

# 2<sup>nd</sup> EU JAPAN DIGITAL WEEK 2026



23 March - 30 March 2026  
Tokyo, Japan

*The EU-Japan Digital Week is organised as part of the EU-Japan Digital Partnership*

## Advancing EU–Japan Digital Cooperation: Insights from the Week and Next Steps

- **Date:** Thursday, 26 March
- **Time:** 12:30-15:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Delegation of the European Union to Japan](#)
- **Organiser:** Dr. Svetlana Klessova, G.A.C Group, INPACE, France
- **Co-Organiser:** Adam Kapovits, Eurescom, INPACE, Germany
- **Summary:** A full week of thematic events across Tokyo on semiconductors, AI for societal good, cybersecurity, digital diplomacy, standardisation, and more converges in one 2.5-hour closing session. Whether you attended individual events during the week or are joining for the first time, this is the moment to connect the dots!

What to expect:

- Lead organisers will briefly share key takeaways from the week's thematic events: concise, cross-cutting, and accessible to all.
- Hackathon finalist teams will deliver live 6-minute pitches on interoperable digital public infrastructure solutions bridging the EU and Japan. The jury will select winners on the spot, with the top teams earning the right to present at the final INPACE event in Brussels in 2027!
- EURAXESS will present European funding opportunities for researchers and innovators in Japan, fostering stronger and deeper digital collaboration.
- An open panel will bring together event organisers and participants for questions and forward-looking discussion.
- Dedicated networking time will take place before and after the programme.

This session is designed for learning across topics, making new connections, and understanding what comes next in EU-Japan digital cooperation.

**Don't miss the finale.** This is where the week comes together. See the future in action: teams from Europe and the Indo-Pacific demonstrate how a single digital identity could work seamlessly from Tokyo to Brussels. Get the sharpest insights from the entire Digital Week distilled into five-minute briefings per event.

Join a forward-looking panel that asks the question that matters most: what comes next for EU-Japan digital cooperation?

Already attended specific events during the week? There is more here. Have not attended any? This is the one session that gives you the full picture.

Whether you are a policymaker, a researcher, an innovator, a startup founder, or simply someone who believes that Europe and Japan can build something better together: this session is designed for you. Come to learn. Stay for the conversation, the exchanges, and the connections!

## Agenda

### 12.30 - 12.40 – Opening Remarks

- Peter Fatelnig, Minister-Counsellor for Digital Economy Policy, Delegation of the European Union to Japan
- Jana Vinkel, International Relations Officer, International Affairs and Policy Outreach, DG CNECT, Belgium

### 12.40 - 12.45 – Introduction

- Dr. Svetlana Klessova, Director, Research and Innovation Partnerships, G.A.C. Group, France

### 12.45 - 13.45 – Bridging Digital Worlds: Live Hackathon Stories on How Data Spaces and Public Infrastructure Impact Everyday Life

- Moderator: Dr. Franck Le Gall, CEO, EGM, France
- Jury:
  - Prof. Kazuma Hatano, University of Tokyo
  - Dr. Masaru Dobashi, IPA (Information-technology Promotion Agency)
  - Ann Molin, Founder & Secretary General, Hack for Earth Foundation
  - Martin Chatel, Chief Policy Officer, ETSI
  - Dr. Rossen Apostolov, Director, Mimer - Sweden's AI Innovation Factory | National Academic Infrastructure for Supercomputing in Sweden

Hackathon finalist teams will deliver live 6-minute pitches on interoperable digital public infrastructure solutions bridging the EU and Japan. The top teams will earn the opportunity to present at the final INPACE event in Brussels in 2027, with one ticket for a team member covered by the INPACE budget. In addition, HackforEarth will provide acceleration support, with up to two teams selected.

### 13.45 - 14.30 – Key takeaways and highlights from the EU-Japan Digital Week events (5-7 minutes per person, presented by the respective event organisers, followed by a 15-minute Q&A)

- **Semiconductors** - Dr. Francis Balestra, Director of Research, CNRS, France
- **Policy** - Dr. Raluca Csernatoni, Professor, Brussels School of Governance, Belgium

- **EU and Japan tech business offers** – Jana Vinkel, International Relations Officer, International Affairs and Policy Outreach, DG CNECT, Belgium
- **Standardisation** – Igor Minaev, Director of External Relations, ETSI, France
- **AI4Good cooperation** - Dr. Rossen Apostolov, Director AI Innovation Factory Mimer, NAISS, Sweden

#### **14.30 - 14.45 – Forward-looking panel: EU-Japan digital cooperation beyond 2026**

- Moderator: Dr. Svetlana Klessova, Director, Research and Innovation Partnerships, G.A.C. Group, France
- Speakers:
  - Dr. Francis Balestra, Director of Research, CNRS, France
  - Dr. Raluca Csernaton, Professor, Brussels School of Governance, Belgium
  - Jana Vinkel, International Relations Officer, International Affairs and Policy Outreach, DG CNECT, Belgium
  - Martin Chatel, Chief Policy Officer, ETSI, Belgium
  - Dr. Rossen Apostolov, Director AI Innovation Factory Mimer, NAISS, Sweden

#### **14.45 - 14.55 – Horizon Europe Funding Opportunities for Japanese and European Researchers and Innovators**

- Introduction: Adam Kapovits, Programme Manager, Eurescom, Germany
- Presenter: Dr. Judit Erika Magyar, Country Representative, EURAXESS Japan

#### **14.55 - 15.00 – Closing remarks**

- Peter Fatelnig, Minister-Counsellor for Digital Economy Policy, Delegation of the European Union to Japan

#### **15.00 - 16.00 – Coffee and networking**