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Help (Not) Wanted

Immigration Politics in Japan

A virtual *u:japan* lecture by Michael Strausz

Thursday
2021-12-02
18:30~20:00
online



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Why has Japan's immigration policy remained so restrictive, especially in light of economic, demographic, and international political forces that are pushing Japan to admit more immigrants? Michael Strausz will answer this question by drawing on insights from nearly two years of intensive field research in Japan. In addition to answering this question by outlining the central argument

"*Help (Not) Wanted* provides some historical background, rich macrolevel data, and a coherent analysis. It makes a fine appetizer for students setting out to acquaint themselves with international migration to Japan, the various behind-the-scenes entanglements of the current policy output, and the overall question of how policy making in Japan works." — *Monumenta Nipponica*



Michael Strausz is an Associate Professor of Political Science and the Director of Asian Studies at Texas Christian University. He earned his PhD in Political Science from the University of Washington in 2007. He is currently editing a collection of essays by an interdisciplinary group of scholars tentatively titled *The Past and Future of Immigration in Japan* which aims to put recent immigration reforms into context. His book *Help (Not) Wanted: Immigration Politics in Japan* was published in 2019 with SUNY Press.

of his 2019 book, *Help (Not) Wanted: Immigration Politics in Japan*, this presentation provide context to recent developments in Japanese immigration policy – particularly the December 2018 decision to admit more than 300,000 foreign manual laborers, the immigration policy response to the COVID pandemic, and the role of immigration in the 2021 House of Representatives election.

"...a well-written book that addresses an important and timely issue. Strausz's original argument and research make it an interesting read to scholars from political science, Japanese studies and migration studies. The accessibility of this book also makes it fantastic for use in an undergraduate course in Japanese society or politics." — *Journal of Contemporary Asia*

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