

Report on first project workshop in Berlin, February 2017

EU-Japan Security Cooperation: Threat Perceptions and Response in the EU and Japan



The University of Essex, in conjunction with the Japan-German Centre Berlin (JDZB), held the first workshop of the EUJA project in Berlin on 9-10 February 2017.

The starting point for the workshop was to examine the levels of threat perception held by Japan and the EU respectively in a wide range of security areas, and to assess the levels of response to threats. Papers from either an EU or a Japanese perspective on threat perception and institutional response in the ten security areas were presented. After an editing process, these papers will be accessible online via the project webpage. Besides involving participants who will contribute to the envisaged edited volume on EU-Japan Security Cooperation, a number of other colleagues from the academic and policy making community attended.

The workshop provided an opportunity to strengthen links between European and Japanese researchers and to facilitate the process of pairing European and Japanese researchers in writing the ten substantive chapters of the envisaged book. As well as two days of discussions, participants enjoyed a workshop dinner in a historic Berlin restaurant which allowed good working relationships to be further strengthened. A second workshop in Kobe in June 2017 will provide a forum for further discussions, in particular regarding the scope of EU-Japan cooperation in each sector, both at the bilateral and at the multilateral level.



We are enormously grateful to the JDZB for offering its pleasant headquarters to host the event, for contributing to the financing of the workshop, and for organisational support. Judging by the feedback from participants, the event can be deemed to have been interesting, rewarding and successful.

Emil Kirchner
University of Essex