Governance and Competitiveness in an Age of Innovation

Exploring challenges and opportunities for Franco-Japanese cooperation

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Address: Ifri – 27 rue de la Procession, 75015 Paris, France

Concept note: The onset of the digital age has already transformed social interaction, political organization and the way business is conducted. Technological innovation from automation to artificial intelligence (AI) and beyond suggests that we are only be at the beginning of a deep and rapid transformation that will inevitably have sweeping societal consequences. In such a transformational landscape, many countries are looking to adjust public policies and industrial strategies in order to ensure a competitive economic edge in such a context. Meanwhile, the challenge of governance in ensuring that technological progress is made in service of the broader public interest is one that all governments inevitably face. How to manage the low-carbon energy transition can provide a useful topic for discussion on many of the broader forces at play.

14:30 – 15:45 Governing technological innovation in an era of rapid change and rising uncertainty
- The challenge of governance in an era of rapid technological innovation - the examples of energy, space and AI
  o Hideaki Shiroyama, Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy (GraSPP), the University of Tokyo
- The challenges and opportunities of technological change and innovation as seen from Europe and France – the example of digitalization
  o Dominique Guellec, Head of Division, Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD
- Chair: Francoise Nicolas, Director, Center for Asian Studies, Ifri

Coffee break 15:45–16:00

16:00 – 17:15 Managing the energy transition in an age of innovation
- Presentations on guiding principles for and challenges in managing the low-carbon energy transition in Japan, China, France and the European Union, with presentations from:
  o Hisashi Yoshikawa, Research Director, Canon Institute for Global Studies (CIGS) and Project Professor, Policy Alternative Research Institute (PARI), the University of Tokyo
  o Fengjun Duan, Senior Research Fellow, Canon Institute for Global Studies (CIGS)
  o Michel Cruciani, Associate Research Fellow, Ifri Center for Energy, and Senior Advisor at the Centre of Geopolitics of Energy and Raw Materials (CGEMP), University Paris-Dauphine
- Chair: Marc-Antoine Ely-Mazzega, Director, Center for Energy, Ifri