



Mr. Gijs Berends, Digital Policies Section at the Delegation of the European Union to Japan

Profile

Gijs Berends is Head of the Science, Innovation, and Digital Policies Section at the Delegation of the European Union to Japan. Prior to his current appointment, he was Deputy Head of Unit for inter-institutional relations in the department responsible for trade policy in the European Commission. This is his second posting to Japan. During his first assignment, he was responsible for EU-Japan relations in the field of climate, energy, transport and agricultural policies. He started his career at the Scientific Council for Government Policy in the Netherlands. He has published widely on Japan, including on EU-Japan cooperation in food safety policy and on the contamination of the food chain after the Fukushima accident. He is co-editor of the book, "After the Great East Japan Earthquake; political and policy change in post-Fukushima Japan". He holds degrees from the University of Rotterdam and the University of Cambridge.