

Invitation to JIIA Webinar

## JIIA Webinar: The political impact of European military presence in the Indo-Pacific

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Europe has recently expressed an increasing strategic interest in the Indo-Pacific region. On 16th September 2021, the European Commission and the High Representative presented a Joint Communication on the EU's Indo-Pacific Strategy, which stated that the EU would increase its engagement in the region. The French government had previously published its "Indo-Pacific Strategy" in July, a few days after President Macron had visited Japan and French Polynesia. France has a sovereign and territorial interest in this region, with some naval and military presence. Germany has also undertaken a new challenge: it sent a warship to the South China Sea in August for the first time in almost two decades. Germany has deepened its interest in the Indo-Pacific ever since it released its "Policy guidelines for the Indo-Pacific region" in 2020. On the other hand, the UK has significantly strengthened its engagement with the Indo-Pacific after Brexit, dispatching a new aircraft carrier, HMS Queen Elizabeth, to the region. Furthermore, on 15th September, the US, the UK, and Australia announced that it would form a new trilateral security partnership called "AUKUS", which signals their deepening commitment in the region. Against such a backdrop, this webinar is intended to explore the strategic calculations behind and to assess the political impact of the growing military presence of Europe in the Indo-Pacific.

1. **Date/Time:** 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 17:00-18:30 (JST) = 9:00-10:30 (CET)

2. **Registration:** Please register from the link below.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_4HAT9gBzROKjnkOCIf2ctA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4HAT9gBzROKjnkOCIf2ctA)

3. **Program**

Chair: **Prof. Ken Endo** (Hokkaido University/JIIA Adjunct Fellow)

Speakers:



**Dr. Antoine Bondaz**  
Research Fellow,  
FRS



**Dr. phil. Alexandra Sakaki**  
Senior Associate,  
SWP



**Ms. Cleo Paskal**  
Associate Fellow,  
Chatham House

Discussant: **Prof. Michito Tsuruoka** (Keio University)

4. **Language:** English (Japanese simultaneous interpretation available)

5. **Inquiries** Ms. Asako Takashima, Research Fellow /  
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