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MÜNCHEN

FAKULTÄT FÜR KULTURWISSENSCHAFTEN
DEPARTMENT FÜR ASIENSTUDIEN

JAPAN-ZENTRUM



Special Lecture on Global Politics

Co-hosted by LMU Japan Center and Geschwister-Scholl-Institute of Political Science

24 April 2025 (THU), 16:00 – 17:30 s.t.

IBZ Internationales Begegnungszentrum der Wissenschaft München e.V., Amalienstraße 38, 80799 Munich. The talk will be followed by a reception and opportunity for exchange.

Reluctant Warriors No More?

Japan and Germany Before and After Ukraine

Japan and Germany have been the “Reluctant Warriors” among postwar democracies, limited by their “peace constitutions” and a significant subculture of antimilitarist sentiment. The first part of this talk will describe Japan’s earlier postwar development as a reluctant warrior under its “peace constitution” including the changes brought about by Prime Ministers Koizumi and Abe. Then it will discuss how the invasion of Ukraine by Russia brought about the recent changes under Prime Minister Kishida. Following this, the talk will compare the similarities and differences between Japan and Germany, how far each has come despite the limitations of their peace constitutions, but in what ways their trajectories in the postwar have been somewhat similar but also in many ways quite different, and why? Finally, the talk will provide an outlook on their options after America’s 2024 elections.



Ellis S. Krauss (PhD, Stanford University) is Professor Emeritus at the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS), UCSD. The author of 9 books and over 80 articles about Japanese politics and about U.S.-Japan relations, most recently a co-authored book *Reluctant Warriors: Germany, Japan and their U.S. Alliance Dilemma* (Brookings Institution Press, 2019) comparing the two countries' military intervention policies after the Cold War under their "Peace Constitutions." He and his co-authors are currently revising an article updating the book since the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Krauss is also co-author of a book on comparative elections, political parties, and committee assignments *Party Personnel Strategies: Electoral Systems and Parliamentary Committee Assignments* (Oxford University Press, 2021). In 2018 he received the Order of the Rising Sun, 3rd class with Gold Leaves and Neck Ribbon from the Emperor and government of Japan for his professional work.