



# From Japan to the Northwest

News From the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle



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

Our 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 [past issues of the newsletter here](#).



Credit: Japan National Tourism Organization

Welcome to the June 2024 edition of From Japan to the Northwest!

In this edition, we will cover the G7 Summit held in Italy earlier this month, spotlight the evolving relations between Japan and Ukraine, and inform about Japan Fair, which will be held at the end of this month.

We will continue a **once-a-month publication schedule** to bring you the most important news from Japan and our region. Please be sure to **follow us on social media by clicking the icons below** for more frequent updates on local Japan-related events and the consulate's activities.



# 1. G7 Summit in Apulia

## [G7 Summit in Apulia and Bilateral Summit Meetings: First Day](#)



Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

On June 13, 2024 (local time), Prime Minister Kishida visited Apulia in the Italian Republic to attend the G7 Apulia Summit.

After being welcomed by H.E. Ms. Giorgia Meloni, President of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic, Prime Minister Kishida [attended Session 1 on Africa, Climate Change and Development](#).

In the afternoon, Prime Minister Kishida [attended Session 2 on Middle East](#) and [Session 3 on Ukraine](#). Prime Minister Kishida then [held a Summit meeting with H.E. Mr. Volodymyr Zelenskyy, President of Ukraine](#).

Next, Prime Minister Kishida [attended a side-event on the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment \(PGII\)](#), followed by his attendance at a flag ceremony.

Lastly, Prime Minister Kishida attended a welcome ceremony hosted by H.E. Mr. Sergio Mattarella, President of the Italian Republic.

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## [G7 Summit in Apulia and Bilateral Summit Meetings: Second Day](#)





Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

On June 14, 2024 (local time), Prime Minister Kishida, visiting Apulia in the Italian Republic to attend the Apulia G7 Summit, [attended Session 4 on Migration](#), [held informal talks with the Rt. Hon. Rishi Sunak, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland](#), [informal talks with H. E. Dr. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission](#), and a [conversation with the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States of America](#).

Afterwards, the Prime Minister [attended Session 5 \(Working Lunch\) on Indo-Pacific and Economic Security](#), [held informal talks with H.E. Ms. Giorgia Meloni, President of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic](#), and [had a conversation with H. E. Mr. Javier Milei, President of the Argentine Republic](#).

Next, the Prime Minister [attended Session 6 on Artificial Intelligence, Energy, and Africa-Mediterranean](#), before [holding a Summit meeting with the Right Honorable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada](#), and [with H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India](#), respectively.

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## 2. Japan-Ukraine Relations

[\*\*Video Message by Prime Minister Kishida at Japan-Ukraine Public-Private Roundtable\*\*](#)



Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

On June 10, there was a roundtable between Japan and Ukraine in Berlin, Germany. For this roundtable, Prime Minister Kishida made a speech via video. The summary of what he said is as follows:

Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan, expressed his enthusiasm in hosting the Japan-Ukraine Public-Private Roundtable, a follow-up to the Tokyo Conference in February where companies from both nations convened. He extended heartfelt admiration to the Ukrainian people for their resilience in defending freedom against ongoing Russian aggression. Japan reaffirmed its steadfast support for Ukraine through collaborative efforts spanning public-private sectors, emphasizing peace restoration and reconstruction.

Prime Minister Kishida highlighted the pivotal role of companies in Ukraine's recovery, underscoring achievements from the earlier Japan-Ukraine Conference where private sector initiatives were prominently featured. He described this support as an investment in the future, benefiting not only Ukraine but also contributing to global welfare. Encouraging companies to view this endeavor as an opportunity, he pledged support amidst challenges and risks uncommon in their usual business contexts.

The new cooperation projects unveiled at the roundtable were commended as a testament to the shared aspirations of enterprises from both nations. Japan reiterated its commitment to principles of inclusiveness, partnership, and knowledge/technology, aligned with strategic actions outlined in February, including the establishment of a JETRO Kyiv office. Additionally, Japan responded to Ukraine's recent energy crisis by enhancing energy infrastructure, recognizing stable energy supply as vital to daily life and business operations.

Prime Minister Kishida conveyed best wishes for the success of both governments and participating companies, affirming Japan's enduring solidarity with Ukraine.

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### [Summit on Peace in Ukraine](#)



Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

Summit on Peace in Ukraine was held by the Swiss government for the first time since the start of the Russian aggression against Ukraine to promote international discussions for realizing a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in Ukraine, with attendees including Mr. Zelenskyy, President of Ukraine and leaders of more than 100 countries and international organizations from various parts of the world. From Japan, Prime Minister Kishida attended to the opening plenary session on the evening of 15 May (local time).

During the session, Prime Minister Kishida stated that he was pleased to see the Summit being taken place today on the basis of the discussion at G7 Hiroshima June last year while noting that the same principles had been confirmed through the discussions with President Zelenskyy and leaders of the invited countries at the last year's Summit in Hiroshima.

Following this, Prime Minister Kishida emphasized that peace in Ukraine should be a “just and lasting peace” based on international law and should not be the one that justifies unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion. He continued to say that this “just and lasting peace” in Ukraine is symbolically important in leading the entire international community towards a world of cooperation rather than one of division and confrontation.

Prime Minister Kishida also stated that Japan would actively contribute to the discussions on nuclear safety as a co-chair, which was one of the main themes of the Summit. Prime Minister Kishida then stated that Japan would host an international conference on Ukraine mine action next year, and that Japan will continue to contribute to this in a uniquely Japanese way.

### 3. Consulate News & Activities



## Japan Fair 2024



Credit: Japan Fair

Japan Fair is a free, two-day festival in Bellevue, WA across the lake from Seattle that celebrates Japanese art and culture. Formerly known as "Aki Matsuri", Japan Fair is a communal endeavor of musicians, artisans, community organizations, and businesses from both Japan and the U.S. who come together to share their products, talents, and knowledge of Japan. Through live performances on stage, hands-on exhibits, cultural workshops, and vendor booths, the public is immersed in the music, dance, artisanry, and philosophy of Japan.

The fair will be happening at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue for two days: June 29, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m., and June 30, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Come say hi at the consulate's booth, and don't miss the onstage finale featuring Deputy Consul General Sumi!

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

Thank you for reading. Until next month!

Sincerely,  
Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

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View [past issues of "From Japan to the Northwest" here.](#)

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