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Chamber of Commerce
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EDITORIAL

2016

By His Excellency Mr Masafumi Ishii, Japanese Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium

By the time you see this piece, it will have been already in December and the memorable year for celebrating 150th anniversary of friendship between Japan and Belgium is almost over.

Let me first express my heartfelt gratitude to you all who have rendered precious support for making the celebration so successfully happen. I know there were so many good wills and without them nothing has become possible.

It all started from the opening ceremony on 19th of January at Egmont Palace. We were honored to have the presence of President Bracke of the Parliament who is also the chairperson of Belgium-Japan Parliamentary League, as well as two Deputy PMs, Minister Peeters and Minister Reynders, two strong supporters of Japan-Belgium relations together with State Secretary Mr Muto who came all the way from Japan to participate in this celebration.

Since then, there have been many events. To name a few, the presentation of Hina-dolls to HM Queen was a special moment since these dolls will be passed to the next generation. The presence of TMs King and Queen at the pavilion featured Japan in the opening of Ghent Floralties was another honor. Marching in Grand Place in the occasion of Omme-gang wearing traditional Japanese costumes with volunteers was a life time experience and Brussels Flower Carpet where we witnessed a beautiful Japanese design had never become possible without support of all the volunteers including students of Brussels Japanese School.

The list cannot be concluded without mentioning the State Visit of TMs King Philippe and Queen Mathilde to Japan in October. Having had the honor of staying close with TMs' delegation, I and my wife were very moved by close and warm relations so naturally existing among four Majesties. The state banquet was the largest in the era of Heisei and

TMs Emperor and Empress accompanied TMs King and Queens in a day trip outside Tokyo which rarely happens in recent years. This visit was by far the most memorable highlight of the 150th anniversary. What was reconfirmed during 2016 is that Japan and Belgium have so many things in common in addition to Imperial Family and Royal Family. We all love good food & drinks, don't we? We have strong and mutually beneficial economic ties. Belgium is No4 as the destination of Japan's investment in Europe while Japan is No4 destination of Belgian investment outside Europe as well as the second largest source of investment for Belgium. There were almost 240 Japanese companies in Belgium creating 30,000 jobs while 80 Belgian companies are operating in Japan. There are also strong trust and solidarity. Fukko which means reconstruction has become recognized by Belgians because Fukko Concert for raising support for those hit by Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 has been organized every year since then. It was Maelbeek metro station that PM Abe visited right after arriving in Brussels in May to lay a wreath on the site where innocent civilians had lost their lives in the March terrorist attacks.

What's important now is to make the best use of momentum this year has created to bring our relation even to higher level. For that purpose, further strengthening of economic tie by early conclusion of Japan-EU EPA is one of the keys. There are rooms for deeper coordination for common challenges including anti-terrorism measures. But most of all, I believe the enhanced people to people contact will work as the most important engines for future relations. Let us make the best use of direct flight and I am sure 2020 Tokyo Olympic will help boost our exchange even further. Let's keep working for the better!



His Excellency Mr Masafumi Ishii

In this issue

- 2 YES Second Briefing Session
- 3 Event Calendar
- 4 State Visit to Japan
- 6 Yokoso Festival
- 7 Folklorissimo
- 9 The 12th BJA Golf Cup
- 10 News for the members
- 12 Brexit
- 14 News for the members
- 16 Japan & Belgium: an itinerary of mutual inspiration
- 17 News from the members
- 21 Cross Chambers Fourth Young Professional Networking Night
- 22 Personalia

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YES Second Briefing Session Japan: Language, Economy and Politics

Tuesday, 6 September 2016 - KU Leuven



Professor Dimitri Vanoverbeke and Professor Naoko Sakurai of KULeuven kindly shared their knowledge with the participants.



Mrs Ann Blondé, YES Committee Chair and Managing Director of zeal, encouraging all.



Exchanging of business cards – a must to master.

Thanks to the generous support of KU Leuven Japanese Studies, the BJA YES Committee had the pleasure to invite the YES laureates to the second YES Briefing Session focused on Japanese language, economy and politics of Japan.

We had the honor to be welcomed at the KU Leuven by Prof. Dr. Dimitri Vanoverbeke and Prof. Naoko Sakurai. Prof. Sakurai first gave a Japanese language workshop, focused on Business Japanese. Prof. Dr. Dimitri Vanoverbeke then shared his insights on Japanese Economy and Politics in Transition, with a focus on Abenomics and the cultural background of business with Japan.

Mrs Sophie Bocklandt, General Manager of BLCCJ, joined the

seminar as well, accompanied by assisting Sophia University students from Japan. It was a perfect second preparatory meeting to get ready for business in Japan in October, while enjoying the benefits of a Japanese-tainted Nomikai as well.

The YES Program is under the auspices of His Majesty King Philippe.

We hereby would like to thank the organizations that support the briefing sessions: The Embassies, the FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, Cooperation & Development, the Regional Export Agencies (AWEX, BIE & FIT), Unizo International, UWE, and the industry.





150 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN JAPAN • BELGIUM EVENT CALENDAR

Note: All details are subject to change. Many more events are to be held throughout the year 2016.

Please visit the 150th anniversary website (www.be.emb-japan.go.jp/150jb/en/index.html) for updates and contact organizers for further information.

DATES	EVENT	VENUE
29/8/2016 - 10/2016	Hasselt "Japan Month" 2016	Hasselt
20/9/2016 - 8/10/2016	Japanese Old Books Exhibition	UCL
21/9/2016 - 24/9/2016	2016 Conference of the European Society of Historical Demography	KUL
22/9/2016 - 24/9/2016	Bozar Electronic Arts Festival 2016	BOZAR
23/09/2016	The 19 th Annual Japan EU Conference	University Club
24/09/2016	Symposium on "The New Era of Carillon Art- How Bells connect Belgium and Japan"	Mechelen
27/09/2016	"Saruberi" film screening & Director Keiichi Hara talk show	Comic Strip Museum
28/09/2016	The Pilgrimage to the 88 Sacred Temples of Shikoku: A Meditation between Two Worlds	JICC
1/10/2016 - 9/10/2016	Chrysanthemum festival	Hasselt Japanese Garden
4/10/2016	Ohara School of Ikebana Demonstration- Fifth Headmaster Hiroki Ohara	JICC
7/10/2016 - 9/10/2016	Brussels Harp Festival	Edificio, Library Solvay
7/10/2016 - 28/10/2016	Maiko no hikari photo exhibition	JICC
11/10/2016 - 22/10/2016	Film Fest Gent	Kinepolis, Gent ICC
14/10/2016- 1/2017	"The Feverish Era" contemporary art exhibition	BOZAR
15/10/2016	Festival "au rendez vous des cordes pincees"	Fleurus culture
21/10/2016 - 12/2/2017	Ukiyo-e Exhibition	Far East Museum
21/10/2016	Antwerp Cathedral concert	Antwerp
21/10/2016 - 23/10/2016	The International Aikido Celebration-Brussels	Tour & Taxis
10/11/2016- 15/11/2016	Razor Reel Flanders Film Festival	Bruges
12/11/2016	Noh Play by Kyutaro Hashioka	BOZAR
12/11/2016 - 13/11/2016	International Festival in Antwerp	Antwerp
12/11/2016 - 14/11/2016	ART Festival	Brussels (Galerie Ravenstein)
12/11/2016 - 27/11/2016	Ars Musica	Brussels (BOZAR etc), Liege, Mons, Namur, Charleroi, Brugge
18/11/2016	Ysaye's Music Series	Music Instrument Museum
19/11/2016	Kuma Anime Film Festival	Brugge
19/11/2016 - 25/11/2016	Festival International du Film de Bruxelles (FIFB)	Brussels
19/11/2016 - 25/7/2017	Traditions Masquees du Japon	Mask Museum
23/11/2016	Zen Adages From A to Z, lecture by Prof. Thele	Liege
24/11/2016	Marilo Fund symposium	Brussels
24/11/2016- 12/2016	IBASHO photo exhibition	Antwerp
25/11/2016 - 1/1/2017	Winter Wonders	Brussels
26/11/2016	Japanese Speech Contest (Nihonjinkai)	Japanese School
29/11/2016	10 th European Naginata Championship and 25 th European Naginata Federation Anniversary	ULB Sport Hall
6/12/2016	Yoshida Brothers concert	Flagey
9/12/2016 - 11/12/2016	Trois jours d'evenements a l'occasion des 150 ans des relations belgo-japonaises	Salle de l'Amitie, Chaumont-Gistoux
13/12/2016	Closing Ceremony	Brussels (tbc)

State Banquet – Imperial and Royal Messages

STATE VISIT OF HIS MAJESTY KING PHILIPPE AND QUEEN MATHILDE TO JAPAN

His Majesty King Philippe, King of the Belgians and Her Majesty Queen Mathilde, Queen of the Belgians, paid a State Visit to Japan from Tuesday, 11 October to Friday, 14 October 2016 together with a business and academic delegation. On behalf

of BJA, Professor Gilbert Declerck, BJA President, was present.

During Their stay in Japan, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress hosted a State Banquet in honor of Their

Majesties the King and Queen.

During the banquet, His Majesty the Emperor and His Majesty the King both made a speech, a transcript of which can be found on this page and next.

JAPANESE EMPEROR'S WELCOME SPEECH

I wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to Their Majesties King Philippe and Queen Mathilde, King and Queen of the Belgians, on the occasion of Your State Visit to Japan in this commemorative year marking the 150th anniversary of the establishment of friendly relations between our two countries. I am truly delighted to spend this evening together with You.

Sixty-three years ago, in June 1953, when I was 19 years old, I attended the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom. I vividly recall my first meeting with Your father, who would later ascend to the throne as King Albert II; we were both teenage guests at the time.

Following my attendance at that Coronation ceremony, I toured several countries in Europe. While in Belgium I had the pleasure of staying at Château de Laeken, where I was warmly received and treated like a member of the family by His Majesty King Baudouin, Your father's older brother. This is a very fond memory for me to this day, never to be forgotten. Several years later, both King Baudouin and I got married, and friendship also developed between Her Majesty Queen Fabiola and the Empress. Thus, the ties between our two families have been cemented over many years. Their Majesties King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola graciously attended my Enthronement ceremony in 1990. I would like to offer my deepest gratitude to the members of the royal house of Belgium for the support they have always given us.

In 1993, upon the demise of His Majesty King Baudouin, the Empress and I attended the funeral ceremony to share Your grief. Two years ago, upon the demise of Her Majesty Queen Fabiola, the Empress traveled to Belgium to pay her farewell respects. During each of those visits, in spite of having so much to contend with at such a time, Your family unflinchingly offered us heartfelt hospitality, for which I again offer my sincere gratitude.

This marks Your Majesty's eleventh visit to Japan, beginning with Your visit in 1985 together with His Majesty King Baudouin. You also accompanied Your parents, Their Majesties King Albert II and Queen Paola, on Their trip as State Guests of Japan in 1996. At that time, we visited Tochigi Prefecture together. I remember watching the performing arts of the region there, as well as visiting the Ashikaga School building, well known as Japan's oldest school, dating back to medieval times.

It was in 1866, 150 years ago, that Japan and Belgium entered into diplomatic relations. Two years later, the Meiji era began in Japan, during which our country poured every effort into modernization. As part of that process, the Meiji government dispatched a mission to the United States and Europe, where the members of the mission observed and extended their knowledge of each country. During their time in Belgium, they had the honour to be received in audience by King Leopold II. Japan's exchange with Belgium was most im-

portant because ever since the Meiji Restoration Your country was one of the models that Japan followed in proceeding with its modernization. To take just one example, the foundation of the Bank of Japan in 1882 drew significantly on the system of Belgium's central bank at that time. To this day, Belgium is among the world's leading countries in a wide range of cutting-edge fields including life sciences, medicine, and pharmaceuticals, and the close ties between our two countries are of vital importance to Japan.

Following World War II, Belgium has been playing an active role from the very beginning of the movement toward European integration. Today, Your capital Brussels is home to the headquarters of both the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, thus playing a vital role in global peace and development. As Japan deepens its ties with Europe in the future, I am confident that Belgium will continue to be a gateway to the region for us.

At the same time as political and economic relations, various forms of exchanges are being carried out between our countries. Many Japanese have been studying in Belgium in fields ranging from academia to music and the arts. In addition to the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and Universiteit Gent, which have long been pursuing Japan studies in earnest, I was told that Université libre de Bruxelles has also launched a Japanese language program this year. It is my pleasure to observe the exchanges

between Japan and Belgium becoming wider in a range of fields and the mutual understanding becoming deeper.

In Japan, the long and hot summer is finally behind us, and we are now experi-

encing the cool winds of autumn. I hope that this visit will be a memorable one for Your Majesties and the members of Your delegation and lead to the further development of friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries.

I would now like to propose a toast to the good health of Your Majesties, and to the happiness of the people of Belgium.

Source: www.kunaicho.go.jp/page/okotoba/detailEn/1

SPEECH BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS AT THE STATE BANQUET OFFERED BY THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR AND THE EMPRESS OF JAPAN

Your Majesties, Imperial Highnesses,

The Queen and I would like to thank Your Majesties for Their welcome and for Your Majesty's kind words. Since our arrival we have again been moved by the thoughtfulness and the gestures of hospitality extended to us.

Our presence here this evening is part of a long tradition of the respectful friendship between our families and our people. King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola were Your contemporaries and Your friends. Over the years, you have forged a close and sincerely affectionate relationship with them, which continues through us today.

Of course, I have fond memories of my previous trips, both official and private, through which I gradually came to discover Japan. My first visit was in 1985 in the company of King Baudouin. On other occasions, it was under the generous direction of Crown Prince Hiro, who introduced me to Japanese culture, and whom I am happy to meet again together with Princess Masako. During my trade missions, most recently in the company of Queen Mathilde just a year before my accession to the throne, I observed time and again the many productive synergies between our peoples.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship between our two countries. This is an important milestone for our modern states, even though our peoples have known and been inspired by each other since the late 16th century.

Belgium has naturally paid close attention

to Japan and developed a special admiration for its refined civilisation and culture. Japanese creative expression has inspired many Belgian artists. It influenced the emergence of Art Nouveau. Its magnificent representations of nature gave particular momentum to the decorative arts. This fascination also motivated King Leopold II in 1901 when he decided to build the Japanese Tower in the park of the Royal Palace at Laeken. It explains the record number of visitors attracted to the Europalia Japan cultural festival in 1989, a record unbroken to this day. We are still fascinated today when faced with the expressiveness of your prints, the purity of your haikus and the inventiveness of your stage directors. Not to mention the virtuosity of your musicians who participate in the Queen Elisabeth Competition every year.

In the economic, commercial and academic field, our two countries have, for many years, successfully created genuine convergences. We are delighted and proud to be home to a large Japanese community that makes a significant contribution to the diversity and cultural wealth of our country.

For many Japanese and Belgian companies, our two countries have acted as bridgeheads in our respective regions. From the first ventures, we were captivated by the corporate culture so specific to Japanese society, which promotes balance between the collective interest and individual motivation. This group dynamic is an asset that must be preserved at a time when individualism is gaining ground.

Many times in its history, Japan has

shown a unique ability to reconcile openness to modernity with respect for traditional values. This ability, which is a tribute to you, expresses itself also through your faithfulness in friendship and commitment. It is all the more important today as we experience a time of rapid change and short term thinking. Your society, like ours, is under pressure from globalisation and the continued emergence of new technologies. These bring as many promises for progress as risks of misuse. Your attachment to human values and your sense for the long term are beacons of stability and the best guarantee for sustainable development.

We still remember the dignity and courage of the Japanese people during the 2011 earthquake. We admire your ability to stand together, to rebuild together and to look to the future together.

Your Majesties,

You incarnate the many qualities of Japan to which I have briefly referred, while bearing the joys and sorrows of all Your people. From the bottom of our hearts, we pay tribute to You for the example of loyalty, wisdom and benevolence You give to your people and the rest of the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I invite you to raise your glasses to the health of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress.

Source: www.monarchie.be



25 YEARS OF BEAUTIFUL JAPANESE LANDSCAPE ART IN BELGIUM

By Mrs Sara Davidson, Coordinator Japanese Garden Hasselt

2016 was a wonderful year, in which the Japanese Garden could fully participate in the celebration of 150 years between Japan and Belgium. By this, we would like to thank all partners who have worked so hard to make the different events possible throughout the year. Maybe some of you have participated in the Day of Remembrance, Hanami or the BJA Golf Tournament? We will always remember this special year by the last token in the Garden: our new peace bell. A true bonsho-bell from Japan that can be rung to pray for peace around the world.

Now, looking forward to 2017, another exciting year is waiting for us! It will be exactly 25 years ago that the Japanese Garden in Hasselt was opened to the public. On November 20, 1992 mayor YANO Yoichi from Itami and mayor ROPPE Louis from Hasselt officially inaugurated the Garden. It was, and still is, a lasting symbol of the sister bond that exists between the two cities since 1985.

Since its inauguration, the mission of the Garden was to be a beacon of peace in these busy times, but also to introduce the Japanese culture to the people of Belgium and surrounding countries.

For this special occasion, the City of Hasselt will bring the Japanese culture beyond the boundaries of the Garden itself! For example, the Fashion Museum of Hasselt has composed an exhibition about the influence of Japanese fashion in the past and present, the Literary Museum will show how East Asia is visualized in picture books and the City Academy for Fine Arts will make 10 artworks that are based on haiku. These haiku-artworks will be put near or in all participating institutions and will show the Japanese connection between them.

Above is only briefly described what the 'Yokoso Festival', as we like to call 2017, will bring to the public. The biggest player in this Festival, is of course the Japanese Garden.

Now, how do we plan to celebrate?

Firstly, we wanted to give visitors the chance to enjoy the Garden even more. This is why he will open earlier in 2017, on March 4 instead of April 1. Besides that, the opening hours will expand in the weekend. The Garden will be opened from Tuesday to Sunday, 10h to 17h.

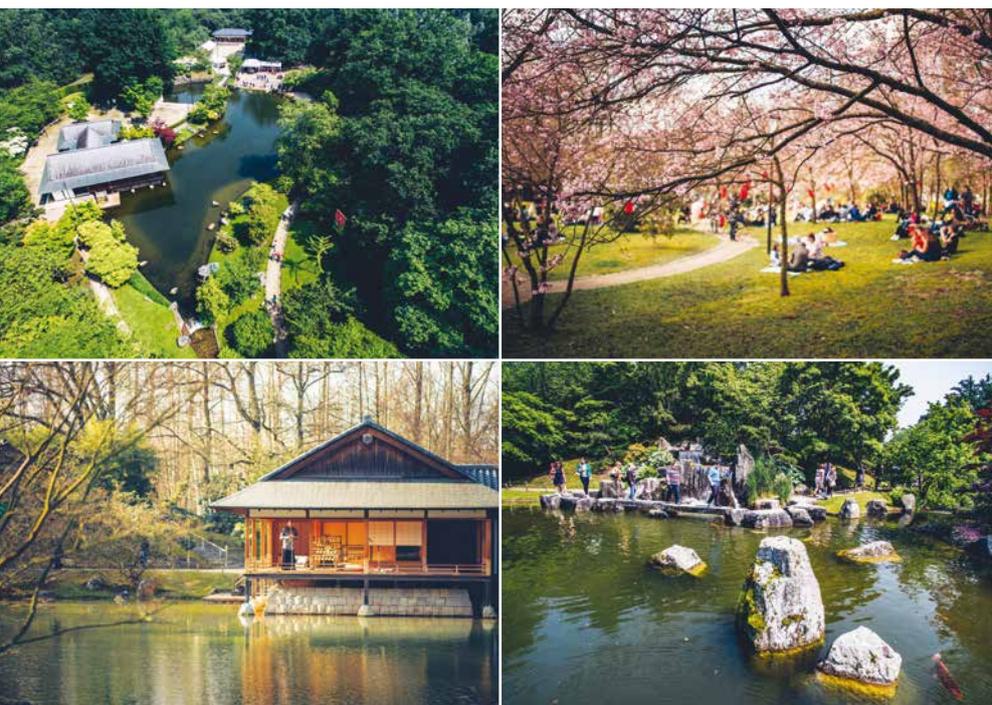
Of course, you all wonder why you should visit the Garden in March, when it's cold, there are no green leaves and probably also no cherry blossoms yet. Well, only for this special festive year, we will open a pop-up restaurant in the new pavilion, only in March. You can find more information on the website. Reservations can be made at japanesegarden@hasselt.be.

Secondly, we want to bring some innovations to the Garden. We will organize monthly evening workshops to introduce the Japanese Culture, we will host monthly calligraphy courses and every last Sunday of the month there will be a 'free podium' for Japanese music artists or others who are involved with Japanese music or instruments.

For the first time, it will also be possible to spend the night in the Japanese Garden! Inspired by the Japanese capsule hotels, the Japanese Garden has spoken to 'B-and-Bee' that rents out movable 'beehive-hotels'. Up to two people can spend the night in one capsule and this for a total of 20 people! More information can be found on the website and reservations can be made at japanesegarden@hasselt.be.

Of course, many other events will also be held! If you need any more information or would like to visit the Garden with your team, colleagues or partners, please do not hesitate to contact coordinator Sara Davidson (sara.davidson@hasselt.be).

Let's all celebrate together!



Folklorissimo

Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 September 2016, Grand Place, Brussels

Have you ever heard of an event called Folklorissimo? I have been in Brussels for 5 years, but it was just after the Ommegang parade that I heard about it for the first time. I also learned that Japan was the country of honour at Folklorissimo this year. The Embassy of Japan asked me if BJA Friendship Committee would be interested to organize something there.

Folklorissimo is an annual event where famous local festivals in Belgium come together at Grand Place. The festivals participating include Ommegang, Meyboom, Carnival de Binche etc. Following the spirit of Folklorissimo, we came up with an idea to bring the Japanese summer festival atmosphere to Grand Place.

What came to my mind was goldfish scooping and balloon fishing, but I was not sure if using real live goldfish is allowed in Belgium or we might get accused for abusing animals?!?! I went online and quickly discovered there are many kinds of colourful, cute plastic goldfish available. They travelled with me to Belgium together with balloons and small pools.

This year we have been very lucky with the weather – sunny days for Hanami and Ommegang parades. The weather fairy helped us again for Folklorissimo and we had 2 beautiful festive days despite rainy weather forecasts.

In 2 days, we had 18 volunteers coming to help our booth for 4 hours on average, and more than cumulative 550 people tried goldfish scooping and / or balloon fishing. On top, many people stopped by at our booth to take photos with us because many of us were wearing traditional costumes. A few volunteers also helped a candy sculpture artist, Mr Takahiro Mizuki, invited from Tokyo to take part in Folklorissimo with the support from the Embassy of Japan.

Each volunteer told me they had a lot of fun in helping out, explaining the activities to guests and encouraging them to catch more fish and balloons. Without them, we could not welcome all the guests effectively. A big thank-you to each volunteer!

*By Ms Saori Nishida,
Chairwoman BJA Friendship Committee*



Feel inspired



Wallonia, a world of opportunities

1250 FOREIGN INVESTMENTS
_____ in 14 years

400 M CONSUMERS
reachable
WITHIN ONE DAY _____

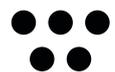
Very high density of 
UNIVERSITIES and higher
education establishments

6 COMPETITIVENESS
_____ CLUSTERS in
LEADING-EDGE sectors

an exceptional
**QUALITY
OF LIFE** 

Highly skilled
AVAILABLE
WORKFORCE 

70% _____ of business
turnover comes
from **EXPORTS**



Wallonia.be

The 12th BJA Golf Cup and Golf Initiation

第12回BJAゴルフコンペとゴルフイニシエーション

Saturday, 17 September 2016 - Flanders Nippon Golf & Business



Mrs Martine Croisiau, the winner of the Putting competition, receiving prizes from the sponsors, Mr Eric Van Hoof, Partner of EY (left) and Mr Vincent Schepens, Assistant Manager - Sales & Marketing of ANA (right).



Minister Yoichiro Yamada of the Embassy of Japan, the Captain of the Japan team and Mr Omer Turna, Partner of EY, the Captain of the EU team, together shows the amicable tie between the two nations.



The participants who missed out on prizes still received a small gift to take home with them together with the memory of the day.

Thanks to generous sponsorship by a number of BJA company members and the City of Hasselt, BJA had a great pleasure to welcome members and friends at the Flanders Nippon Golf & Business in Hasselt on Saturday, 17 September 2016 to the 12th BJA Golf Cup and Golf Initiation followed by prize giving dinner party.

Over 50 enthusiastic guests could appreciate an initiation into the game of golf or playing 18 holes with pleasant partners under a gorgeous blue sky. They also could enjoy a delicious buffet lunch and refreshments during the day, followed by cocktails, dinner, and fantastic prizes to take home with them in the evening.

On the occasion of 150 years of friendship between Belgium and Japan, BJA was particularly proud to organize this friendly event that grows more popular every year, showing the tighter relationship between our two nations.

For this reason, BJA would like to express sincere gratitude once more to the participants and warmhearted sponsors who make this BJA Golf event a great success.

The pictures are by courtesy of Mrs Françoise Demeter of E. & H. De Beukelaer & Co.



news for the members

SIGNING OF TAX CONVENTION WITH THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

On October 12, the Convention between Japan and the Kingdom of Belgium for the Elimination of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance was signed in Tokyo by the Government of Japan and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium. The new convention replaces the existing Convention which entered into force in 1970 (as partially amended in 1990 and 2013).

The Convention aims to further promote investment and economic exchanges between the two countries by clarifying taxation on cross-border investment and economic activities between the two countries and adjusting international double taxation as well as introducing mutual agreement procedures (including arbitration proceedings) for the tax authorities to resolve disputes on tax matters between the two countries. The Convention also provides for effective exchange of information in accordance with the international standards and the mutual assistance in the collection of tax, which are expected to contribute to the prevention of international avoidance of taxation and collection.

The following are key points of the Convention.

1. Amendment of Taxation on Business Profits

The business profits attributable to a permanent establishment (such as a branch) of an enterprise situated in the other country which may be taxed in that other country shall be calculated, based on comprehensively recognized internal dealings between its head office and branches and strictly following the arm's length principle.

2. Further Reduction of Taxation on Investment Income in the source country

Taxation on investment income (dividends, interest and royalties) in the source country is further limited to the maximum rates or exempted as follows:

3. Prevention of Abuse of the Convention

In order to prevent abuse of benefits under this Convention, it is provided that only residents who satisfy specified conditions may be entitled to such benefits. In addition, benefits under this Convention shall not be granted if it is reasonable to conclude that obtaining such benefits was one of the principal purposes of any transaction.

4. Arbitration Proceeding in Mutual Agreement Procedure

Where taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Convention has not been resolved through the consultation between the tax authorities of the two countries within two years, the unresolved issue shall be submitted to arbitration and resolved pursuant to a decision of an arbitration panel composed of third parties.

5. Assistance in the Collection of Tax Claims

In order to prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance effectively, the mutual assistance in the collection of tax claims between the two countries are introduced.

After the completion of the necessary domestic procedures in each of the two countries (in the case of Japan, approval by the Diet), diplomatic notes indicating such completion are to be exchanged. The Convention will enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of receipt of the latter notification. In Japan, this Convention will be applicable:

- › with respect to taxes levied on the basis of a taxable period, for taxes for any taxable period beginning on or after January 1 in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force; and
- › with respect to taxes levied not on the basis of a taxable period, for taxes levied on or after January 1 in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

	EXISTING CONVENTION	NEW CONVENTION
DIVIDENDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › 5% (Dividends paid by a company of Belgium to a company which holds at least 25% of voting shares for 6 months of the Belgian company) › 10% (Dividends paid by a company of Japan to a company which holds at least 25% of voting shares for 6 months of the Japanese company) › 15% (others) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Exempted (Dividends paid by a company to a company which holds at least 10% of voting power for 6 months of the company paying the dividends) › Exempted (Dividends beneficially owned by pension funds) › 10% (others)
INTEREST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › 10% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Exempted (Interest paid and beneficially owned by enterprises, etc) › 10% (others)
ROYALTIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › 10% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Exempted

BELGIUM CLIMBS 2 PLACES IN GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS RANKING

Belgium currently ranks 17th in terms of global competitiveness – climbing 2 places in the World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017. Discover the strengths of Belgium, and Flanders as a region, that contributed to this ranking.

World-class healthcare and education

To rank countries based on their competitiveness, the World Economic Forum (WEF) investigates a variety of factors. On a worldwide scale, Belgium scored particularly well on healthcare and primary

education (ranking 3rd worldwide), higher education in general (5th), quality of higher education in mathematics and sciences (3rd), and management schools (3rd).

Strong in research, innovation and business

According to the WEF, Belgium also boasts high-quality scientific research institutes (ranking 6th worldwide). In addition, the country continues to score highly in terms of technological readiness (15th) and innovation (15th). Furthermore, Belgium’s sophisticated business sector claims the 11th

place worldwide, while its goods market ranks 13th when it comes to efficiency.

Marked progress in financial and labor markets

Finally, the WEF’s Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017 also mentions several domains in which Belgium has secured marked progress. Some of these include: the development of the country’s financial market (rising 7 places to reach the 29th spot worldwide) and the efficiency of its labor market (gaining 9 places to rank 45th).

Source: Vlerick Business School

BELGIAN BOOKS IN JAPANESE

Source: www.orandago.be

In a new series of contemporary Flemish novels called “Flanders no koē” (Voice of Flanders) the first 2 novels translated into Japanese and published by Shoraisha (Kyoto) in collaboration with the Flanders Center and with support of the Flemish Literature Fund are now available.

“Dinsdag” by Elvis Peeters, translated by Tamiko Suzuki, describes one day in the life of an old man in his seventies. Not quite the life that the reader expects...

“Monte Carlo” by Peter Terrin, translated by Kayoko Itaya, is about a mechanic engineer who saves the life of a famous actress at an accident at the F1 Monaco Grand Prix. But he doesn’t get the award nor recognition he hoped for.

More novels in this series will be published from 2017 on. A unique chance to discover Flanders literary best in a Japanese translation.

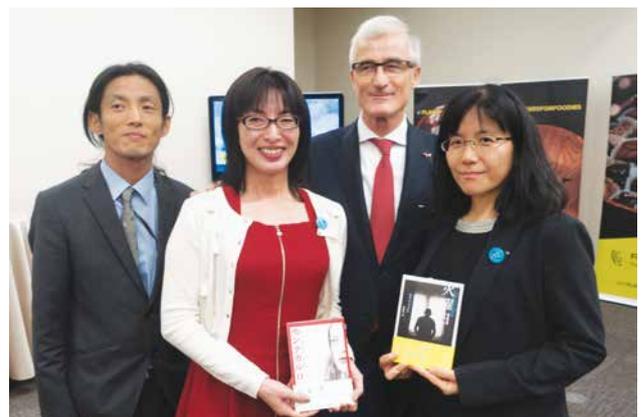
More information can be found at www.orandago.be (Japanese only)



フランダース文学の「現在」を紹介する翻訳シリーズ「フランダースの声」が、10月に松籟社より2冊同時に刊行されます。同シリーズは、公益財団法人フランダースセンター主催のフランダース文学翻訳セミナー受講生の翻訳による短編集「フランダースの声 現代ベルギー小説アンソロジー」（松籟社）に続く翻訳プロジェクトの一環。

第一弾がエルヴィス・ペーテルス著、鈴木民子訳『火曜日』、第二弾がペーテル・テリン著、板屋嘉代子訳『モンテカルロ』です。『火曜日』は、タイトルどおり、ある火曜日に70代の男性が起床してから就寝するまでの一日の様子を、ふとした拍子に彼の脳裏に浮かぶ若かりし頃の思い出と共に描いた作品で、『モンテカルロ』は、F1モナコグランプリのスタートを控えたサーキットで起きた事故から、居合わせた人気女優を身を挺して救ったひとりの整備士のその後の人生を描いた作品。

これまでに例のないシリーズ、続々刊行予定です。詳細につきましては、www.orandago.be をご覧ください。



英国EU離脱とイミグレーション - 今企業ができること

フラゴメン法律事務所（ロンドン）
英国移民法弁護士（ジャパンプラクティス マネージャー）
ハック 麗雅（れいか）

英国でEU国民投票が行われてから約4ヶ月。2017年3月末までにリスボン条約50条に基づく正式離脱通告が出され、離脱交渉が開始される、という発表以外には、未だEU離脱が具体的に何を意味するのか明確化されていません。

弊法律事務所専門分野であるイミグレーションは、頻繁にポリシー変更が導入される分野であり、ポリシー変更の導入が発表される度、日系企業の皆様に対し、変更内容を解説し、さらに、変更内容が企業にとって何を意味するのか、そして、どのような準備、対策をするべきか等、日々アドバイスを提供しています。

しかしながら、EU離脱にまつわるイミグレーションの問題については、法律、ポリシー自体が不在なため、通常とは異なり、イミグレーション制度が大きく改革されるだろうと予測をするに留まります。

現時点で既に明確な点は、EU離脱まで、正式な離脱通告から2年間の交渉期間があり、新しい協定締結まで、または締め切りの2年間を迎えるまでは、英国は現在と同じ条件のもと、EUメンバーシップを保つという事です。将来的なイミグレーション制度の見直しが十分考えられる一方、日本人駐在員、帯同家族、EU国籍者への即時の影響はありません。英国政府は、現在英国に滞在するEU国籍者の権利が確保されるべき、また確保されると予想されるとの意向を示したものの、EU国籍者の権利を保証する声明は未だ発表されていません。

尚、イミグレーションの問題は、国民投票前の離脱派キャンペーンにおいて、トップアジェンダとして取り上げられていたため、ほぼ間違いなく、何らかの形で、EU国籍者に対するイミグレーションの取り締まりが導入されると予想されます。但し、これが登録の義務付けのみを意味するのか、それとも、高度なスキルをもつ労働者に限られたビザ取得条件を意味するのか、現時点では明確化されていません。

この不確実性は、多くのEU国籍者を雇う企業の人事を担当する皆様にとって、大きく懸念される点だと十分理解しています。このような不透明な状況で、他の企業は一体何をしているのか?という質問をよく耳にする中、フラゴメン法律事務所では、20セクターの140にのぼる企業に対するアンケート結果に基づいたレポートを作成するに至りました。

企業の多くは、確実な情報を得るまでは何のアクションも取らないと答える一方、何もしないことに対して大きく不安を覚えるとも回答。EU国籍者、またEU国籍者家族のステータスを持つ社員のデータを完全に把握できていない、と答える企業も多々ありました。

それに対し、確実な情報を待つのではなく、アクティブに準備をしたい、またはしている、と回答する企業も存在します。但し、正しい事をしているのか、間違っただけで時間を損していないか等の不安があるとの声も上がっています。現在、既に準備をしていると答えた多くの企業は、EU離脱によって影響を受ける可能性がある、現在英国に滞在するEU国籍者社員、そしてEU国籍者家族の社員、さらに、EUに滞在する英国国籍者とその家族が何人いるのかをまず把握することが重要、と答えました。

現在英国に滞在するEU国籍者社員の一番の懸念は、「EU離脱後に英国を離れなければいけないのか?」という点であり、これに対して100%確実な回答ができない中で、コミュニケーションを積極的に図ることによって、企業として社員をサポートする意思を示し、社員を安心させることができる、と考える企業も多く見受けられました。

個人的に1対1でミーティングを設けたり、その都度、個人の質問に答えることは、時間的にも困難であるため、Emailでの社員へのコミュニケーション、または、法律事務所が開催するセミナー、ウェビナーをツールとして使用、さらには、社内でQ&Aセッション等を設けて、グループ単位でコミュニケーションを図る、と答える企業も見られました。

また、EU国籍者社員のイミグレーション申請（例えば、永住権申請、英国籍申請等）に関する金銭的サポートをする、と答えた企業と、しない、と答えた企業に分かれる中、この点に関する会社のポリシーが全く存在しない、と答えた企業も多く見られました。

英国に滞在する EU 国籍者へのイミグレーション オプション

EU 国籍者にイミグレーション上の即影響はないとされる中、可能なオプションとして次の3つのイミグレーション申請が挙げられます。ちなみに、現在英国では、EU 国籍者に対する登録義務、下記証明書の申請義務はありません。

- **登録証明書**: 英国に滞在する労働者、学生または経済的に自立している EU 国籍者はリスボン条約における移動の権利を書面化することが可能。
- **永住権カード**: リスボン条約における移動の自由の権利のもと、UK に5年滞在した時点で得る永住権を書面化するため、Permanent Residence Card の申請が可能（配偶者、子供も含むことが可能）
- **英国籍**: 計6年の UK 滞在を完了した時点で EU 国籍者は英国籍申請が可能。尚、Permanent Residence Card (永住権カード) を保持することが条件な為、先ず永住権カードを申請する必要あり。UK 国籍者と婚姻関係にある EU 国籍者の場合は Permanent Residence Card を取得した時点で英国籍申請が可能

今、企業ができること

1. **データの確認**: EU 国籍者社員の人事ファイルの確認。パスポートのコピー、そして勤務開始日等の確認。正しいデータが記録されているか再確認が必要。もし、データがない場合は今からリクエストして情報を把握する。
2. **コミュニケーション**: Email によるコミュニケーション、またはミーティング等を設け、不安な社員とコミュニケーションを積極的にとる。EU 離脱に関する全ての質問に確実に答えることが出来ずとも、会話を持つこと自体が大変重要。イミグレーションの専門家を迎えた Q&A セッションや法律事務所のセミナー、ウェビナー、FAQ 等を使用することも可能。
3. **ポリシーの構築**: EU 国籍者のイミグレーション申請に対する金銭的なサポートに関するポリシーの制定。例え

ば、永住権申請についてはサポートするが、英国籍申請はサポートしない。また、EU 国籍者全員をサポートするのではなく、ある一定のランク以上の VIP のみサポートする、等。新しいイミグレーションポリシーが発表される前に、今後、どのようにコスト面でサポートをしていくのか、考慮することが重要。

最後に

不確実、不透明なこの状況の中、今、企業がやるべき事について、一つの正しい答えが存在する訳ではありません。但し、事前に上記の様な事項を考慮することによって、イミグレーションポリシーが発表された時のために十分に備えることが可能です。英国支社の EU 国籍者社員、また EU に滞在する英国籍社員の皆様とコミュニケーションを図る機会を、早速、設けてみてはいかがでしょうか。

EU 離脱特設ページ www.fragomen.com/brexit



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For more information and requests for information in English and/or Japanese on this article, please kindly contact Mrs Haque of Fragomen.

news for the members

NEW ALUMNI CHAPTER STRENGTHENS COLLABORATION WITH JAPAN

On 11 October, Rector Rik Torfs launched a new alumni chapter in Japan. This was part of a state visit on the occasion of 150 years of diplomatic relations between Japan and Belgium. Together with other Flemish universities, KU Leuven also concluded new partnerships with Japanese universities.

With the Alumni Chapter Japan, KU Leuven once again expands its international alumni outreach. Japan is already the ninth country to get its own chapter, after the US, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Brasil, India, China, and Indonesia.

“Each year, we welcome new Japanese students at our university,” says Martine Torfs, head of the KU Leuven Alumni Office. “This academic year, about fifty Japanese students came to our faculties. Furthermore, every year, Flemish alumni from various disciplines go to Japan to live and work there. With the new alumni chapter, we want to ensure that former students stay in touch with each other and their alma mater after graduation.”

The launch of the new chapter took place in the Education Centre at Kansai University, one of KU Leuven’s partner universities. This chapter in Tokyo is to become the operating base of the alumni chapter. Rector Rik Torfs was welcomed by Professor Yukata Maeda, Vice President of Kan-

sai University, and was given a tour of the Centre. In the presence of KU Leuven Honorary Rector André Oosterlinck, Japanese alumni, and Belgian expats – including An Descheemaeker, the KU Leuven liaison in Japan – Rector Torfs inaugurated the new alumni chapter. He also appointed the chair of the chapter: KU Leuven alumnus Rob Van Nijlen, an entrepreneur who’s been living in Japan for years now.

“The university wants to focus more on community building: helping Japanese alumni get in touch with each other and maintaining their strong ties with our university,” said the Rector in his speech. “The network of alumni helps us reach a wide range of organisations and companies, which is very important for the university, especially in a country like Japan.”

Joining forces

With the launch of the new alumni chapter, the university strengthens its many-years-standing relationship with Japan. “KU Leuven is collaborating with about ten Japanese universities, including Waseda University and Kansai University,” says Japanese studies Professor Dimitri Vanoverbeke, who helped establish the alumni chapter. “We offer opportunities for student and staff exchange, for instance. Each year, about twenty of our master’s students go to Japan as part of the Japanese Studies programme.”

KU Leuven is also co-founder of EU-JAMM (EU-Japan Multidisciplinary Master Degree), a project for which six European and four Japanese universities join forces to offer double degree master’s programmes in different disciplines. “Thanks to EU-JAMM, KU Leuven students can study in the best Japanese universities, learn Japanese, and obtain a second master’s degree,” according to Vanoverbeke.

In the context of the state visit, KU Leuven also concluded new partnerships with Japanese universities. In addition, there were talks about the further development of existing collaborations.

“We want to join forces even more often in the future,” says Vanoverbeke. “For one thing, both parties have shown a lot of interest in research with industrial applications. The Japanese partners are impressed by the reputation of our university and by research centres such as imec. They understand the importance of our central location in Europe. The ties with Japan are important for our university because of the country’s access to top technology and its research, which is of very high quality. Therefore, we’re really looking forward to these collaborations. We’re hoping that the new alumni chapter may play a role in this respect.”

Source: www.kuleuven.be/english/news/2016/new-alumni-chapter-strengthens-collaboration-with-japan



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JAPAN & BELGIUM: AN ITINERARY OF MUTUAL INSPIRATION

By W.F. Vande Walle

When plans were made to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation concluded between Japan and Belgium in 1866, the Celebration Committee set up for the purpose of planning and managing the various celebration events, espoused the idea of publishing a book on the history of Japanese-Belgian relations. Since eleven years ago, I had edited a book on the same subject, titled *Japan & Belgium Four Centuries of Exchange*, published to mark Belgium's participation in the 2005 Aichi World's Fair, the Celebration Committee entrusted me with the editorship of the new book. I believed that this sequel had above all to do justice to the topics which had been left out or had insufficiently been dealt with in the first book. Moreover, since we were celebrating a particular event in the history of Belgium as an independent kingdom, the time frame within which we would select our topics automatically narrowed itself down to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, in marked contrast to the first book, which had covered the entire span of the history of the Low Countries, the Spanish Netherlands, the Austrian Netherlands and Belgium.

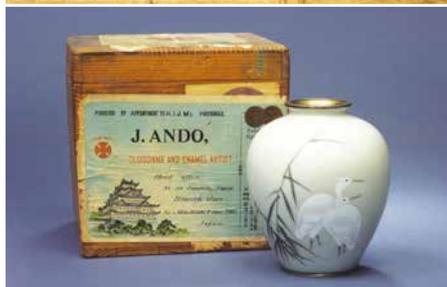
The new book, titled *Japan & Belgium An Itinerary of Mutual Inspiration*, is divided into six parts, which deal respectively with contacts and exchanges in the diplomatic field (part I), Belgian sources for some cases of institutional modernization in Japan (part II), Belgium's representation in Japan and the Belgian presence in that country (part III), influences and inspiration in the field of literature (part IV) and the applied and decorative arts (part V), and the transfer of know-how, including trade and investment in the post-war era (part VI).

In all the book includes eighteen contributions of varying length by twelve au-

thors from Belgium or Japan. The direct occasion being the 150th anniversary of the bilateral treaty, it was only natural that the first part would open with a sizeable article on this very topic. By pure coincidence the author, Dirk De Ruyver, happens to live in the Yokohama-Tokyo area, within a stone's throw from the spot where the Belgian legation used to be located in Yokohama in the 1885-1893 period, and at walking distance from the place where Commodore Matthew Perry went ashore to sign the first US treaty with Japan in 1854. In his article Yutaka Yabuta analyses the way Belgium was perceived in the eyes of the first Japanese envoys and students who visited Belgium in the wake of the Meiji Restoration, notably as they recorded their reflections in the official report of the Iwakura Mission (1871-1873) and the first Japanese monograph account of Belgium by Sufu Kōhei (1877). The first part concludes with an analysis of the visit of Crown Prince Hirohito to Belgium in 1921 and its political and diplomatic meaning by David De Cooman.

Part II consists of an article on Leuven Central Prison as a model for the modern penitentiary system in Meiji Japan by Keiji Shibai and Dimitri Vanoverbeke, and an article on the influence of the Belgian constitution on the Meiji constitution, by the latter author.

In **Part III** I have contributed two articles: one an exploration of some Belgian pictorial sources in the above-mentioned official report of the Iwakura Mission, and the other one a study on the linguistic and ethnographic contributions by Willem A. Grootaers. Fumitaka Kurosawa has contributed an article on Japanese perceptions of Belgium in the Meiji and Taishō periods, while Ryōju Sakurai offers us a quantitative analysis of the Belgian population in





Japan from 1876 to 1938.

Part IV opens with a translation of the first Japanese critical essay on Belgian literature (1895), setting the scene for the two following contributions. Sadafumi Muramatsu's study of the way Georges Rodenbach's *Bruges-la-Morte* was transfused in Nagai Kafū's *The River Sumida* is the digest of a book-length detailed study the author has published on the topic, while in my study on the reception in Japan of Maeterlinck's *The Blue Bird* I have attempted to explain the enduring popularity of this philosophical fairy tale.

In **part V** two authors highlight the cross-cultural dimension of Art Nouveau. Yōko Takagi contributes an original study on how katagami (Japanese stencils) opened new avenues of creation to some Belgian artists, while Nathalie Vandepierre has contributed an enlightening study on King Leopold II's orientalist architectural projects and the collections that are housed in them. Kazuko Iwamoto offers us a Japanese perspective on Tintin. If the preceding parts mainly deal with various aspects of high culture, with Tintin we have entered the area of popular culture.

In **Part VI** I have made a deliberate effort to highlight two cases of exchange in somewhat more pedestrian areas: about the transfer of know-how in the field of agriculture, notably in the field of flax growing and chicken breeding. Henri Delanghe concludes the book with an article on post-war trade and investment relations.

JOINT STATEMENT ON THE EU-JAPAN ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT/ FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, European Council President Donald Tusk, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, French President François Hollande, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and UK Prime Minister David Cameron, made the following joint statement in the margins of the G7 Summit in Ise-Shima on 26 May 2016:

"We, the Leaders of Japan, the European Union, France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom, in the margins of the G7 Summit in Ise-Shima welcome the view shared by the leaders of Japan and the European Union on the occasion of their meeting on 3 May 2016 to instruct their respective negotiators to accelerate the negotiations on the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)/Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and reaffirm our strong commitment to reach agreement in principle as early as possible in 2016.

We commend the work of our negotiators over the last 3 years, and for the substantial progress already made. With our full backing, the negotiators are entrusted to make the efforts necessary in the coming months to move forward with the negotiations, paving the way for reaching agreement encompassing all key issues including all types of tariffs and non-tariff measures, in line with the timeline committed above in a constructive manner, based on mutual trust, toward a comprehensive, high-level and balanced agreement which further consolidates our solid trade and economic partnership.

Recognizing the strategic importance of the Japan-EU EPA/FTA, we remain committed to creating a free, fair and open international trade and economic system, which will promote stronger, sustainable and balanced growth and contribute to the creation of more jobs and economic opportunity in Japan and the European Union and to the increase of our international competitiveness."

Source: www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/05/26-tusk-joint-statement-epa-fta-g7/

news from the members

JAPANESE COMPANIES ARE DREAM BUSINESS PARTNERS

BNP Paribas Fortis delegation of three on a business mission to Japan

Getting to know the Japanese market better, forging ties with Japanese corporates and enhancing collaboration with local subsidiaries of Belgian companies: those were the three main tasks for Frank Claeys, Herwig Van Camp and Maria Collura during their business trip to Japan. The three of them work for CPBB, the corporate department of BNP Paribas Fortis. Five days later, they had ticked off every item on the list: mission accomplished.

With 14 company visits, 11 meetings, and stop-overs in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya, the group had a jam-packed programme. 'The timing of the business trip was no coincidence,' explains Country Advisor Maria Collura. 'In 2016, Japan and Belgium are celebrating 150 years of diplomatic relations, a perfect occasion to travel to Japan. This was an initial vis-



it, a meet-and-greet of sorts. Our main aim was to get to know our customers and prospects better. We mostly wanted to find out how business is done in Japan and what expectations Japanese companies have.'

Patience is a virtue

Herwig Van Camp, Head of Corporate Banking, doesn't mince his words: 'We have a clear ambition: to become the bank of choice for Japanese companies with European subsidiaries. What I remember most from our discussions is that the Japanese are perfectionists. They place high demands on themselves and on their trading partners. But I remain confident: we can come up with tangible solutions for real problems, no matter where or when. You might say it is our greatest asset. Anyone wanting to win the trust of Japanese companies must be patient. For example, it took many years for the medical manufacturer Terumo to entrust us with its cash management. No small feat, given the competition from Japanese bankers. Our conclusion was that investing time in building your relationship with Japanese companies pays off.'

Daikin

For Frank Claeys, the visit to Daikin in Osaka was one of the highlights. His personal relationship with the air-conditioning manufacturer goes back around thirty years. 'In the eighties, I was an account manager: Daikin Europe in Ostend was one of my main customers. That close relationship with the Belgian management still exists today. In fact, it is thanks to our longstanding relationship that we were invited to Daikin's 48,000 m2 innovation centre in Osaka. A truly impressive experience! The futuristic buildings exude the company's philosophy: wanting to be the best at everything. The well-being of employees is fundamental here. As a result, every-



one feels in top shape, and the 615 employees are able to give their all every day. The building itself is zero-energy and is very open. And this transparency applies figuratively too: Daikin works together with universities and other companies in complete openness. It is also a proud company: a veritable Daikin expo shows off their key products and milestones. A truly inspiring visit, that's for sure.'

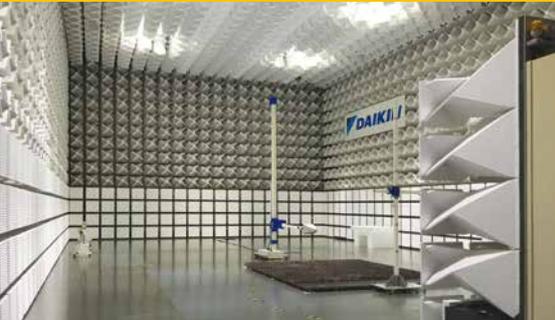
Caring for expats

The business mission is intended to help better tailor existing BNP Paribas Fortis products and services to the Japanese market. 'We already have a lot on offer,' explains Maria Collura. 'Take our Expats Services, a package of services for Japanese expats who come to Belgium. In a new country, a helping hand is always welcome. So we ensure that expats have an account and payment cards ready as soon as they arrive. We can even organise household insurance or a rent guarantee. What's great is that the expat doesn't need to worry about a thing, so all the paperwork is done when they arrive. It's as easy as that.'

Added Value

Remarkably, around 30% of Japanese companies operating in Belgium opt for BNP Paribas Fortis. According to Herwig Van Camp, that is no coincidence. 'Japanese companies gain a number of benefits at BNP Paribas Fortis. For instance, in addition to Belgian relationship man-

news from the members



agers we also have a Japanese advisor who can attend meetings. With Connexis, we have a unique system that maps all of a group's cash flows in detail. Both branches and the parent company have access to Connexis. And don't forget that we are at the top of the league for cash pooling. That's a worthwhile asset for Japanese companies with European headquarters in Belgium. And, last but not least, BNPP Japan is strongly committed in expanding the Japanese franchise in Europe.

Taking good care

The business mission was a first step in relations with Japan. To further develop the cooperation, Max Jadot CEO of BNP Paribas Fortis will participate in the Belgian State Visit to Japan in October 2016. Frank Claeys believes this is only the beginning. 'Today we started a dialogue, but we will of course keep our finger on the pulse. We have had excellent experiences with Japanese businesses. Companies are reliable and stable, with an ideal risk profile. Japanese businesses are also very loyal, and make long-term commitments. In short: they are dream business partners. We are doing our best to take good care of them. We know all too well that they demand smooth-running, impeccable service. That became quite clear during our trip!'

Source: Corporate & Commercial Banking BNP Paribas Fortis & Expat Banking BNP Paribas Fortis

TOYOTA COROLLA'S 50TH BIRTHDAY PARTY IN BRUSSELS

October 2016 marks another great milestone for the Toyota Corolla, as the world's most popular car celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The first Toyota Corolla was introduced to Japan in 1966. It was designed to be a "people's car". The name Corolla originates from the Latin term for 'crown of flowers', it was chosen in the hope that the vehicle would bloom in the automotive market – and bloom it did!



Fast forward 50 years and the Toyota Corolla is the world's number one selling car with over 44 million units having been produced globally. In Europe the Corolla is built at Toyota's plant in Turkey.

Toyota Motor Europe's Head Office in Brussels decided to mark the Corollas half century by collecting a bunch of heritage Corollas and inviting their members to a lunchtime cake party themed with 1960's music.

What will the Toyota Corolla look like in another 50 years, it may be a flying version!

Source: Toyota Motor Europe





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Cross Chambers Fourth Young Professional Networking Night

Thursday, 20 October 2016 - BNP Paribas Fortis, Brussels



Mr Philip Van Steenwinkel, Lawyer at Stibbe, debating about crowdfunding with Mr Charles-Albert de Raditzky, Co-founder of MyMicroInvest, and Mr Tarik Hennen, Co-founder of Smartflats.



Mr Jae Suk Vanwijngaerden, Associate at Linklaters LLP, trying his skills at speed-networking.



The group picture and a lucky draw ended this great event.

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 Belgium, AmCham EU, BCECC, CCITABEL, BECI, ICC, and with the support of 6 other chambers of commerce, the BJA invited young professionals to a thrilling networking night kindly hosted by BNP Paribas Fortis, main sponsor of the Event.

After welcome words by Mrs Sandra Willikens, Head of Corporate Governance at BNP, the participants learn all do's and don'ts of crowdfunding, during a workshop with interventions

from Mr Charles-Albert de Raditzky, Co-founder of MyMicroInvest, and Mr Tarik Hennen, Co-founder of Smartflats. The workshop was moderated by Mr Philip Van Steenwinkel, Lawyer at Stibbe.

Mr Bernard Dewit, Chairman of BCECC closed the first part of the evening, and after a short open-mic session, all 150 participants went on to try out their networking skills during the much-appreciated "speed networking session", animated by Mr Joachim Durnez of BJA.

The evening ended with a tombola (including a voucher from Hotel Métropole) and a more informal cocktail reception, where the participants continued to exchange ideas and build their future networks.



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

Corporate Member

Mutoh Belgium

Mutoh is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high quality wide-format piezo drop-on-demand inkjet printers and sign-cutting plotters, setting the standard for innovation, quality, excellent customer service and local presence. At Mutoh, every industry development presents us with a new challenge, the challenge to improve on it and use our experience to go beyond the expected, to achieve the ideal balance between print quality, efficiency and reliability. As an innovative developer and manufacturer, we incorporate our pioneering technology into everything we do to bring you the best equipment for your application. Our core philosophy is to deliver products with technology proven to be faster, more reliable, more cost-effective and more efficient. We have been active in the wide-format industry for more than 20 years. In Europe alone, more than 20000 wide-format Mutoh printers



and more than 25000 Mutoh cutting plotters have been installed. Mutoh's mission is to deliver to creative people the right output equipment which is able to exactly and truthfully reproduce their creative ideas. Flexibility and open-mindedness have been the key to our past and current success.

Mutoh Belgium nv was established in 1990 in Oostende. Currently Mutoh has 8 companies in Europe and Mutoh Belgium nv is positioned as the HQ of all European operations.

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CYDAS Inc.

Our mission is to unlock human potential and to empower people in organizations. CYDAS offers a talent management IT platform "CYDAS.com (<http://cydas.com>)" for organizations to effectively manage HR data and leverage for advanced people management. Over 300 clients (including Mazda and ANA) have chosen our CYDAS.com to empower their employees. CYDAS.com enables users to visualize, manage and analyze HR data in an intuitive manner, and to leverage the data to empower people to realize business success. Our platform offers functions such as HR data analytics, performance management, skill inventory and monitoring, succession planning and internal communication.



To give some example cases, we can support:

- › To easily consolidate scattered HR data in a unified data platform
- › To facilitate more internal communication and engage employees
- › To comply with EU General Data Protection Regulation for personal data management
- › To understand and HR portfolio so that management can assign appropriate positions for each employee
- › To find potential talents and to develop plans and monitor their progress to perform successful succession management



私ども CYDAS は、5 年前に創業した日本発の IT 企業です。組織内の「才能を引き出す」ことをミッションに掲げ、CYDAS.com (<http://cydas.com>) というクラウド型の人材マネジメントツールを開発・販売しております。社内の人材情報の見える化、多様な人材データ分析、目標管理・人事評価、後継者育成（サクセッションプランニング）ができ、かつ社内コミュニケーションを促進する仕組みがあるなど、人事だけでなく経営層や社員も含め全社レベルで使えるエンパワーメントプラットフォームと位置づけております。日本国内ではクラウド型人材マネジメントツールとしてはトップシェアを誇り、マツダ様、ANA 様、J. フロントリテイリング様など大企業を含め 300 社以上に選ばれております。製品についてはこちらをご覧ください。

特に以下のような課題やテーマをお持ちの組織には有効なツールだと考えております。

- › 人材データの一元化を進めて可視化できるようにしたい
- › 社内のコミュニケーションや社員のエンゲージメントを高めたい
- › EUデータ保護法に準拠した個人データ管理をしたい
- › 人材の適材適所の配置を実現したい
- › マネジメント層や組織としての能力を高めたい
- › 後継者育成（人材の特定、計画、育成、管理）を効果的にやりたい
- › 目標管理を効率化させて人事評価の工数を削減したい

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Associate Member

Irasshai

Irasshai is a new freelance relocation service for Japanese expats in Belgium. Irasshai supports Japanese expats in finding a property, opening a bank account, finding a school, straighten out healthcare administration, and so much more! With Irasshai I want to deprive Japanese expats from as many feelings of stress, frustration, desperation and doubt as possible, by supporting them in everything the new start in Belgium contains. Being proud of Belgium as the country where I grew up and the pride of having Japanese roots, makes me wanting Japanese people to have a good life in Belgium. The 150 years old relationship between



Belgium and Japan, built on a deep mutual understanding can be considered unique. That, and the beautiful cultures of both countries and the fact being a mixture of both cultures myself, made me start up this freelance relocation business.

心から、いらっしゃい!



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ISO320
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(i) For SLR camera high-zoom-ratio lenses with 15x magnification capability.
Current as of December 2010. (Source: Tamron).

- * The Sony mount does not include the VC (Vibration Compensation) image stabilization functionality, as the body of Sony digital SLR cameras includes image stabilization functionality.
- * This lens is not designed for use with 35mm film cameras and digital SLR cameras with image sensors larger than 24x16mm.

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