



SASAKAWA USA
Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Media Advisory

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Sasakawa USA's Security Forum to bring together leading experts

Event to focus on U.S.-Japan issues including maritime cooperation, cybersecurity challenges, the potential effect of U.S. elections on the alliance, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and more

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On May 6, Sasakawa USA is pleased to bring together leading security experts from both the United States and Japan for its Third Annual Security Forum. The high-level discussion will feature input from distinguished guests including Shigeru Ishiba, William Cohen, Chuck Hagel, Scott Swift, Michael Chertoff, Kenichiro Sasae, Ryozyo Kato, Richard Armitage, Satoshi Morimoto, Michèle Flournoy, and many others.

The U.S.-Japan relationship is at one of its post-World War II high-water marks. Last year's update of the Bilateral Defense Guidelines, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's successful address to a joint session of the U.S. Congress, the Diet's passage of legislation to allow greater military cooperation with the United States in some circumstances, and the signing of the Trans-Pacific Partnership were all historic steps forward. But continued dialogue is vital for this positive trend to continue.

To that end, this high-level discussion will focus on topics including Japan's global security role, the TPP, a new era in U.S.-Japan maritime cooperation, a view from Congress of U.S.-Japan relations, recommendations for the alliance through 2030, cybersecurity challenges, and the effect that the U.S. elections may have on the alliance.

Held on the same day as Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's planned summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Sochi, the event also will serve as the official public release of *Japan-Russia Relations: Implications for the U.S.-Japan Alliance*, Sasakawa USA's new book analyzing the underdeveloped Japan-Russia relationship; the two countries' dispute over the Kuril Islands, which Japan calls the Northern Territories; and prospects for future bilateral ties.

Event information:

Third Annual Security Forum:
American and Japanese Interests and the Future of the Alliance

Friday, May 6, 2016, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Reception to follow

Willard InterContinental Hotel Ballroom, Washington, D.C.

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Speakers:

- **Richard Armitage**, President, Armitage International
- **Fred Bergsten**, Senior Fellow and Director Emeritus, PIIIE
- **Dennis Blair**, Chairman and CEO, Sasakawa USA
- **Daniel Bob**, Senior Fellow and Director of Programs, Sasakawa USA
- **Michael Chertoff**, Executive Chairman, Chertoff Group
- **William Cohen**, Chairman and CEO, The Cohen Group; former Secretary of Defense
- **Gerald Connolly**, Member, House Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific
- **Michèle Flournoy**, Co-founder and CEO, CNAS
- **Mike Green**, Senior Vice President for Asia and Japan Chair, CSIS
- **Chuck Hagel**, former Secretary of Defense and U.S. Senator
- **John Hamre**, President and CEO, CSIS
- **Jiro Hanyu**, Chairman, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
- **Shigeru Ishiba**, Minister in Charge of Overcoming Population Decline and Vitalizing Local Economy; Minister of State for the National Strategic Special Zones
- **Ryozo Kato**, former Japanese Ambassador to the U.S.
- **Satoshi Morimoto**, President, Takushoku University; former Minister of Defense
- **Umio Otsuka**, President, JMSDF Command and Staff College
- **Kenichiro Sasae**, Ambassador of Japan to the United States
- **Suzanne Spaulding**, Under Secretary for National Protection Directorate, Department of Homeland Security
- **Sheila Smith**, Senior Fellow for Japan Studies, Council on Foreign Relations
- **Mireya Solis**, Philip Knight Chair in Japan Studies, Brookings Institution
- **Scott Swift**, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet
- **Keizo Takemi**, Member, House of Councillors
- **Yasuhiko Taniwaki**, Deputy Director-General, National Information Security Center
- **Steven Weisman**, Vice President for Publications and Communications, PIIIE
- **Noboru Yamaguchi**, Advisor, Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Please note: A separate media room will be available for interviewing panelists when they are not on stage. Sasakawa USA will do its best to accommodate interview requests based on each speaker's availability. Please send requests to Communications Manager Christa Desrets at cdesrets@spfusa.org.

Panel Topics:

- 9:10 a.m.** | Reflections on U.S.-Japan Relations 2012–2016
- 9:30 a.m.** | U.S.-Japan Relations: Japan's National Interests and Global Role
- 10:15 a.m.** | Enhancing the Alliance: The Revised U.S.-Japan Defense Guidelines and Japan's Security Legislation
- 11:30 a.m.** | A New Era in U.S.-Japan Maritime Cooperation
- 12:45 p.m.** | TPP and U.S.-Japan Relations: A View from Congress and the Diet
- 1:45 p.m.** | Sasakawa/CSIS Alliance Commission: A New Vision for the Alliance Through 2030
- 3:00 p.m.** | Meeting the Challenge of Cybersecurity
- 4:15 p.m.** | The U.S. Elections and Japan

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA is an independent American non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship. Through research and education programs, Sasakawa USA facilitates people-to-people exchange and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public.