

Study Group on Modern and Contemporary History

Subject	The group studies modern and recent history to gain insights into contemporary politics.
Overview	There are many commonalities between current politics and society and the early Showa period in the leadup to WWII—including turmoil in party-based politics, urgency in international politics, and the rise of populist movements. Believing that detailed research on modern and recent history, centering on Japan’s Showa period, may provide insight into how to respond in the future, the group carries out studies with nonpartisan politicians and others under the leadership of Professor Kiyotada Tsutsui, a leading authority on modern Japanese history.
Period	May 15, 2017 to March 31, 2023
Date held	2017 December 21: “The Untimely Deaths of Leading Figures in the Meiji Restoration” and “The Losers of the Boshin War”: On the 150th Anniversary of the Meiji Restoration 2018 March 7: Maresuke Nogi: Siege of Port Arthur, Martyrdom, “Showa Gunbatsu” (military clique) May 15: Teikichi Hori: The Tragedy of the Pro-Treaty Faction June 6: Showa Army: Organization, Factions, Personnel

Date held	July 4:	Economists and the U.S.-Japan Outbreak of War(Kuniaki Makino, Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, Setsunan University)
	August 2:	Background, Actuality, and Impact of the Film “Ah! Kaigun” (Navy)
	October 18:	Life of Fumimaro Konoe (1): From Birth to Home Ministry Nitobe Inazo, Kitaro Nishida, and the Liberal Arts
	December 18:	Life of Fumimaro Konoe (2) <Supplement>: Modern and Contemporary History and Politics of Japan’s Imperial Family
	2019	
	January 24:	Life of Fumimaro Konoe (3): “Left-Leaning Aristocrats” and American-Style Citizenship
	February 13:	February 26 Incident
	March 13:	Life of Fumimaro Konoe (4): From the House of Peers and Three-Faction Cabinet to the Hamaguchi Cabinet
	April 10:	Life of Fumimaro Konoe (5): Manchurian Incident, May 15 Incident, Democracy Paradox
	May 9:	Life of Fumimaro Konoe (6): U.S. Visit, Pure Japanese-Style Education, Home Democracy
	June 6:	Populism and Parliamentary Politics Seen through First Universal Suffrage Election and the Government of the Giichi Tanaka Cabinet

Date held	September 25: Screening of “Human Torpedo Special Attack Force”
	November 6: February 26 Incident (1): Showa Restoration Movement and Factional Army Conflict
	2020
	January 24: February 26 Incident (2): From Coup Plan to Incident Development
	February 13: The February 26 Incident Seen through the Film “Jusatsu” (Death by Firing Squad)
	November 27: Gyokusai (“shattered jewels”), Special Attack Forces, and the End of the Pacific War: War, Diplomacy, and the National Will
	December 22: Life of Fumimaro Konoe (7): The Three Years Before Becoming Prime Minister (1934-37)
	2021
	February 2: Japanese Political and Social Thought in the Interwar Period: From Anarchism to Reformist Bureaucrats
	March 5: February 26 Incident (3): Immediate Aftermath
	April 5: Life of Takeyo Nakatani: From Ikki Kita to Yuriko Koike “Who is the Originator of Article 9 of the Constitution of Japan?”
	June 16: The Boom of World War I and “The Story of Poverty”

Date held	July 28:	“Minyo” (Folk Song) and The New-Minyo Movement: “Regeneration of Cultural Localism in Modern and Contemporary History of Japan”
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2022

January 24:	Bibliographical Introduction of Tokyo Army Military Proceedings on February 26 Incident
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March 2:	Road to the Pacific War and Present Day Japan: Historical Process and Problems
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Members	<p>Zentaro Kamei (Leader) Senior Fellow, PHP Institute, Inc. Specially Appointed Professor, Graduate School of Social Design Studies, Rikkyo University</p> <p>Takashi Mihara Senior Researcher, NLI Research Institute</p> <p>Kiyotada Tsutsui Professor and Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Teikyo University Senior Researcher, Policy Research Institute, Tokyo Foundation</p> <p>Yoshimasa Hayashi Member, House of Representatives</p> <p>Takeaki Matsumoto Member, House of Representatives</p> <p>Motohisa Furukawa Member, House of Representatives</p> <p>Takao Ochi Member, House of Representatives</p> <p>Tatsuo Fukuda Member, House of Representatives</p> <p>Koji Matsui Professor, Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University Director and Senior Researcher, Platform for Social Innovation Director, Ikenobo Junior College</p>
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Members

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