

# How to enhance Japan-Taiwan Security Relations

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<Note>

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## ◇ **Japan-Taiwan security relations is critical but not close**

Japan and Taiwan are, needless to say, neighboring countries along the First Islands Line/Chain and are situated on the same boat so far as countering China's strategy concern.

At the same time, the trilateral security cooperation framework among Japan, the United States and Taiwan is critically important, because this framework is a key to block Chinese ambition toward the high seas, and is to play important roles to ensure peace and security in the region.

However, Japan and Taiwan have been compelled to maintain working relations on a non-governmental basis since 1972. (Japan-China Joint Communique in 1972)

That is to say, Japan-Taiwan security relations must be the weakest side among the trilateral security cooperation framework so far.

## ◇ **Improving Japan-Taiwan relations**

Nowadays, under the Abe Administration of Japan and the Tsai Administration of Taiwan, Japan-Taiwan relations is clearly improving in the area of security and diplomatic relations, activities on second track and private sector, etc.

The most symbolic event is the name change of reception organizations of both countries.

Japan changed the name of the reception organization from “Interchange Association” to “Japan-Taiwan Interchange Association” in Jan. 2017.

Taiwan also changed it from “Association of East Asian Relations” to “Taiwan-Japan Relations Association” in May 2017.

Up to now, both countries have been conducting very carefully themselves to take into consideration on relations with PRC.

In that sense, these name changes are the symbolic events of difficulties and fruits of the history of Japan-Taiwan relations for 45 years since 1972.

**Japan and Taiwan changed  
the name of reception organizations**

○ Japan 交流協会 Interchange Association	⇒ 日本台湾交流協会 Japan-Taiwan Interchange Association (Jan. 2017)
○ Taiwan 亜東関係協会 Association of East Asian Relations	⇒ 台湾日本関係協会 Taiwan-Japan Relations Association (May 2017)

Name change is the symbolic event of difficulties and fruits of the history between two countries for 45 years since 1972.

◇ **Japan and Taiwan confronted by China's coercive activities are required to enhance security relations**

At this time, how to cooperate for enhancing the security relations between Japan and Taiwan is the big issue in the recent security environment confronted by China's coercive activities. Therefore, we have to attempt to strengthen Japan-Taiwan security relations up to the effective level as possible as we can.

In Japan, the Legislation for Peace and Security passed in the Diet in September 2015 with strong initiatives of Prime Minister Abe and put into force in March 2016. At the same time, the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation were revised.

In case of "situations that will have a significant influence on Japan's peace and security", the legislation enables the JSDF to provide various activities to the United State Armed Forces. The legislation also has a significant

meaning for Japan and Taiwan. Because, based on this legislation, it might be able to facilitate security cooperation between the two countries in the future.

◇ **Basis for security or defense cooperation between Japan and Taiwan**

So, I would like to talk a little bit in detail about the basis to enhance security or defense cooperation between Japan and Taiwan from the Japanese side.

At first, the Guidelines refers to “Maritime Security” as shown here,

The two governments will cooperate closely with each other on measures to maintain maritime order based upon international law, including freedom of navigation. The Self-Defense Forces and the United States Armed Forces will cooperate, as appropriate, on various efforts such as maintaining and enhancing bilateral presence in the maritime domain through ISR and training and exercises, while further developing and enhancing shared maritime domain awareness including by coordinating with relevant agencies, as necessary.

Japan and the United States explain that the two governments will cooperate closely with each other on measures to maintain maritime order based upon international law, including freedom of navigation.

Secondly, it also refers “Responses to Emerging Threats to Japan’s Peace and Security” as shown here,

The Alliance will respond to situations that will have an important influence on Japan’s peace and security. Such situations cannot be defined geographically.

The last article— “Such situations cannot be defined geographically “ —is an important thing for the Japan-Taiwan security relations. Because, we can understand that it is applicable to the contingency of Taiwan, which will facilitate the trilateral security cooperation among Japan, the United States and Taiwan as well.

Next, I would like to talk about “The Legislation for Peace and Security”.

Law Concerning Measures to Ensure the Peace and Security of Japan in Situations that Will Have an Important Influence on Japan’s Peace and Security (Revision of the Law Concerning Measures to Ensure the Peace and Security of Japan in Situations in Areas Surrounding Japan) regulates as shown here,

In accordance with changes in the security environment surrounding Japan, the latest law revision deleted “in areas surrounding Japan” from situations that will have an important influence on Japan’s peace and security and changed the name of situations from “situations in areas surrounding Japan” to “situations that will have an important influence,” and also expanded the scope of support targets and response measures as follows.

«Support Targets»

On top of the existing “U.S. Armed Forces engaged in activities contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty,” the revised law added “armed forces of other foreign countries engaged in activities contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the U.N. Charter” and “other similar organizations” as armed forces, etc., responding to situations that will have an important influence on Japan’s peace and security.

On top of the U.S. Armed Forces, the revised law expanded the scope of support targets to “armed forces of other foreign countries engaged in activities contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the U.N. Charter” and “other similar organizations” as armed forces, etc., responding to situations that will have an important influence on Japan’s peace and security.

And, “Revision of the Armed Attack Situations Response Act” regulates as shown here,

As the security environment surrounding Japan changes, it is likely

that an armed attack occurring against a foreign country could threaten Japan's survival as well, depending on its purpose, scale and manner.

For this reason, in addition to the armed attack situations, etc., (an armed attack situation, and an anticipated armed attack situation), "Survival-Threatening Situation" (a situation where an armed attack against a foreign country that is in a close relationship with Japan occurs and as a result threatens Japan's survival and poses a clear danger to fundamentally overturn people's right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness) was newly added to the situations to which Japan has to respond for the defense of Japan, and responses to a such situation was defined as one of the SDF's primary missions as avoidable self-defense measures for Japan's defense.

It can be also understood that "Survived-Threatening Situation" in this Act will include the contingency of Taiwan which will be required security cooperation among Japan, the United States and Taiwan.

**◇ Cooperative Measures between the two countries under the current situation**

In order to respond to the contingency related to Japan and Taiwan, the two governments should pursue all cooperative measures which are allowed under a current situation from peacetime.

Based upon these basis which I showed you above, the cooperative measures between the two countries are as shown here,

**① International Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Relief Operations (HA/DR)**

Japan and Taiwan neighboring each other, should improve the ability to respond to large-scale humanitarian assistance and natural disasters in the region.

When the two governments conduct international humanitarian assistance/disaster relief (HA/DR) operations in response to requests from governments concerned or international organizations, the two governments will cooperate closely to provide mutual support, as appropriate, maximizing interoperability between participating the Self-Defense Forces and Taiwan

Armed Forces.

Examples of cooperative activities may include mutual logistic support and operational coordination, planning, and execution.

## ② Noncombatant Evacuation Operations

There is a huge amount of traffic between Japan and Taiwan as shown as this slide.

Traffic between Japan and Taiwan		
Japan	Japanese nationals residing in Taiwan (2015)	Japanese Visitors to Taiwan (2016)
	20,162 (w/o permanent residents)	approximately 1,900,000
Taiwan	Taiwanese nationals residing in Japan (2015)	Taiwanese Visitors to Japan (2016)
	24,521 (w/o permanent residents)	approximately 4,170,000

When the contingency occurs in Japan or Taiwan, the two governments would dispatch “Noncombatant Evacuation Operations” under close coordination and cooperation.

Additionally, in circumstances when international action is required for the evacuation of noncombatants, the two governments will utilize, as appropriate, all possible avenues including diplomatic efforts to ensure the safety of noncombatants, including Japanese or Taiwanese nationals.

## ③ Cooperation on Cyberspace

To help ensure the safe and stable use of cyberspace, the two governments will share information on threats and vulnerabilities in cyberspace in a timely and routine manner, as appropriate. The two governments also will share, as appropriate, information on the development of various capabilities in cyberspace, including the exchange of best practices on training and education.

The two governments will cooperate to protect critical infrastructure and the services upon which the Self-Defense Forces and the Taiwan Armed Forces depend to accomplish their missions, including through information sharing with the private sector, as appropriate.

#### **④ Search and Rescue**

The Self-Defense Forces and the Taiwan Armed Forces, in cooperation with relevant agencies, will cooperate and provide support in search and rescue operations, including combat search and rescue, as appropriate.

#### **⑤ Maritime Security**

The two governments will cooperate closely with each other on measures to maintain maritime order based upon international law, including freedom of navigation.

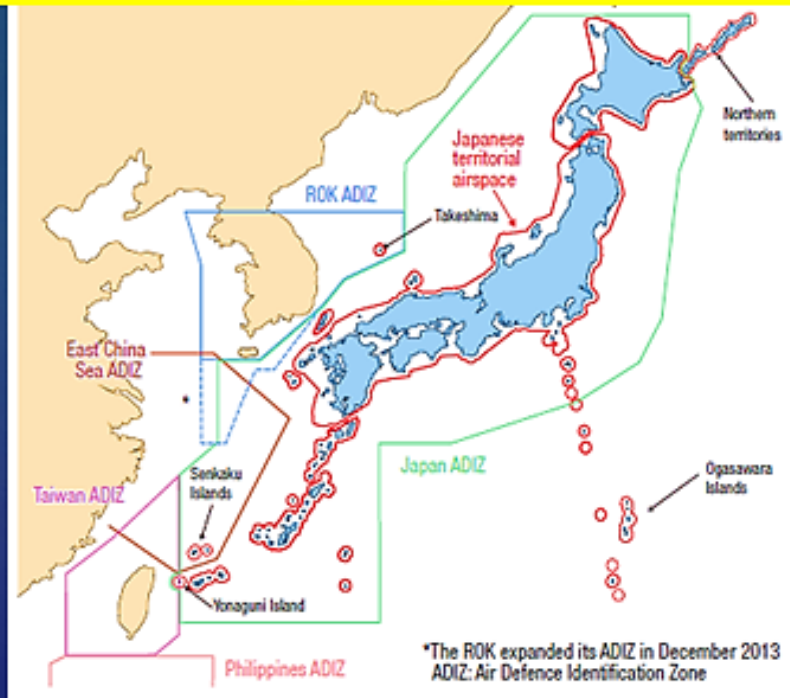
The Self-Defense Forces and the Taiwan Armed Forces will cooperate, as appropriate, on various efforts such as maintaining and enhancing bilateral presence in the maritime domain through ISR and training and exercises, while further developing and enhancing shared maritime domain awareness including by coordinating with relevant agencies, as necessary.

#### **⑥ Coordination on Air Space Management**

The Self-Defense Forces and the Taiwan Armed Forces will maintain and strengthen deterrence and their defense postures against ballistic missile launches and aerial incursions. And, establishing “Integrated Air and Missile Defense” (IAMD) architecture might be a common issue for the two governments.

As shown on this slide, ADIZs of both countries border each other, and after China’s establishment of the “East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone” overlapping with those of Japan and Taiwan( in November 2013), ADIZ control becomes more complex and dangerous.

## Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) of Japan and those of Neighboring Countries



China's activities infringing the freedom of overflight over the high seas could cause unintended consequences.

Therefore, the two governments should cooperate to expand early warning capabilities, interoperability, network coverage, and real-time information exchange and to pursue the comprehensive improvement of capabilities to respond to the threat of ballistic missiles. Moreover, the two governments will continue to coordinate closely in responding to provocative missile launches and other aerial activities.

### ⑦ Establishment of Japan-Taiwan Maritime and Air Communication Mechanism (Hot Line)

As Japan and Taiwan borders each other in the maritime and airspace domain, the two governments should establish the Maritime and Air Communication Mechanism (Hot Line) in order to avert or prevent unexpected situations.

For no other reason but this, building up the information exchange system between Yonaguni Coast Observation Unit and its counterpart will be



allowed, I think.

As a result, it will help to enhance security or defense cooperation between the two countries from peacetime to wartime.

**◇ What Japan and Taiwan should do for further improvement**

On the other hand, in Japan, it is very much concerned about the news that the secret leaked off cases have happened so often in Taiwan. It is reported that those cases have been caused by the retired general's exchange program with PLA and estimated more than 5000 spies working for the Communist Party of China (CPC) in Taiwan.

So, in order to materialize those which I mentioned above, the two governments are required to conclude GSOMIA (General Security of Military Information Agreement) to prevent and avoid breach of confidence.

In addition, the two governments should exchange military attaches on the active list each other for further information exchange and coordination.

Finally, for further enhancement of Japan-Taiwan security relations, Japan is expected to enact the "Japan-Taiwan Relationship Basic Law" corresponding to the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA).