

Japan-EU Summit 2025

Joint Statement

We, the Leaders of Japan and of the European Union (EU), held our 30th Japan-EU Summit in Tokyo, Japan on 23 July 2025 and concluded the following:

1. The Japan-EU Strategic Partnership has never been stronger than today, and it matters more than ever. Japan and the EU firmly share **values and principles** such as the rule of law, fundamental freedoms, democracy, human rights, and open, free and fair trade. We will further strengthen our partnership in all aspects, with the Japan-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement and the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) as the legal foundations.
2. Our closer cooperation has become all the more important against the backdrop of an evolving and **complex global geopolitical setting**, notably Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the serious challenges to a free and open Indo-Pacific, as well as other regional and international issues.
3. We are committed to **working with like-minded international partners** to address these challenges, thereby upholding our strong commitment to effective, inclusive, equitable, and stable global governance, as well as multilateralism and international order based on the rule of law, with respect for international law, including the Charter of the United Nations (UN) at its core.

Security and Defence Cooperation

4. The security of **Europe and the Indo-Pacific** are interconnected. We appreciate respective efforts by Japan and the EU to **strengthen defence capabilities**, and concur on exploring further cooperation between Japan and the EU in the area of security and defence, notably through the Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue and the Japan-EU Security and Defence Dialogue.
5. Japan and the EU face many common challenges and are committed to work together to implement the **Japan-EU Security and Defence Partnership**, in areas such as cybersecurity, hybrid threats, including foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI), maritime security, space security, disarmament, non-proliferation, and women, peace and security.
6. We recognise that strengthening the defence industry base is a common priority for Japan and the EU and look forward to launching the **Japan-EU Defence Industry Dialogue**, and to further cooperation in the defence industry field.
7. We recognise the importance of **maritime security**, including ensuring freedom of navigation and overflight and protecting critical undersea infrastructure, in accordance with international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

8. We welcome the start of formal negotiations on the Japan-EU **Security of Information Agreement**.

Contributing to a Rules-based International Economic Order, Deepening Our Economic Security and Resilience, and Enhancing Competitiveness

9. Based on the economic partnership cultivated over the past 50 years, Japan and the EU continue to contribute to maintaining and strengthening a **stable and predictable rules-based free and fair economic order**. We reaffirm the importance of Japan-EU cooperation to uphold the free and rules-based multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, as well as promotion of other multilateral cooperation efforts, in particular with the aim of ensuring a level playing field through our coordinated efforts.

10. We reaffirm the importance of jointly addressing the increasing common economic security risks to maintain resilient and sustainable economic growth and leading discussions in international fora such as the G7 and OECD.

11. We will enhance our cooperation on increasing supply chain resilience and reducing strategic dependencies, including **strengthening and diversifying critical minerals supply chains**, and address economic coercion and non-market policies and practices. We will enhance our cooperation to promote and protect critical and emerging technologies. Acknowledging the importance of various pathways toward net-zero, we also confirm our close cooperation in the field of energy.

12. In this context, we launch the **Japan-EU Competitiveness Alliance** to further enhance our joint competitiveness in a strategic manner and grow together through cooperation between Japan and the EU.

13. We recognise the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Japan-EU EPA in strengthening the resilience of our trade and investment relations and ensuring that our citizens and business community fully benefit from the opportunities the EPA creates. We welcome the discussion at the sixth **Japan-EU High-Level Economic Dialogue** held in Tokyo on 8 May 2025 and endorse the expansion of the Japan-EU High-Level Economic Dialogue to strengthen strategic economic cooperation between Japan and the EU, in particular in key areas such as economic security, trade and industrial policy, including the promotion of investment opportunities.

14. We will continue to promote enhanced cooperation based on the Japan-EU Green Alliance, the Japan-EU Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure, and the Japan-EU Digital Partnership.

Uphold Multilateralism with the United Nations at Its Core

15. It is essential to strengthen **global commitment to the UN** and respect of international law. The UN, the core of today's multilateral order, celebrates its 80th anniversary in 2025. Japan and the EU will

continue to uphold the UN Charter and the fundamental principles it enshrines. We remain strong, predictable and reliable partners of the UN, including in driving forward the UN80 initiative, to deliver on a more effective, cost-efficient, transparent and responsive UN.

16. We highly appreciate the continuous expansion of Japan-EU cooperation across various fields based on **multilateralism**, such as peace and security, trade, human rights and gender equality, disarmament and non-proliferation, space, climate and environment, humanitarian aid, development, fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime, cyber and artificial intelligence, research, education and culture, labour, and transportation.
17. We recognise that the triple planetary crisis of **climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution** is an existential threat, and stand firmly by the Paris Agreement, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant multilateral environmental instruments and frameworks. We will work with all partners to accelerate a global, just and inclusive green transition. We remain committed to contribute to a successful outcome of COP30, stressing that further mitigation ambition is needed globally in this critical decade and beyond.

Regional Issues

18. We restate our resolute condemnation of **Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine**, which constitutes a manifest violation of international law, in particular the UN Charter.
19. We emphasise our commitment to ensuring a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in Ukraine, which respects **Ukraine's** independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to providing continued political, financial, economic, humanitarian, security and defence and diplomatic support to Ukraine for as long as it takes. We join Ukraine and international partners in calling for a full, unconditional ceasefire and meaningful talks for genuine peace aimed at ending Russia's war of aggression and restoring a comprehensive, just and lasting peace based on the principles of the UN Charter.
20. We will continue to put **pressure on Russia**, including through sanctions and measures aimed at tackling circumvention. We confirm that, consistent with all applicable laws and our respective legal systems, Russian sovereign assets in our jurisdictions should remain immobilised until Russia ends its war of aggression against Ukraine and pays for the damage it has caused to Ukraine. We are committed to ensuring full accountability for war crimes and other serious crimes committed in connection with Russia's war of aggression, including through our support for the establishment of the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine. We also remain committed to supporting Ukraine's repair, recovery and reconstruction, including through the Ukraine Donor Platform and the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Rome in July 2025.

21. We condemn support by **third parties** and actors and entities therein, which enable Russia to sustain its war of aggression against Ukraine, and urge all parties to immediately cease any such direct or indirect assistance to Russia, including aiding in the circumvention of sanctions and providing Russia with dual-use materials. In particular, we strongly condemn Russia's increasing military cooperation with **North Korea**. We share the concern that any support from Russia to North Korea may exacerbate the already tense environment on the Korean Peninsula. We urge Russia and North Korea to immediately cease all such activities and abide by the UN Charter and all relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions.¹
22. We also reaffirm our continued support for the **Republic of Moldova's** sovereignty and territorial integrity, enhancing the country's resilience in dealing with the consequences of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and with any interference with Moldovan democracy by foreign entities and their proxies, in particular in the run-up to the Parliamentary elections.
23. Japan and the EU affirm the importance of upholding international law to promote peace and prosperity in the free and open Indo-Pacific. We reiterate our serious concern about the situations in the **East China Sea as well as the South China Sea** and continue to strongly oppose any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion. We express serious concerns about the militarisation of the disputed features, coercion and intimidation in the South China Sea. We reaffirm the importance of upholding freedom of navigation and overflight and of the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law, in particular UNCLOS. We underscore the importance of peace and stability across the **Taiwan Strait** as indispensable to security and prosperity in the international community. We reaffirm that our basic policies on Taiwan remain unchanged. We call for the peaceful resolution of cross-Strait issues. We reiterate our opposition to any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion.
24. We strongly condemn the advancement of **North Korea's** nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, and reaffirm the commitment to the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in accordance with UNSC resolutions. We also call on all UN member states to fully implement all relevant UNSC resolutions. We express grave concern over and the need to address together North Korea's malicious cyber activities including cryptocurrency thefts. We urge North Korea to allow access to humanitarian aid organisations, to respect human rights, and in particular to immediately resolve the abductions issue.
25. Japan and the EU are committed to advancing regional peace and stability in the **Middle East**. We reaffirm our commitment to achieving an immediate and permanent ceasefire in **Gaza**, the release of all

¹ All of the above is without prejudice to the specific character of the security and defence policy of certain EU Member States, and taking into account the security and defence interests of all Member States, in accordance with the EU Treaties. European Union notes the reservations of one Member State regarding the strategic direction of certain EU policies towards Ukraine.

hostages, and the unimpeded flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza, in line with the principles of humanitarian action. We recall that all parties must ensure the protection of all civilians, including humanitarian workers, at all times. We underline the importance of pursuing a lasting and sustainable peace based on a two-state solution. We strongly condemn the further deterioration of the situation in the West Bank. We express our support for the people of **Syria**, as it works towards a peaceful, inclusive and stable political future. We also affirm our support for **Lebanon**'s efforts towards stabilisation, reconstruction and reform agenda.

26. We welcome the cessation of hostilities between **Israel and Iran** and urge all parties to abide by international law, show restraint, and refrain from taking action which could lead to a new escalation. We have always been clear that Iran must never be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapon and that it must comply with its legally binding nuclear safeguard obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) including its comprehensive Safeguards agreement. We call on Iran to resume full cooperation with the IAEA, the sole impartial international body responsible for verifying Iran's compliance with its nuclear non-proliferation obligations and commitments. This will be key for a diplomatic settlement of the issue. Furthermore, we underscore the centrality of the NPT as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and consider that it is essential that Iran remains party to and fully implements its obligations under the Treaty. We will continue to contribute to all diplomatic efforts to reduce tensions and to bring about a lasting, comprehensive and verifiable diplomatic solution to the Iranian nuclear issue, which can only be achieved through negotiations. We also express our concerns about the military cooperation between Russia and Iran.
27. Japan and the EU note with grave concern the deteriorating humanitarian and human rights situation in **Afghanistan**. We underscore the Taliban's responsibility to ensure full compliance with all of Afghanistan's international legal obligations, particularly in respect of human rights and to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a safe haven for terrorism.

Conclusion

28. We welcome the successful organisation of the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan.
29. We acknowledge the substantive progress achieved in our bilateral relations and reaffirm our commitment to further strengthening our strategic partnership.