

Public Panel Session

“The Developments in the Middle East and the Future of Türkiye–Japan Relations”

The Directorate of Communications of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye, the Foundation for Political, Economic and Social Research (SETA), and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation are pleased to co-organise a public panel session entitled “The Developments in the Middle East and the Future of Türkiye–Japan Relations,” to be held as outlined below.

Türkiye has long played a significant role in regional affairs as a major country neighbouring the Middle East and maintaining deep historical, political, and economic ties with the region. Japan, meanwhile, closely follows developments in the Middle East from the perspectives of energy security, global trade, and international stability. In this context, a strategic dialogue incorporating the perspectives of both countries has become increasingly relevant.

This panel session will examine the impact of the rapidly evolving political and security environment in the Middle East on the international order, energy security, and global economic and trade structures. It will also provide a multifaceted discussion on what these developments mean for the foreign and security policies of Türkiye and Japan, as well as for the future of bilateral relations.

1. Event Details

Date and Time: Tuesday, 21 April 2026, 14:00–16:00

Venue: International Conference Hall, 11th Floor, Sasakawa Peace Foundation Building

Language: English (no interpretation)

Format: In-person

2. Programme (Tentative)

14:00–14:30 Opening Remarks

H.E. Mr. Oğuzhan Ertuğrul – Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Japan

Mr. Itsu Adachi – Executive Director, Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Prof. Burhanettin Duran – Head of Communications, Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye (Video Message)

14:30–16:00 Panel Session

16:00 Closing

3. Speakers

Moderator

Prof. Kılıç Buğra Kanat – Member of the Security and Foreign Policy Council of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye; Research Director, SETA Washington DC

<https://www.setav.org/en/experts/kilic-bugra-kanat>

Panelists

Mr. Akio Miyajima – Former Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Türkiye

Prof. Murat Yeşiltaş – Professor, Social Sciences University of Ankara; Director of Foreign Policy Studies, SETA

<https://www.setav.org/en/experts/murat-yesiltas>

Ippeita Nishida – Senior Research Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation

<https://www.spf.org/about/staffs/0009.html>

Yasushi Hazama – Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO)

https://www.ide.go.jp/English/Researchers/hazama_yasushi_en.html

4. Registration

Registration Deadline: **Sunday, 19 April 2026**

To attend the event, please register using the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Rt867mxWHN>

We hope that this panel session will deepen understanding of Türkiye–Japan relations and encourage constructive discussion on the potential for cooperation between the two countries in the international community. We very much look forward to your participation.

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