



SPEAKERS

Souichirou KOZUKA, Gakushuin University, Tokyo

Mai ISHIJIMA, Goethe University Frankfurt

Masanori WAKITA, Tohoku University, Sendai

CHAIRS

Moritz BÄLZ, Goethe University Frankfurt

Ruth EFFINOWICZ, Max Planck Institute for Comparative and
International Private Law, Hamburg

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Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law Hamburg
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The institute is 20 minutes by taxi from the airport and five minutes walking
distance from the railway station Hamburg-Dammtor, where most long-
distance trains stop.

**2026 marks the Institute's
100th anniversary**



Current Developments in Japanese Law

CASHLESS PAYMENTS, M&A LAW, JOINT PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY IN JAPANESE LAW

27 February 2026



FRIDAY, 27 February 2026

Every spring the Centre of Expertise on Japan organizes a symposium on “Current Developments in Japanese Law”. Speakers from Japan, often guests at the Institute, will provide an overview of upcoming legislative projects, new supreme court decisions and current topics of legal discussion in Japan.

With contributions on legal issues concerning cashless payments, M&A Law development and joint parental responsibility, a wide range of topics has been prepared again this year.

Program

- 3:00 p.m.** **Welcome remarks**
Ruth Effinowicz
- 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Going Cashless with B to B (Interfirm) Payment:
Expulsion of Promissory Notes by the
Government's Initiatives
Souichirou Kozuka
- 3:30 – 4:00 p.m. M&A Law Development in Japan
Masanori Wakita
- 4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Discussion
Chair: *Moritz Bälz*
- 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.** **Coffee break**
- 5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Introducing Optional Joint Parental Responsibility:
Background and Institutional Preparation
Mai Ishijima
- 5:30 – 5:45 p.m. Discussion
Chair: *Ruth Effinowicz*
- 5:45 p.m.** **Closing remarks**



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