



**United Nations
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PRESS INVITATION

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UNU Seminar Will Explore the Evolution of Japanese Policy and Practice

EVENT: UNU-ISP Seminar

THEME: "International Peace Cooperation: Evolution of Japanese Policy and Practice"

DATE: Friday, 2 November 2012, 2:00-5:00 PM

VENUE: Elizabeth Rose Conference Hall, United Nations University Headquarters, Tokyo

ORGANIZER: United Nations University Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP)

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- The UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace has long been monitoring the developing debate on the Japanese role in peace operations abroad.
 - Since Japan's participation in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) peacekeeping mission in the early 1990s, the debate has been zigzagging between extremes: a purely pacifist position of non-engagement abroad, and a demand to re-interpret Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution (which "renounce[s] war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes) so as to allow a larger Japanese participation, including with self-defense forces.
 - This intent of this seminar is to bring together policymakers, academics and observers to inform and discuss about the latest tendencies in this still-ongoing debate. Japanese government policymakers and practitioners will offer the diplomatic corps and the public an overview of Japan's changing international peace cooperation activities, as well as review the implications of those activities with international observers.
 - The seminar will feature keynote presentations by Reiichiro Takahashi (Director-General, International Peace Cooperation Headquarters, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan) and Nobushige Takamizawa (President, National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense, Government of Japan).
 - The keynote presentations will be followed by a panel discussion; panelists Kiyohiko Toyama (Member, Diet of Japan (Komeito)) and Naoto Sakaguchi (Member, Diet of Japan (DPJ); member of the Foreign Affairs Committee), will be moderated by Prof. Sukehiro Hasegawa (Hosei University).
 - This seminar will be in English only; there will be no Japanese interpretation.

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend. To register, please visit <http://unu.edu/?p=29607>. For more information, please contact Dr. Vesselin Popovski (UNU-ISP) at popovski@unu.edu.

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