



News Release

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Sasakawa USA appoints new President

Washington, D.C. – Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Satohiro Akimoto as our new president, effective January 3, 2019. Akimoto will work with Admiral Dennis Blair (ret.), Chairman of the Board, and Ambassador (ret.) James Zumwalt, Chief Executive Officer, to advance Sasakawa USA’s mission of strengthening U.S.-Japan relations through education, programs, and research.

Akimoto brings to Sasakawa USA extensive experience in the business and non-profit world. “In recognition of Satohiro Akimoto’s tremendous contributions as a Sasakawa USA Board member and as a frequent participant in our Washington programs, we decided to bring him on board full time in order to strengthen our ties with businesses and counterpart organizations and provide strategic advice on strengthening our mission,” Blair said.

Akimoto is the founder of Washington Insights LLC, a geopolitical risk analysis and consulting firm which he established in Washington, D.C. in May 2016. He was a senior vice president for the Mitsubishi Corporation with expertise in geopolitical, macro-economic, and business strategy. Akimoto received a Ph.D. in Sociology and an MA in East Asian Studies from Harvard University and a BA in law from Keio University.

“Sasakawa USA would like to thank former President Junko Chano for her many years of valuable service to the organization,” said Admiral Blair. “We look forward to continuing to work with her closely in her role as the Executive Director of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation in Japan and as a member of the Sasakawa USA Board of Directors.”

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

[Sasakawa USA](http://SasakawaUSA.org) 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.

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