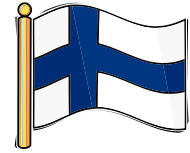


Embassy of Japan in Finland

Unioninkatu 20-22, 00130 Helsinki

Tel: 09 - 686 0200



Press Release

Changing Asian Security – a Japanese Perspective: How to Read Asia Today with Ichiro Fujisaki

2 October 2014

The Helsinki University, in cooperation with the Finnish Institute of International Affairs, the Discussing World Politics and our Embassy, will arrange a lecture by Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki on the 16th of October. Ambassador Fujisaki is former "G8 Sherpa", the personal representative of Prime Minister Koizumi as well as the former Ambassador to the United States. Currently he serves as the President of the America-Japan Society, Inc., Distinguished Professor and Chairman of International Strategies at Sophia University, and Distinguished Professor of Keio University.

Title: *Changing Asian Security - a Japanese Perspective: How to Read Asia Today*

Date and Time: Thursday 16 October, 09:15-10:45 (coffee will be served starting at 9:00)

Venue: Helsinki University Building, Auditorium XIII (Unioninkatu 34, 3rd floor)

Chair: Timo Kivimäki, Professor, Department of Political and Economic Studies, University of Helsinki

Ambassador Fujisaki describes the outline of the lecture as follows:

“Asia is currently experiencing a period of extensive political and economic change. Recent leadership transitions in China and North Korea have bred both challenges and opportunities. The US has announced a pivot toward the Asia-Pacific region, but remains preoccupied by events in the Middle East. Japan's economy appears to be recovering after a long period of stagnation, while Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is seemingly altering the fundamental tenets of the country's security policy, which has remained unchanged for more than half a century. This presentation will provide a Japanese view of such key recent developments across the region.”

Educated at Keio University, Brown University and Stanford Graduate School, Ambassador Fujisaki

went on to become a Research Associate at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. Following his entry into the Foreign Ministry in 1969, he held posts in Jakarta, Paris and London before taking on more senior roles. These included Political Counsellor at the Embassy of Japan in London, Political Minister at the Embassy of Japan in Washington DC, Director General for North American Affairs and Deputy Foreign Minister. During the tenure of Deputy Foreign Minister, from 2002 to 2005, he served as “Sherpa”, the personal representative of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, for the G8 Summit Meetings. From 2005 to 2008 he served as Ambassador of Japan to the UN and World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva, before taking up the post of Ambassador of Japan to the United States from 2008 to 2012.

RSVP by 10 October 2014: events@hk.mofa.go.jp (Embassy of Japan in Helsinki)