

The Japan Transnational Education and Career Panel Study (JTEPS) – International Student Mobility and its Consequences

David Chiavacci & Steve R. Entrich

16 December 2024

15:45 – 17:15

Hittorfstr. 18, Altbau (Berlin)

将来、留学に必要な力を育みます

海外大学・大学院への留学がしやすくなるよう
支援を充実させます

留学後の就職の心算がなくなるよう取組を進めます



The Japan Transnational Education and Career Panel Study (JTEPS) is a research initiative to examine the impact of international student mobility (ISM) on Japan's evolving education and labor landscapes. With ISM at the forefront of Japan's education policy, this mixed-method panel study seeks to advance our understanding of study abroad dynamics, focusing on socio-economic status (SES), gender, and their intersections. Spanning three years (2025–2027), JTEPS collects quantitative and qualitative data from young residents in Japan with diverse educational backgrounds. Through surveys and

interviews, it explores key questions: What drives male and female adolescents to study abroad? How does it shape their early careers? What are the broader implications for social and gender inequalities? JTEPS uniquely bridges data on education, transition, and employment with retrospective insights into life histories, uncovering the nuanced role of transnational capital in Japan's labor market. By examining individual aspirations alongside state policies and institutional frameworks, it reveals the personal and societal impact of studying abroad. The project not only contributes to Japanese studies but also informs global debates on inequality, mobility, and internationalization. With its innovative approach to linking personal trajectories to larger social and institutional dynamics, JTEPS offers vital policy-relevant insights into education, labor, and the transformative potential of global resources in Japan.

David CHIAVACCI is Professor in Social Science of Japan at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. His research covers political and economic sociology of contemporary Japan in a comparative perspective. His focus is on social movements, social inequality as well as on Japan's new immigration and immigration policy. His recent publications include "Productivity and Stress in Japanese New Teleworkers: Mandatory versus Voluntary Introduction" (with Georg D. Blind, Stefania Lottanti von Mandach and Masahiro Kotosaka, 2024), in: *Social Science Journal Japan*; "Japan's Technical Intern Training Programme as Transnational Total Institution: Between Exploitation and Functionality" (2024), in: *Immigration and Quality of Life in Ageing Societies How Attractive for Migrants are Japan and Germany?*



Steve R. ENTRICH holds a PhD in educational sociology and currently works in comparative (quantitative) sociology at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany. Major research interests lie in comparative educational sociology, focusing on social inequalities in educational attainment, educational decision-making, returns to education, life course research, and implications of transnational, supplementary, and inclusive education in Germany, Japan, the United States, and in cross-national comparison. Recent publications include "The role of institutional contexts for inequalities in study abroad intent and participation" (with Nicolai Netz and Ryoji Matsuoka, 2024), in: *Higher Education*, 88; "Youth in Times of Crisis: Societal and Individual Challenges in Becoming an Adult Today" (edited with Gabriele Gniewosz and Alfred Berger, 2024, Springer).

The event is part of the BMBF-Funded project *Qualification and Skill in the Migration Process of Foreign Workers in Asia* organized by the *Institute of East Asian Studies, Japanese Studies, Free University of Berlin* and supported by *Goethe University Frankfurt*