

The annual Conference of Ambassadors of Ukraine

Video Message by the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs HAYASHI Yoshimasa

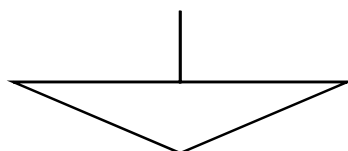
It is my great pleasure to congratulate you on "the Day of the Diplomatic Service of Ukraine", and to address the annual Conference of Ambassadors of Ukraine on behalf of the Government of Japan.

Russia's aggression against Ukraine is an outrageous act, which shakes the very foundation of the international order.

Japan has consistently supported Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and strongly opposes unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force.

Japan has implemented strong sanctions against Russia, and provided support for Ukraine, including humanitarian assistance, financial support and the provision of defense equipment.

Japan has also been receiving persons who have fled from Ukraine to third countries and providing them with assistance to live with peace of mind in Japan.



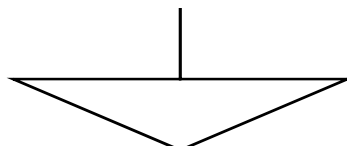
On 22 November, the Government of Japan decided to provide Emergency Grant Aid of 2.57 million US dollars for generators and solar lanterns to help Ukrainian people endure the severe winter.

We have already begun delivering these items to reach people in Ukraine as quickly as possible.

In addition, this month, the Government of Japan allocated a supplementary budget of approximately 500 million US dollars to provide additional support, including further winterization assistance for Ukraine and its neighboring countries.

As Russia's aggression against Ukraine becomes protracted, it is imperative for the international community to demonstrate solidarity in its response, making the role of the G7 more important than ever.

At the recent G7 Leaders' Video Conference, Prime Minister KISHIDA stated that at next year's G7 Hiroshima Summit, Japan would like to demonstrate the G7s' strong determination to reject any unilateral attempt to change the status quo by force or the threat of nuclear weapons with historical significance.



Upon assuming the G7 Presidency next year, Japan will do its utmost to help bring about peace and the reconstruction of Ukraine as early as possible, through close collaboration with the international community.

I would like to pay my tribute to Foreign Minister KULEBA, who works tirelessly for the people of Ukraine under extremely difficult circumstances.

Let me, also, express my sincere respect for the active role Ambassador KORSUNSKY plays in Japan.

We look forward to continuing our cooperation next year.

Japan, together with the international community, will continue to help Ukraine address the current challenges.

Japan always stands firmly with Ukraine.

Thank you.

(359 words)