

## **Chujin Yun: “Japanese Multinational Corporations in East Asia: Status Quo or Sign of Changes?”**

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### **Abstract:**

The Japanese multinational corporations (MNCs) have organized the East Asian economies into their markets as well as production sites since the late 1960s. Through the process, they have established the systematic production networks, which are characterized by closeness and hierarchy. However, recently in the intensified competitive environment, there are some signs of changes in their East Asian networks. The paper aims at exploring the possibilities, mainly based on the results of the questionnaire surveys conducted by the Japanese governmental institutions. It will be structured as follows; first, it will make a brief survey of presence of Japanese MNCs in East Asia. In the following section, the basic features of the previous production networks will be explained in terms of evolutionary process and input-output structure. And in section four, it will be examined how Japanese MNCs try to deal with the recent changes of internal and external conditions, and the possibilities for reconfiguration of their production networks will be suggested in three dimensions: the Japanese industrial structure, the regional shift, and the local linkages in the host economies.