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**Democratic Control and Governmental Delegation
Reality and Prospects in Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy**

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Based on case analyses, this paper first points out why the Japanese government's share of research and development (R&D) expenditures is lower than those of France, Britain, and the US: (1) its science and technology (sci-tech) system was once dismantled (just after World War II), and its legacy remains there, (2) private companies have been allowed to work on R&D relatively autonomously from the government, and (3) political and administrative leadership has been absent in sci-tech decision-making. Second, this paper clarifies why Japan's R&D investment targets have not been achieved since the second version of the Sci-Tech Basic Plan in 2001: (1) uncertainty unique to sci-tech policy, (2) continuous intervention from the Ministry of Finance in the overall budget coordination, and (3) the recent transition from a politician-centred process, which once strongly promoted sci-tech policy, to a cabinet-centred process. Third, after a comparison with innovation policy and its implementation in the European Union and Sweden, which have similar ambitions as Japan but different policy systems, this paper concludes that (1) ex-ante budgetary control on sci-tech and innovation policy should be curbed and should delegate more responsibility to the department in charge and to ex-post impact (or output, at least) assessment,

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(2) budgetary coordination and implementation processes should be separated to avoid excessive democratic control on the latter, and (3) top-down sci-tech policy and bottom-up innovation policy should be recognized as distinct because their recommended policy tools and favourable ways of control differ.