

## Dr Robert Madsen

Senior Fellow - Center for International Studies  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Speaker and Advisor on Global and East Asian  
Geopolitics, Economics and Finance



With an extensive background in global, East Asian, European and American affairs, Robert Madsen deals with the major issues confronting the world economy while skillfully addressing the ripple effects on various countries, industries and corporations.

### Professional experience

- Robert Madsen has a strong foundation in the field of East Asian and global politics and economics, regularly advising businesses on the challenges they face in the world economy.
- He has wide international exposure, having spent five years in Japan, three in Greater China and three in the United Kingdom. He has studied languages and conducted research in formal programmes in four countries and has traveled in over 65.
- Robert has given formal speeches and presentations to many university audiences, civic groups, industry associations, and government think-tanks as well as producing numerous written reports for such bodies.
- He has also delivered dozens of personal briefings for leaders of major East Asian, North American and European companies as well as to some of the world's leading advisory councils and institutions.
- Robert is a Senior Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) where he works on global and East Asian geopolitics, politics and economics.
- He additionally helps several companies with global and regional forecasting and scenario analysis while tackling such specific topics as the worldwide financial crisis, fiscal and monetary trends in the major economies, exchange rates and foreign reserves management, the future of the dollar, relations between East Asia and the Middle East and the troubled outlook for the Euro zone.
- Robert is an equity partner in several private equity and venture capital funds, a practice that enables him to invest on the basis of his own analysis.

### Books, published papers, media

- He contributes to numerous publications, including the *Australian Financial Review*, *BBC*, *Business Times* (Singapore), *The Economist*, *Expresso* (Portugal), *Nikkei Shimbun* (Japan), *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *Financial Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs* and the *International Herald Tribune*.
- Robert has written the Economist Intelligence Unit's Japan Country Reports for well over a decade and occasionally contributed to their analysis of China and broader East Asian markets.
- He has given interviews to CNBC, the BBC, National Public Radio, *Expresso* (Portugal), *Japan Times*, and the *LA Times*, and is regularly quoted and cited in such leading publications as the *Financial Times* and *The Economist*.

### Sample assignments

- Over the last 18 months Robert Madsen has spoken on the 2008-2009 economic crisis and “currency wars” at two major investor conferences run by MNS management and the annual meeting of the International Manganese Institute (IMnI); the rise of China at a gathering of government analysts in Berkeley, California; East Asian economics and politics for the management teams of two Asian private equity funds; Chinese fiscal policy and infrastructure strategy at a commodities conference; and the global financial crisis at a joint conference of the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) and the Japan Economic Foundation (JEF).
- He is a frequent consultant to several major multinational corporations and investment groups, addressing salient economic, political and financial trends in East Asia, Europe, the United States and the world; the course and implications of the 2008-2009 financial crisis; and emergent events like Japan’s March earthquake, shocks in commodity markets, and Greece’s serial problems.
- Major clients for advisory work or presentations have included Chevron, Oracle, Soros Private Funds Management, the Robert M Bass Group, and several private equity and macroeconomic hedge funds.

### Sample presentation topics

- The Global Imbalances and Their Economic Implications.
- World Macroeconomics and Politics.
- Global Fiscal and Monetary Policies.
- Global and Regional Currency Wars.
- Chinese, Japanese and East Asian Politics and Economics.
- The Future of the Eurozone and Its Implications for Asia and the United States.
- The Decline of the West and the Rise of the Rest.
- The End of the Welfare State(s).

### Robert Madsen - Personal bio-data

- Robert Madsen is a Member of the Executive Council at Unison Capital, one of Japan’s premier private equity groups, where he has worked closely with the CEOs of Orix, Dai-Ichi Life, Lawson and other prominent Japanese corporations.
- He was previously Senior Economist and Advisor at Asia Alternatives, a fund-of-funds, and worked on retainer as a consultant to Caxton Corporation, a prominent macroeconomic hedge fund as well as doing individual projects for several other investment groups.
- Before joining MIT in 2004, Robert was a Fellow at Stanford University’s Asia-Pacific Research Center, Asia Strategist at Soros Private Funds Management and an advisor to the Robert M. Bass Group on its investments in Japanese real estate.
- He began his professional career as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company, focusing on financial institutions and international commerce.
- Robert holds a J.D., with distinction, from Stanford Law School and is a member of the California State Bar. At Stanford, he won the Olin Prize in Law & Economics (1989) and the Franklin Prize in International Law (1993).
- He graduated Summa cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard University’s Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and then entered Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, where he studied under the faculty of International Relations and earned a Master’s degree, with distinction, and a Doctorate.
- Robert speaks fluent Japanese and Mandarin.