

Short Bio of Tetsuya Watanabe

Tetsuya Watanabe is the President of ERIA. Prior to joining ERIA, he was the Special Advisor to the Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI).

In his government career of over 30 years, he has held various key positions such as the Director General for the Trade Policy at METI and Chief Counsellor of the TPP Headquarters at the Cabinet Secretariat, where he led Japan's major trade policy initiatives and negotiations in the CPTPP, RCEP, and the WTO reforms. He was also the Vice President of RIETI, one of Japan's most prominent policy think tanks. He is currently a Visiting Professor at the Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Tokyo. His expertise covers trade and investment, supply chains, energy security, circular economy, digital innovation, startup ecosystem, and regional economic integration in Asia. He graduated from the University of Tokyo and Columbia University.