

Furthermore, he points out the extent to which these models are used to justify changes in the electoral law in Taiwan. Afterwards, in a comparison of their methods, the author analyses the influence of the concepts of the Taiwan's former leaders on the discussion in mainland China and the role of appeals to the Chinese unitary and liberal democratic models. He closes the book with some final thoughts that summarize the main results of his study.

All in all, Lorenzo's clear style and frequent references to his methodical framework are valuable aspects of this very useful, well-substantiated account of the different ideas of "Chinese democracy". His contribution should not be underestimated, especially in the light of the language barrier and the relatively few of sources and analyses available in English. It would be desirable to have more literature on this issue in the future, as the development of ROC's democracy is still an issue in cross-strait relations and might again play an important role in terms of stability in East Asia. It will be interesting to see which theoretical fundament the People's Republic of China will choose for its future.

Florian Siekmann

JÖRN KECK / DIMITRI VANOVERBEKE / FRANZ WALDENBERGER (eds),
*EU-Japan Relations, 1970–2012. From Confrontation to Global
Partnership.* (Routledge Contemporary Japan Series, 46). Abingdon:
Routledge, 2013. XX, 356 pages, \$170.00. ISBN 978-0-415-65872-0

First-hand accounts by current and former EU officials who were engaged in EU-Japan relations make up the core of the book under review. Due to the nature of these relations in the post-war era, economic issues like trade and investment are emphasized, but the emerging role of political relations and wider public diplomacy topics, such as cooperation in science and technology, are also covered in some depth, particularly for more recent years. The editors, two of whom are academics, have sought to provide the "first comprehensive account of the EU's ... relationship with Japan" (p. xv); they have succeeded.

In an introductory chapter, major contextual factors of the evolving relationship are outlined, with the focus on the process of European integration, Japan's economic development and changing global economic development. Part I of the book, covering some 200 pages, deals in considerable detail with various phases of the emerging relations, namely the periods 1970 (and earlier) to 1982, 1983–1987, 1987–1990, 1990–1995, 1996–2000, and 2000 to 2010. Another chapter revisits those years by distinguishing different trade (deficit) and exchange rate concerns. In some 75 pages, Part II offers careful case studies of individual issues, that is Japan's liquor taxation as a form of discrimination against European high-quality spirits, passenger car trade, which discusses mainly Japanese access to the European market, pork-meat trade, harbour

management and the Japanese construction market, the EU's and Japan's role in the WTO Uruguay Round, cooperation in science and technology, and parliamentary exchanges. Finally, Part III, some 50 pages, looks ahead. One paper stresses the growing importance of political and wider relations alongside economic issues as reflected in the respective wider regional and cross-regional frameworks of Japan in Asia and the EU in Europe. The final chapter summarizes the contributions and shows ways to realize "untapped potentials" better than before.

Within this short review, it is impossible to do justice to the depth of information presented in the various chapters. The authors dive deeply into the sometimes bewildering multitude of treaties, communications, working papers, hand-outs, and the famously termed non-papers. The contributors' status as experts and insiders is both a strength and a limitation of the book. Strength, because the papers flesh out many of the major and minor controversies of the evolving relationship. They recount the struggle over restricted access for Japanese cars in various EU countries, the notorious Poitiers system of curtailing imports of Japanese VTRs and Japanese attempts to keep its agricultural markets closed. Limitation, because the perspective is limited to the point of view of medium-level officials who were actively involved in the negotiations on one side of the table. Japanese views are missing, as are statements by politicians or political appointees, including (former) commissioners (with the one exception of a former MEP). Also lacking in most of the papers is a theory-based interpretation, for instance an evaluation of the organizational structure of EU authorities. One author actually states that he tries to give a detailed record and "subjective account" on which "others can draw", and will not present an "academic analysis".

If one accepts this framework, the book offers a remarkable depth of information. One recurrent theme is the complex relationship with the US: often enough the US and EU share similar concerns of market access, but at other times one finds a considerable struggle for the better deal, in which the US often enjoys more leverage. Another issue often mentioned is the complex relationship with the various Japanese ministries, with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs trying to present itself as a *primus inter pares* among Japanese authorities, while the more relevant negotiations were often held, to some extent behind the scenes, with ministries such as the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI, now METI).

Today, quite a few of the regulatory bottlenecks inhibiting the trade and investment relationship still remain unresolved. While the relationship has become more cooperative since the 1990s and political issues have become important as well, there is still a lot of "untapped potential", as Dimitri Vanoverbeke writes in his summary chapter. It appears that the book manuscript was completed in 2012, on the eve of the opening negotiations on a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement and a binding agreement covering other topics of

cooperation. Several authors are moderately optimistic that a new level of engagement can be achieved, although Michael Reiterer stresses that the meaning of “strategic partnership” should be defined much more clearly. He argues that instruments based on sharing experiences – people-to-people exchanges, employing instruments of public diplomacy, taking care of common security and common foreign policy interests such as global public health or human security, and engagement in the wider context of inter- and cross-regional engagement in Asia and Europe – could lay the groundwork for suitable actions.

The book has been carefully edited. Due to the nature of the topics, some of the chapters are quite dry, but some passages, like Albrecht Rothacher’s narration of the so-called Nagoya Connection, i.e. covert channels to bring cheap Taiwanese pork imports into Japan, and of how the EU delegation tried to support Danish pork producers, make fascinating reading. In a number of papers, some graphs or an explanation of the different layers of organizations involved would have been handy, and sometimes the reader misses an appendix containing the most important texts discussed, but these are minor desiderata.

“EU-Japan Relations, 1970–2012” is a very helpful sourcebook for those interested in the bilateral relationship, and indeed also for those interested in the more general development of the EU’s foreign relations. It is destined to become the standard work on the subject. Future, more theory-focussed analyses can build on this solid basis.

Werner Pascha

VICTORIA GLENDINNING, *Raffles and the Golden Opportunity, 1781–1826*. London: Profile Books, 2013. XVIII, 350 pages, £9.99 (pb). ISBN 978-1-84668-604-7 (originally published in hardback in 2012)

This book offers a contemporary re-assessment of the life of Sir Stamford Raffles, a British statesman who spent his entire thirty-year career in the service of the East India Company. The author, Victoria Glendinning is an established literary figure, both as a biographer and novelist. Indeed, as in the case of Sir Steven Runciman half a century ago, the profile of South-East Asian studies itself is raised when a personality of such standing turns his or her attention to the field. To some extent Glendinning herself stands on the shoulders of giants, and generously acknowledges her debt to her predecessors. Among other things, her book emphasises the authority of Professor John Bastin in modern scholarship on Raffles.

Born off the coast of Jamaica in 1781, the son of an impecunious master of a West Indiaman, Raffles enjoyed no social advantages – he was ‘neither born nor bred a gentleman’, according to one hostile source (p. 101) – and had almost no formal education. After ten years as an ‘Extra Clerk’ at India House in