



DG GROW, JBIC, JETRO AND EU MEMBER STATES' INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCIES TAKE PART IN THE FIRST EU INVESTMENT FORUM

Tokyo, 10 March 2026 – The inaugural EU Investment Forum took place at the EU Delegation to Japan.



Organised by the EU-Japan Centre's Invest in EU Hub with the support of 21 investment promotion agencies (IPAs), it brought together representatives of the EU and Japanese Authorities and Japanese business to look at investment opportunities in the EU – including practical information, case studies and networking opportunities. In total, the event attracted around 140 participants.



The first part of the event featured speeches from the EU and Japanese Authorities: the EU Delegation to Japan's Deputy Head of Mission, Thomas Gnocchi, opened the event. DG GROW's Maive Rute (Deputy Director-General for Investment & Innovation) outlined the EU's industrial policy, openness to Japan and what makes the EU an attractive destination for investment. Ramona Ocak (Policy Officer, InvestEU Governance Advisory Unit) outlined opportunities under InvestEU and EU Support Instruments. Tatsushi Amano (Senior Managing Executive Officer & Head of Resources Finance Group) gave the perspective of Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

The second part of the event featured case studies from Mitsubishi Materials Corporation's Kazuhiko Tanaka (General Manager, Corporate Strategy Office, Corporate Division) on its recycling design business and resources business in the Netherlands and from Marubeni Corporation's Masato Tachibana (General Manager, Next Generation Social Infrastructure Department) outlining Marubeni's advanced energy storage project with Skeleton Technologies in Estonia. This part of the event concluded with a Q&A session and a closing speech from Susumu Kataoka, President of JETRO. During the third part of the event, participants had the opportunity to meet with the IPAs for both planned and informal discussions.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/ja/events/investmentforum2026>

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THE EU-JAPAN BUSINESS ROUND TABLE WILL MEET IN BRUSSELS IN APRIL

The 27th meeting of the EU-Japan Business Round Table (or “BRT”) will take place in Brussels on Thursday, 16 April 2026.

Hosted by the European Commission and co-chaired by Belén Garijo (Chair of the Executive Board and CEO, Merck) and Nobuhiro Endo (Executive Advisor, NEC Corporation), the meeting is expected to focus on the prospects for EU-Japan cooperation in three areas – global trade, economic security and industrial competitiveness.

Senior representatives of the Japanese and EU Authorities will address the meeting. Stéphane Séjourné, European Commission Executive Vice-President for Prosperity and Industrial Strategy and Jean-Eric Paquet, Ambassador of the EU to Japan, are expected to be present.

The meeting is also expected to adopt recommendations prepared by the BRT’s members on a wide range of issues – ‘Trade Relations, Investment & Regulatory Cooperation, Financial Services, Accounting & Taxation’; ‘Life Sciences and Bioeconomy, Healthcare and Well-Being’; ‘Digital Innovation & Mobility’; and ‘Environment & Sustainable Development’. The recommendations will be submitted to the EU and Japanese Authorities. June’s edition of EU-Japan NEWS will include a full report on the outcome of the BRT annual meeting.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/brt/annual-meeting-2026>

VULCANUS IN EUROPE: OUR INTERNS IN ACTION

Since its inception 30 years ago in 1996, the Vulcanus in Europe programme has offered talented Japanese STEM students a unique opportunity for both professional and personal growth.



Increasingly, European companies in sectors of strategic importance for EU–Japan cooperation, such as digital technologies, space, defence, advanced medical technologies, energy, and the environment, are showing interest in hosting Vulcanus interns and involving them in their R&D activities. To showcase the programme in action, the EU-Japan Centre interviewed two interns participating in the 2025–2026 edition.

Shohei Kajiwara, a PhD candidate at Sophia University (Tokyo), was hosted by a startup company in Aachen, Germany. His company, Fibrecoat, creates new materials by coating fibres to make them stronger, lighter, and more functional for use in industries from space and defence to electric vehicles and beyond.

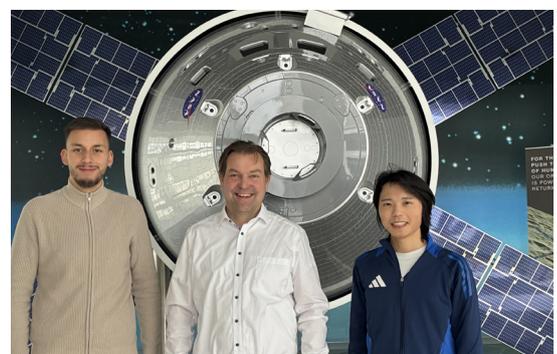
Although Shohei’s academic background is in chemistry, he has been able to make a meaningful contribution to the company, thanks to his interdisciplinary experience. During his internship, he researched how composite materials can protect and insulate spacecrafts from cosmic radiation, a key challenge for future space exploration. This experience helped Shohei realise that he could envision himself in professional roles beyond those traditionally associated with his field of study. He also learned that stepping outside of one’s comfort zone can build self-confidence, while bringing the Japanese principle of kaizen into the workplace.

Also based in Germany during his internship, Keita Toyama, a master’s student specialising in cryptography, has gained hands-on experience through his work at Airbus Defence and Space (ADS). Over the past months, he has been involved in the AEROSEC project which aims to develop a highly secure multi-cloud platform to support European defence initiatives and address interoperability gaps among European countries.

His time at ADS has broadened his perspective on future career paths and strengthened his motivation to contribute to industrial cooperation between Japan, Europe, and other regions, by combining his academic expertise with the practical skills gained during his internship.



Shohei Kajiwara and his supervisor Felix Schmidt, Application Engineer for Space at Fibrecoat



Keita Toyama, on the right, with his supervisor Hauke Ernst, in the middle, Digitalization Manager at Airbus

Japan is home to world-class STEM universities and brilliant students. Hosting a Japanese intern not only supports the student’s professional development but also brings valuable benefits to host companies. If you are interested in hosting a Japanese intern through Vulcanus in Europe, read more about the programme on our website.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/vulcanus-europe>

STRENGTHENING EU-JAPAN COOPERATION IN THE SPACE INDUSTRY

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation organised a dedicated Space Business Mission to Japan on 27-30 January 2026, bringing together 9 European SMEs and clusters active in the space sector.



The mission combined high-level institutional engagement, targeted regional cooperation, and participation in a major international exhibition, offering European companies a comprehensive platform to explore business and partnership opportunities in Japan's dynamic space ecosystem.

The mission opened on 27 January with the "EU Space Day in Ibaraki", beginning with an in-depth visit to the Tsukuba Space Center of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). The delegation, accompanied by EU Ambassador Jean-Eric Paquet, was welcomed by JAXA Vice-President Mr. Toshiaki Sato and senior representatives of JAXA's International Relations and Research Department.

The morning programme included introductory remarks by the Ambassador, a presentation of JAXA's overall activities, and an overview of its industry-related initiatives, followed by a Q&A session and exchanges with participants. This was complemented by a guided site tour of key facilities at the Tsukuba Space Center, including the Astronaut Training Facility and the Kibo Mission Control Room. The visit offered participants first-hand insight into Japan's space operations, international cooperation framework, and industrial ecosystem.

Following the JAXA visit, the delegation travelled to Tsukuba Center for a networking lunch and pitching session organised in cooperation with Ibaraki Prefecture Government.

The afternoon programme featured presentations from the EU-Japan Centre and Ibaraki Prefecture, followed by two pitching rounds bringing together European and Japanese space-related companies. The structured exchanges, combined with networking opportunities, enabled direct discussions on potential business cooperation, technology partnerships, and future joint projects.

From 28 to 30 January, the delegation exhibited at ISIEX 2026 at Tokyo Big Sight. The joint EU-Japan Centre booth provided each participant with a dedicated display space, ensuring visibility among Japanese industry representatives, research organisations, and public authorities. On 29 January, a conference session further showcased European space capabilities and cooperation opportunities. The Space Business Mission generated significant interest from Japanese stakeholders, particularly in view of Japan's expanding commercial space activities and growing international partnerships.



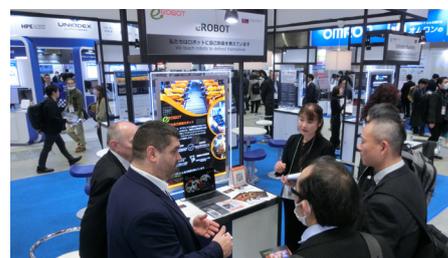
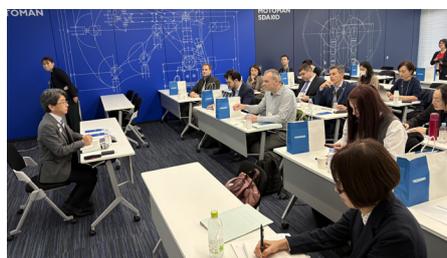
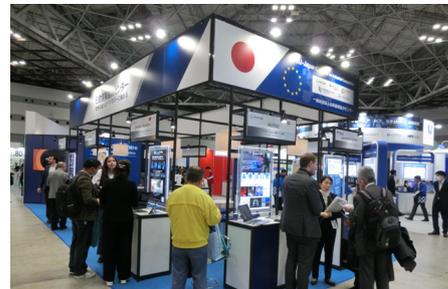
EU Ambassador in Japan Jean-Eric Paquet with JAXA Vice-President Mr. Toshiaki Sato

Participants reported promising contacts and follow-up discussions that may lead to concrete business cooperation. Through this initiative, the EU-Japan Centre reinforced its role as a facilitator of industrial collaboration in strategic and high-tech sectors, contributing to a stronger and more structured EU-Japan partnership in space.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/space-mission>

SMART FACTORY & ROBOTICS BUSINESS MISSION - 2ND EDITION

This January, the EU-Japan Centre organised the second edition of its Smart Factory & Robotics Business Mission, with visits to prominent Japanese manufacturers and participating in **Smart Factory Expo 2026 / Factory Innovation Week**. The exhibition, which took place at Tokyo Big Sight from 21 to 23 January, attracted an impressive **78,673 visitors** over three days.



The mission kicked off with travel to Kitakyushu City, in Fukuoka prefecture, where an Industrial Tour to leading manufacturers YASKAWA Electric Corporation and DENSO Kitakyushu was organised in collaboration with the Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry. The visits to the manufacturing floors of both companies and the Innovation Centre (Robot Village) of YASKAWA Electric Corporation enabled the mission participants to engage with insightful and interactive experiences into advanced manufacturing practices including robotics integration, AI-driven optimization and efficient factory design.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/smartfactory-robotics-mission>

The allotted Q&A time at the visits allowed for a lively discussion on the current developments in smart manufacturing and robot innovations. During the Smart Factory Expo 2026 / Factory Innovation Week, 5 innovative European Small and Medium-sized Enterprises from Portugal, Spain, Germany, France and Slovakia exhibited their unique products and services alongside the EU-Japan Centre. The five SMEs engaged directly with Japanese companies, industry representatives, and innovation stakeholders on site, creating valuable opportunities to exchange ideas,

explore mutual interests, and identify where technologies and market needs align. With interpreters and well-prepared materials in place, conversations moved beyond initial introductions toward meaningful discussions on smart manufacturing solutions, robotics integration, and broader industrial innovation. The connections established at the trade fair helped the companies identify priority contacts and laid a strong foundation for follow-up meetings and potential long-term partnerships.

TESTIMONIAL



By **BRUNA BENTO**,
Functional Analyst of Operations at Infinite Foundry

➔ <https://www.infinitefoundry.com>



"The overall organization and preparation were very good. The most valuable component of the mission was the shared booth at the Smart Factory Expo, combined with the high level of support provided by the EU-Japan Centre staff and interpreters. The booth was well organized and offered strong visibility, while the interpretation and on-site support enabled more effective communication with Japanese companies and facilitated meaningful initial discussions. Participation in the mission has helped our company better assess the Japanese market and refine our approach to potential partnerships."

In the mid- to long-term, this experience will support more informed engagement strategies. We are also planning to appoint a company representative permanently stationed in Japan, which we see as an important step toward strengthening local engagement and supporting future collaboration opportunities. For future participants, I would recommend arriving with a clear understanding of your objectives in Japan, patience regarding decision-making timelines, and a willingness to adapt your approach to the local business culture. Making the most of the support provided by the EU-Japan Centre and interpreters is key to maximizing the overall value of the mission".



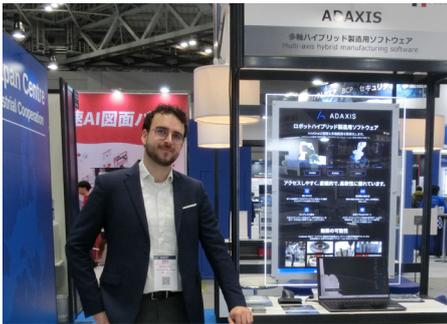
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TESTIMONIAL - SMART FACTORY & ROBOTICS BUSINESS MISSION



By **NOËL ROLLAND**,
Applications
Engineer at
Adaxis

➔ <https://adaxis.eu/>



"In early January 2026, I took part for the first time in a mission organised by the EU-Japan Centre. As a French SME already serving customers in Japan, we decided to deepen our commitment by establishing a local subsidiary to support our growing client base in Japan and across Asia.

To achieve this, we have intensified our efforts to expand our network and engage new partners. Doing business in Japan requires a genuine understanding of its distinct culture, where face-to-face meetings, exchanging business cards, and careful attention to etiquette are essential signs of respect.

The EU-Japan Centre's dedicated and highly professional team guided us through these subtleties with insight and care. Their support is invaluable, as these cultural nuances should never be underestimated.

The mission itself was flawlessly organised and effectively risk-free for participating companies.

In our case, it enabled us to identify numerous promising partnerships and concrete use cases in Japan.

Beyond its clear business value, the mission was also a deep human experience. We built meaningful relationships both with the organisers and fellow participants, which will undoubtedly support our future development. It definitely had a positive impact and convinced us that opening a local branch was the right decision.

The Centre actively welcomes constructive feedback and continually strives to improve its programs. I am confident that any company can find a mission aligned with its ambitions, and I strongly encourage exploring its upcoming initiatives".

NEW EU BUSINESS IN JAPAN AND MINERVA REPORTS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED!

A new set of market reports and publications drawn up by industry experts are now available to help EU business succeed in Japan.

BUSINESS REPORTS

- Food Distribution Channels in Japan

This report outlines the current situation of the various food distribution channels, and some recommendations on how to enter this complex market.

- EU-Japan Trade data 2025

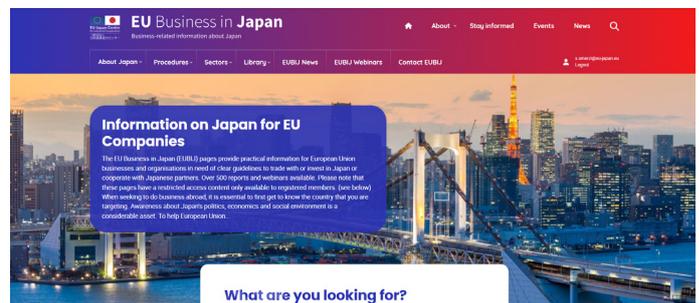
Trade of goods and services between the EU Member States and Japan in 2025.

- Solar Power Industry Market in Japan

This report provides a comprehensive overview of Japan's solar power industry within the context of the country's broader decarbonization targets and evolving energy policies.

- Energy Storage Systems (ESS) in Japan

This report delves into the energy storage systems in Japan, and potential business opportunities EU SMEs have in this sector.

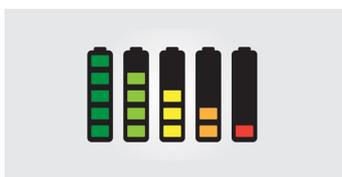


MINERVA POLICY REPORTS

The Minerva reports on policy intelligence issues are aimed at helping EU industry and authorities understand recent trends and developments in Japan in different market segments.

- IT Services in Japan's Public Sector-Pathways for European Engagement

The report examines the IT Public Sector Market in Japan. It gives an analysis of Japan's public IT services landscape, digital transformation initiatives, and potential avenues for collaboration and business development with European enterprises.



Access these resources for free!

These reports, along with +500 other reports and recorded webinars covering industrial sectors, regulations and business culture, are available to EU businesses and organizations registered in the EU-Japan Centre website.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/eubusinessinjapan/library/publications-reports>

CASE STUDY: IVEP, A.S.

Founded in 1966 as a research institute dedicated to the development of electrotechnical hardware in former Czechoslovakia, IVEP has spent nearly sixty years cultivating deep technical expertise and a strong engineering heritage. Today, the company retains this tradition of innovation while operating as a modern Czech SME with a global footprint.



Mr. Chladil, in the middle, during the Smart Manufacturing & Robotics Mission 2025

The company delivers its specialised switching devices and tailored electrotechnical solutions to clients across multiple continents. With more than 8,000 distinct products developed to date, IVEP works predominantly on a custom basis, designing and manufacturing multiswitching devices that ensure the reliable and safe operation of electrical circuits in demanding industrial environments. In addition to supplying hardware, IVEP often acts as a technology partner, providing development support and bespoke engineering, an approach that has proven well suited to the Japanese market.

WHY JAPAN?

IVEP's interest in Japan comes not only from commercial considerations, but also from genuine admiration for Japanese culture and industrial excellence. The company views Japan as a highly developed market with substantial opportunities for advanced electrotechnical solutions.

A key milestone in this journey is IVEP's recent partnership with Nippon Steel Corporation achieved in 2026, one of Japan's most important industrial players. This collaboration is particularly meaningful as IVEP's switching technology is being deployed in Nippon Steel's experimental green steel production programme. In this groundbreaking initiative, hydrogen is used as fuel in blast furnaces instead of fossil fuels, representing a major step forward in sustainable metallurgy.

EU-JAPAN CENTRE'S SUPPORT

To deepen its understanding of Japanese industrial practices and strengthen its position in the market, IVEP participated in two key programmes of the EU Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation.

The Czech SME attended the **World Class Manufacturing (WCM)** training programme three times: in 2021, 2022 and 2024. These trainings were an "eye-opening" introduction to Japanese manufacturing culture and operational excellence. It was here that the the company realised it could play its chances in the market. Following its positive experience, IVEP joined the **Smart Manufacturing & Robotics Mission** in 2025 during which the company was able to exhibit in thematic trade fair in Japan. Both programmes were highly valued, not only for their technical and business insights but also for the support offered by the EU Japan Centre.

CHALLENGES IN THE JAPANESE MARKET

Japanese customers are very demanding. There are high expectations regarding quality and reliability. Moreover, there is a strong desire to understand technology in depth, at a technical level.

For IVEP, these are not obstacles but rather advantages. The company welcomes rigorous technical discussion and values the Japanese preference for clarity, transparency, and precision.

ADVICE TO EUROPEAN SMES

Drawing on its experience, IVEP offers two key pieces of advice to European companies considering the Japanese market: Be persistent and patient.

Building trust takes time, and it is normal for both sides to invest before seeing concrete results.

Interestingly, while patience is important, IVEP's experience also shows that concrete results may sometimes move sooner than expected.

Text based on an interview with Mr. **MAREK CHLADIL**, Managing Director at IVEP ➔ <https://www.ivep.cz/en>

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/eubusinessinjapan/library/publication/case-study-ivep-success-story>

UPDATED CASE STUDIES OF **EU-JAPAN BUSINESS COOPERATION IN AFRICA & LATIN AMERICA**

Since 2022, the EU-Japan Centre has facilitated the connection between EU and Japanese companies interested in working together in foreign markets.

Over the years, the Centre has compiled two lists of case studies detailing existing partnerships between EU and Japanese companies in Africa and Southeast Asia. Today, new cases were added to the list in Africa, and a new list was published for EU-Japan projects in Latin America.

Through these case studies, the Centre aims to encourage EU and Japanese companies to consider collaboration in foreign markets where many business opportunities remain untapped and to promote best practices, providing a deeper understanding of these types of partnerships.

These projects show that EU and Japanese companies can complement each other and work together on bankable projects in these regions. The Centre identified and compiled these projects by monitoring EU and Japanese companies' activities in Africa and Latin America (public sources), and by interviewing some of the companies involved in the projects. The Centre did not directly contribute to the realisation of these projects. For a quick overview of all the case studies identified by the EU-Japan Centre, check [our mapping](#).

Case studies [in Africa](#) / Case studies [in Latin America](#)

TICAD 9 PARTNER PROJECT: **UNLOCKING AFRICA'S POTENTIAL - OPPORTUNITIES FOR EU-JAPAN BUSINESS**

On 11 December 2025, the EU-Japan Centre successfully organised a hybrid seminar highlighting business opportunities in Africa and the potential for EU-Japan joint projects in Africa.



Thomas Gnocchi (Delegation of the European Union to Japan) opened the event, reaffirming the importance of trilateral cooperation between the EU, Japan and Africa.

Asad Beg (European External Action Service) and Claire Hunault (European Commission) presented the Global Gateway Strategy and the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+) as tools to finance projects in Africa and mobilise more private-sector engagement. They also highlighted the key takeaways of the EU-Africa Business Forum which took place in November 2025.

Hiromu Kajiwara (Japan External Trade Organization) mentioned the energy and mining sectors as promising sectors in Africa according to Japanese companies. He also highlighted the advantages of complementarity between EU and Japanese companies to conduct successful joint projects in Africa.

Then, Airi Ikedo-Okutani (Index Strategy) introduced the Ghana Road Public-Private Partnership Project between her company (Japan), Maeda Corporation (Japan), Mota-Engil (Portugal) and Strategic Initiatives Limited (Ghana). She underscored how tri-regional governance can improve project bankability and that such successful models could be replicated across the continent. Ahmed Sami Abo Arab (Hitachi Energy) presented two Gulf-of-Suez wind farm projects in Egypt for which his company delivered grid integration solutions to Vestas (Denmark) and the Red Sea Wind Energy consortium (France/Japan). Financing from Japan, the EU, France and Germany were used in these projects. Modest Kwapinski (EDF, France) introduced the Taza wind farm project in Morocco in partnership with Mitsui & Co., Ltd. (Japan) which has a positive impact locally in terms of job creation, access to clean electricity and social actions.

Then, three banks presented financing instruments available to the private sector for projects in Africa. In addition, Antonin Calzarossa (European Investment Bank) also introduced priority sectors such as energy, climate mitigation, health, critical raw materials, agribusiness, transport and digital solutions. Kohei Toyoda (Japan Bank for International Cooperation) presented projects and instruments related to green hydrogen and ammonia. Naoshige Kinoshita (Asia External Representation Office, African Development Bank) explained the eligibility criteria for companies interested in non-sovereign operations (NSO) to finance projects in Africa. Finally, the closing remarks were delivered by Manuel Hubert (EU-Japan Centre) and the event concluded with a lively and productive networking reception, offering participants a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas and explore future avenues for cooperation.

- ➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/unlocking-africa-potential-opportunities-eu-japan-cooperation>
- ➔ https://www.eu-japan.eu/media-player/video/20251211_TICAD9PP_Highlights/ (video recording)

EU-JAPAN NEGOTIATION CONCLUDED FOR JAPAN'S ASSOCIATION TO HORIZON EUROPE

The European Union (EU) and Japan issued the Japan-EU Joint Statement and Japan-EU Competitiveness Alliance at the Japan-EU summit meeting held last July. With regard to these, the European Commission and Japan have successfully concluded negotiations on Japan's association to Horizon Europe, the EU's flagship €93.5 billion research and innovation programme.



This marks a major milestone in EU-Japan research and innovation cooperation, as the agreement paves the way for Japan to become one of the closest international partners to Horizon Europe and further deepen scientific collaboration between Europe and Japan.

Japan's association is expected to be formalised with the signing of the agreement in 2026, following the conclusion of negotiations in December 2025. The agreement establishes that Japanese researchers and organisations will be able to participate on equal footing with their European and other associated counterparts in collaborative research and innovation projects under Horizon Europe. This includes eligibility to lead and coordinate projects, apply for funding, and engage in programmes targeting global societal challenges.

The association focuses particularly on Pillar II of Horizon Europe, which supports multinational collaborative projects addressing strategic areas such as the digital and green transitions, food security, climate-neutral energy, and other priorities of mutual interest.

Under transitional arrangements, Japanese entities will be eligible to participate in Horizon Europe calls starting in 2026 and will benefit from the status of associated country entities.

This development builds on decades of strong bilateral cooperation in science, technology and innovation between the EU and Japan. The partnership is built on the 2011 Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement, with further strategic alignment through a joint vision adopted in 2015 and a Letter of Intent signed in 2020.

Japan's association to Horizon Europe also follows a broader expansion of the programme's international reach; in recent years, several major global partners have joined as associated countries, including South Korea, Switzerland, Egypt, Canada, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. This reflects the EU's ambition to strengthen its global research partnerships and foster an open, international research and innovation ecosystem.

As Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation Ekaterina Zaharieva said,

“Openness and international cooperation must guide the future of science and technology. We believe that scientific cooperation can build bridges, even in challenging geopolitical times. I look forward to strengthening our partnership as Japan joins the 22 countries already associated to Horizon.”

As Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Mission of Japan to the European Union Kazutoshi Aikawa said: *“Recognizing the importance of international research cooperation in addressing global challenges, as Japan moves closer to association, we are actively working to expand our researcher networks and further strengthen our collaboration in sensitive technology areas and related fields.”* Overall, Japan's upcoming association to Horizon Europe is expected to unlock new opportunities for joint research, foster innovation across continents, and reinforce the strategic EU-Japan partnership in addressing global challenges through science and technology.

Sources: European Commission and Mission of Japan to the European Union

AGREEMENT REACHED ON COOPERATION WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR ELECTROTECHNICAL STANDARDIZATION

On 4 February 2026, the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC), for which the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) serves as the secretariat, has signed an agreement to become a Companion Standardization Body (CSB) of the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC).

The agreement allows JISC observer participation through a simplified procedure in all Technical Committees (TCs) of CENELEC and in Joint Technical Committees (JTCs) of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and CENELEC.



In the presence of JISC President Dr. Endo Nobuhiro and Ambassador of the European Union to Japan Mr. Jean-Eric Paquet, the agreement was signed by JISC Secretary General Mr. Imamura Wataru and Acting Director General of CEN and CENELEC Ms. Cinzia Missiroli.

As CENELEC has significant influence on legislation and policy in Europe as well as on global standardization, this cooperation is expected to benefit both economic activities in Europe and the acceleration of international standardization.

EU AND JAPAN HOLD 7TH CYBER DIALOGUE IN BRUSSELS

On 28 January 2026, the European Union and Japan held their seventh Cyber Dialogue in Brussels.

Building on the outcomes of the EU-Japan Summit, Security & Defence Dialogue and Strategic Dialogue in 2025, the Cyber Dialogue confirmed the growing scope and depth of EU-Japan cooperation on cyber issues.

During the Cyber Dialogue, the EU and Japan exchanged views on the evolving cyber threat landscape and responses to malicious cyber activities. Both parties provided updates on recent policy and regulatory developments on cybersecurity, including in areas such as emerging and critical technologies, resilience of critical infrastructure, incident reporting, cyber crisis management and cyber defence. More concretely, the EU and Japan explored options for further cooperation on synergies between the **Cyber Resilience Act** and the Japanese

JC-STAR labelling scheme to enhance the resilience of our markets.

Regarding the international dimension, the parties reviewed ongoing cooperation in multilateral and regional fora, in particular with respect to the United Nations Global Mechanism to advance responsible state behaviour in cyberspace. Close cooperation in other international platforms such as ASEAN Regional Forum, G7, the International Counter Ransomware Initiative and the Global Cybersecurity Labelling Initiative was additionally explored.

Finally, the EU and Japan discussed respective approaches to cyber capacity building and assistance to partner countries, with a focus on the Indo Pacific and other regions of mutual interest.

In the margins of the Dialogue, the EU and Japan also held an expert roundtable on diplomatic responses to malicious cyber activities.

The EU and Japan agreed to continue using the Cyber Dialogue as a platform to deepen practical cooperation, share best practices and coordinate positions in multilateral fora. Both sides will continue to work closely together to enhance cyber resilience, by further engaging on protection of critical infrastructure and market access policies. They will also promote responsible state behaviour in cyberspace and support partners in strengthening their cyber capacities.

The next EU Japan Cyber Dialogue will be hosted by Japan in Tokyo in 2027.

Source: Delegation of the European Union to Japan

➔ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/cyber-european-union-and-japan-hold-7th-cyber-dialogue-brussels_en

EU AND JAPAN STRENGTHEN COOPERATION ON THE FUTURE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM

The European Union and Japan are reinforcing their cooperation in civil aviation as unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and new air mobility services become an increasingly important part of the aviation landscape.

Both partners share the objective of ensuring that these new activities develop safely, responsibly, and in a way that supports innovation and public confidence.

In this context, a UAS Operations Workshop, held in Tokyo and Nagoya from 19 to 23 January 2026, brought together aviation authorities and industry partners from Europe and Japan for a week of structured dialogue and practical exchanges. The workshop focused on how risk-based approaches can support consistent decision-making for UAS operations and how operational and technical considerations can be addressed in a coordinated manner.

Discussions covered how authorities assess the safety of different types of UAS operations, how operators demonstrate compliance with regulatory requirements, and how oversight practices can adapt as operations become more complex. A hands-on exercise based on real operational scenarios provided a common reference for exchanging views and comparing approaches used in Europe and Japan, helping participants move from general principles to practical application.

The workshop confirmed the value of continued EU-Japan cooperation in this rapidly evolving field. By sharing experience and perspectives, both sides strengthened their mutual understanding of how risk-based frameworks can support safe and scalable unmanned aviation, while allowing sufficient flexibility for innovation.

The event was organised under the EU-Japan Aviation Partnership Project (EU-JP APP), an initiative implemented by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB) in close cooperation.

As UAS and advanced air mobility operations continue to expand worldwide, the European Union and Japan remain committed to working together as equal partners to shape a safe, forward-looking, and internationally coherent aviation environment.

Source: Delegation of the European Union to Japan

➔ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan/eu-and-japan-strengthen-cooperation-future-unmanned-aircraft-system_en





JOIN THE 2ND EU-JAPAN DIGITAL WEEK 2026: ADVANCING DIGITAL COLLABORATION

23-30 MARCH 2026, TOKYO, JAPAN



The 2nd EU-Japan Digital Week is organised as part of the EU-Japan Digital Partnership. This flagship annual event brings together leaders from government, industry, academia, research, and policymaking across the European Union, Japan, and the wider Indo-Pacific region to advance digital collaboration.

Since its launch in 2022, the EU-Japan Digital Partnership has provided a flexible cooperation instrument that goes beyond dialogue and exchange of information between Japan and the EU with the view to deliver concrete deliverables in line with respective priorities for a digital economy and society.

This edition will explore a broad spectrum of topics shaping the future of the digital economy, including emerging and disruptive technologies such as AI, semiconductors, quantum computing, and high-performance computing, while addressing critical challenges in digital infrastructure, standardisation, and cross-border interoperability.

Special emphasis will be placed on AI for societal good, trusted data spaces, cybersecurity, and the role of digital diplomacy in shaping international tech governance.

Participants will engage through a combination of thematic workshops, high-level dialogues, hands-on training sessions, hackathons, and stakeholder roundtables, exploring opportunities for joint research, innovation, and policy alignment. The event aims to strengthen the EU-Japan Digital Partnership's impact in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, fostering secure, resilient, and human-centric digital future.

Source: INPACE

➔ <https://egcp.enrich-global.eu/communities/inpace/events/2nd-eu-japan-digital-week-2026>

➔ <https://inpacehub.eu/eu-japan-digitalweek-2026>

TECHBIZKON X: LIFETECH+ CONNECTING EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE STARTUP-ECOSYSTEMS

9 OCTOBER 2026, TOKYO, JAPAN

This October, TechBIZKON celebrates a remarkable milestone: its 10th anniversary edition – TechBIZKON X: LifeTECH+, hosted once again in Tokyo, one of Asia's most dynamic tech ecosystems. Since its founding in 2017, TechBIZKON has grown into a premier cross border startup event, building a powerful innovation bridge between Europe and Japan.



Over the past decade, TechBIZKON has spotlighted cutting-edge solutions across sectors such as AI, Digital Health, Smart Factory, GreenTech, Mobility, Microelectronics, AgriTech, and Green Transformation. Each edition teams up with a new Japanese accelerator/hub and showcases Tokyo's newest innovation hotspots, ensuring a fresh, forward-looking experience every year.

Past editions have gathered 30+ startups per year, attracted hundreds of corporate visitors, and featured high-level panels, pitch contests, 1on1 meetings, and hybrid participation formats—all designed to maximize real business impact.

TechBIZKON X: LifeTECH+ will elevate this momentum with a special focus on technologies shaping the future of life: health, wellbeing, longevity, quality of living, medtech, biotech, disability inclusion, and cross industry digital innovation. European and Japanese startups will demonstrate their most advanced solutions, while investors, corporates, accelerators, and innovation agencies engage in curated matchmaking and hands-on collaboration.

For European startups and scaleups, TechBIZKON X is a unique gateway to Japan — one of the world's most innovation-hungry and opportunity-rich markets.

For investors and corporates, it is the ideal platform to scout new technologies, build partnerships, and access multi-country deal flow from Austria, Belgium, Germany, Japan, and beyond.

The organizers are inviting interested startups to join them this October in Tokyo and become part of a decade-long strong community that is redefining the future of Europe-Asia tech collaboration. The TechBIZKON X is organized by ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA Tokyo, Flanders Investment & Trade Tokyo, the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan, Swissnex in Japan, and Plug and Play Japan.

Source: ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA Tokyo ➔ <http://www.techbizkon.com/techbizkon-x-2026.html>

THE FIRST DEAL MADE IN JAPAN BY FINESTJAPAN PARTICIPANT COMPANY DIGIOTOUCH

FINESTJAPAN project arranged a green tech SME trade mission to Osaka, Japan, on 20-24 October 2025.

SME's on the mission were the **Sykli Environmental College** (Finland), **DeskMe** (Finland), **Tuge Energy** (Estonia) and **Digiotouch** (Estonia) with the project partners **Green Net Finland** and **Tehnopol Science and Business park** (Estonia). The project's Japan expert service provider **Ciriot Inc.** (Osaka) was actively collaborating in the mission arrangements and had prepared face-to-face meetings for the participating companies on site.

The primary goal of the mission was to connect the FINESTJAPAN companies with interested business partners and explore new collaboration opportunities in Japan. As a result of the mission and active follow-up work, the first FINESTJAPAN deal in Japan was recently made by Digiotouch. Also, DeskMe has a new deal in the pipeline.

The mission programme contained a FINESTJAPAN seminar day for the participating companies, where IBPC Osaka and Intralink gave informative lectures about

Japan and the Osaka-Kansai business environment. The project arranged a networking event where the companies and Japanese target groups were pitching, and presentations of the green transfer (Gx), digital solutions and sustainability (Sx) were shown.

A visit to Kyoto Research Park and ACT Kyoto was arranged. In Kyoto, meetings were held with tech companies and the research park. All companies had additional one-to-one meetings with relevant counterparts during the mission.

In addition to exports, "FINESTJAPAN - Boosting the Central Baltic Cleantech Exports to Japan" project's secondary target is to introduce marketing or organizational innovation aiming at the Japanese market, such as applying new marketing approaches. The EU SMEs will gain knowledge of Japanese business culture and obtain visibility in Japan during trade missions.



The next trade mission will be held on 22-28 April 2026 in Tokyo.

Source: Green Net Finland

➔ <https://centralbaltic.eu/project/finestjapan/>

ONE-STOP SUPPORT FOR FINTECH FIRMS ESTABLISHING IN OSAKA, JAPAN

Expanding a business into Osaka, Japan, becomes smoother with the support of the Osaka Global Finance One-Stop Support Center. The Center is pleased to highlight two services designed to help global fintech firms and professionals establish their operations with confidence and efficiency.

Support for Bank Account Opening through the "Foreign Customer Account Opening Support Network"

This support is designed to assist global fintech firms in opening bank accounts in Osaka/Japan- an essential but often challenging step. By collaborating with multiple financial institutions, the Center provides coordinated support, including requirement checks, communication facilitation, and guidance throughout the application process. This ensures a transparent, predictable experience and enables foreign firms to focus on launching their business effectively.

Administrative procedure in English for incorporation

For companies establishing a legal entity in Osaka/Japan, the One-Stop offers comprehensive English-language assistance for administrative procedures. The Center provides clear explanations of registration steps, required documentation, and interactions with relevant authorities. From incorporation to regulatory notifications, the Center helps streamline processes that can otherwise be complex for foreign businesses. This support reduces administrative burdens and accelerates the firm entry into the Japanese market.



Osaka continues to strengthen its role as a welcoming and competitive hub for the global finance business. For firms considering expanding their operations into Japan, the Center stands ready to assist their success in Osaka.

Contact & Further Information:
Osaka Global Finance One-Stop Support Center, +81 (0)6-6136-3524,
fonestop@global-financial-city-osaka.jp

Source: Pasona Group

➔ <https://global-financial-city-osaka.jp/en/onestop/>

FRENCH-JAPANESE FOUNDATION EVENTS IN EARLY 2026

In partnership with the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), the Fondation France-Japon (FFJ) hosted, in the beginning of March 2026, the 4th International Forum on Intelligence Augmentation and Amplification plus Society (IAA+Soc), a major academic gathering devoted to examining the future of societies shaped by artificial intelligence.



The event brought together junior and senior researchers from France and Japan, with diverse academic backgrounds. Building on the success of previous editions held in 2022, 2023 and 2025, this year's event helped to strengthen discussions around the creation of a joint publication, based on the exchanges from previous editions. The forum concluded with a public roundtable held at Sorbonne Université's Pierre et Marie Curie campus on 3 March, entitled "Understanding AI Developments and Their Impact on Society and the Economy: Insights from a Japan-EU Dialogue." The session offered an opportunity to share the main outcomes of the IAA+Soc initiative launched in 2019 by JST and FFJ.

Source: French-Japanese Foundation → <http://ffj.ehess.fr/>

Moderated by Sébastien Lechevalier, the discussion featured Raja Chatila, Mizuki Miura and Jun Kato, who highlighted both the differences and common ground between Japanese and European approaches to AI.

The panelists also underlined the importance of joint research on the legal, cultural, economic, and social impacts of AI, identifying these areas as central to understanding how emerging technologies are reshaping contemporary societies. Finally, they stressed the need to mobilize a broad range of stakeholders to develop tools in education, law, and international governance in order to mitigate potential negative effects while amplifying AI's positive contributions.

Those events confirm the growing strength of French-Japanese and Japan-EU cooperation in the field of AI.

HANAMI CONTRIBUTION TO HPCASIA

HANAMI participated in Supercomputing Asia / HPCAsia 2026, held in Osaka on 26-29 January 2026, strengthening its role in promoting long-term collaboration between Europe and Japan in high-performance computing (HPC).



During the conference, HANAMI hosted the session "HANAMI – Bridging Europe & Japan through High-Performance Computing", which showcased joint scientific projects led by European and Japanese teams. The session provided insights into the current and future directions of EU-Japan cooperation across HPC, artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing, climate and weather

modelling, materials sciences, and biomedical science, supported by contributions from the European Commission, MEXT, and EuroHPC.

"I am pleased by how strongly our HANAMI delegation contributed to EU-Japan collaboration. My warm thanks go to all HANAMI members and our colleagues for their fruitful contributions. With insights from the EC, MEXT, and EuroHPC, we now move forward



with renewed perspectives to shape the future roadmap. HANAMI is a team effort, and collaboration is our fuel," said France Boillod Cerneux, HANAMI coordinator.

Daniele Varsano (CNR-NANO) contributed to the invited session "HPC Alliance for Applications and Supercomputing Innovation", presenting the perspective of European research and collaboration in advanced computational science.

Source: INESC TEC → <https://hanami-project.com/2026/02/20/hanami-contribution-to-hpcasia-and-the-acm-asian-school-2026>

IURC COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE ENGAGE EU AND JAPAN

The second edition of the EU-funded International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC) programme has entered an intensive implementation phase in 2026, strengthening city-to-city and region-to-region cooperation between the EU and non-EU partners.



Cooperation is organised through Communities of Practice (CoPs) —thematic platforms coordinated by leading EU regions or cities— that bring together public authorities, industry, researchers, and universities. Each CoP will prepare a concrete Action Plan by the end of March, followed by advanced cooperation missions and stakeholder events to support implementation.

Several CoPs directly address innovation and industrial transformation, with strong engagement from Japanese prefectures and cities. The CoP on Industrial Transformation with AI, coordinated by Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, includes Aichi Prefecture and Hiroshima Prefecture working with EU partners on AI-driven industrial adaptation, skills development, and human-centric digital transformation.

In the CoP on Agriculture and Innovation, coordinated by Catalonia, Kyoto Prefecture collaborates with EU regions on smart farming, digitalisation, researcher-mobility initiatives, and diversified agrifood value chains, including traceability and innovative investment models.

The CoP on Hydrogen Market & Industry, led by Île-de-France, brings together Osaka Prefecture with partners from Europe, Korea, and Oceania to support hydrogen market creation and the joint preparation of proposals under EU Horizon research funding.

At the city level, Nagoya City participates in the CoP on Economy in Cities – Start-ups, Innovation Ecosystems and Branding, coordinated by Grenoble-Alpes Métropole, focusing on urban industrial modernisation, deep-tech start-ups, and global tech-event connectivity.

Osaka City engages in the CoP on Data-driven City & Digital Governance, coordinated by Barcelona Metropolitan Area, addressing data sharing, City OS, and public-private data governance. Kitakyushu City contributes to Mobility and Future Modalities, coordinated by Turin, advancing next-generation mobility, CCAM, robotics, and low-carbon transport.

In response to climate challenges, Kawasaki City and Kyoto City participate in the CoP on Climate Adaptation, coordinated by Valencia Region.

Together, these CoPs illustrate the growing depth and diversity of EU-Japan cooperation in innovation-led urban and regional transformation.

Source: IURC ➡ <https://www.iurc.eu>

JAPAN STUDY VISIT FOR SIP SMART MOBILITY PLATFORM

On 7-8 January 2026, the Dutch Cycling Embassy participated in a high-level study visit from Japan, as part of the SIP Smart Mobility Platform: a multi-year project that hopes to promote the use of bicycles as a core element of transportation infrastructure.



The delegation consisted of representatives from: the Cabinet Office, Keio University, Tohoku University, Oriental Consultants, and Mobility Innovation Alliance Japan.

International Relations Manager Chris Bruntlett joined the program, which included an exchange with the Technical University of Delft, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management and Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) in The Hague, and a walking tour of Utrecht followed by a meeting on future international cooperation in smart mobility.

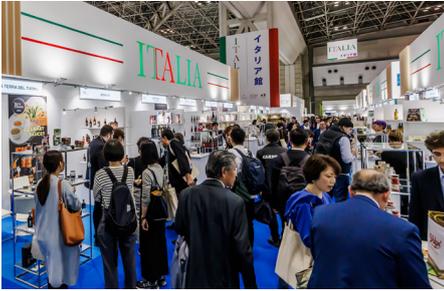


The Dutch Cycling Embassy hopes to continue this collaboration at a conference hosted by the Mobility Innovation Alliance in Tokyo later this year, followed by the 2027 Velo-city Conference in Ehime Prefecture.

Source: Dutch Cycling Embassy ➡ <https://dutchcycling.nl/knowledge/cycling-news/japan-study-visit-for-sip-smart-mobility-platform>

ITALY SHOWCASES ITS EXCELLENCE AT FOOD EX JAPAN

From 10 to 13 March 2026, Italy is once again taking centre stage at Foodex Japan, Asia's leading Food & Beverage trade fair, now in its 51st edition, held at Tokyo Big Sight.



The Italian participation is coordinated by the Trade Promotion Section of the Italian Embassy in Tokyo (ITA-Italian Trade Agency), underlining Italy's strategic commitment to the Japanese market. With approximately 2,930 exhibitors from over 74 countries and regions, Foodex Japan remains a benchmark event for the Asia-Pacific agri-food industry. Hosted in West Hall 2, the Italy Pavilion continues to stand out for its scale, visibility and strong institutional profile.

A total of 250 Italian companies is participating in the 2026 edition, 190 of them within the official Italian Pavilion, covering around 3,500 square meters. The Pavilion combines exhibition spaces with shared promotional and institutional areas, providing dedicated support services and facilitating high-level interaction between Italian producers and international professionals.

A wide-ranging communication and promotional plan accompany the initiative, including a digital catalogue of exhibitors, targeted advertising, promotional materials, interpretation services and B2B matchmaking through Foodex's official platform.

Throughout the four-day event, the Italy Pavilion is hosting a rich program of thematic promotional areas celebrating the diversity of Italian agri-food excellence.

Live cooking shows at Cucina Aperta highlight contemporary Italian cuisine, alongside dedicated spaces for Cheese, Gelato, Coffee, Pinsa and Panettone. Special attention is given to Italian rice, with a dedicated area developed in collaboration with Ente Nazionale Risi, following the official MASAF delegation, aimed at strengthening the visibility and positioning of Italian rice in Japan.

Italy's presence is further strengthened in the Foodex Wine area, where an institutional corner is set up for promotional and educational activities. The space is hosting daily mini-tastings featuring the wines of the exhibiting companies, aimed at introducing Italian wine quality and diversity to Japanese trade professionals.

Source: Italian Trade Agency Tokyo

➔ <https://foodexjapan.ice-tokyo.or.jp/2026>

ABRUZZO REGION MARKS 26 YEARS OF CULINARY EXCELLENCE AT FOOD EX JAPAN



The Abruzzo region continues its long-standing tradition of excellence in Japan, marking 26 consecutive years of participation at Foodex Japan. This year, a group of 22 companies represents the region, maintaining its status as the largest Italian regional group at the fair in recent years.



The delegation showcases the region's distinctive agri-food heritage, including Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, high-end pastry creations, premium extra virgin olive oil, traditional pasta and artisanal coffee. Alongside these established products, companies also introduced innovative and trendy snacks tailored to evolving consumer preferences, demonstrating Abruzzo's capacity to combine tradition with innovation.

Abruzzo's participation in Foodex Japan forms part of a broader internationalisation strategy promoted by the Abruzzo Chamber of Commerce system and the Regional Government, under the coordination of Agenzia di Sviluppo. The initiative aims to support SMEs in strengthening their presence in Japan and enhancing business cooperation between Italian and Japanese partners.

This strategy recently gained further visibility during Expo 2025 Osaka, where Abruzzo contributed to promoting Italian excellence and regional identity within the Italian Pavilion. Building on this momentum, the Abruzzo Chamber system and the Abruzzo Regional Government have developed a tourism promotion project in cooperation with JTB. This initiative aims to provide a comprehensive internationalisation plan for the entire region, integrating food exports with the promotion of Abruzzo as a premier travel destination for Japanese tourists.

Through a coordinated approach integrating trade fairs, institutional participation and tourism promotion, Abruzzo continues to consolidate its role as a dynamic bridge between Italy and Japan.

Source: Agenzia di Sviluppo - Azienda Speciale CCIAA di Chieti Pescara ➔ <https://agenziadisviluppo.net/>

GREECE SHOWCASES AGRI-FOOD COMPANIES AT FOOD EX JAPAN

Greece is participating with a National Pavilion at Foodex Japan 2026, held at Tokyo Big Sight from 10 to 13 March 2026. The Pavilion is organized by Enterprise Greece, the official Trade Promotion Organization of the Hellenic Republic.

The Greek Pavilion is hosting 15 companies from across the country, showcasing a broad range of distinctive food and beverage products that define Greek cuisine. The exhibits focus on premium olive products including extra virgin olive oil and table olives, as well as cheese, yogurt, honey, wine, beer, juices, herbs and spices, pasta, dips and spreads, nuts, antipasti, and processed and dried fruits. Together, the participating companies highlight the strength, heritage, and export orientation of Greece's agri-food sector, offering Japanese and international trade professionals the opportunity to discover authentic flavours and reliable partnerships. Source: Embassy of Greece in Japan

➔ <https://www.mfa.gr/missionsabroad/en/japan-en/news/greek-national-pavilion-in-foodex-japan-2026.html>

MADE IN ITALY REMAINS HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE TO JAPANESE FASHION BUYERS

Moda Italia February Edition - 2026-27 A/W Collections concluded in Tokyo, confirming the strong attractiveness of Made in Italy among Japanese and South Pacific fashion buyers.



The numbers speak for themselves:

- 117 Italian exhibitors: apparel section 63 brands, bag & leather goods section 39 brands, shoes section 15 brands
- 1,502 professional visitors representing 1,069 companies

Figures substantially in line with last year, in a context that is anything but simple, characterized by consumption volatility and the impact of the exchange rate.

Despite the significant depreciation of the yen, the quality, craftsmanship and creative value of Italian fashion continue to represent a point of reference for Japanese buyers, importers, distributors, retailers and department stores.

The market rewards products with identity, stylistic content and production reliability: exactly what Italian companies know how to offer.

Moda Italia thus confirms itself not only as a business platform, but as a strategic tool for the positioning of Made in Italy in one of the most demanding and sophisticated markets in the world.

Japan remains selective, competitive and complex. But when the product is authentic, well positioned and consistent with local taste, the market responds.

Source: Italian Trade Agency Tokyo ➔ <https://modaitalia.ice-tokyo.or.jp/>

"ITALIA, AMORE MIO!" MARKS ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY AT ROPPONGI HILLS

6-7 JUNE 2026, TOKYO, JAPAN

Tokyo's most beloved Italian celebration is back — and bigger than ever. "Italia, amore mio!" returns to Roppongi Hills for its tenth edition, marking a decade of bringing the best of Italy to the heart of Japan. The milestone year also coincides with the 160th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Italy and Japan, making this edition a doubly historic occasion.

Organized by the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ICCJ), the festival was first launched in 2016 to mark the 150th anniversary of the two countries' diplomatic ties. Since then, it has grown into the largest Italian festival in Japan, welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors and showcasing more than 200 Italian brands, including iconic names such as Ferrari, Maserati, Gucci, Barilla, and Vespa. On stage, it has hosted celebrated performers from both countries — among them Japanese stars Tomoyasu

Hotei, Yoshimoto Banana, and Tsuchiya Anna, alongside Italian artists such as Zuccherò, Emma Marrone, and Arisa.

For two days, 3,000 square metres of Roppongi Hills will be transformed into a vibrant Italian piazza. Visitors can look forward to a rich food court spotlighting regional Italian cuisine, a curated shopping area showcasing Made in Italy brands, live performances, cooking shows, talks, and concerts featuring internationally renowned artists from both nations. Admission is free and open to everyone.

The ICCJ, a non-profit organization based in Tokyo with 200 member companies, has been promoting cultural and commercial exchanges between Italy and Japan since 1972. "Italia, amore mio!" stands as the flagship expression of that mission — a joyful, open-door celebration of la dolce vita, right in the centre of Tokyo.

The event has free entry, so registration isn't required. The event contents will be uploaded to the homepage in the following months.

Source: Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan ➔ <https://italia-amore-mio.com/>



PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES



JAPANESE COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN THE EU ➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/een/opportunities>

REQUEST FOR SALES AGENT

Sector: e-health

Japanese SME offers in house developed cloud service for medical training on simulated vital sign monitor

Profile ID: **BOJP20260112008**



REQUEST FOR SALES AGENT

Sector: software

A Japanese company offers AI systems solutions to EU entities

Profile ID: **BOJP20250115003**

REQUEST FOR FRANCHISEES

Sector: restaurant, hospitality

Well-known Japanese fast-food chain specialized in curry aims to expand its EU presence

Profile ID: **BOJP20260219017**



ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK EVENTS

B2B OPPORTUNITIES FOR EU AND JAPANESE SMES ➔ <https://een.ec.europa.eu/events>

TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS COOPERATION DAYS 2026

20-23 April 2026 / 5-6 May 2026, hybrid, Germany

Sector: engineering, digital

Registration deadline: 24 April 2026



Enterprise Europe Network Niedersachsen is organizing the "Technology & Business Cooperation Days" B2B event alongside the Hannover Messe trade fair. The event

will be held with a hybrid format allowing both on site and online participants. This focuses on the leading innovations in various sectors such as: automation, smart manufacturing, AI, advanced engineering, energy systems...

➔ <https://www.b2match.com/e/technology-business-cooperation-days-2026>

DMEA BUSINESS MEETINGS 2026

20-24 April 2026, hybrid, Germany

Sector: e-health

Registration deadline: 24 April 2026

The Enterprise Europe Network Berlin-Brandenburg is organizing the international partnering event "DMEA Business Meetings" taking place at the Exhibition Grounds Berlin (22 April) and online (20-24, 2026). As part of DMEA, Europe's leading industry event for healthcare IT, the regional health cluster "HealthCapital" and the local Enterprise Europe Network offer a range of activities.

➔ <https://www.b2match.com/e/dmea-2026>

OPD2026 MATCHMAKING

26-28 May 2026, Paviljonki, Finland

Sector: optics, photonics

Registration deadline: 28 May 2026



Optics and Photonics Days (OPD) is an annual central event in optics and photonics in Finland, and the largest yearly photonics event in the Nordic countries. OPD2026 offers a unique opportunity to learn from interesting presentations from academy and industry, network with companies, students and researchers and explore products and services at the exhibition.

➔ <https://www.b2match.com/e/opd2026matchmaking>

ILA 2026 MATCHMAKING

10-12 June 2026, Schönefeld, Germany

Sector: aerospace

Registration deadline: 12 June 2026



Within the frame of ILA Berlin 2026, the leading international aerospace trade fair, EEN Berlin-Brandenburg will host the ILA 2026 Matchmaking, the official B2B matchmaking event that connects

companies, research institutions, and suppliers from across Europe and beyond.

➔ <https://www.b2match.com/e/ilaconnectandmeet2026>



DATE/LOCATION	DETAILS	CONTACTS
16-19 Mar 2026 Tokyo, Japan	BUSINESS MISSION Green Business Mission	https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/green-mission
17 March 2026	WEBINAR Policy webinar - Current status and challenges of the circular economy: Toward a growth-oriented resource-autonomous economy	https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DzCHwc2vQaaljhlzOR05hg#/registration
31 March 2026	WEBINAR 'About Japan' webinar series 269: Green Ammonia Market in Japan	https://www.eu-japan.eu/eubusinessinjapan/events
7-11 October 2026 Tokyo, Japan	BUSINESS MISSION Biotech Business Mission Application starts in April - Deadline: 11 June 2026	https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-mission
15-18 October 2026 Tokyo, Japan	BUSINESS MISSION Digital Business Mission Application starts in April - Deadline: 11 June 2026	https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/digital-mission

FORTHCOMING 'ABOUT JAPAN' WEBINAR SERIES

The EU Business in Japan staff is preparing a new series of 'About Japan' webinars. Stay tuned for more information about business opportunities in Japan for EU companies.

In the meanwhile, please have a look at past webinars recordings and released expert reports (over 500) covering various industrial sectors, local regulations, Japanese business culture and the EU-Japan EPA.

All available for free at: ➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/eubusinessinjapan>



DO YOU KNOW THE EU-JAPAN CENTRE'S THEMATIC NEWSLETTERS?

- "EU-Japan NEWS"

the flagship newsletter of the EU-Japan Centre since 2003.

- "About Japan e-News"

a monthly release on business-related information about Japan.

- "Japan Tax and Public Procurement Weekly Tender Digest"

a weekly summary of select-ed Japanese public tender notices.

- "Japanese Policy and Regulatory Developments Newsletter"

a monthly review of key developments in Japanese industry and government policy.

Interested? Subscribe here: ➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/newsletter>

- "Japanese Economic and Business Weekly Newsletter"

a weekly screening of various Japanese sources such as newspapers, policy documents, surveys, and official statements.

- "Japanese Technology & Innovation Monitoring Watch"

a quarterly series, presenting concise overview of key technological developments in Japan.

- "EU-Japan Innovation & Technology Cooperation Helpdesk Newsletter"

a quarterly release covering tech transfer-related news.

ANY EU-JAPAN-RELATED NEWS?

Feel free to contact us if you would like your EU-Japan-related news/event to be announced in our forthcoming newsletter: newsletter@eu-japan.eu

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The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation is co-funded by the European Union and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union, the METI or the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA). Neither the European Union nor METI, nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



EU-Japan Centre
for Industrial Cooperation
一般財団法人 日欧産業協力センター

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation was established in 1987 as a core organization to implement industrial cooperation between the EU and Japan. It aims at promoting all forms of industrial, trade and investment cooperation between the EU and Japan and at improving EU and Japanese companies' competitiveness and cooperation by facilitating exchanges of experience and know-how between EU and Japanese businesses.

This quarterly newsletter is produced by the EU-based office of the EU-Japan Centre, and is intended to provide EU/Japan-related news.



Co-funded by
the European Union