

2nd 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

Overview

The EU-Japan Digital Week is the annual flagship event of the EU-Japan Digital Partnership. Launched in 2022 and under ministerial leadership, this partnership is a flexible cooperation instrument that goes beyond dialogue and exchange of information between Japan and the EU with the view to deliver concrete deliverables in line with our respective priorities for a digital economy and society.

This year's edition will focus on advancing collaboration in emerging and disruptive technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI), semiconductors, quantum computing, and high-performance computing, while addressing critical challenges in digital infrastructure, standardisation, and cross-border interoperability. Through thematic workshops, high-level dialogues, and hands-on training sessions, participants will explore opportunities for joint research, innovation, and policy alignment to foster a secure, resilient, and human-centric digital future. Special emphasis will be placed on AI for societal good, trusted data spaces, cybersecurity, and the role of digital diplomacy in shaping international tech governance. This in-person event will also feature a hackathon, stakeholder roundtables, and capacity-building initiatives to strengthen the EU-Japan Digital Partnership's impact in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond.



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

Schedule

FRIDAY, 20 MARCH - SATURDAY, 21 MARCH (PRE-WEEK HACKATHON)

Hackathon on Interoperability of Digital Public Infrastructure

- **Time:** 13:00 - 20:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Openstudio, iii UTokyo](#), B1F iii Main Building, The University of Tokyo 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan
- **Organiser:** Dr. Franck Le Gall, EGM, INPACE, France
- **Co-organiser:** Prof. Noboru Koshizuka, The University of Tokyo, Japan
- **Summary:** The 2026 Hackathon on Interoperability of Digital Public Infrastructure invites innovators to Tokyo to advance the EU-Japan Digital Partnership and the G7 Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT) framework. Building on the success of the Bengaluru edition, this event challenges cross-regional teams from the EU, Japan, and the Indo-Pacific to develop seamless, regulatory-compliant prototypes that bridge the European Digital Identity (EUDI) framework with Japan's digital identity ecosystem and other foundational systems like MOSIP. Participants will gain exclusive access to a managed dataspace testbed pre-configured with Gaia-X and NGSI-LD connectors, allowing them to focus on solving complex cross-border identity and data sovereignty challenges. Supported by technical experts, the competition offers winning teams the prestigious opportunity to present their solutions at the final INPACE event in Brussels in 2027.

TUESDAY, 24 MARCH

Semiconductor Workshop: “Japan-EU Cooperation on Advanced Computing, Advanced Functionalities and Semiconductor Value Chain” (Two-day Workshop)

- **Time:** 09:00-17:30 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [School of Engineering, University of Tokyo](#)
- **Organiser:** Dr. Francis Balestra, SiNANO Institute/CNRS, INPACE, France
- **Co-organiser:** Prof. Ken Uchida, The University of Tokyo, Japan
- **Summary:** The workshop will focus on key areas of the INPACE Cluster dedicated to “Enabling technologies - Chips for the future” and is aligned with the topics defined in the Digital Partnerships between EU and Japan. The presentations and discussions will cover the many semiconductor challenges (complex value chain, computing and storage needs, novel functionalities for electronic systems, circuit and system integration, energy & material needs, reliability) and possible technological solutions, especially: reductions of energy and material consumption for sustainable electronic systems, advanced logic devices and materials, integration of novel functionalities for future electronic systems (smart sensing, energy harvesting for autonomous system, cryoelectronics for quantum engineering), heterogeneous 3D integration and packaging for high performance, low power, low latency, miniaturisation, integration of new functionalities and lower cost of electronic systems, and possible cooperation on gaps in the semiconductor value chain.

Policy Workshop: “Securing the Digital Horizon: EU-Japan Cooperation on Emerging Disruptive Technologies and Critical Infrastructure” - *by invitation*

- **Time:** 09:00-13:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** Institute for Geoeconomics (IOG), International House of Japan
- **Organiser:** Dr. Eva Pejsova, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), INPACE, Belgium
- **Summary:** Against the backdrop of rising geopolitical tensions and the accelerating digital transformation across Europe and the Indo-Pacific, the European Union (EU) and Japan are deepening their partnerships to shape an open, secure, and resilient digital future. This policy workshop will explore how both sides can strengthen cooperation in Emerging and Disruptive Technologies (EDTs), such as artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing, and advanced semiconductor innovation, while safeguarding critical digital infrastructure, including undersea cables and satellite networks.

Gathering policy experts, industry leaders, and researchers, the workshop seeks to examine avenues for joint Research and Development (R&D) initiatives, investment, technology governance, and trusted connectivity frameworks. Participants will discuss practical collaboration mechanisms under the EU-Japan Digital Partnership and identify strategies for aligning standards, resilience measures, and innovation ecosystems in an evolving geopolitical and technological landscape, so as to jointly promote a rules-based, human-centric digital order in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

EU and Japan partnering up: Exploring complementarities of tech business offers - *by invitation*

- **Time:** 16:00-18:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Delegation of the European Union to Japan](#)
- **Organisers:**
 - Jana Vinkel, International Relations Officer, International Affairs and Policy Outreach, DG CNECT, Belgium
 - Anne Wenzek, Country Advisor, International Digital Policy, GIZ GmbH, Germany
- **Summary:** In this invitation-only exchange and networking event, representatives of the EU and Japanese administrations connect with tech industry leaders to discuss opportunities of effective joint market exploration in third countries. The discussion will map existing EU and Japan digital business offers and their complementarities as well as address market entry considerations, partnership models, and business development strategies.

WEDNESDAY, 25 MARCH 2026

Event: “How European and Japanese SDOs can support the EU-Japan Digital Partnership”

- **Time:** 09:00 - 12:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Telecommunication Technology Committee \(TTC\), 1 Chome-1-12 Shibakoen, Minato City, Tokyo 105-0011, Japan](#)
- **Organiser:** ETSI, France
- **Co-Organiser :** Telecommunication Technology Committee (TTC), Japan

- **Summary:** ETSI, leveraging the trusted and functioning relationship it has built over the years with Japanese partners, organises the workshop together with TTC in order to explore the role of standardisation and SDOs in supporting the EU-Japan Digital Partnership.
The ETSI-TTC event will focus on key digital technology domains and highlight notable success stories, tangible impact and commonalities, and forward-looking perspectives and synergies. This will demonstrate the instrumental roles of ETSI (with its European roots, dual role and global reach), and TTC (representing Japan) in advancing global digital standardisation through trusted, consensus-based global structures aligned with market needs. The domains targeted include QKD/Quantum technologies, Data, Artificial Intelligence, and Wireless/Telecommunications.

Semiconductor Workshop: “Japan-EU Cooperation on Advanced Computing, Advanced Functionalities and Semiconductor Value Chain” (Two-day Workshop)

- **Time:** 08:45-17:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Hongo University of Tokyo – Haseko Kuma Hall](#)
- **Organiser:** Dr. Francis Balestra, SiNANO Institute/CNRS, INPACE, France
- **Co-organiser:** Prof. Ken Uchida, The University of Tokyo, Japan
- **Summary:** The workshop will focus on key areas of the INPACE Cluster dedicated to “Enabling technologies - Chips for the future” and is aligned with the topics defined in the Digital Partnerships between EU and Japan. The presentations and discussions will cover the many semiconductor challenges (complex value chain, computing and storage needs, novel functionalities for electronic systems, circuit and system integration, energy & material needs, reliability) and possible technological solutions, especially: reductions of energy and material consumption for sustainable electronic systems, advanced logic devices and materials, integration of novel functionalities for future electronic systems (smart sensing, energy harvesting for autonomous system, cryoelectronics for quantum engineering), heterogeneous 3D integration and packaging for high performance, low power, low latency, miniaturisation, integration of new functionalities and lower cost of electronic systems, and possible cooperation on gaps in the semiconductor value chain.

THURSDAY, 26 MARCH

EU-Japan AI4Good cooperation: “Leveraging Extreme-Scale Computing for Societal Challenges”

- **Time:** 9:00-12:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Delegation of the European Union to Japan](#)
- **Organisers:**
 - Dr. Rossen Apostolov, INPACE, NAISS, Sweden
 - RIKEN
 - Juelich Supercomputing Centre
 - NAISS
- **Summary:** This half-day event explores high performance computing collaboration between Europe and Japan, with specific focus on strengthening the links between [RIKEN](#) (Japan, operator of Fugaku), [Forschungszentrum Jülich](#) (Europe, hosting

JUPITER), and [NAISS](#) (Sweden, national HPC infrastructure and gateway to Nordic and European research communities) as flagship infrastructures in the respective regions. Together, these infrastructures represent complementary strengths in exascale systems, AI-accelerated simulations, and scientific user communities. The workshop will explore how these ecosystems can jointly advance AI4Good applications aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

- Climate Action (SDG 13)
- Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3)
- Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)

The goal of the event is to reinforce scientific discussions and partnerships between the EU and Japan through cooperation between RIKEN and JULICH. The expected outcomes include the establishment of a structure for sustained collaboration and an operational framework for Fugaku–Jupiter cooperation.

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

- **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!

Japan's Association to Horizon Europe: New Opportunities to Enhance Collaboration in Research and Innovation between the EU and Japan

- **Time:** 16:00-17:30 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Delegation of the European Union to Japan](#)
- **Organisers:**
 - Maria Cristina Russo, Deputy Director-General for Innovation, Prosperity and International Cooperation, European Commission
 - Thomas Skordas, Deputy Director-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission
- **Registration:** [Link](#)
- **Summary:** In December 2025, the European Commission and the Government of Japan successfully concluded negotiations on Japan's association to Pillar II of Horizon Europe, the EU's flagship research and innovation funding programme. With the agreement expected to be signed in mid-2026, this milestone opens a new chapter in EU–Japan cooperation in science, technology, and innovation. Already today, entities based in Japan can lead and coordinate their own research projects under Horizon Europe, apply for and receive funding, and deepen collaboration with partners across the EU and other Associated Countries. With an EU contribution of EUR 93.7 billion, complemented by contributions from soon 23 Associated Countries, Horizon Europe is the world's largest and most internationally open civilian research and innovation programme. Its cross-sectoral and mission-oriented approach creates strong opportunities for alignment and synergy with Japan's own research and innovation priorities, offering a powerful platform for joint solutions to global challenges. The seminar will bring together European and Japanese policymakers, researchers, and other science, technology, and innovation stakeholders to explore new opportunities for collaboration. Participants will discuss Japan's association to Horizon Europe, identify concrete synergies and partnership pathways, and gain inspiration from successful examples of past cooperation under previous EU Framework Programmes.

FRIDAY, 27 MARCH

ICT Stakeholder Roundtable

- **Time:** 09:30-16:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)
- **Location:** [Toshi Center Hotel, 2 Chome-4-1 Hirakawachō, Chiyoda City, Tokyo](#)
- **Organiser:** MIC Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
- **Supporter:** INPACE
- **Summary:** The ICT Stakeholder Roundtable is a closed, in-person event organised by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Japan (MIC). More details will be shared at a later stage. As this is a ministry-led event with limited access, participation is by invitation only.

MONDAY, 30 MARCH

Panel: "Leveraging Digital and Tech Diplomacy: Opportunities for a new partnership between Europe and the Indo-Pacific?"

- **Time:** 10:00-12:30 Japan Standard Time (JST)

- **Location:** [Delegation of the European Union to Japan](#)
- **Trainers:**
 - Martin Rauchbauer, Tech Diplomacy Network, Austria
 - Katharina Höne, DLR Projektträger, German Aerospace Center, Germany
- **Summary:** Technologies and notably digital technologies have moved into the centre of all economic and societal developments. Economic growth today is tied to mastering advanced technology, societal developments are firmly in the hands of tech companies. Digital and tech diplomacy responds to that trend and infuses digital and tech into the conduct and practice of international relations, dialogue, and negotiations regarding digital policies and technological advancements.

It involves a broader set of stakeholders, including governments, tech companies, privacy and rights groups, the broader civil society organizations, think tanks and academia; working together to address challenges and opportunities presented by technology in the global arena. Digital and tech diplomacy also encompass questions related to digital sovereignty, negotiations related to cyberspace, cybersecurity, and digital governance. It involves governments, international organizations, and diplomats working to establish norms, treaties, and cooperation mechanisms to address challenges in the globally connected digital realm.

This panel will take digital and tech diplomacy as a starting point for reflecting on how foreign policy increasingly evolves around technology. Collaboration in innovation and technology becomes ever more important and now happens before the background of an increasingly complex world. Digital and tech diplomacy are practised in the context of digital sovereignty, the protection of critical infrastructure, and questions of national security. The panel will aim to update knowledge and create awareness in roles that promote the Digital Economy, share tools and practices to become more effective and efficient in a world driven increasingly by advanced digital technologies.