

EUIJ Public Lecture

## **The Future of EU-Japan Relations in the Light of Japanese 21<sup>st</sup> Century Visions and the EU Lisbon Strategy**

**Lecture by Mr. Jörn Keck, former EU Commission Ambassador.**

Mr. Keck, member of the board of EIAS the European Institute of Asian studies and former Ambassador and Head of Delegation to Japan of the European Commission visited Hitotsubashi University to give a public lecture to students and professors of the EUIJ universities. Chaired by Director Yamauchi, this lecture took place in the Conference Room on 7<sup>th</sup> Floor of Mercury Tower on 20 September 2006.

After referring to Japan's economic strategy in Asia based on public and private visions on Japan's future, he argued that there seems to be a strong business driven opinion in Japan to call for its economic leadership role in Asia. Then he spoke on the EU Lisbon Strategy 2000-2010: Europe's growth strategy to remain competitive and sustainable in the future. As a conclusion, he emphasised the importance of EU-Japan cooperation for helping sustainable development in Asia.

Present at this lecture were as many as 27 people, including Professor Takayuki Kimura, Japan's former Ambassador to the EU and the Director General of the EUIJ. He not only asked Mr. Keck several questions but also made a welcome speech to the audience. Then a number of questions followed from the audience, who were made aware of the importance of further cooperation of EU-Japan relations in Asia's future economic prosperity.