

## **Robert Ward**

**Director - Global Forecasting  
Economist Intelligence Unit**

Economist, Speaker, Advisor



### **Professional experience**

- Robert Ward is based in London and has about 20 years of experience analysing and forecasting the world's economies
- he oversees the Economist Intelligence Unit's global forecast and in cooperation with country specialists, also analyses key global economic trends, making sense of the complex dynamics in the region's economic, political and business spheres
- areas of special knowledge are the global economy including major exchange rates and interest rates, IMF/G7, monetary and fiscal policy, and the economies and politics in United States, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Western Europe, China, India as well as other emerging regions
- also the Economist Intelligence Unit's chief automotive analyst shaping the global automotive forecasts
- previously a senior member of the Asia team with special responsibility for Japan and the Koreas
- he conducts speeches and frequently visits clients to give briefings on the global economy and outlook
- interviewed regularly for his views on radio and television including BBC, CNN, CNBC Asia, Bloomberg

### **Published papers**

- editor of *Global outlook*, an Economist Intelligence Unit monthly publication
- highlights of articles published in Economist Group publications include: *Asia Regional Overview*, "Emerging Asia automotive markets—a reality Check", Jan 07; *The World in 2005*, "Japan Redux"; *The World in 2004*, "Ageing trailblazer—time to start learning from Japan again"; *Business Asia*, "The joy of ageing", May 2004; *Asia Regional Overview*, "Turning the tables: a comparison of Japanese and South Korean financial sector restructuring", Apr 2003
- opinion pieces in non-Economist Group publications include: *The Wall Street Journal*, "The Abe Shuffle", Sept 07; *The Wall Street Journal*, "Opposition Opportunity?", Jul 07; *Far Eastern Economic Review*, "After the Victory can Koizumi Deliver?", Sept 05 *Wall St Journal*, "A Nuclear Japan?", Mar 03; *Mainichi Shimbun*, "Nihon no Zaisei Saiken wa Zozei ga Kagi", Aug 03; *Chuo Koron*, "Mitsu no "D" wa Nihon wo Horobosu", Mar 03; *Yomiuri Shimbun*, "Zaisei Kaikaku Rosen Futatsu no Kekkaku", Jan 03

### Sample assignments

- has briefed the Chairmen, CEOs and regional heads of a wide range of financial, industrial, and service companies who are top global clients of the Economist Intelligence Unit.
- engagements have been presentations to board members, confidential personal briefings on global outlook or to the international management team, and kick-off presentations at a regional strategy and planning meeting

### Personal biography

- Robert lived in Japan in 1989-1996
- previously with the Japan Bond Research Institute (now Japan Rating and Investment Information), Japan's largest bond rating agency, where he was assigned to the international rating division
- a fluent speaker of Japanese and regularly contributes to international and Japanese media
- he also appears frequently on the BBC, CNN, CNBC and other broadcast media
- Robert holds a bachelors and a masters degree from Cambridge University

### Client testimonials

Comments from participants in conferences that Robert Ward has spoken at:

- *"One of the best presentations that I've heard on Japan"*
- *"You have a star speaker in Robert Ward. Thank you for lending him to our conference!"*
- *"His talk was informative, relevant, brilliantly focused and delivered with such style and aplomb"*
- Robert Ward regularly briefs clients of the Economist Intelligence Unit and the Economist Group, who include chairmen, CEOs and regional heads of a wide range of top financial, industrial and services companies. Recent engagements have included KPMG, Swire Group and Aozora Bank.
- He also speaks at a wide variety of outside forums, including, recently, IBM's financial services conference, Oxford University's Business Economics Programme and Enterprise Ireland's *Japan—Take a Closer Look*. He also appears regularly at Economist Group events including the Economist Intelligence Unit's Asia Strategic Forecast series and CFO and CEO conferences.