



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

Office of Communications  
53-70 Jingumae 5-chome  
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925  
www.unu.edu

## PRESS INVITATION

11 February 2014 • PRE-14-04

Contact:  
**Aska Maki**  
03-5467-1212  
media@unu.edu

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### UNU CONVERSATION SERIES:

## “International Economic Institutions: What Are They Good For?”

**DATE + TIME:** Monday, 17 February 2014, 6:30–7:30 PM (a reception/buffet will follow)

**VENUE:** 2F Reception Hall, United Nations University Headquarters, Tokyo

**ORGANIZER:** United Nations University (UNU)

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You are cordially invited to attend a conversation with award-winning author and acclaimed journalist **Paul Blustein** on the topic “International Economic Institutions: What Are They Good For?” Blustein’s three-decade career as a leading international economics correspondent for *Forbes*, *The Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Post* provides him with an unmatched perspective on the history and trajectory of the global economic and financial landscape.

This event will start from 6:30 PM on 17 February at UNU Headquarters in Tokyo. Blustein will join UNU Rector **David M. Malone** to look at the principal economic and financial institutions meant to be guiding and managing global economic cooperation, and preventing systemic shocks (which manifestly failed in recent years). Their discussion will focus on the International Monetary Fund, G-20 and Financial Stability Board, but also touch on other international economic organizations as well as on contemporary strains in emerging economies and on the unfinished business of the European Union’s recovery.

For those wishing to understand the global financial system and the institutions that govern (or fail to govern) it, Blustein’s is an essential voice. As an author of four books, he has consistently excelled at leveraging his in-depth, behind-the-scenes reporting to distill complex economic issues into approachable narratives for both expert and non-expert audiences.

The UNU Conversation Series aims to foster audience participation: you are encouraged to engage with the speakers during the conversation, and at the reception that will follow, where all audience members are cordially invited to enjoy the food and drinks that will be served while exchanging ideas and making new contacts.

Please note that this event will be in English only; no Japanese interpretation will be provided. Advance registration is required. For further details, or to register to attend, please see the event announcement on the UNU website (<http://unu.edu/events/upcoming/international-economic-institutions-what-are-they-good-for.html>).

### About the speaker

Paul Blustein has written about economic issues for more than thirty years, first as a reporter at leading news organizations and later as the author of several critically acclaimed books. He is currently affiliated with the Centre for International Governance Innovation and the Brookings Institution. Blustein’s reporting and research have taken him to more than forty countries on six continents. He lives in Kamakura, Japan.