

Taro Nishikawa

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PhD Researcher

Leuven International and European Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, KU Leuven, Belgium (05/2021–)

PhD Dissertation Preliminary Title

The European Commission's External Bargaining Leverage in EC-Japan Trade Negotiations from the 1980s to the Early 1990s – Convergence of Economic Preferences, Internalisation of Ideas, and Cohesiveness

Fields of Expertise: European Union Politics, International Relations, International Political Economy, EU-Japan Relations
Language: Japanese (native), English (academic level), French (intermediate level)

Education

05/2021–03~06/2024 (*Expected*) **Doctor of Social Sciences (PhD)**, Faculty of Social Sciences, **KU Leuven**, Belgium

04/2019–05/2021 **PhD Researcher**, Japanese Studies Research Group, Faculty of Arts, **KU Leuven**, Belgium

04/2016–03/2019 **Master of Arts**, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, **Kobe University**, Japan

Master's thesis: "Why Interest Groups Lobby Unfriendly Political Groups in the European Parliament?: A Case of Trade and Sustainable Development Clauses in Free Trade Agreements of the European Union" (in English, 03/2019)

09/2017–09/2018 **Master of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives (Master of Arts: MA) Cum laude**, **KU Leuven**, Belgium

Master's thesis: "Lobby Unfriendly Political Groups in the European Parliament: Trade and Sustainable Development Clauses in Free Trade Agreements of the European Union" (in English, 09/2018)

09/2008–03/2013 **Bachelor of Arts in Policy Management**, Faculty of Policy Management, **Keio University**, Japan

Bachelor's thesis: 「EU 新迂回防止措置の GATT・WTO 整合性」 ("Inconsistency of Anti-Circumvention Measures by the European Union with the GATT/WTO Rules") (in Japanese, 03/2013)

Experience

07/2023– **Visiting researcher** (unpaid), Graduate School of Law, **Kobe University**, Japan

08/2015–03/2016 **Administrative official**, Office of the Director-General for International Affairs (Japanese National Commission for UNESCO), **Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT)**, Japan

Role: Analysed documents of the UNESCO on the Global Geoparks and the Memory of the World to contribute to active discussions in the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO.

07/2014–07/2015 **Administrative official**, Office for the Council for the Implementation of Education Rebuilding, **Cabinet Secretariat of Japan**, Japan

Role: Supported the operation of Council meetings and engaged in inter-ministerial policy-making processes. During my tenure in office, the Council issued three policy proposals to the Prime Minister of Japan.

04/2013–07/2014 **Administrative official**, Planning and Evaluation Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, **MEXT**, Japan

Role: Launched and completed a new publicity project on Science for RE-designing Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Programme in liaison with policy makers, specialists in a private publicity company, and academics. Coordinated various types of work inside the division as a member of the management team.

Publications

Journal articles (peer-reviewed)

Nishikawa, Taro. 2023. 「欧州議会へのロビイング—政党グループの「まとまり」の観点から—」 (“Lobbying in the European Parliament from the Perspective of Political Group ‘Cohesiveness’”). 『国際政治』 (*International Relations*), no. 208: 156–171. https://doi.org/10.11375/kokusaiseiji.208_156.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2021a. “An Ideational Institutional Analysis of the Japanese Trade Policy-Making Process vis-à-vis the EC: Focus on the EC-Level Voluntary Export Moderation in 1983”. *EU Studies in Japan*, no. 41: 81–102. <https://doi.org/10.5135/eusj.2021.81>.

Journal articles (not peer-reviewed)

Nishikawa, Taro. 2021b. “A Half Century of the Japan-EU Trade Relations: From Trade Conflicts to the Economic Partnership Agreement”. *Wasshoi! Magazin*, no. 2: 64–71.

Working papers (not peer-reviewed)

Nishikawa, Taro. 2018. “How has the European Union counterbalanced Respect for Multiculturalization with the Protection of European Cultures?”. *Working Paper Series*, no. 3, 1–22. JSPS Core-to-Core Program “Research on the Public Policies of Migration, Multiculturalization and Welfare for the Regeneration of Communities in European, Asian and Japanese Societies”.

Book chapters (not peer-reviewed)

Nishikawa, Taro. 2020. “OECD”, “WTO”. In: Kazunari Sakai, Hirohito Yasoda (Eds.), 『よくわかる EU 政治』 (*Easy-to-understand EU Politics*), 172–175. Kyoto: Minerva-Shobo. ISBN: 978-4-623-08824-9.

Internet publications

Nishikawa, Taro. 2021c. “Vertical Interplay between the European Commission and Member States in EU Trade Policy”. *Crossroads Europe* (University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) Graduate Forum Blog), July 16, 2021.

Articles under peer-review

Nishikawa, Taro. “How Did EU-Japan Trade Relations Come to Life? Japan’s Recognition of the European Commission in Early Bilateral Trade Negotiations”. Submitted to *Asia Europe Journal* on October 17, 2022.

Invited lectures

Nishikawa, Taro. 2023. “From Rivals to Partners: A Half Century of the EU-Japan Trade Relations”. Invited by the Japanese Studies Research Group, Faculty of Arts, KU Leuven. Presented at the Economische Ontwikkelingen van Japan (Economic Developments of Japan), Leuven, May 3, 2023.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2023. “EU Trade Policy to Japan: From Rivals to Partners”. Invited by the Faculty of Social Sciences, KU Leuven. Presented at the EU Trade Policy, Leuven, April 28, 2023.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2022. “A Half Century of the EU-Japan Trade Relations: From Trade Conflicts to the Economic Partnership Agreement”. Invited by the Japanese Studies Research Group, Faculty of Arts, KU Leuven. Presented at the Economische Ontwikkelingen van Japan (Economic Developments of Japan), Leuven, May 11, 2022.

Presentations

Nishikawa, Taro. 2022. “Encounters between the European Union and Japan: Trade, Cohesiveness and Autonomy”. Presented at the 3rd ETEE Conference on Europe’s Interactions with World Regions, Jean Monnet Network “European Transoceanic Encounters and Exchanges (ETEE)”, Kobe, November 14–15, 2022.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2022. "Trade Policy of the European Union toward Japan: Cohesiveness and Autonomy". Presented at the 14th KU & 13th EU Workshop, Sub-Major Curriculum EU-Japanology, Kansai University Graduate School of Letters, Online, November 4, 2022.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2022. "The Development of the Actorness of the European Union: Recognition, Autonomy and Cohesiveness". Presented at the 15th European International Studies Association (EISA) Pan-European Conference on International Relations (PEC) (Session ID-258: Historicizing the International System), Athens, September 1–4, 2022.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2022. "Japanese Bilateral Recognition of the European Commission as Trade Negotiation Counterpart: Authority, Autonomy, and Low Cohesiveness". Presented at 2022 NEXTEUK PhD Summer School, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence program NEXTEUK, Bazoches-sur-Guyonne/Paris, June 13–17, 2022.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2022. "Japanese Bilateral Recognition of the European Commission as Trade Negotiation Counterpart: Low Cohesiveness and Autonomy". Presented at the LINES Sessions, Faculty of Social Sciences, KU Leuven, Online, May 20, 2022.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2021. "Japan-EC Trade Conflicts: Japanese Reaction to the EC's Request for an Import Target in 1985". Presented at the 11th International Symposium for Young Researchers in Translation, Interpreting, Intercultural Studies & East Asian Studies, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Online, July 2, 2021.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2021. "Vertical Interplay between the European Commission and Member States in EU Trade Policy". Presented at the 2021 UACES Graduate Forum Research Conference (Panel 203: Foreign policy: EU and the world), Online, June 17–18, 2021.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2021. "An Ideational Institutional Analysis of the Japanese Trade Policy-Making Process vis-à-vis the EC: Focus on the EC-Level Voluntary Export Moderation in 1983". Presented at the Satsuma/Konishi Chair of Lecture Series, Japanese Studies, Faculty of Arts, KU Leuven, Online, May 12, 2021.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2020. "A New Institutional Analysis of the Japanese Trade Policy-making Process vis-à-vis the EC: Focus on the EC-level Voluntary Export Moderation in 1983". Presented at the European Union Studies Association-Japan (EUSA-Japan), the 41st Annual Conference, Online, November 7–8, 2020.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2019. "Japanese Trade Policy Making Process to the European Community: 1978–1991 –From a New Institutional Perspective–". Presented at the 11th EU Workshop, Sub-Major Curriculum EU-Japanology, Kansai University Graduate School of Letters, Leuven, October 25, 2019.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2019. "Trade and Sustainable Development Chapter and Future Japan– EU Cooperation". Presented at the 10th Anniversary Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium "Open Science, Evolving Societies: New Horizons for EU-Japan Research", Brussels, October 22, 2019.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2018. "Interest Groups' Lobbying to Political Groups in the European Parliament –Trade and Sustainable Development Clauses in Free Trade Agreements–". Presented at the 9th European Studies Student Conference, Master of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives, KU Leuven, May 4, 2018.

Nishikawa, Taro. 2018. "Interest Groups' Lobbying to Political Groups in the European Parliament –Trade and Sustainable Development Clauses in Free Trade Agreements–". Presented at the Kobe University – KU Leuven Joint Seminar, Leuven, March 6, 2018.

Grants

11/2021 **University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) Scholarship 2022** (£1,500, for fieldwork).

6/2022 **European International Studies Association (EISA) Mobility Fund** (€ 300, for 15th EISA Pan-European Conference on International Relations)