

Japan's Security Challenges

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Main Topics

- 1. The Principal Security Challenges for Japan in the Asia-Pacific Region**
- 2. Abe Government's "Proactive Contribution to Peace based on International Cooperation"**
- 3. Key Developments in Japan's Security Policy**

The Principal Security Challenges in the Asia-Pacific

➤ North Korea

Military buildup Ballistic Missiles/Nuclear Weapons

Military Provocation

Internal Power Struggle (over?)

➤ China

Military buildup without sufficient transparency

Unilateral actions to change the status quo

➤ Rise of “Gray-Zone” Situations

Abe Government's Grand Strategy

➤ Domestic: "Abenomics"

Monetary Policy

Fiscal Policy

Structural Reform

➤ Foreign: "Proactive Contribution to Peace based on International Cooperation"

National Security Strategy (Dec 17, 2013) The first ever

National Security Strategy

– Three National Security Objectives –

- 1. Maintain Japan's peace and security and ensure its survival**
- 2. Improve the security environment of the Asia-Pacific region**
- 3. Improve the global security environment and build a peaceful, stable, and prosperous international community**

National Security Strategy

– Six Strategic Approaches –

- 1. Strengthening and Expanding Japan's Capabilities and Roles**
- 2. Strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance**
- 3. Strengthening Diplomacy and Security Cooperation with Japan's Partners for Peace and Stability in the International Community**
- 4. Proactive Contribution to International Efforts for Peace and Stability of the International Community**
- 5. Strengthening Cooperation Based on Universal Values to Resolve Global Issues**
- 6. Strengthening the Domestic Foundation that Supports National Security and Promoting Domestic and Global Understanding**

Key Developments in Japan's Security Policy

- **Building the Dynamic Joint Defense Force**
cf. National Defense Program Guidelines (FY14 & Beyond)
- **Enhancing the exercise of the right to self-defense (collective / “gray-zone” situations)**
- **Strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance**
- **Establishing the National Security Council**

Building the Dynamic Joint Defense Force

- **National Defense Program Guideline (NDPG)**
- **Enhance deterrence and response capabilities to conduct a diverse range of activities in various situations including “gray-zone” situations in a seamless and adaptive manner**
- **Bolster Japanese capabilities to respond to contingencies in the Southwestern Islands of Japan**
- **New directions in capability enhancements**
 - **Increasing the number of submarines**
 - **Looking to develop full amphibious capability to deal with attacks on offshore islands**
 - **Looking to introduce UAVs for surveillance**

Enhancing the Exercise of the Right to Self-Defense

- **Reinterpreting Article IX of the Japanese Constitution to enable the exercise of the right to collective self-defense**

Traditional interpretation: Japan cannot defend another country unless it is directly attacked

- **Revising the SDF Law to allow the exercise of the right to individual self-defense in “gray-zone” situations**

Enable the SDF to respond to paramilitary intrusions that do not amount to a full-fledged armed attack

Strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance

- **Defense Cooperation Guidelines: Outline the roles and missions, and coordination mechanisms for three types of circumstances**
 - (a) cooperation during peacetime
 - (b) response to armed attack against Japan
 - (c) cooperation relating to situations surrounding Japan that has significant bearing on Japanese security
- **Build a posture of seamless cooperation ranging from peacetime to various situations, including cooperation in responding to “gray-zone” situations**
- **Japan and the U.S. are planning to expand:**
 - (a) joint training and exercises,
 - (b) joint ISR activities,
 - (c) the joint/shared use of facilities and areas
- **Japan promoting the realignment of USFJ**

Establishing the National Security Council

- **Established on December 4, 2013.**
- **Principal Members: Prime Minister, Chief Cabinet Secretary, Foreign Minister, Defense Minister**
- **Secretariat: National Security Bureau**
 - Established on January 7, 2014**
- **Whole-of-government approach / better coordination and cooperation**