

学会発表渡航支援報告書

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<p>発表内容、質疑応答やその他について1,200字程度の文書に、学会の様子の写真のファイル(肖像権に触れない、3,000KB以下)を添付してご提出ください。 本プログラムホームページの学会発表渡航支援採択者のページに掲載いたします。</p> <p>※ご帰国後1ヶ月以内にGCOE事務局宛にメールでお送りください。</p> <p>The ESPA-net conference in September 2008, while focused on Europe, covered a wide range of comparative issues and topics from child-care, elderly care, and 'social investment' to EU-level social policies (incl. the use of the Open Method of Coordination) and historical topics. The overarching theme of the conference was centred on the cross-border transfer and influence of social policy ideas, and my own paper - discussing how particular British ideas have shaped recent Japanese youth policies - related to this quite closely. My presentation lasted roughly 20 minutes after which I received and addressed questions from the audience for 15 minutes. Some of the most helpful comments and suggestions included the following:</p> <p>-Are there particular affinities between the UK and Japan that make social policy transfers between these countries likely and more or less predictable, or are they rather random? Do these countries share similar class systems, youth labour markets, post-industrial transformations or moralistic approaches to social policy? (My response: Japan has a history of borrowing from the UK which is significant. So is political ideology, especially from the Thatcher era. Academics, especially, appear to be attracted to Blair's and Etzioni's 'rights & responsibilities' discourse and may try to push for this in Japan, while at</p>		



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the same time worrying that *social rights* have not been sufficiently developed in Japan to warrant such a project. In forthcoming papers in 2009, I should devote more time and space to systematically describing the historical context of transfers between Japan and the UK, making it more likely that my papers will get published in quality journals).

-Japan, once a very successful economy, appears to be struggling seriously with new social problems such as ageing and young people's integration. WHY? (Response: this is a terribly good point: Why, indeed, is youth policy now such a CHALLENGE for Japan? This is certainly a question I should like to address in forthcoming papers; setting 'youth problems' in the context of a hyper-ageing society is a task that no scholar has yet properly performed. We should ask first whether youth policy is possible in a highly aged society, and second whether ageing shapes or constrains youth policy in particular ways, while recognizing the plethora of other factors involved).

All in all, I gained significantly from attending this ESPA-net conference and plan to attend again in 2009. I remain deeply grateful for the financial assistance granted to me by the Global COE project at Kyoto University in 2008. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to make further inquiries. (I will notify the COE office when any of my papers get published).