

## D Europe

### (a) Overview

The major development in the European Union (EU) during 2004 was the accession of 10 countries mainly from Central and Eastern Europe, bringing the total EU membership to 25 countries. Given this increase in the number of member states, the EU now has a total population of approximately 460 million, nearly four times that of Japan, and a gross domestic product (GDP) of approximately US\$11 trillion, about 2.5 times that of Japan. Further developments include the signing of the European Constitutional Treaty and movements toward the accession negotiations with Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia, and Turkey. Following these developments, the EU is expected to further increase its influence within the international community by addressing global problems at international conferences or other fora based on the united voice of its 25 members. It is therefore all the more important for Japan to deepen dialogue and further develop co-operative relations with the EU.

It is also necessary for Japan to strengthen and promote its bilateral relations not just with the EU but with individual European countries in order to further strengthen Japan-Europe relations and to broaden the range of Japan's diplomacy. It is, of course, important to strengthen relations with major European countries



Prime Minister Koizumi Junichiro met with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the UK at the G8 Sea Island Summit in June. (Photo: Office of the Cabinet Public Relations, Cabinet Secretariat)

such as the United Kingdom (UK) and France, permanent members of the United Nations (UN) Security Council, and other Group of Eight (G8) members, such as Germany and Italy. Moreover, it is also important to build sound political and economic relations and deepen people-to-people and cultural exchanges with Central and Eastern European countries, which are increasing their economic importance, and with countries such as Spain and Norway, which are strengthening their roles in the international community.

In the fields of people-to-people and cultural exchanges, in both Japan and EU member states, organizing committees were established to prepare for the 2005 EU-Japan Year of People-to-People Exchanges.<sup>1</sup> In July application for registration of events under the 2005 EU-Japan Year of People-to-People Exchanges commenced in Japan and the EU member states.

### (b) EU Affairs

The year 2004 witnessed major developments toward deepened integration and enlargement of the EU; these included the accession of 10 new member states and the signing of the European Constitutional Treaty. The first European Commission since this latest enlargement was launched in November, with José Manuel Barroso as the new president of the European Commission and one commissioner from each of the 25 member states.

#### *The Enlargement of the EU*

The fifth enlargement of the EU took place on May 1, when the 10 countries of Estonia, Cyprus, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Malta, Latvia, and Lithuania all acceded to the organization.

In addition, the future path toward further expansion of the EU was also plotted. Accession negotiations with Romania and Bulgaria were completed on December 14, in response to which the European Council on December 16 and 17 decided to work toward signing an accession treaty with both countries in April 2005. Romania and Bulgaria are aiming to become EU member states in January 2007.

Regarding Croatia's accession, it was decided at the European Council in December that if Croatia cooperated fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for

1. Eight countries established local coordinating bodies such as organizing committees or event promotion committees during 2004: Greece, the UK, Hungary, Austria, Denmark, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, and Finland. As of the end of 2004, 100 events were registered in Japan and 300 in EU member states.

Current Situation and Future of EU Enlargement

	Proportion of world GDP (%)	Proportion of world population (%)
EU15	26.5	6.1
Eurozone	(20.5)	(4.9)
US	32.3	4.7
Japan	12.3	2.1

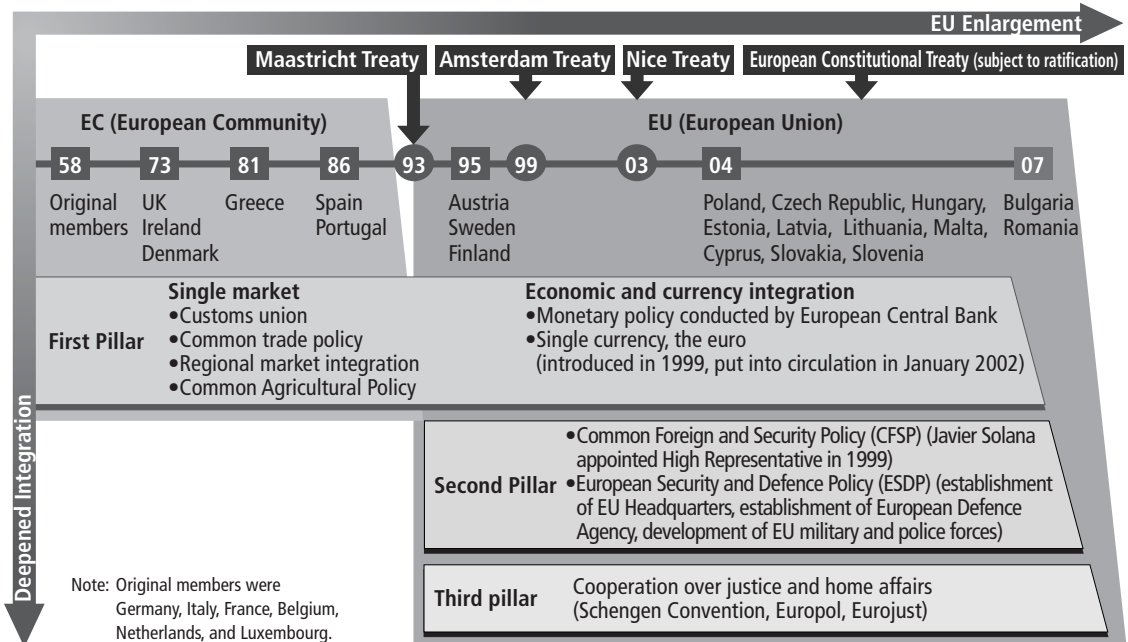
Source: World Bank (2002)



- Member countries before May 2004 (15 countries)**  
 France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, UK, Ireland, Denmark, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Austria, Sweden, Finland
- Countries that acceded in May 2004 (10 countries)**  
 Estonia, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Hungary, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Malta
- Acceding countries for EU (accession scheduled for January 2007; two countries)**  
 Bulgaria, Romania
- Candidate countries for EU (accession negotiations scheduled to begin in 2005; two countries)**  
 Turkey, Croatia

Note: Macedonia applied for membership in March 2004.

History of the EU





Minister for Foreign Affairs Machimura Nobutaka met his Hungarian counterpart, Minister of Foreign Affairs Ferenc Somogyi, for talks in October. (Photo: Office of the Cabinet Public Relations, Cabinet Secretariat)

the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY),<sup>2</sup> accession negotiations would commence on March 17, 2005. However, at the March 16 meeting of EU foreign ministers it was decided to postpone the accession negotiations on the grounds that Croatia had not cooperated fully with the ICTY.

Regarding Turkey's accession, it was decided at the December European Council to commence accession negotiations on October 3, 2005.

Since the end of the Cold War, Japan has provided these countries aiming to accede to the EU with assistance for democratization and transition to market economies with a view to stabilizing Europe and promoting shared values. The EU is advancing a strategic partnership with Japan, and the accession of these countries can be expected to greatly expand the possibilities for cooperation. For example, many of these countries are in close proximity to the core markets within the EU, and thus offer attractive environments for investment. On the international front, many of these countries dispatched troops to Iraq; there are also many areas in

which they can cooperate with Japan, including UN reform and global environmental problems.

### ***The Adoption and Signing of the European Constitutional Treaty***

As the EU undergoes its fifth enlargement, there have been concerns that if there is any further enlargement of the institutions currently in place, the EU's policy-making will not be as smooth as it should, and the institutions will fall into malfunction. The EU is working to dispel such concerns by concluding the European Constitutional Treaty among all the member states. Specifically, the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) of EU member states has been held since October 2003 to formulate the European Constitutional Treaty, which was based on the draft of the treaty submitted to the European Council in June 2003 by the Convention.<sup>3</sup> As well as ensuring that EU enlargement would not cause institutional malfunction, there was also a need to consider fairness and the relative size of populations<sup>4</sup> in representation among the member states. As a result of negotiations held among the member states, the European Constitutional Treaty<sup>5</sup> was adopted by the European Council in June 2004, and it was signed in Rome by the 25 member states and the countries aiming to accede (Romania, Bulgaria, and Turkey) on October 29. After signing, member states have two years to take due process for ratification of the treaty.

### ***Developments Concerning the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy***

Since the Amsterdam Treaty,<sup>6</sup> the EU has advanced its integration in the field of foreign and security policy in accordance with the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP).<sup>7</sup> Particularly for the European Security and

2. The ICTY increased its pressure on the Croatian government to extradite General Ante Gotovina, the former commanding officer of southern Dalmatia, who was indicted by the ICTY and is still at large. In March 2004, the ICTY stated that Croatia was now cooperative after the country had turned over eight former officers of the Croatian army who had been newly indicted.

3. The Convention was established in February 2002 to draw up a draft of the European Constitutional Treaty. The chairman was former President of France Giscard d'Estaing.

4. In order to make the decision-making process more efficient, during the discussions the member states with large populations called for the proportional size of the population to be taken into account in the qualified majority voting method, and in the number of members of the European Parliament and of the European Commission. However, the countries with smaller populations dissented on the grounds that their points of view would not be reflected in policy if the countries with large populations took a leading role.

5. The Constitutional Treaty was drafted for the purpose of improving the efficiency of the EU's decision-making process, policy implementation, and foreign relations through organizational reforms that include the creation of the posts of Permanent President of the European Council and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, increased powers for the President of the European Commission, and the expansion of the use of qualified majority voting to reflect the influence of relative population size.

6. The post of High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) was created to act as the face and voice of the EU's diplomacy, and Javier Solana was appointed to this post. Provision was also made for the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), which is a part of the CFSP.

7. The CFSP covers all areas of the EU's foreign and security policies. The fundamental objectives are: to safeguard the common values, fundamental interests, independence, and integrity of the EU; to strengthen the security of the EU; to preserve peace and strengthen international security; to promote international cooperation; and to develop and consolidate democracy and the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Defence Policy (ESDP),<sup>8</sup> which is a part of the CFSP, 2004 was a year of developments to be noted.

The first of these was legislative; a provision was included in the European Constitutional Treaty enabling even closer cooperation among member states on security and defense. As of January 1, 2005, the European Constitutional Treaty has not come into effect, but in anticipation of the contents of the treaty the European Defence Agency (EDA) was established in June with the aim of giving support to member states' effort for improvement of the ability for European defense.<sup>9</sup>

The second development was the adoption of military and civilian goals to improve capabilities in both areas, as needed to implement the ESDP. Regarding the military capability goal, the Headline Goal 2010<sup>10</sup> was adopted in May to replace the Headline Goal 2003<sup>11</sup> adopted in 1999. As measures to achieve the objectives enlisted in the Headline Goal, in November the EU member states agreed to establish 13 battlegroups (BG)<sup>12</sup> and to bring them to operational readiness in 2007. Regarding civilian defense capability, the Headline Goal 2008<sup>13</sup> was adopted in December.

The third development was the implementation of the ESDP. Based on the policy, two operations, the EU Rule of Law Mission to Georgia<sup>14</sup> and EU Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR-Althea),<sup>15</sup> were launched.

### **The Economic Situation**

In 2004 the eurozone economy showed a moderate recovery led by increased external demand. This was the result of expansion in demand from outside the region,



*Prime Minister Koizumi and Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder held a joint press conference after the Japan-Germany Summit Meeting in December. (Photo: Office of the Cabinet Public Relations, Cabinet Secretariat)*

against the backdrop of a worldwide economic recovery. However, the pace of the recovery slowed somewhat from the second half of the year, influenced by high oil prices and a strong euro, while the underlying recovery trend remained. In the UK, both personal consumption and investment in housing continued to increase, and the economy showed a robust recovery. Real GDP growth in 2004 was expected to be 2.1% over the preceding year in the eurozone, and 2.5% in the 25 EU countries. Real GDP growth in 2005 is expected to be slightly lower at 2.0% in the eurozone and 2.3% in the 25 EU countries influenced by the oil price rise.

After the introduction of the single European currency, the euro, the eurozone member states are obliged under the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) to comply with budgetary discipline, such as keeping fiscal deficits within 3% of GDP. However, the fiscal deficits of Ger-

8. The ESDP is the EU's policy on security and defense. Its mission includes (1) humanitarian and relief operations, (2) peace-keeping operations, and (3) combat operations, including peace-building, in crisis management. To ensure capability to carry out these missions, the European Council set the following military and non-military capability goals for the EU.

Military capability: (1) The EU is to be able to deploy within 60 days a military unit of up to 60,000 personnel capable of maintaining operations for at least one year. (2) The EU is to establish high-readiness joint packages (battlegroups) by 2007.

Non-military capability: The EU is to have response capability in the four activity areas of (1) policing, (2) reinforcing rule of law, (3) strengthening civilian administration, and (4) protecting civilians. In the area of policing, each member state is to provide 5,000 police personnel for conflict prevention or crisis management missions, of which 1,000 are to be placed within 30 days.

9. Specifically: (1) development of defense capabilities for crisis management; (2) promotion and strengthening of defense cooperation within Europe; (3) development and implementation of policies aiming to strengthen the production and industrial base for Europe's self-defense; and (4) promotion of studies to meet future demands of Europe's defense and security capabilities.

10. Headline Goal 2010: a paper indicating the resolve to develop by 2010 the rapid response capability for crisis management operations. The goal is to complete the preparation of battlegroups by 2007.

11. Headline Goal 2003: the goal is to develop by 2003 the necessary military capability for the EU, consisting of a force of up to 60,000 troops which can be deployed within 60 days and can maintain operations for one year.

12. Battlegroup (BG): a military force of the order of 1,500 personnel, capable of entering a combat zone within 5-10 days and sustainable for 30 days in the early stages of the operation.

13. Headline Goal 2008: goals are established as necessary to define and build the civilian capabilities required to face operations and challenges up to 2008, in order for the EU to respond swiftly and effectively to crises.

14. The EU Rule of Law Mission to Georgia was launched on July 16, 2004, to support the Georgian authorities in addressing urgent challenges in the criminal justice system. The size of the mission is in the order of 10 people, appointed for one year.

15. The plan for Operation Althea was approved at the EU General Affairs and External Relations Council of November 2004, and transfer from the NATO-led Stabilization Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SFOR) to the EU force took place on December 2 2004. This operation is the largest-ever military operation (7,000 personnel) for the EU, which has recourse to NATO assets.

many and France had exceeded 3% of GDP since 2002, and the new member states had different budgetary situations. Against this backdrop the European Commission proposed the plan for improvements to the SGP<sup>16</sup> in September 2004. The discussions within the EU on the proposed plan for the improvements would be closely watched.

As concern increased over the US current account deficit, the euro reached its highest level since its launch, in the order of US\$1.36, at the end of 2004. Attention is being paid to its effect on external demand, which has been a driving force for the economic recovery. Regarding enlargement of the eurozone, the UK continued to postpone a referendum on introducing the euro in 2004 as in 2003, while the new EU member states are generally keen on early introduction of the euro.

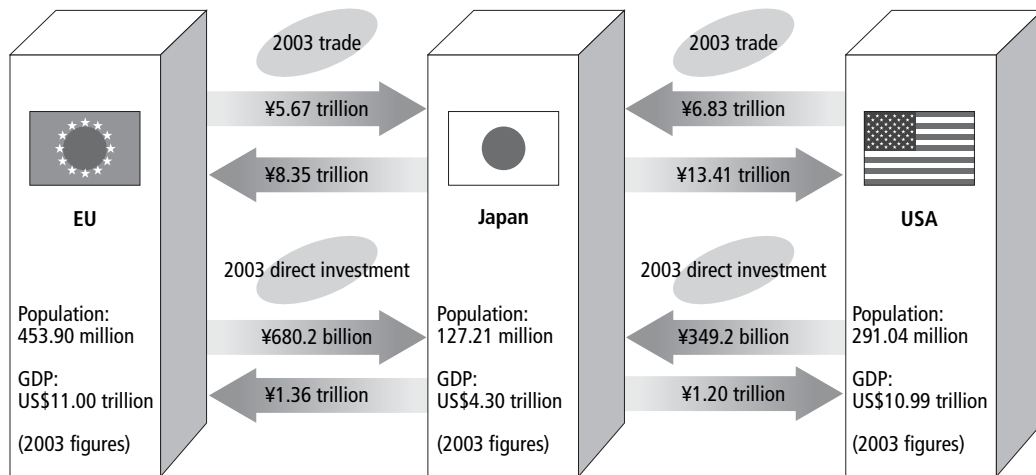
On the monetary front, the European Central Bank (ECB) has been maintaining its key interest rate at 2.00% since June 2003, expecting the stabilization of prices in the medium term, while cautiously looking at the possibility of inflation owing to the high oil price.

### Japan-EU Relations

Japan and the EU held close dialogue in 2004. The 13th Japan-EU Summit was held in Tokyo in June; it was at-

tended by Prime Minister Koizumi, Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland, the EU presidency during the first half of 2004, and then President of the European Commission Romano Prodi. The Japanese and EU leaders discussed Japan-EU relations in general including North Korea, Iraq, terrorism, the World Trade Organization (WTO), and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). During the talks in particular, they agreed to cooperate for the success of the 2005 EU-Japan Year of People-to-People Exchanges. At the summit, along with the Joint Press Statement,<sup>17</sup> documents for cooperation in four areas on which both Japan and the EU place great importance were issued, namely disarmament and non-proliferation, the promotion of two-way investment, the enforcement of intellectual property rights in Asia, and information and communications technology (ICT). Besides, specific measures that have been taken include discussions between the relevant authorities on regulations affecting investment and a trilateral seminar among Japan, the EU, and the People's Republic of China on intellectual property rights in China and the Japan-EU Troika Ministerial Meeting held in September at the time of the UN General Assembly. The latter was attended by then Minister for Foreign Affairs Kawaguchi Yoriko and Foreign Minister

### Comparison of Japan-EU and Japan-US Relations



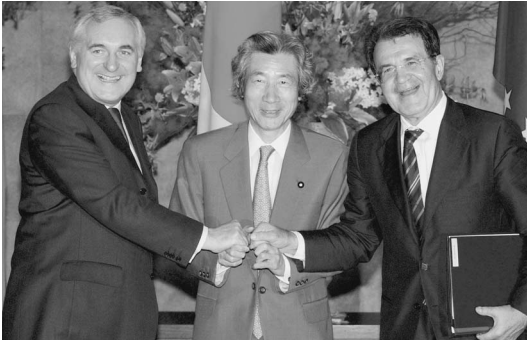
References: Compiled from statistics from *Trade Statistics* and *Foreign Direct Investment* (Ministry of Finance), the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank

Note: Direct investment shows flow. Figures for trade with and direct investment in the EU are for 15 countries (EU enlargement took place in May 2004).

16. Under the proposed revision, the implementation of the Stability and Growth Pact would become more flexible while focusing on preventing excessive fiscal deficits. It would continue to uphold standards such as keeping annual fiscal deficits within 3% of GDP while (1) placing more focus on the sustainability of public finances and government debt, (2) allowing for more country-specific circumstances, and (3) ensuring earlier actions to correct member states' inadequate budgetary developments.

17. The Joint Press Statement addresses the main issues of interest for the EU and Japan and is based on the Japan-EU summit discussions.





*Prime Minister Koizumi (center) with Prime Minister Ahern of Ireland (left) and President of the European Commission Romano Prodi (right) at the 13th Japan-EU Summit Meeting.*

Bernard Bot of the Netherlands (EU Presidency during the second half of 2004), Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Jean Asselborn of Luxembourg (EU Presidency during the first half of 2005), EU Commissioner for External Relations Chris Patten and others. At this meeting there was a follow-up to the discussions on UN reform and disarmament and non-proliferation held at the 13th Japan-EU Summit of June 2004, and there was also a wide-ranging exchange of opinions on international affairs, including Iraq and the Korean Peninsula. Besides, Japan worked to promote interests of Japanese companies operating in the EU member states through the Japan-EU Regulatory Reform Dialogue held in February and November and through discussions with the EU over the economic problems the enlargement of the EU entails.

### **(c) Western European Affairs and Japanese Diplomacy**

The bombing of trains in the Spanish capital of Madrid on March 11, in which about 190 people lost their lives and over 1,700 were injured, was the worst act of terrorism in postwar European history and caused profound shock not just in Europe but throughout the world. In the general election that was held immediately after the bombings, the center-left opposition Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) beat the center-right Popular Party (PP), heralding the first changeover of government in seven years. Some major policy changes were seen under the new government of President José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, as demonstrated in rendering counter-terrorism measures a top priority and in withdrawing Spanish troops from Iraq.

In the UK, the ruling Labour government led by Prime Minister Blair confronted the challenge by public opinion at home critical of the UK's military action in Iraq and the issues of health care and education. The

lead in opinion polls over the opposition Conservative Party narrowed, and the Labour Party lost many seats in the combined local elections and elections for the European Parliament in June. However, the Blair administration maintained sound economic management, and with regard to the long-standing issue of improvement of public services, it implemented reforms of public hospitals and passed a bill for secondary education reform.

In France, the conservative, center-right coalition cabinet of Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin faced widespread domestic criticism for its response to the heat wave of summer 2003 and its reform of the pension system, and continued to suffer an extremely poor showing in opinion polls. The left-wing opposition parties, on the other hand, showed an increase in support. They captured majorities in most regions of the country in the March 2003 local elections, and they also increased their share of the vote in the European parliamentary elections in June and the Senate elections in September. Given this situation, Prime Minister Raffarin reshuffled the cabinet in April and prioritized social policies, in particular reform of the medical insurance system.

In Germany, the economy continued to be in a difficult condition, with unemployment reaching 10.3% (as of September 2004). Nonetheless, reform proceeded under the firm leadership of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, based on the Agenda 2010 program of comprehensive reforms in the fields of labor, pensions, health, the economy, public finance, and education. Reforms included reducing the period of unemployment benefits and raising the eligibility age for pensions. On the diplomatic front, Chancellor Schroeder visited the US in February, and at the US-Germany Summit Meeting the leaders of the two countries reconfirmed provision of assistance to Iraq. In addition, Germany also

(Photo)



*Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and His Royal Highness the Prince Consort made a state call on Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress during their state visit to Japan in November. (Photo: Imperial Household Agency)*

pushed for UN reform in collaboration with Japan, India, and Brazil.

In Lithuania, President Rolandas Paksas was impeached and removed from office for leaking state secrets and other constitutional violation; in his place Valdas Adamkus was elected president. There were also leadership changes in Iceland and Estonia for domestic reasons, and in Portugal following the appointment of Prime Minister José Manuel Barroso to the post of president of the EU Commission.

Elsewhere, Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker of Luxembourg and Prime Minister Algirdas Brazauskas of Lithuania remained in power following general elections. In Ireland, President Mary McAleese was reappointed.

While Europe is important, given the regional integration of the EU, individual European countries play their own important political and economic roles in the international community. Japan sees these countries as important diplomatic partners and has been strengthening relations with them, as illustrated by the frequent high-level visits.<sup>18</sup>

Furthermore, Japan and European countries held lively discussions at international meetings and other fora.<sup>19</sup> At the G8 Sea Island Summit in June, Prime Min-

ister Koizumi held separate summit talks with President Jacques Chirac of France, UK Prime Minister Blair, and German Chancellor Schroeder. Prime Minister Koizumi held talks again with President Chirac at the 5th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM 5) in October.

Through these visits and meetings, Japan has advanced not only bilateral relations with European countries but also close cooperation with them over such international issues as UN reform and the reconstruction of Afghanistan and Iraq. Regarding assistance for the reconstruction of Iraq in particular, Japan and France both reconfirmed their intention to cooperate over assistance for Iraq during the visit of Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin of France to Japan in March; Japan and Germany agreed to further promote cooperation in the fields of policing and the preservation of cultural heritage during the Japan-Germany Summit Meeting held during Chancellor Schroeder's visit to Japan in December.

There were also overseas visits by members of the imperial household and visits to Japan by members of royal families of the European countries. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Akishino visited the Netherlands in March 2004; His Imperial Highness Crown Prince Naruhito visited Denmark, Portugal, and

(Photo)

18. Foreign Minister Machimura visited France and the UK in November 2004. Visits to Japan included: Prime Minister Göran Persson of Sweden and Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin of France in March; Foreign Minister Teresa Gouveia of Portugal in April; Foreign Minister Jan Petersen of Norway in May; Prime Minister Ahern of Ireland, for chairing the Japan-EU Summit, in June; President Joseph Deiss of the Swiss Confederation, President Tarja Halonen of Finland, Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany of Hungary, President Arnold Rüütel of Estonia, and Secretary of State for Foreign and Political Affairs Fabio Berardi of San Marino in October; Foreign Minister Per Stig Moeller of Denmark, who was accompanying Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark on her state visit to Japan, in November; and Chancellor Schroeder of Germany and Prime Minister Simeon Saxe-Coburg of Bulgaria in December.

19. Then Foreign Minister Kawaguchi held separate talks with Foreign Minister Franco Frattini of Italy, Foreign Minister Petersen of Norway, Foreign Minister Michel Barnier of France, and Foreign Minister Fischer of Germany at the time of the UN Assembly in September. Foreign Minister Machimura held separate talks with Foreign Secretary Jack Straw of the UK, Foreign Minister Bot of the Netherlands, and Foreign Minister Fischer of Germany at an international conference on the future of Iraq held in November. Furthermore, discussions regarding relief following the major earthquake off the coast of Sumatra and tsunami in the Indian Ocean were held at the Japan-Germany Foreign Ministers' Meeting that took place in Thailand in January 2005.

Spain in May; and Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and His Royal Highness the Prince Consort made a state visit to Japan in November. Also, His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex (Prince Edward) of the UK visited Japan in March, His Royal Highness The Duke of York (Prince Andrew) of the UK in April, and Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of the Netherlands in September. In March, His Imperial Highness Prince Tomohito of Mikasa and Her Imperial Highness Princess Akiko of Mikasa visited the UK; Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado visited the UK in June, while Her Imperial Highness Princess Tsuguko of Takamado and Her Imperial Highness Princess Akiko of Mikasa have been studying in the UK since April and September, respectively. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Hitachi traveled to Greece at the time of the Olympic Games in Athens.

(Photo)

### ***Balkan Affairs***

While it can be said that overall Balkan affairs have continued to move toward stabilization and democratization, interethnic distrust and hatred still remain in some areas. In March 2004 large-scale rioting broke out in Kosovo, leaving over 800 people killed or injured. Amid these circumstances, in April in Tokyo Japan co-hosted the Ministerial Conference on Peace Consolidation and Economic Development of the Western Balkans<sup>20</sup> with Ireland, the EU presidency. At the conference, then Foreign Minister Kawaguchi proposed peace consolidation, economic development and regional cooperation as the three major tasks in aid to the Balkan region, and the Joint Conclusions of the conference were adopted. Japan intends to continue pursuing its policy of striving for the consolidation of peace in the region by hosting symposia for ethnic integration and workshops aimed at industrial promotion.

### ***Ukrainian Affairs***

The Ukrainian presidential elections were held around November. Following the first round, a second round was held between the top two candidates, then Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and the opposition leader Victor Yushchenko. Victory was declared for Yanukovich, but the Yushchenko camp denounced electoral irregularities. While the Russian Federation gave its blessing to

Yanukovich's victory early on, the US and the EU criticized the election as falling short of international democratic standards. Widespread protests subsequently broke out, dividing the country broadly into east and west. Efforts were made to break the deadlock through the mediation of the EU and other members of the international community, and the high court ordered that the election be reheld. The ballots were recast in December, and the result was a victory for Yushchenko, who took the presidency in January 2005. Japan expressed its support for a fair election through a statement by Minister for Foreign Affairs Machimura Nobutaka calling for the will of the Ukrainian people to be reflected impartially through a revote, and for Ukraine to maintain its integrity. As well as dispatching 43 election observers, Japan provided Grassroots Human Security Grant Aid for a local NGO to print and distribute posters urging a fair election.

### **(d) NATO and Other Regional Institutions**

#### ***The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)***

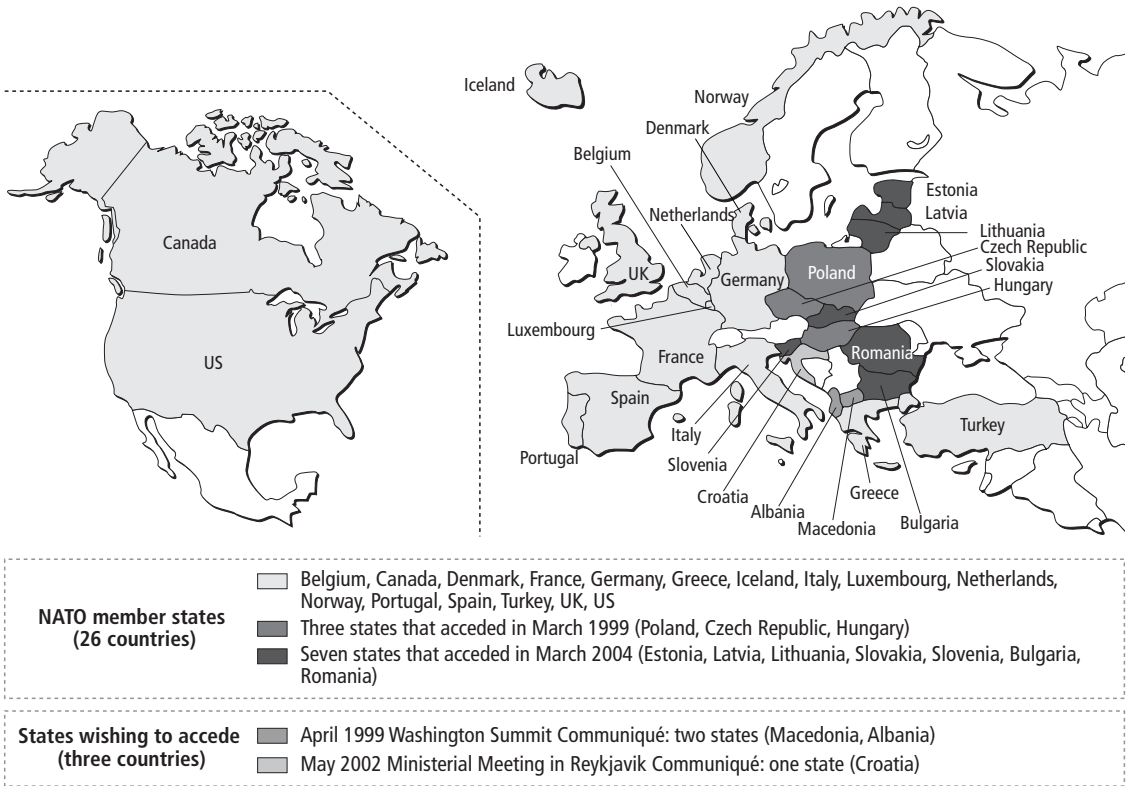
Seven Central and Eastern European countries joined NATO in March 2004, increasing the total number of member states from 19 to 26. NATO reforms are under way following the Prague Capabilities Commitment (PCC),<sup>21</sup> which was announced at the 2002 Prague Summit and aims to enhance military capabilities. Initiatives toward meeting this aim include the NATO Response

20. This meeting was attended by representatives of 39 countries and 12 international organizations, including government officials and others from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, and Serbia-Montenegro; the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK); and the Kosovo provisional government.

21. A summit-level agreement aiming to increase NATO's overall capability, in which countries make individual commitments in specific areas and NATO monitors their performance. The agreement aims for plans to be completed by 2005, particularly in the following areas: increased strategic airlift capability, strengthened air-to-air refueling, precision-guided weapons, increased capability in deployable combat support and a combat support force, accelerated provision of equipment to defend against NBC attack, and a NATO ground surveillance system.



NATO Enlargement



Force (NRF),<sup>22</sup> which reached initial operational capability in September 2004. Also, for the first time NATO took charge of a mission outside Europe under a non–Article 5 obligation<sup>23</sup> when it took over formal command of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)<sup>24</sup> in Afghanistan in August 2003. Its top priority has been to expand the areas of Afghanistan in which this mission operates. At the NATO Istanbul Summit of June 2004, in response to a request from the Iraqi In-

terim Government. NATO agreed to provide assistance for the training of security forces in Iraq. As well as commencing the training assistance both inside and outside Iraq, NATO plans to increase the scale of the assistance.

Since the 2004 Istanbul Summit, NATO has welcomed the interest of what are termed “contact countries.” These countries include Japan, Australia, and New Zealand which are non-NATO members, non-PfP countries<sup>25</sup> and non-Mediterranean Dialogue<sup>26</sup> coun-

22. The decision to establish the NRF was made at the Prague Summit following a proposal by the US, and for the first time in its history NATO will have a combined land, sea, air, and special operations force under a single commander. The duties of the NRF include non-combatant evacuation operations (NEO), support for counter-terrorism operations, and crisis response operations. The NRF will be able to start to deploy after five days’ notice and sustain itself for operations during 30 days. The aim is to have a force of 21,000 personnel at full operational readiness by October 2006.

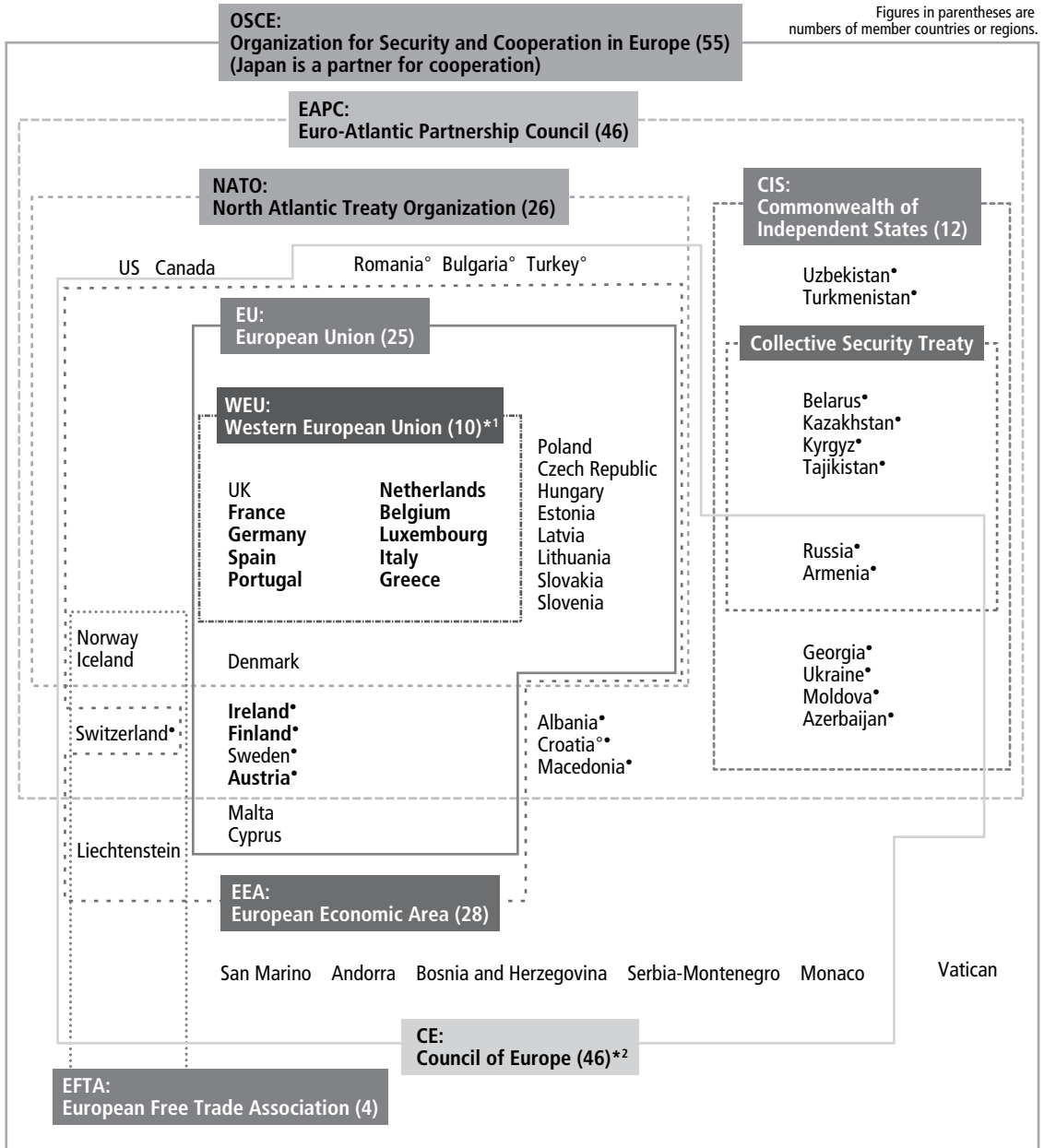
23. In the new Strategic Concept adopted at the 1999 Washington Summit, NATO put forward its policy of maintaining Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty (collective defense) as a basic obligation, while fulfilling a role that goes beyond acting as a European security organization for the peace and stability of the Euro-Atlantic region. Activities outside of Article 5 were regarded as non–Article 5 obligations.

24. The ISAF was established after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1356 for the purpose of maintaining security in and around Kabul for a term of six months.

25. Partnership for Peace (PfP): a partnership between NATO and non-NATO European countries (all member countries of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe [OSCE] are invited to participate, but the PfP is aimed particularly at former Warsaw Pact countries), which pledge cooperation mainly in military but also in other areas, according to the circumstances of each country. Cooperation includes holding seminars on democratic control of the military and joint PKO training.

26. Mediterranean Dialogue: a framework set up in 1994 between NATO and the Mediterranean countries for the purpose of promoting regional security, stability, and mutual understanding between NATO and the Mediterranean countries. The dialogue reflects the thinking that the security of Europe is closely linked to stability in the Mediterranean, and it is an important part of NATO’s outreach and cooperation policy. Seven Mediterranean countries participate: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, and Tunisia.

Major International Frameworks in Europe



Countries in bold letters are members of the eurozone.

• Members of the PfP (Partnership for Peace) with NATO

° Romania and Bulgaria are acceding countries for EU, and Turkey and Croatia are candidate countries for EU.

\*<sup>1</sup> Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Norway, and Turkey are associate member states of the WEU.

\*<sup>2</sup> Japan, US, Canada, Mexico, and Vatican are observer states.

tries holding individual, mutually beneficial dialogues with NATO on security matters. Regarding Japan's relations with NATO, in May 2004 then Japanese Ambassador to Afghanistan Komano Kinichi gave a lecture at the NATO Headquarters. This was the first lecture given by a representative of Japan, and Komano spoke on Japan's effort regarding DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration) in Afghanistan. His lecture was given as part of the Japan-NATO Dialogue and was very well-received.

### ***Other Regional Institutions***

Besides regional institutions such as the EU and NATO, Europe also has the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)<sup>27</sup> in the field of security and the Council of Europe (CE)<sup>28</sup> in the field of human rights and justice. The activities of these organizations have been developing as well.

In its relations with the OSCE, as a Partner for Cooperation Japan has made personnel contributions through participating in various discussions, dispatching officials on missions to Kosovo and other places, and dispatching election observers to Southeastern European and Central Asian countries. Japan has also made financial contributions, such as shouldering election ex-

penses. In 2004, officials were dispatched to teams of OSCE election observers<sup>29</sup> in Georgia, Macedonia, Belarus, and Ukraine.

In December, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister Kawaguchi Yoriko attended the Ministerial Council held in Sofia, Bulgaria, as the head of the Japanese delegation. By attending a meeting with the OSCE Troika<sup>30</sup> and making a speech as Japan's representative, Kawaguchi explained Japan's efforts for security in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan's new policy toward Central Asia, its contributions to Afghanistan, and its cooperation with the OSCE, including the OSCE-Japan Conference held in March 2004.

In its relations with the Council of Europe (CE), as an Observer of the Committee of Ministers, Japan has actively participated in meetings in a variety of issue areas, such as human rights, judicial affairs, and culture. Japan also dispatched observers to the Council of Europe observation mission for the Kosovo Assembly elections in October 2004. A large number of conventions in various fields have been formulated in the CE. Japan signed the Convention on Cybercrime in November 2001, and acceded to the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons in 2003.

27. The OSCE is a regional organization made up of 55 countries, comprising the US, Canada, and countries stretching from Europe to Central Asia. The special features of the OSCE are: (1) during the Cold War it included both Western and Eastern bloc countries in Europe and contributed to easing tensions by providing a platform for East-West dialogue; and (2) particularly since the end of the Cold War it has carried out activities based on preventive diplomacy (including early warnings and fact-finding with regard to parties involved in conflict) and conflict prevention covering comprehensive military and political, economic, and democratic and human rights areas.

28. The Council of Europe is an international organization established in 1949 in Strasbourg, France, among 10 Western European countries sharing the common values of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. Its aim is to expand cooperation among the member countries in order to realize these values. There are now 46 member countries. The Council of Europe Committee of Ministers granted observer status to Japan in 1996.

29. OSCE election observers: during 2004 officials were dispatched to the teams of OSCE election observers overseeing the presidential and parliamentary elections in Georgia, the national referendum in Macedonia, the parliamentary election in Belarus, and the presidential election in Ukraine.

30. OSCE Troika: the holder of the OSCE presidency, Bulgaria; the previous holder, Netherlands; and the next holder, Slovenia (as of 2004).