

Abbreviations

ACCJ	American Chamber of Commerce in Japan
ADAM	Association de Défense des Actionnaires Minoritaires (French minority shareholders' defense association)
AFEP	Association Française des Entreprises Privées (peak association of large French enterprises)
BDI	Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (Federation of German Industry; peak political association of German employers)
BNP	Banque Nationale de Paris
CDA	Christendemocratische Partij (Dutch Christian Democratic Party)
CNPF	Conseil National du Patronat Français (name of the peak association of French employers from 1945–1998)
COB	Commission des Opérations de Bourse (the market-regulating authority in France)
CVSG	Corporate Value Study Group
EBC	European Business Council Japan
EU	European Union
FD	<i>Het Financieele Dagblad</i> (Dutch business newspaper)
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FFSA	Fédération Française des Sociétés d'Assurance (peak association of French insurance companies)
FSA	Financial Services Agency (Japan)
IDC	International Digital Communications
JSP	Japan Steel Partners
LDP	Liberal Democratic Party (Japan)
LPF	Lijst Pim Fortuyn (Pim Fortuyn List)
MAC	M&A Consulting
MEDEF	Mouvement des Entreprises de France (name of the peak Association of French employers since 1998)

MEP	Member of the European Parliament
METI	Ministry of the Economy, Trade, and Industry (Japan)
MoF	Ministry of Finance (Japan)
MoJ	Ministry of Justice (Japan)
MSP	Minority Shareholder Protection
MTFG	Mitsubishi Group
NBS	Nippon Broadcasting System
NLIR	Nippon Life Insurance Research Institute
NRE	Nouvelles Régulations Economiques (New Economic Regulations)
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PEJ	Project for Excellence in Journalism
PFA	Pension Fund Association (Japan)
PR	Proportional Representation
PvdA	Partij van de Arbeid (Dutch Labor Party)
SDC	Securities Data Corporation
SEC	Securities and Exchange Commission (United States)
SER	Sociaal Economische Raad (Dutch Social and Economic Council)
SocGen	Société Générale
TtB	Thomson One Banker
TOB	Tender Offer Bid
UAP	Union des Assurances de Paris (insurance company taken over by AXA in 1996)
UMP	Union pour un Mouvement Populaire (French Gaullist Party)
VEB	Vereniging van Effectenbezitters (Dutch Shareholders' Association)
VEUO	Vereniging Effecten Uitgevende Ondernemingen (Dutch Association of Securities-Issuing Companies)
VNO-NCW	Verbond van Nederlandse Ondernemingen – Nederlands Christelijk Werkgeversverbond (Peak Association of Dutch Employers)
VVD	Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie (People's Party for Freedom and Democracy, the Dutch Liberal Party)