

# POLITICAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM



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The promotion of closer working relations between Japan's leaders and their overseas counterparts through political exchange has long been a core element of JCIE's activities. The Political Exchange Program dates back to 1968, when the first U.S.-Japan Parliamentary Exchange brought eight Congressional members to Tokyo for an unprecedented program of meetings and discussion sessions with leading Japanese political and social figures. In the ensuing years, JCIE broadened its programs, establishing additional exchanges for young political leaders from Japan and the United States (1973), for senior U.S. Congressional staff (1982), and for young Australian and Japanese political leaders (1991). To date, nearly 1,000 individual political leaders have taken part in one or more of these exchange programs.

While the initial emphasis of these exchanges was generally on deepening mutual understanding and building bilateral networks of leaders, dramatic changes in the international and domestic environment have encouraged JCIE to increasingly stress the objective of offering political leaders the opportunity for dialogue on common challenges. This evolution has been accompanied by a significant expansion in the role of Japanese politicians in policymaking that has made political exchange even more meaningful.

Also, in response to the growing needs of political leaders for broader networks and new sources of information, JCIE has further expanded its programs to include frequent study meetings for Diet members with visiting foreign leaders and other experts. It has also increasingly involved political leaders in many of its study and dialogue projects, particularly the younger generation of Diet members and other politicians who are now gaining influence and who have limited experience with substantive international exchange and dialogue.

## U.S.-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program

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The U.S.-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program was initiated in 1968, making it the longest-running exchange of its kind. The annual weeklong exchange visits of Japanese and American parliamentary delegations at the core of this program typically consist of a series of high-level meetings, briefings, and working sessions with leaders from diverse sectors of society. In response to the evolving needs of political leaders, this program has continued to become more substantive in nature, shifting in focus from purely bilateral relations to the regional and global role of the U.S.-Japan partnership. For example, in 1997, JCIE initiated the Joint Parliamentary Study and Dialogue Project on U.S.-Japan Security Relations in Asia Pacific in order to promote a deeper understanding of the bilateral security relationship among members of Congress and the Diet.

#### *25th U.S. Congressional Delegation to Japan*

The six members of the 25th U.S. Congressional Delegation visited Japan on March 24–30, 2002, and exchanged views with over 30 Diet members, including the top leaders of the three largest political parties—Taku Yamasaki (secretary-general of the Liberal Democratic Party), Naoto Kan (secretary-general of the Democratic Party of Japan), and Tetsuzo Fuyushiba (secretary-general of the New Komeito)—as well as former Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata. U.S. Ambassador Howard Baker, Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi, and high-ranking Ministry of Foreign Affairs offi-

cial spoke with the delegation about Japan's foreign policy, U.S.-Japan relations, and regional security issues. In addition, Economy Minister Heizo Takenaka, senior Ministry of Economy and Trade (METI) officials, and several Japanese corporate leaders and entrepreneurs met with the delegates to discuss Japan's economic outlook and issues related to information technology. One of the high points of the program was a public symposium, cosponsored by the Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs (Keizai Koho Center), where the delegates shared their views with an audience of almost 200 opinion leaders in a lively panel discussion on "Political and Economic Developments in the United States after September 11."

#### **Participants:**

Rep. Rick Boucher (*D-VA*)

Rep. Bob Etheridge (*D-NC*)

Sen. Paul Sarbanes (*D-MD*)

Rep. Cliff Stearns (*R-FL*)

Rep. Greg Walden (*R-OR*)

Rep. Lynn Woolsey (*D-CA*)

#### *Study Group for Young Members of the Diet*

Since 1997, as part of the Joint Parliamentary Study and Dialogue Project on U.S.-Japan Security Relations in Asia Pacific, JCIE has organized multiparty study groups of young, emerging Diet members that meet with leading foreign experts from the fields of academia, policy, government, business, and media in order to enhance their understanding of international affairs. In FY2001 and FY2002, meetings were held with such notable leaders



## U.S.-Japan Congressional Staff Exchange Program

as Ambassador Howard Baker (former U.S. Senate majority leader; former White House chief of staff), William Cohen (former U.S. secretary of defense), Ambassador Thomas Foley (former ambassador to Japan; former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives), Ambassador Richard Haass (State Department policy planning director), and Ezra Vogel (professor, Harvard University).

### U.S.-Japan Congressional Staff Exchange Program

In recognition of the vital role that Congressional staff play in the U.S. legislative and policy processes, JCIE established the U.S. Congressional Staff Exchange in 1982 with the intention of helping them gain a greater understanding of Japan's policymaking process and the current social, political, and economic trends. The participants, typically senior staff in the fields of security, economics, and foreign policy, take part in an intensive one-week study program that involves meetings and briefings with a wide range of experts. Over its two-decade history, 127 staffers serving Congressional members from both parties have visited Japan on this program, bringing their heightened understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship and the politics of Japanese policymaking back to their work in the U.S. Congress.

Seven participants in the 17th U.S. Congressional Staff Exchange visited Tokyo during the week of February 17-24, 2002. Highlights of their visit included a meeting with Minister Gen Nakatani, head of the Defense Agency, and a roundtable discussion—the first of its kind—with 21 Diet policy

staffers from almost all of the major Japanese parties. The discussion focused on similarities and differences in the U.S. and Japanese legislative policy advice systems. In addition, they served as speakers for a panel discussion on political and economic development in the United States after September 11. The event, which was cosponsored with the Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs (Keizai Koho Center), attracted an audience of more than 200 political, business, and NGO leaders.

#### Participants:

**Deana Funderburk**, *Policy Assistant to House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-TX)*

**Mandy Kenney**, *Deputy Legislative Director to Representative Mike Thompson (D-CA)*

**Brian MacDonald**, *Chief of Staff to Representative Greg Walden (R-OR)*

**Erik Raven**, *Legislative Assistant to Senator Robert C. Byrd for Foreign Policy, Defense, and Veterans (D-WV)*

**Ronald Reese**, *Director of External Affairs to Chairman John Boehner (R-OH)*

**Todd Rosenblum**, *Legislative Assistant to Senator Evan Bayh (D-IN)*

**Lawrence Willcox**, *Tax Counsel to Senator Jon Kyl (R-AZ)*

## U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

### U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

Since 1973, the U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program has been jointly operated by JCIE and the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL). This intensive two-week study program is designed to expose young political leaders from each country to the political, social, and economic conditions of the other country, enhance their understanding and appreciation of U.S.-Japan relations, and create personal networks among the two nations' leaders. In addition to visiting the host nation's capitol for meetings with national leaders, participants travel to at least two additional cities to gain a more diverse perspective on the host country. During the course of the program, delegates meet with a wide range of senior government officials, political party representatives, industry executives, and community leaders. American delegates typically include state and local elected officials as well as staff members, and equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans are selected each year. The Japanese delegates primarily consist of Diet staffers and prefectural and local elected officials from the ruling and opposition parties.

From April 22 to May 3, 2001, an eight-member delegation from Japan visited Washington, D.C., Oklahoma, and southern California, meeting with Congressional members and state legislators as well as a diverse group of local leaders, including representatives of the Chicksaw Nation and nonprofit executives involved in promoting electronic government. Later in the year, nine American leaders visited Tokyo, Okayama, and rural

Kagawa prefecture for a series of meetings and briefings from leaders such as Taku Yamasaki (secretary-general of the Liberal Democratic Party) and Okayama Governor Masahiro Ishii.

In June 2002, members of the 17th Japanese delegation were briefed on Congressional operations by Representative Greg Walden (R-OR), a 1991 delegate, and discussed U.S.-Japan relations with prominent Japan expert Ezra Vogel (professor emeritus, Harvard University) during the course of their travels through Washington, D.C., Boston, Montana, and San Francisco.

A reciprocal American delegation then traveled to Tokyo, Hachioji, Nagoya, and Kyoto over the course of a two-week visit that included meetings with 13 Diet members, a lunch with former U.S. Speaker of the House Tom Foley, and a roundtable discussion with Diet policy staff on the role of legislative staff in the policymaking process. The participants also served as speakers at a public panel discussion on the U.S. midterm elections before an audience of more than 100 opinion leaders.

#### *16th Japanese Delegation to the U.S. (April 22–May 3, 2001)*

*Masayuki Chikazawa, Assistant to  
Representative Motohisa Furukawa*  
*Naoki Furukawa, Yokohama City Council*  
*Keiko Hirata, Utazu Town Council*  
*Aki Nagao, Japan Initiative*  
*Keiichi Oda, Okayama Prefectural Assembly*  
*Akira Ohmatsu, Komei Shimbun*  
*Hideaki Takeuchi, House of Councillors  
Members' Caucus Deputy Manager*  
*Yasuji Yamaoka, LDP Professional Staff  
Member, Party Organization Bureau*



## U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

### 20th U.S. Delegation to Japan (November 4–15, 2001)

**Charles Dusseau**, *Delegation Leader, Chairman of the Miami-Dade Democratic Party (Democrat)*

**Sailaja Cherukuri**, *Deputy Director, Legislative and Regulatory Review for the California State Department of Consumer Affairs (Democrat)*

**Gabriele Forsyth**, *Director of Operations, National Republican Congressional Committee (Republican)*

**H. Renee Howell**, *Director of Federal Affairs, Brandon Associates, LLC, Boston (Republican)*

**Colleen M. Jordan**, *Member, City Council of Redwood City, California (Republican)*

**Neal Morrison**, *Member, Alabama House of Representatives (Democrat)*

**Andrea Nuciforo**, *Member, Massachusetts State Senate (Democrat)*

**Gene Ransom**, *Executive Board Member of the Maryland Democratic Party (Democrat)*

**Corey Stapleton**, *Member, Montana State Senate (Republican)*

### 17th Japanese Delegation to the U.S. (June 15–28, 2002)

**Shuhei Chiba**, *Member, Hachioji City Council, Tokyo, Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ)*

**Keiko Iizuka**, *Professional Staff Member, Public Relations Committee (DPJ)*

**Takeo Iwaki**, *Assistant Chief, Political News Division, Komei Shimbun (New Komeito)*

**Michiko Kobayashi**, *Assistant to Shozo Azuma, Member of the House of Representatives, Liberal Party*

**Yuki Kono**, *Assistant to Hakubun Shimomura, Member of the House of Representatives, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)*

**Yaeko Machida**, *Professional Staff Member, Election Strategy Headquarters (LDP)*

**Yoshiki Minezaki**, *Assistant to Naoki Minezaki, Member of the House of Councillors (DPJ)*

**Toshihiro Usami**, *Professional Staff Member, Party Organization Bureau (LDP)*

### 21st U.S. Delegation to Japan (November 9–22, 2002)

**Andrew Ketchings**, *Delegation Leader, Member, Mississippi House of Representatives (Republican)*

**Vanessa Kraemer**, *Program Officer, American Council of Young Political Leaders (Democrat)*

**Thomas McCarthy**, *Member, City Council, Bridgeport, Connecticut (Democrat)*

**Damon Porter**, *Chief of Staff, Office of the Speaker of the House, State of Missouri (Democrat)*

**Kasim Reed**, *Member, Georgia House of Representatives (Democrat)*

**Jennifer Cowen**, *District Director, Office of Congressman Ed Royce, California (Republican)*

**Howard Mills**, *Member, New York State Assembly (Republican)*

**Robert Stivers**, *Member, Commonwealth of Kentucky Senate (Republican)*

## Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

### Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

In 1991, JCIE and the Australian Political Exchange Council launched the Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program in order to build a network among the next generation of leaders in both countries and promote bilateral dialogue. In the first 13 years of the program, 161 participants have visited their counterparts' country for briefings and discussions with political, business, non-profit, and opinion leaders.

The 11th Australian delegation visited Japan from May 27 to June 5, 2001, holding discussions in Tokyo with some of Japan's leading political figures, including Taku Yamasaki (secretary-general of the Liberal Democratic Party), and Takenori Kanzaki (chief representative of the New Komeito Party). They then traveled to Kobe, where they studied the city's recovery plan after the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. The Australian delegation visit was followed later in the year by the visit of five Diet members to Sydney and Canberra to meet with a wide range of leaders, including Alexander Downer, MP (minister for foreign affairs), Neil Andrew (speaker of the House of Representatives), John Anderson, MP (deputy prime minister and leader of the National Party), and John Faulkner (leader of the opposition in the Senate).

In the summer of 2002, a seven-member Australian delegation traveled to Japan and met with numerous Diet members, including the top leadership of the major political parties, for briefings on Japanese politics and discussions of foreign policy, common security issues, and shared social challenges. Later in

the week, they moved from Tokyo to Miyazaki Prefecture to discuss a variety of issues of common concern with local leaders, including the outbreak of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad-cow disease). A reciprocal Japanese delegation visited Canberra and Sydney in February 2003, where the participants exchanged views on security policy toward Iraq and North Korea with Australian cabinet ministers and senior leaders from a variety of sectors.

#### *11th Australian Delegation to Japan (May 27–June 5, 2001)*

**Christopher Pyne, MP**, *Delegation Leader; Federal Member for Sturt, South Australia (Liberal Party)*

**Gerald Anderson**, *Member of the National Party Central Council; Accounting Financial Manager, Commonwealth Treasury (National Party)*

**Christine Briton**, *Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council*

**Diane Brown**, *Policy Adviser to Senator Stephen Conroy; Federal Shadow Minister for Financial Services and Regulation (Australian Labor Party)*

**Margaret Keech, MP**, *Queensland Member for Albert (Australian Labor Party)*

**Nerina Lewis**, *Vice President of Winthrop Branch of the Liberal Party (Liberal Party)*

**Mark McGowan, MLA**, *Western Australia Member for Rockingham (Australian Labor Party)*

**Michael Quinlivan**, *President of Subiaco Branch of the Liberal Party; Director of Transaction Services, PricewaterhouseCoopers (Liberal Party)*

**Jacklyn Trad**, *Policy Adviser to the Queensland Minister for Education (Australian Labor Party)*

## Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

### *9th Japanese Delegation to Australia (August 5–12, 2001)*

*Hiroyuki Sonoda, Delegation Leader,  
Member, House of Representatives (LDP)*

*Motohisa Furukawa, Member, House of  
Representatives (DPJ)*

*Taro Kono, Member, House of  
Representatives (LDP)*

*Seiji Maehara, Member, House of  
Representatives (DPJ)*

*Hakubun Shimomura, Member, House of  
Representatives (LDP)*

*Koji Matsui, Member, House of Councillors  
(DPJ)*

*Yoichi Miyazawa, Member, House of  
Representatives (LDP)*

*Masamitsu Naito, Member, House of  
Councillors (DPJ)*

*Osamu Yamauchi, Member, House of  
Representatives (DPJ)*

### *12th Australian Delegation to Japan (July 28–August 6, 2002)*

*Catherine King MP, Delegation Leader,  
Federal Member for Ballarat (Australian  
Labor Party)*

*Brer Adams, Adviser to the South Australian  
Minister for Environment and  
Conservation (Australian Labor Party)*

*Andrew Bibb, Campaign and Policy  
Manager, Queensland National Party  
(National Party)*

*Michael Keenan, Adviser to the Federal  
Minister for Family and Community  
Services (Liberal Party)*

*John-Paul Langbroek, Chairman of Surfers  
Paradise Branch (Liberal Party)*

*Chris Pearce MP, Federal Member for Aston  
(Liberal Party)*

*Rita Saffioti, Principal Policy Adviser to the  
Premier of Western Australia (Australian  
Labor Party)*

### *10th Japanese Delegation to Australia (February 9–14, 2003)*

*Norihisa Tamura, Delegation Leader,  
Member, House of Representatives (LDP)*

*Yasushi Kaneko, Member, House of  
Representatives (LDP)*