



EMBASSY OF JAPAN
ATHENS - GREECE

Athens, 22 December 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to share with you the outline of National Security Strategy of Japan approved by the Cabinet on December 16, 2022. After the Cabinet meeting, **The Overview of National Security Strategy of Japan (attachment) was released.**

The highlights of the strategy are as follows.

1. Purpose

- (1) The international order is now at stake with serious challenges. Today, we are in an era where confrontation and cooperation are intricately intertwined in international relations such as geopolitical competition and responses to global-scale challenges.
- (2) Japan's security environment is as severe and complex as it has ever been since the end of WWII. In the vicinity of Japan, military buildups are rapidly advancing, coupled with mounting pressures by unilaterally changing the status quo by force. Moreover, the boundary between contingency and peacetime, and between military and non-military fields are no-longer clear-cut.
- (3) A broad range of security issues such as in the areas of economy and technology, which encompasses fields beyond the traditional boundaries of diplomacy and defense, are emerging. Japan will harness its comprehensive national power in order to protect its own interests.

Activities of neighboring countries and area in the area of security

China

China's current external stance, military activities, and other activities have become a matter of serious concern for Japan and the international community, and present an unprecedented and the greatest strategic challenge in ensuring the peace and security of Japan and the peace and stability of the international community, as well as in strengthening the

international order based on the rule of law, to which Japan should respond with its comprehensive national power and in cooperation with its ally, like-minded countries and others.

North Korea

North Korea's military activities pose an even more grave and imminent threat to Japan's national security than ever before.

Russia

Russia's external and military activities and others have shaken the very foundation of the international order, and are perceived as the most significant and direct threat to security in the European region. In addition, Russia's external and military activities and others in the Indo-Pacific region, including Japan, together with its strategic coordination with China, are of strong security concern.


2. This strategy will dramatically transform Japan's national security policy after the end of WWII from the aspect of its execution. The representative policies to be implemented are as follows.

- (1) Developing efforts centered on diplomacy guided by the vision of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific
- (2) Fundamentally reinforcing defense capabilities, including possessing counterstrike capabilities
- (3) Reinforcing comprehensive defense architecture that complements and is inseparable from the fundamental reinforcement of defense capabilities
- (4) Considering revisions of the Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology, its Implementation Guidelines, and other systems in order to promote smooth transfer of defense equipment and technology of high security significance and others
- (5) Introducing active cyber defense and establishing a new organization which will comprehensively coordinate policies in the field of cybersecurity, in a centralized manner
- (6) Significantly reinforcing Japan's maritime law enforcement capabilities, in conjunction with efforts to strengthen its organization

(7) Promoting economic security policies

3. In FY 2027, Japan will take the necessary measures to make the level of its budget, for both the fundamental reinforcement of defense capabilities and complementary initiatives, reach 2% of the current GDP.
4. Japan will advocate policies grounded in universal values and then lead the way in undertaking efforts to reinforce the international order with steadfast resolve.

Sincerely,



NAKAYAMA Yasunori
Ambassador of Japan to Greece