



Dear friends of the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle,

Our bi-monthly newsletter, "From Japan to the Northwest," is intended to share important and interesting information related to Japan, our region, and the Consulate's activities. You can find current and past issues of the newsletter [here](#).

1. [Video Message by Foreign Minister HAYASHI Yoshimasa of Japan At the Global Launch of the Special Report on Human Security](#)

On February 8, the Global Launch of the Special Report on Human Security was held online. FM Hayashi attended via video message.

In his video message, Minister Hayashi highlighted the importance of deepening discussions on human security with a view to addressing threats as the world continues to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Watch the [video message here](#), or [read the transcript here](#).

2. [Japan-U.S. Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk](#)

On February 2, FM Hayashi held a Japan-U.S. Foreign Ministers' telephone talk with the Honorable Antony Blinken, U.S. Secretary of State.

The two Ministers shared serious concern about North Korea's nuclear and missile activities including the ballistic missile launch on January 30, and concurred to continue close coordination, including with the Republic of Korea, toward the complete denuclearization of North Korea.

They also shared their grave concern regarding Russia's military build-up near Ukraine. Both sides confirmed their support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and concurred to continue close coordination between them.

3. [Visit of the IAEA Officials to Japan for Safety Review of the Handling of ALPS Treated Water at the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station](#)

From 14th to 18th of February, IAEA officials and international experts will conduct a safety review on ALPS treated water at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (FDNPS) and hold meetings with relevant ministries and Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) to discuss cooperation regarding the handling of ALPS treated water.

By continuing its cooperation with the IAEA, the Government of Japan will continue its efforts to promote an understanding regarding the handling of ALPS treated water through ensuring safety, confidence and transparency in the handling of the ALPS treated water.

4. [Participants invited: International Forum on acceptance of Foreign Nationals and their integration into Japan](#)

Under the overall theme of "Healthcare and Foreign Residents in Japan", and with a focus on utilization of medical interpreters, this forum will feature experts from Japan and abroad to provide opportunities to share their views and good practices, as well as a discussion by panelists.

The forum is open to all. Please see the link above for the registration page.

5. [Humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar](#)

The humanitarian situation in Myanmar has been deteriorating since the coup in February last year. According to the UN, many Myanmar citizens are forced to face difficulties in their lives with no way out due to the economic stagnation after the coup and the spread of COVID-19.

The Government of Japan has provided more than US \$20 million in humanitarian assistance since the coup to improve the humanitarian situation in Myanmar. Japan has also provided ambulances and oxygen concentrators in response to the outbreak of COVID-19.

Read FM Hayashi's [recent statement about the situation in Myanmar here](#).

6. Updates on the COVID-19 Situation in Japan

[- Daily COVID Data Updates](#)

For the latest information on how travel to Japan has been impacted by COVID-19, please see [this page on the Consulate's website](#).

7. Consulate News & Activities

NVC JUMP event and CG Awards

On January 29, a [community event](#), Beyond Reconciliation: Celebrate Japan-US Alliance and Honor Nisei Veterans of the Military Intelligence Service, was held at NVC Memorial Hall. [You can watch the program here](#).

During the event, Consul General Inagaki presented the Consul General's Award to Mr. Allen Nakamoto and Mr. Dale Kaku, former commanders of the Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC), in recognition of their contributions to the promotion of friendship and understanding between Japan and the United States.

Since 2013, Mr. Nakamoto and Mr. Kaku invited the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force and the 7th Infantry Division of the I Corps to NVC Memorial Hall for a social gathering on the occasion of their joint exercise at Yakima Training Center, creating a new framework for exchanges and greatly contributing to the promotion of Japan-U.S. security relations.



[Japan Currents Event: Empowering Women in Japan and the USA](#)

Join us in a conversation with three extraordinary women from diverse sectors - an American company in Japan, a non-profit organization, and government— about their diverse experiences and learn about their insights and strategies in navigating the challenges they have faced in their careers.

[Find more information here](#).

Japanese Film Festival Online 2022

The Japan Foundation's film festival begins Feb. 14 and ends on the 27th. Registration is required, but the films are free to view.

[Find more information here](#).

JCCCW Book Sale - February 26

Are you a big fan of Japanese books? Want to add to your collection? Don't miss out on their book sale being held this month by the Nikkei Bunko Library at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington (JCCCW).

[Find more information here](#).

That's it for this issue of "From Japan to the Northwest."

Until next time, thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

View past issues of "From Japan to the Northwest" here: https://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/08182021_e-newsletter.html

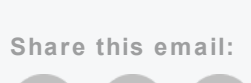
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