



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. Japan's Response to Military Actions by Russia in Ukraine

In response to recent actions taken by Russia in Ukraine, FM Hayashi made [statements](#) regarding Japan's response including [sanction measures](#), and efforts towards [stabilization of the energy market](#).

FM Hayashi stated that Japan condemns Russia's actions in the strongest terms and will continue to make efforts to improve the situation in cooperation with the international community, including the G7, standing with Ukraine and its people.

Prime Minister Kishida also made [statements](#) regarding the [situation in Ukraine](#). "We will do everything in our capacity to gather information first and foremost and grasp the actual situation," Kishida said. "Whatever the case may be, the situation is tense, and I intend to engage with this matter acting in cooperation with the G7 as well as the international community."

### 2. [The Fourth Japan-Australia-India-U.S. \(Quad\) Foreign Ministers' Meeting](#)

On February 11, FM Hayashi attended the Fourth Japan- Australia-India-U.S. (Quad) Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

The four ministers reaffirmed the recognition that the existing international order has been under challenge in various fields, including unilateral attempts to change the status quo and economic coercion, and that the responsibility of the four countries, which share fundamental values and are committed to promoting a free and open international order based on the rule of law, is increasing even more.

Read the [full text of the Quad Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement here](#) (PDF).

During his visit to Australia, FM Hayashi also participated in bilateral and trilateral meetings [with the U.S.](#), and [the U.S. and the Republic of Korea](#), respectively.

Read FM Hayashi's [statement, and Q&A session, following the meetings here](#).

### 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 February 14 to 18, IAEA officials and international experts visited Japan. During the visit, they conducted an IAEA's Safety Review on ALPS-treated water at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (FDNPS) and held meetings with relevant ministries and Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) to discuss cooperation regarding the handling of ALPS-treated water.

In the meetings with METI and TEPCO, based on the IAEA's safety standards, the mission experts reviewed technical aspects related to the radiological characterization of the water to be discharged, the safety-related aspects of the water discharge process, and Japan's assessment of the radiological environmental impact regarding the protection of people and the environment.

The report of the review mission is expected to be issued by the IAEA in April.

Following the visit, on February 24, [a video conference briefing session for diplomatic missions was held](#). In the session, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry explained the overview of the visit of the IAEA's officials to Japan. 44 participants from 34 countries and regions attended the session.

### 4. [International Forum on Acceptance of Foreign Nationals and their Integration into Japan](#)

On March 2, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) will host the FY2021 "International Forum on Acceptance of Foreign Nationals and their Integration into Japan" under the overall theme of "Healthcare and Foreign Residents in Japan."

The event is scheduled to start from 13:00 to 17:00(JST) on March 2. If you would like to attend, please register in advance from the following link: <https://ws.formzu.net/fgen/S95162465/>

[More information about the program \(PDF\)](#).

### 5. 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](#).

### 6. Consulate News & Activities

[National Day Celebration](#)

On February 17, Consul General and Mrs. Inagaki hosted the 2022 Japanese National Day Celebration on the occasion of the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor Naruhito. The virtual event featured greetings from Governor Jay Inslee and Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell.

During the celebration, Consul General Inagaki presented the Consul General's Award to Ms. Narachiyo Sekine for her longstanding efforts to strengthen the relationship between the Japanese and the Japanese American communities in the region through her activities in organizations such as Kisaragi-kai and the Japanese Community Service of Seattle/Seattle Nikkeijin-kai.

[View a recording of the virtual event here](#).



[Japanese Restaurant Day - Sushi Kappo Tamura](#)

For Japanese Restaurant Day this month, Consul General Inagaki visited Sushi Kappo Tamura in Seattle with special guests: Consul General of Canada Mia Yen and her husband Mr. John Higginbotham!

[Japanese Film Festival](#)

The Japanese Film Festival has been going on until the 27th of this month. Be sure to [check out some of this year's films](#) if you haven't already!

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-newletter.html](https://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/08182021_e-newletter.html)

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