

Video Message from
Mr. HAYASHI Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
Three Seas Summit 2022, Riga, Latvia

Your Excellency Mr. LEVITS, President of the Republic of Latvia,
Distinguished participants,

Greetings from Tokyo. I am honored to say a few words on behalf
of Japan at the Three Seas Summit.

Bolstering regional cohesion and connectivity across the Baltic
states and Central and Eastern Europe has always been an
integral part of achieving a strong, prosperous and united Europe.
Especially now, faced with Russia's aggression against Ukraine,
there is a renewed sense of urgency in bringing people together
to advance this agenda. Thus, the Three Seas Initiative is now
more significant than ever.

Japan, as a like-minded partner to this region sharing
fundamental values and principles, is keen to step up our
engagement with this Initiative. Japan was one of the very first
countries to recognize the independence of the Baltic nations

more than 100 years ago and it was the first country in Asia to engage the Visegrád Four (V4). Building on such long-standing friendly ties, Japanese companies can contribute, with their cutting-edge technologies and expertise, to strengthening connectivity and developing infrastructure in the areas of energy, transport and digitalization, where the Three Seas Initiative focuses on. The Government of Japan is ready to encourage Japanese companies to participate actively in projects under this Initiative, and we are keen to work more closely with member countries to that end.

Finally, with the deep awareness that the security of Europe and Indo-Pacific is inseparable, Japan remains determined to confront the current situation in Europe together with our like-minded partners in the region, including providing assistance for Ukraine and its neighboring countries. At the same time, Japan is committed to working actively with the members of the Three Seas Initiative to enhance their resilience and prosperity.

Thank you for your kind attention.