



*You are cordially invited to*

**“Examining Lessons from Japan’s Lost Decades: Economics, Security and Society”**

Sponsored by

**Rebuild Japan Initiative Foundation (RJIF)**

Co-sponsored by

**Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs;**

**Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies;**

**Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, Harvard Kennedy School;**

**Japan Society of Boston;**

**Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership**

**Conference Information and Location**

**Friday May 1<sup>st</sup> 2015**

**9:00AM - 5:00PM**

**Sheraton Commander Hotel (George Washington Room)**

16 Garden St, Cambridge, MA 02138, United States

Map and directions

<http://www.sheratoncommander.com/driving-directions>

If you would like to attend this event,

RSVP below

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**Conference Description**

How can the U.S., Europe, and Asia avoid the mistakes Japan made during its so-called “lost decades,” or the twenty years after falling into recession during the 1990s? Focusing on the dimensions of economics, security and history issues, and education and employment, panelists examine the policy decisions taken during this period and the lessons that can be learned from Japan’s experiences. The three sessions explore how countries can deal with common challenges, including fiscal deficit, international security and growing social inequality.

The panelists examine not only the causes but also future policy options to move forward, offering insights on how a country can regenerate itself when it comes at a crossroads.

The book, *Examining Japan’s Lost Decades (Routledge Contemporary Series)*, will be published in April.



**Program**

**9:00-9:15AM**

**Morning coffee**

**9:15-9:45AM**

**Keynote speeches:**

Yoichi Funabashi

*Chair, Rebuild Japan Initiative Foundation (RJIF), Editor in Chief, Asahi Shimbun (2007-10)*

Andrew Gordon

*Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard*

**9:45- 11:30AM**

**Session 1: Economics: Abenomics Growth Strategy**

Speakers:

Kazuhiko Toyama

*CEO and Representative Director of Industrial Growth Platform, Inc;*

*Member, Japan's Council on Economic Fiscal Policy*

Tokuo Iwaisako

*Professor, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University*

Discussant:

Dale Jorgenson

*Samuel W. Morris University Professor of Economics, Harvard University*

Moderator:

Richard Cooper

*Maurits C. Boas Professor of International Economics, Harvard University*

**1:15-3:00PM**

**Session 2: Security and History Issues: The Future of US-Japan-China Relations**

Speakers:

Yoichi Funabashi

Kazuhiko Togo

*Professor and Director of the Institute for World Affairs, Kyoto Sangyo University*

Discussant:

Ezra Vogel

*Henry Ford II Professor of Social Sciences Emeritus, Harvard University*

Moderator:

Barak Kushner

*Senior Lecturer, University of Cambridge*



**3:00-3:15PM**

Afternoon coffee

**3:15-5:00PM**

**Session 3: Society: Issues of Employment and Education for Women and Youth**

Speakers:

Andrew Gordon

*Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard*

Takehiko Kariya

*Professor, Sociology of Japanese Society and Faculty Fellow, University of Oxford*

Discussant:

Mary Brinton

*Reischauer Institute Professor of Sociology and Department Chair, Department of Sociology, Harvard University*

Moderator:

Hiraku Shimoda

*Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Waseda University*

For further reading on the Examining the Lost Decades project, please follow the link below

<http://rebuildjpn.org/en/project/japans-lost-decades>

Please contact <symposium@rebuildjpn.org> if you have any further questions.

We look forward to welcoming you at this event.