



# WHY BECOME AN EBC MEMBER?

CHAMPIONING EUROPEAN BUSINESS INTERESTS IN JAPAN

## General Mission of the EBC

The **European Business Council in Japan (EBC)** is a strategic advocate for European businesses navigating Japan's regulatory market. By uniting under a European voice, we enhance trade policy advocacy, regulatory guidance, and foster a business-friendly environment in Japan.

## EBC's Overview

Founded in 1972, the EBC is the trade policy arm of **17 European National Chambers of Commerce and Business Associations in Japan**, dedicated to improving Japan's trade and investment climate. The EBC currently represents around **2,500 local European companies**, of which some 200 companies participate directly in one or more of the **EBC's 23 sectoral committees**, whose work covers a wide variety of economic sectors (EBC Committees Archive - EBC ([ebc-jp.com](http://ebc-jp.com))).

The EBC operates in close collaboration with the Delegation of the European Union to Japan, the national European Embassies, the European Commission and other business organisations. It makes suggestions to the Japanese Government on how to create an open environment for trade and investment in Japan.

## Key Benefits

Through its committees, the EBC addresses regulatory, standards and other issues specific to various industries.

### Trade Policy Advocacy

- **Influence & Representation:** Amplify your business's interests at top levels in Japanese and European government.
- **Policy Shaping:** Shape trade policies impacting your business through bilateral dialogue.

### Regulatory Support and Guidance

- **Regulatory Insights:** Stay informed on regulatory changes in Japan.
- **Compliance Assistance:** Navigate complex regulations with expert guidance.

### Strategic Networking and Collaboration

- **Government Relations:** Build relationships with Japanese and European policymakers.
- **Industry Alliances:** Connect with European businesses for collective advocacy.

### EBC White Paper

- **Contribute to our annual White Paper** addressing non-tariff barriers and proposing solutions.

### Visibility and Credibility

- **Enhanced Credibility:** Align with a respected organization to strengthen your market position.
- **Public Affairs:** Gain visibility and credibility in the European-Japanese trade landscape.

# EBC “Success Stories”

The EBC has contributed to significant regulatory achievements, including:

- The re-entry permit requirement for residential visa holders was abolished
- In the revised Pharmaceutical Affairs Law, medical devices are treated separately from pharmaceuticals
- A change in customs legislation allows for remote filing, long advocated
- The National Tax Agency now recognises the importance of lot codes on liquor bottles
- Pricing restrictions on international airfares were relaxed and

airline slots allocated on a more egalitarian basis

- The approval process for low-risk medical diagnostics products was shortened
- Registration of foreign lawyers in Japan has been simplified somewhat
- Import notifications for cosmetics have been abolished
- The use of English for animal health related applications has been introduced
- Minimum period of paying premiums to qualify for pension cut from 25 to 10 years
- Some railway operators now use public tendering to procure products and services

## Our Stakeholders



German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan  
在日ドイツ商工会議所



## Our Team and contact



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