT
- › tel: 03-235 99 24 - fax: 03-271 09 38
- › e-mail : CVO.Merksem@yucm.be
- › url: www.lbconderwijs.be/borgerhout
- › Evening courses of 120 hours a year (3,5 hrs/week), starting from the last week of September, ending first week of June

**LUMIERE asbl**

- › Rue de la Molinee 42, 1160 BRUXELLES
- › tel: 0479 41 86 64 - fax: 02-256 0037
- › e-mail: lumiere.japon@gmail.com
- › url: www.lumiere-asbl.org
- › Japanese language cours for beginners and elementary level students. Learn Japanese in a small group.

**KUMON Bruxelles Centre**

- › Personalised Japanese reading and writing course for Japanese and non-native advanced level students.

**Other institutions where Japanese is taught (no BNK members)****Ceran I.L.C.**

- › Avenue des Petits Sapins 27 B-4900 SPA
- › tel : +32 87 79 11 22 - fax: +32 87 79 11 88
- › e-mail: customer@ceran.com - url: www.ceran.com
- › Intensive week course & private course.
  - › Start and end of the course: every Sunday / à la carte
  - › Levels: all levels
  - › Hours per week: 45 hours

**FUNDP (Facultés universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix)**

- › Faculté de Philosophie et Lettres, Rue Grafé 1, 5000 NAMUR
- › tel: 081-72 50 92 - fax: 081-72 50 90
- › url: www.fundp.ac.be/universite/services/social/culture/activites/japonais.html

**Universiteit Gent (Department Languages and Cultures of South and East Asia)**

- › Blandijnberg 2, 9000 GENT
- › tel: 09-264 41 56 - fax: 09-264 41 94
- › e-mail: brigitte.vanwambeke@UGent.be
- › url: www.southandeastasia.ugent.be/Japanologie

**HITEK**

- › Doorniksesteenweg 145, 8500 KORTRIJK (campus Katho)
- › tel: 056-26 41 48
- › e-mail: info@hitek.be - url: www.hitek.be

**LINGUAPOLIS**

- › Kleine Kauwenberg 12, 2000 ANTWERPEN
- › tel: +32 3 265 48 03 - fax: +32 3 265 46 37
- › e-mail: info@linguapolis.be
- › url: www.linguapolis.be

**PCVO**

- › Henleylaai 83, 9000 GENT
- › tel: 09-267 1290 - fax: 09-267 1291
- › url: www.pcvo-gent.net/index.php?id=168

**PCVO-Moderne Talen (Provinciaal Centrum voor volwassenenonderwijs)**

- › Gouverneur Verwilghensingel 5, 3500 HASSELT
- › tel: 011-26 72 81 - fax: 011-26 72 80
- › e-mail: modernetalen@limburg.be
- › url: www.modernetalen.be/Index.htm

**UCL - Institut des langues vivantes**

- › Traverse d'Esopo 1, 1348 LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE
- › tel: 010-47 43 64
- › fax: 010-474366
- › url: www.ilv.ucl.ac.be/ILV/modules.php?name=Cours&file=JAPO#JAPO1100

**The BJA would like to extend a warm welcome to its newest members:**

**Corporate Member**

**Beherman Group**

The beginning of the Group Beherman is situated somewhere at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, originally in the manufacturing of locomotives and all materials for the railways, then in the assembly of cars.

The Group's core activity is the automotive business. Working with the Mitsubishi brand, it has been recently the official importer of Mitsubishi cars and Fuso trucks for Belgium and Luxemburg.



Beherman manages a Mitsubishi network of about 80 dealers and agents as well as 40 FUSO distributors in Belux and 66 Saab service and repair centers in the Benelux. In and outside of Belgium its other activities includes real estate, finance, reinsurance, IT (Automotive Systems) and Beherman Lease.

Beherman has acquired an outstanding expertise in car distribution over the years. It has imported more than 420.000 cars as distributor in the Benelux of Saab & Mazda over more than 40 years as well as several other prestigious brands like Land Rover, Bentley and Rolls Royce.

BEHERMAN GROUP

Tel: +32 3 890 91 11/+32 3 890 90 78  
 E-mail: u.s@beherman.com  
 Website: www.behermangroup.com  
 Contact: Mr Jacques Beherman, Chairman of the Board & Mr Umberto Stefani, External Affairs Director

**BNP Paribas**

BNP Paribas Fortis, the no. 1 bank in Belgium, offers the market a comprehensive package of financial services for private and professional clients, wealthy individuals, corporate clients, public entities and financial institutions. Today, it is organised around 4 core activities: Retail & Private Banking, Corporate & Public Banking, Corporate & Investment Banking and Investment Solutions. BNP Paribas Fortis supports its clients abroad with a unique pan-European network reinforcing the Group's worldwide positions.

BNP Paribas ([www.bnpparibas.com](http://www.bnpparibas.com)) has a presence in 80 countries with nearly 200,000 employees, including more than 150,000 in Europe. It ranks highly in its three core activities: Retail Banking, Investment Solutions and Corporate & Investment Banking. In Europe, the Group has four domestic markets (Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg) and BNP Paribas Personal Finance is the leader in consumer lending. BNP Paribas is rolling out its integrated retail banking model across Mediterranean basin countries, in Turkey, in Eastern Europe and a large network in the western part of the United States. In its Corporate & Investment Banking and Investment Solutions activities, BNP Paribas also enjoys top positions in Europe, a strong presence in the Americas and solid and fast-growing businesses in Asia.



Rated AA- by Standard & Poor's, BNP Paribas is one of the best rated banks in the world.

BNP PARIBAS

Rue Montagne du Parc 3 (1KE1A), 1000 Brussels  
 Tel : +32 2 228 43 93  
 E-Mail : [isabelle.andre@bnpparibas.com](mailto:isabelle.andre@bnpparibas.com)  
 Contact : Mrs Isabelle Andre, Director, Regional Sales

**IG Watteeuw International**

Industrial Gears Watteeuw (IGW) was founded in 1949 in Bruges by Mr Alfons Watteeuw with the core-activity of manufacturing gears for local OEM's.

Today IGW, as a part of the Belgian BMT-group, is a global player with more than 1000 employees in the design & manufacturing of high quality gears & gearboxes for top end niches such as mass transport (trains), energy (diesel/gas engines & wind energy) & heavy industry machinery (compressors, pumps, textile-machines).



We are serving world-wide OEM's from our companies in Belgium, Romania, Czech Republic, China & USA. Since 3 years IGW has become a reliable partner for leading industrial companies in Japan, such as MHI, IHI, Niigata for the co-development & production of their gears & gearboxes.

As a company with strong Belgian roots, we wish to confirm & further expand our Japanese network by joining the BJA.

**IG WATTEEUW INTERNATIONAL**

Kampveldstraat 51, 8020 Oostkamp  
 Tel: + 32 50 82 69 07  
 E-mail: [angelo.steen@watteeuw.be](mailto:angelo.steen@watteeuw.be)  
 Website : [www.watteeuw.be](http://www.watteeuw.be)  
 Contact : Mr Angelo Steen, Key Account Manager




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## Interdean Relocation Services nv

THINKING RELOCATION? THINK INTERDEAN.

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Last year, Interdean's relocation services helped 110,000 families, expatriates and international assignees to relocate overseas. We offer round-the-clock relocation support from a single point of control for each customer on their journey. In addition, HR Departments and assignees alike can check the progress of the relocation from anywhere in the world via our in-house relocation information management system, ISIS, using their unique login.

As part of the Santa Fe Group, Interdean has 122 offices in 52 locations across the world and employs 3,150 dedicated professionals.

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リロケーションをお考えですか？ その答えはインターディーンにあります。

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- ▶ 異文化交流プログラムや語学トレーニングのアレンジ
- ▶ 海外赴任保険、赴任時経費精算業務

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International Executive Search  
 Emanuel-Leutze-Strasse 4 – 40547 Düsseldorf, Germany  
 Tel : +49 211 74 96 86 18  
 Fax : +49 211 74 96 86 70  
 E-mail : [hayashi@fischer-hrm.de](mailto:hayashi@fischer-hrm.de)  
 Website : [www.fischer-hrm.de](http://www.fischer-hrm.de)  
 Contact : Mr Hiroyuki Hayashi, Senior Consultant

**Globaleye**

Globaleye provides unbiased financial solutions to both Corporate and Private Clients. Our expertise in international financial planning has made us the first choice for over 7000 clients worldwide from our head office in Dubai, with additional offices in Abu Dhabi, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Geneva, Brussels.

Our Wealth Managers are qualified and trained to international standards to ensure our Clients are provided with the best advice and service at all levels and since the Company is independent, no Bank, Life or Investment Company influences the



solutions we offer. This provides added value for our Clients and a truly unbiased approach in creating tailored financial solutions.

We have terms with some of the largest financial institutions in the world, so our due diligence and procedures have to be of the very highest level. Our business partners include Zurich, Royal Skandia, AVIVA, Generali, Friends Provident, Prudential, Allianz, AXA Insurance, Royal Sun Alliance and Royal London 360 to name but a few.

As we are the foremost provider of financial planning solutions, we regularly feature on TV and radio, and are on the panel of experts for many industry and regional newspapers. Our unique online services, including our Globaleye Bulletin Service (GBS), have proved invaluable to our subscribers, keeping them abreast of developments that may affect them. Similarly, our Globaleye Portfolio Service (GPS) provides a monthly report on the progress of your financial plans delivered straight to your inbox and we have recently introduced the Globaleye Valuation Service (GVS) providing online access to all your investments.

Globaleye’s commitment to an innovative, Client based approach has resulted in the accolades of “Personal Lines Broker of the Year” at the 2010 Middle East Insurance Awards and Gulf Insurance Review Awards at the 2011 and 2012 MENA Insurance Awards.

We are also dedicated to the development and training of our employees to maintain the high standards that our Clients expect and this has resulted in the 2012 Investors in People accreditation for our UK based recruitment and training office. At Globaleye, we firmly believe our Clients deserve the best choice, and by providing a bespoke service tailored to the Client’s needs, we are able to offer our clients a service beyond consultancy.

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**GLOBALEYE**

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 Fax: +32 2 642 00 43  
 E-Mail : [jdavies@globaleye.com](mailto:jdavies@globaleye.com); [rmartins@globaleye.com](mailto:rmartins@globaleye.com)  
 Website : [www.globaleye.com](http://www.globaleye.com)  
 Contact: Mr Justin Davies, Wealth Manager & Dr Rodrigo Martins, Wealth Manager

**Group S**

Group S was set up in 1939 and it is the first recognized Belgian external payroll office. It has 900 employees and handles over 430.000 pay slips per month for more than 80.000 clients

(companies and self-employed persons). It has 15 offices in Wallonia, 15 offices in Flanders and its headquarters in Brussels. Furthermore, Group S is also active in France.

Group S goal is to make sure entrepreneurs comply with all the legal requirements when setting up a business and employing staff in Belgium.

Group S services for international clients include the following:

- › An English-speaking payroll administrator
- › Pay slips issued in English
- › Legal assistance in English
- › Specific expertise on matters relating to foreign workers (posting of workers, work permits, expat status, etc.)
- › Assistance with setting up a salary policy
- › Pro-forma documents and documentation in English

Group S は 1939 年にベルギーで、給与支払事務のアウトソーシングサービスを行う会社第一号として生まれました。従業員は 900 名を数え、毎月 43 万以上の給与計算事務を 8 万を超えるクライアント（会社や自営業者）に対して行っています。ワロン地方及びフランダーズ地方にそれぞれ 15 の事務所を置き、本社はブリュッセルにあります。また Group S はフランスでも事業活動を行っています。

Group S は、お客様がベルギーで事業を始めたり雇用を行う際に、現地の法制度を全て遵守できるようお手伝いします。Group S は、外国のクライアント企業向けに次のようなサービスを行います。

- › 英語で対応する給与支払事務担当者を配置
- › 給与計算票を英語にて作成
- › リーガルアドバイスを英語にてご提供
- › 外国人従業員に関する専門サービス（従業員募集、労働許可手続き、日本からの出向者の身分に関する事務 等）
- › 給与支払方針を定める際の助言
- › 各種書類の書式や資料を英語にてご提供



GROUP S

Avenue Fonsny 40, 1060 Brussels  
 Tel +32 2 507 18 81  
 Fax +32 2 507 16 32  
 E-Mail: hugues.thibaut@groups.be;  
 International@groups.be  
 Website: www.GroupS.be  
 Contact: Mr Hugues Thibaut, International Affairs Manager

## Associate Member

### AWEX – Japan Welcome Office

The « Japan Welcome Office » (JWO) is a new incubation center dedicated to innovation-driven Japanese companies. JWO is set up by the Wallonia foreign Trade and Investment Agency (AWEX) and the Science Parks of Wallonia (SPoW).



Wallonia – Region of Belgium, has focused its innovation strategy on strengthening the relationship between the industrial and academic worlds on a global scale, with the clear objective of creating new economic value. The JWO is one of the tools developed to nurture scientific collaboration between Wallonia and Brussels' Research Centers and the Japanese companies. The JWO provides assistance to the Japanese companies that are considering the development of their activities onto the European market. Besides making available a ready-to-plug office space\*, the JWO offers personalized information on investment and innovation, including connections to the scientific and technological academic and industrial networks.

\* The JWO services are free of charge for up to 3 months. The office is located in the university town of Louvain-la-Neuve, 25km South of Brussels.

Japan Welcome Office (JWO) は、革新的な日本企業のヨーロッパ進出を支援する新しいインキュベーション・センターです。JWO は、ベルギー王国ワロン地域政府貿易・外国投資振興庁 (AWEX) とワロン地域サイエンスパーク連盟 (Science Parks of Wallonia - SPoW) が共同で立ち上げました。ベルギーのワロン地方は、新たな経済的価値の創造という明確な基本方針のもと、グローバル・スケールでの産学連携の拡充をイノベーション戦略としています。JWO は、目的達成に向け、特にワロン・ブリュッセルと日本企業間での科学的協力強化に焦点をあて展開させるひとつのツールです。JWO は、ヨーロッパ市場進出を検討する日本企業に対し、即時にオフィス (\*) を提供するのみでなく、投資やイノベーションに関するパーソナライズされた情報を提供しますが、その中には、科学技術学術界、産業界ネットワークへの関係構築も含まれます。

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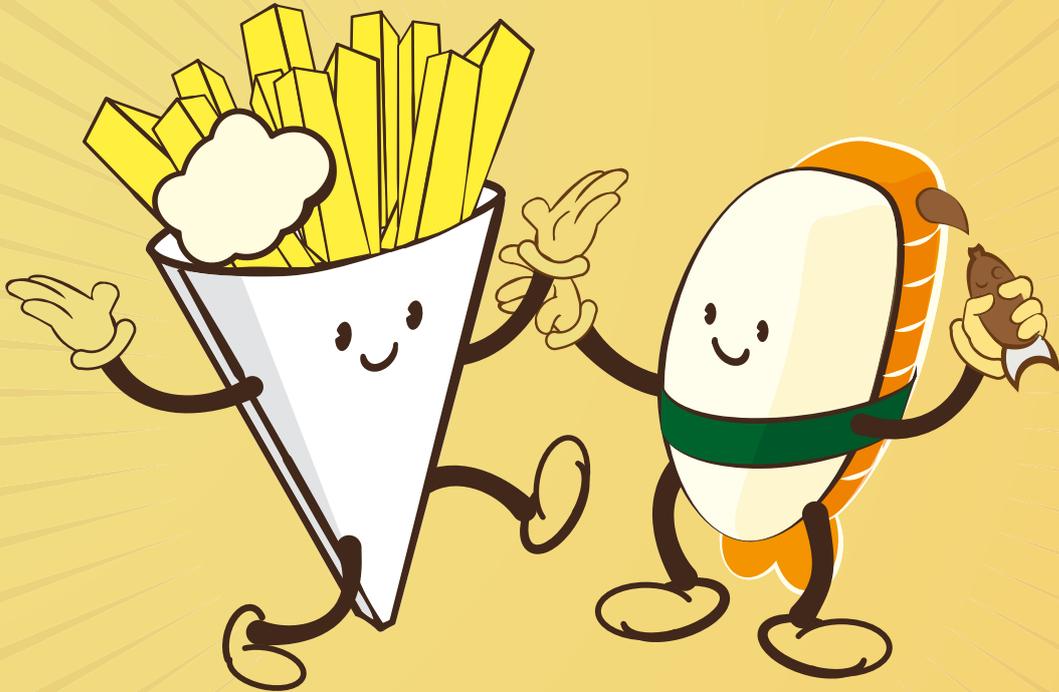
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