
Contrary to the received opinion that Japan is suffering from "arthritis" and hence economic stagnation, I argue that Japanese capitalism has been undergoing a great transformation since the early 1980s. Arguments in support of this view are presented at three levels:

- the corporate level, characterized by an increasing heterogeneity of firms in terms of organization and performance;
- the institutional level, characterized by decline of previous forms of coordination;
- the social compromise level, characterized by a surge of multidimensional inequalities.

This paper furthermore demonstrates that rather than converging towards an Anglo-Saxon or continental European variety of capitalism Japan follows its own trajectory. This has important implications for the understanding of contemporary capitalisms.

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The lecture will be given in English. It will take place on Thursday, May 30 2013 at 6.30 p.m. at the DIJ. Admission is free, please register at: forum@dijtokyo.org or

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