

**43rd European Union-Japan
Inter-parliamentary Meeting**

8 July 2026 15:00–17:30
9 July 2026 09:30–12:00
European Parliament, Strasbourg



JOINT STATEMENT
43rd European Union-Japan Inter-parliamentary Meeting
8 and 9 July 2026, Strasbourg

The European Parliament delegation for relations with Japan, led by its Chair Adam BIELAN and the Delegation from the National Diet of Japan, led by FUNADA Hajime, concluded the 43rd EU-Japan Inter-parliamentary Meeting held on 8 and 9 July 2026 in Strasbourg. Following open and productive debates the delegations issue the following joint statement:

1. Importance of ever closer cooperation, including on parliamentary level

- The EU and Japan are two very close and like-minded partners with a shared goal to defend the multilateral and rules-based global order and to defend shared values and principles. Our partnership is even more significant against the backdrop of the rapidly deteriorating global order and the unpredictable geopolitical developments.
- Parliaments, with its Members as elected representatives of the people, are the cornerstones of democracies; we believe that strong parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy are essential in these endeavours. In this regard we agree to explore the possibilities to further deepen and intensify relations between the European Parliament and the National Diet of Japan. We agree to explore the possibilities to establish an EU-Japan Joint Parliamentary Committee.

2. Increasingly complex security challenges in Europe, Asia and beyond

- We reaffirm that increasingly complex security challenges in Europe, Asia and beyond call for even more emphasis on upholding the rules-based and stable world order, strengthening of global multilateral organizations and our continued close coordination in this forum.
- We reiterate our uncompromised position on Russia's unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine and underline the need for continued support to and solidarity with Ukraine; we oppose any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion in the East China Sea and the South China Sea and we stress the importance of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and of the complete denuclearization of North Korea; we welcome the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the United States and Iran, and hope for the early realization of a final agreement as well as for peace and stability across the Middle East.
- We note that the entry into force of the EU–Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement on 1 January 2025 allows for deeper partnership, including in the fields of security and defence, maritime security, cybersecurity and space, and welcome the first results of the EU-Japan Security and Defence Partnership.

3. Competitiveness Alliance, cooperation in culture, science and technology and free trade

- We welcome the establishment of the EU-Japan Competitiveness Alliance in July 2025 and our mutual commitment to further strengthen the cooperation on trade, industrial policy and economic security through High-Level Economic Dialogues.
- We share concerns regarding a wide range of issues, such as the security of supply chains, strategic dependencies, economic coercion, non-market policies and practices and resulting overcapacities, as well as the need to protection of critical and emerging technology, the security of critical infrastructure, and export restrictions, especially of critical rare-earth minerals.
- EU-Japan cooperation in culture, science and technology must be further strengthened, not least due to its relevance to competitiveness, economic security, innovation and people to people contacts. We look forward to the signature of Japan's association to Horizon Europe agreement, which represents the closest form of collaboration that the EU can offer to global partners in this field.

Adam BIELAN
Chair of the European
Parliament's delegation for
relations with Japan

FUNADA Hajime
Leader of the Delegation, National Diet of
Japan