

# Japan-Netherlands Action Plan 2025 based on the Joint Statement on the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Peace and Prosperity

21 April 2025

The world is facing unprecedented challenges to sustainable development and the international legal order. At this important juncture in history, Japan and the Netherlands, building on 425 years of close and evolving relations and the Joint Statement on the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership of 2015, as well as their shared commitment to maintaining and strengthening the rule of law, take their responsibility as members of the international community. Based on a common recognition of the current international situation, Japan and the Netherlands formulate an action plan, supported by regular high-level consultations, to advance concrete cooperation under their strategic partnership in the following areas:

- (I) Tackling global challenges to peace and development;
- (II) Enhancing economic cooperation; and
- (III) Deepening mutual understanding.

## **I. Tackling Global Challenges to Peace and Development**

### ***a. Security and Defense***

- Continue to promote the rule of law and the realization of a free and open Indo Pacific, which underpins security and stability in both the Indo-Pacific and Europe, which are interconnected.
- Work jointly towards deepening Japan-NATO and NATO-IP4 cooperation.
- Strengthen and upgrade bilateral security and defense cooperation.
- Promote exchanges at high, working, and military unit levels, and in the fields of education and research, both bilaterally and in multilateral contexts.

### ***b. Digital- and Hybrid Threats***

- Enhance closer exchange on cyber threats, cybercrime, such as cryptocurrency thefts conducted by state-supported malicious actors, and countering foreign information operations, including through diplomatic response or international coalitions.
- Hold consultations on cyber and new technologies with a view to continuing bilateral cooperation between Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRT) and public bodies involved in fighting cybercrime.
- Continue cooperation on capacity building in the Indo-Pacific and in multilateral

fora for the establishment of cyber norms and the enhanced efforts towards appropriate application of international law in cyber space.

***c. Economic Security***

- Intensify cooperation in the field of economic security through the promotion of innovation, the prevention of unintended transfer of technology, countering economic coercion, and enhanced communication, including regular meetings.
- Enhance the resilience of global supply chains for critical goods and materials that are essential for the green and digital transformation.

***d. Disarmament and Non-Proliferation***

- Strive to realize a world without nuclear weapons through a balanced, verifiable and irreversible approach with relevant frameworks of cooperation under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) regime.
- Advance cooperation in the area of nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy under the highest standards of nuclear safety, security and safeguards.

***e. Promoting the Rule of Law and Human Rights***

- Promote the universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and seek to further strengthen the effectiveness of the ICC.
- Promote the effective utilization of dispute settlement procedures by the International Court of Justice, including through encouraging other states to accept its compulsory jurisdiction, and the Permanent Court of Arbitration.
- Ensure human rights, which include the participation of women in international development, economic growth, innovation, and peace and security, such as conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, and emergency relief and recovery, in line with the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda.

***f. Disaster Risk Reduction***

- Cooperate to enhance disaster resilience in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Continue close collaboration between the two countries on water-related issues.
- Advance pathways to address persistent funding gaps, operational access constraints, and the risk of increasing politicization of humanitarian assistance.

**II. Enhancing Economic Cooperation**

***a. Further Promotion of Investment, Trade and Industrial Cooperation***

- Maintain and strengthen a rules based multilateral trading system.
- Cooperate bilaterally and through the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) for the maintenance of a favorable trade and investment climate for startups, scaleups and SME's.
- Stimulate mutual trade and investments based on the lasting impact of the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan.

***b. Science, Technology, and Innovation***

- Encourage dialogues among relevant institutions for the identification of research and innovation areas of joint interest, such as high-tech key enabling technologies.
- Strengthen cooperation in the semiconductor ecosystems.
- Promote cooperation on security in the engineering of next-generation digital infrastructure.

***c. Life Sciences and Health***

- Promote collaboration on medical innovation, such as future medicine, regenerative medicine and the use of digitalization and AI in the medical field, to address the shared challenges of aging populations and labor market shortages.
- Encourage exchanges of smart solutions on healthy aging, vitality, and disease prevention to contribute to healthier societies.

***d. Agriculture and Food***

- Promote cooperation on the advancement of innovation and the exchange of knowledge and expertise to address the increasing challenge of food security.
- Explore topics for bilateral cooperation programs on sustainable food systems considering climate change and biodiversity loss, by holding dialogues between relevant ministries and agencies.

***e. Energy Transition and Sustainability***

- Address the global challenge of climate change through cooperation on renewable energy initiatives, such as policies and technologies regarding wind power generation and hydrogen.
- Promote collaboration in the field of energy transition at ports (including hydrogen and ammonia) based on the 2024 Memorandum of Cooperation to promote cooperation in the port sector.
- Continue cooperation on the development of the global hydrogen market and active participation in international and multilateral events.

- Encourage further exchanges in the field of circular economy between both the public and private sectors.

### **III. Deepening Mutual Understanding**

#### ***a. Culture***

- Continue the promotion of active exchange in a wide range of traditional and contemporary cultural fields, building on the 425-year-long history of cultural exchange between the two countries and on the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan.
- Improve collaboration, production, trade, and education in creative industries and culture through workshops, exchanges, and exhibitions.

#### ***b. Education***

- Support partnerships between educational institutions, research institutions and the facilitation of reciprocal mobility between higher education institutions.
- Promote exchange and mutual understanding between the youth of the two countries.