

**EUIJ-Tokyo Consortium Open Lecture (Co-organised by International Christian University, Social Science Research Institute)**

**Professor Ivo Slosarcik**

Yoko Koyama (ICU Graduate Student/ EUIJ-ICU Assistant)

On 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May, Professor Ivo Slosarcik (Charles University, Prague) visited International Christian University (ICU) and held two open lectures co-organized by EUIJ and ICU Social Science Research Institute. The two lectures entitled "European Union as Emerging Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (JHA)" and "Eastward Enlargement of the EU from Historical Perspective" were both informative for all students who are interested in European integration. In particular, the presentation on JHA cooperation provided them a rare and valuable chance to discuss the issue which is rapidly developing and followed only by a handful of experts in Japan. The following text is a summary of his first lecture about the JHA cooperation in the EU.

In the lecture of 15<sup>th</sup> May, Prof. Slosarcik analysed JHA cooperation in the EU, focusing on its structural aspects. His main claim was that it was necessary to strengthen JHA cooperation, in order to eliminate the security threats triggered by the removal of barriers among the EU member states in the process of economic and political integration of Europe.

Referring to the EU structure of three pillars, Prof. Slosarcik pointed out that JHA cooperation is not only the problem in 3<sup>rd</sup> pillar but also in the 1<sup>st</sup> pillar and in the Common Foreign and Security Policy (2<sup>nd</sup> pillar). With regard to the most important policy areas of cooperation, the 1<sup>st</sup> pillar deals with the rules of mobility of persons including the common visa, asylum and immigration policy. The 3<sup>rd</sup> pillar contains policies of procedural cooperation in criminal law and a limited catalogue of common criminal offences as defined by EU law. In addition to this, the external dimension is treated as an important element to support the efficiency of the JHA cooperation.

In conclusion, Professor Ivo Slosarcik stated that the regional, national, supranational levels of JHA regulation exist in the EU at the same time. Currently, significant segments of decision making in the JHA agenda have shifted from national to supranational level but implementation still remains mostly at the level of member states.