



Australian Institute of International Affairs
ACT Branch



Please join us for a distinguished public forum jointly sponsored by the
Australian Institute of International Affairs, ACT Branch and
The Japan Institute of the Australian National University

What does the New Government of Japan Mean for Australia?

Friday 13th November 12.30pm

AIIA Conference Centre

Level 1, Stephen House, 32 Thesiger Court, Deakin, ACT

At a general election on 30 August, the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) for the first time received the largest number of votes of any party in the House of Representatives, and the Liberal Democratic Party which had been in power more or less continuously since 1955 lost office. The DPJ, which now controls both the upper and lower houses of the Diet, duly formed a coalition with two small parties, the Social Democratic Party and People's New Party, and was sworn in on 16 September. Having promised a new style of government and criticised its predecessor for fostering excessive bureaucratic influence over government policy, and with a distinctively "progressive" philosophy, what does the new Japanese Government presage for Australia and Australia-Japan relationship?

Our Panel

Professor Kent Anderson is a comparative lawyer specialising in Japan. He is Director of the Faculty of Asian Studies in the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific and holds a joint appointment with the ANU College of Law.

Professor Peter Drysdale is Emeritus Professor of Economics and Visiting Fellow in Policy and Governance in The Crawford School of Economics and Government. Until 2002 he was Executive Director of the Australia-Japan Research Centre. His main areas of expertise are international trade and economic policy

Professor Jenny Corbett is Professor of Economics, Executive Director, Australia-Japan Research Centre Crawford School of Economics. Her research interests include the Japanese economy, particularly banking, macro-economic policy and corporate governance.

Professor Tessa Morris-Suzuki is convenor of the Division of Pacific and Asian History and is currently engaged in research into conflict and reconciliation between Japan, China and the two Koreas. She also convenes the Asian Civil Rights Network, and co-edits the network's online journal *Asiarights*.

Mr Shun Ikeda is Senior Lecturer and Head of the Japan Centre. He specialises in Japanese language, education, culture and society. He also has research interests in comparative education in Asia and in socio-linguistics (language policy and planning).

Admission is Free for AIIA members, \$10 for guests, payable at the door.

Please RSVP by **November 12th** by emailing act.branch@aia.asn.au or calling (02) 6232 4978