



**KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America)**  
**Inbound program for Congressional Leaders the 1st slot**  
**Program Report**

**1. Program Overview**

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 5 Congressional Leaders from the U.S. visited Japan from August 5 to August 11, 2018 to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan with regard to Japanese politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. Through the lectures, observations and interactions with Japanese people etc., the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan.

**[Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants]**

United States of America: 5 participants

**[Prefectures Visited]**

Tokyo, Kanagawa, Fukuoka, Nagasaki

**2. Program Schedule**

Aug. 5 (Sun)	[Arrival]
Aug. 6 (Mon)	[Lecture] Economic Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs [Lecture] National Security Secretariat [Courtesy Call] U.S. Embassy in Japan [Lecture] Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry [Lecture] Ministry of Defense
Aug. 7 (Tue)	[Observation] Meiji Jingu Shrine [Observation] Sogo Spring Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
Aug. 8 (Wed)	Move from Tokyo to Fukuoka [Observation] Kushida Shrine, Hakatamachiya Furusatokan, Kawabata shopping district [Courtesy Call] U.S. Consulate Fukuoka
Aug. 9 (Thu)	Move to Nagasaki from Fukuoka [Observation] Glover House, Oura Catholic Church [Observation] Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum, Peace Park [Observation] Urano Co., Ltd., Nagasaki Plant
Aug. 10 (Fri)	[Courtesy Call] Mayor of Sasebo City [Observation] Sasebo Museum of the Maritime Self Defense Force (Sail Tower) [Observation] U.S. Fleet Activities Sasebo [Observation] Umegae Sake Brewery Move from Nagasaki to Tokyo
Aug. 11 (Sat)	[Observation] Asakusa Nakamise-dori Street [Departure]

### 3. Program Photos

	
<p>8/6 [Lecture] Economic Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>	<p>8/7 [Observation] Meiji Jingu Shrine</p>
	
<p>8/7 [Observation] Sogo Spring Manufacturing Company Ltd.</p>	<p>8/9 [Observation] Urano Co., Ltd., Nagasaki Plant</p>
	
<p>8/10 [Courtesy Call] Mayor of Sasebo City</p>	<p>8/10 [Observation] Umegae Sake Brewery</p>

### 4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

Learning and understanding the economic perspective of the Japanese government in relation to TPP and trade agreements was very helpful for my work on international trade policy. I also greatly enjoyed hearing the perspective of the Ministry of Defense on the security environment in the region and how we can better work together to improve joint activities and exercises. These two meetings with the Ministry of Defense and the National Security Secretariat were both very interesting and I learned a lot that I will take back with me to Washington and think about as we assess our strategic posture in the Asia Pacific region. Finally, I loved going to the baseball game. It was so much fun and a unique opportunity to talk to young people and participate in a cultural activity in Tokyo. It was very different than American baseball games, and I think much more fun!