CURRENT PROJECTS

Corporate Governance in Japan: Organizational Diversity and Institutional Change
(With Hideaki Miyajima, Waseda University and Masahiko Aoki, RIETI and Stanford University).

This edited book project examines the on-going transformations in Japanese corporate governance with special attention to how institutional erosion and reforms impact organizational practices across corporations. We will bring together leading specialists to provide up-to-date empirical analyses of topics such as changes to the main bank system, cross-shareholding, the impact of foreign investors, the role of employee participation, human resource management, corporate law reform, board of directors, management practice, and corporate restructuring.

The Determinants of Cross-National Diversity of Corporate Governance
(With Ruth Aguilera, University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana)

This on-going work concerns developing conceptual frameworks to compare the diversity of corporate governance systems, and examine institutional determinants of these differences. Our approach combines insights from comparative institutional analysis of national business systems with Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) using a fuzzy sets approach. We compile a database with institutional indicators and firm-level ownership data for 22 OECD countries. Our first paper looks at the determinants of corporate ownership papers as an empirical critique of the studies by LLSV.

Changing Boundaries of the Firm and Employee Representation
(With Mari Sako, Said School of Business, Oxford University).

The project investigates how employment systems (including worker representation and participation mechanisms) affect the boundary of the firm in industries experiencing major restructuring. Empirically, we conduct a comparative case study of NTT and Deutsche Telekom.

Continuity and Discontinuity in Institutional Analysis
(Project Coordinators Wolfgang Streeck, Max Planck Institute and Kathleen Thelen, Northwestern).

Explores general properties of institutional change through empirical analysis of contemporary political economy with particular focus on incremental forms of change (institutional erosion, learning, etc.). My contribution concerns applying sociological theories of action to institutional change, particularly focusing on the role of situational ambiguity for processes of institutional adaptation. I apply my theoretical framework empirically to the historical evolution of employee codetermination in Germany.

On-Line Forum “Corporate Governance Japan”
Founder and Editor of Japanese/English on-line forum for policy debate among academics and practitioners. Contributions from leading academics and interviews with corporate management and other stakeholders. http://www.rieti.go.jp/cgj