

International Expert Conference
on the Recovery, Reconstruction and Modernisation of Ukraine
Video Message by Japanese Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio

I am KISHIDA Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan.

To begin, I would like to pay special tribute to German Chancellor Scholz, Chair of the G7, and European Commission President von der Leyen, who are hosting this International Expert Conference, and to reiterate our solidarity with President Zelensky and the people of Ukraine.

Japan strongly condemns Russia's missile attacks on civilians and civilian facilities in various parts of Ukraine and threats to use nuclear weapons, as these actions are in no way justifiable. It is important for us to be united in strongly promoting support for Ukraine as well as sanctions against Russia.

The medium- to long-term reconstruction of Ukraine must firstly be based on Ukrainian ownership of the process. Secondly, all countries, institutions, and enterprises engaged in assistance must share the overall picture of reconstruction. And thirdly, they must operate in a transparent and fair manner in line with international rules and standards. Moreover, reconstruction requires a framework that will enable it to gain the support of the broader international community, including the EU and the countries participating in this conference.

In addition to protection and support for displaced people, provision of health and medical services, and food aid, the Government of Japan has been providing support to Ukraine in preparation for the coming harsh winter, including the provision of heating equipment in reception centers for displaced people and protection against cold. Furthermore, Japan will

continue to provide assistance to Ukraine based on our country's unique knowledge and strengths. For example, we have shared with the Ukrainian government our experience in sorting and reusing debris from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake to help with the reconstruction process, so that Ukraine can make use of debris resulting from the Russian invasion. We will continue to play an active role in providing further assistance to the people of Ukraine as needed.

Japan will actively contribute to this process and ensure that the insights and discussions from today's conference lead to concrete initiatives for comprehensive reconstruction and rehabilitation, and to the realization of necessary reforms in Ukraine.

Next year Japan will assume the G7 presidency. Toward the speedy restoration of peace and reconstruction in Ukraine, Japan will make utmost efforts and positive contributions and actively lead discussion within the international community.

I would like to express my sincere congratulations to our hosts for the successful organization of today's conference, and to close my speech by reiterating that Japan stands firmly with Ukraine. Thank you.