

Workshop on Lithuanian Diplomacy and National Security

Subject In January 2023, we launched the Workshop on Future of International Order based on Liberalism, which subsequently published our report.

We have decided to continue the activities of this workshop in the fiscal year 2024, and will deepen our studies by focusing on areas such as nuclear weapons, a possible Taiwan contingency, China and India, China-Russia-North Korea, the Chinese economy, and the impact of the presidential election in Taiwan.

One issue of concern in this context was the divergent sense of crisis felt in Taiwan, where there is a keen awareness of the risk of a possible Chinese invasion, and across the seas in Japan, a United States ally, and in Sweden, a NATO ally. It was felt that unless this discrepancy could be addressed, it would be impossible to reach a shared understanding of the issues, and that this might lead to fractured recommendations. In this context, a proposal gathered support to study the diplomacy and national security policy of Lithuania, a country that, while a NATO member, nevertheless remains keenly aware of the dangers posed by its contiguous neighbor, having previously been subject to the control of Russia and the Soviet Union (as well as having the largest population of the three Baltic states, with approx. 3 million people, and a per capita GDP comparable with Japan's at US\$38,000). A decision was taken to launch a new Workshop on Lithuanian Diplomacy and National Security as a subsidiary group of the Workshop on Future of International Order

Subject based on Liberalism. As well as actually visiting Lithuania for meetings with the country’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and leading thinktanks, and observing defense facilities and training exercises, we will organize a public symposium under the aegis of the Workshop on Future of International Order based on Liberalism.

Period April 1, 2024–March 31, 2025

Date held September 8, 2024 –September 14, 2024
(Venue: Vilnius, Lithuania & Prague, Czech)

Activities in Vilnius, Lithuania:

September 8 Arrival

September 9 In-person Symposium at University of Vilnius

Session I: Europe, Indo-Pacific, and the Security Calculus In a Liberal Order

Session II: Baltic Security and the Asian Powers

Session III: NATO, Europe, and Indo-Pacific

Session IV: Economic Interdependence and the Defense of the Liberal International Order

September 10 Meeting with Simonas Vifelas and
University of Vilnius experts
Meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of Lithuania and Ambassador Varvuolis

September 11 Meeting at the Ministry of Defense
Meeting at the Ministry of Innovation,
Science & Technology

Members

Nobukatsu Kanehara (Leader)

Executive Director, Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Former Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary

Former Deputy Director General of National Security

Secretariat, Government of Japan

Nobuyuki Hiraizumi

President, Kajima Institute of International Peace

Advisor, Avant Associates, Inc.

Masafumi Ishii

Member of Advisory Council, Resona Research Institute

Management Director, Platform Project, Japan Institute of
International Affairs

Shin Kawashima

Professor, Graduate School of the University of Tokyo Executive

Director of Research, Nakasone Peace Institute

Tatsuo Shikata

Visiting Researcher, Kajima Institute of International Peace

Mitsui & Co., Ltd. Company Fellow

Dr. Niklas Swanström

Executive Director, Institute for Security and Development

Policy, Stockholm

Members

Dr. Lars Vargö

Distinguished Fellow of Institute for Security and Development Policy

Former Swedish Ambassador to Japan and South Korea

Major General (ret.) Mats Engman

Head of the Stockholm Korea Center and Distinguished Military Fellow at ISDP

Dr. Jagannath Panda

Head of the Stockholm Center for South Asian and Indo-Pacific Affairs at ISDP