

Ambassador of Japan

Ambassador's address on the occasion of National Day of Japan

Excellencies, dear colleagues and friends,

It is my great pleasure to address you on the occasion of the National Day of Japan, as 23 February is the 62nd birthday of His Majesty the Emperor Naruhito.

His Majesty the Emperor Naruhito is the 126th Emperor of Japan and the history of imperial family has lasted more than 2700 years.

His Majesty the Emperor acceded to the throne on 1 May 2019 and the era named Reiwa replaced Heisei.

The enthronement ceremony of His Majesty was held in October 2019, which was attended by H.E. Mr. Željko Komšić, the Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, among other foreign dignitaries.

According to the Constitution of Japan, the Emperor is the symbol of the state and of the unity of the people, deriving his position from the will of people with whom he resides the sovereign power.

Last year marked the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Japan and Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was a great opportunity for both countries to look back on our past cooperation, history and friendship, and to reconfirm our determination to consolidate our friendly relations.

The highlight of the anniversary year was the official visit of Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. MOTEGI Toshimitsu in last May. Throughout the visit, our diplomatic relations became further consolidated and many new cooperation projects have been agreed.

This year the Government of Japan further continues to expand its efforts in economic and business relations, to provide more cooperation projects, JICA technical assistance and Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, contributing to social and economic stability and development of BiH.

Educational and cultural exchanges are also expected to be enhanced this year. In this regard, I am delighted to see that many students continue to learn Japanese politics, history and language at the University of Sarajevo.

During Olympic and Paralympic Games last year, qualified BiH athletes made a great achievement and I am confident that our consolidated cooperation in the field of sports will develop furthermore between our two governments in this year.

Last but not least, as the Ambassador of Japan to BiH, I would hereby like to convey again our most sincere gratitude to the people and the authorities of BiH for their kind and valuable support.

Thank you so much again and I look forward to our further collaboration.

February 23, 2022



ITO Makoto

Ambassador of Japan to BiH

Obraćanje ambasadora povodom Nacionalnog dana Japana

Ekselencije, drage kolege i prijatelji,

Veliko mi je zadovoljstvo obratiti Vam se povodom Nacionalnog dana Japana, 23. februara, kada Njegovo veličanstvo car Naruhito slavi 62. rođendan. Prema Ustavu Japana, car je simbol države i zajedništva naroda, a njegov položaj proizilazi iz volje naroda, u kojem leži suverenitet vlasti.

Njegovo veličanstvo car Naruhito je 126. po redu car Japana, koji je preuzeo prijestolje 1. maja 2019. godine, te je era pod nazivom Reiwa zamijenila eru Heisei. Historija carske porodice traje preko 2700 godina. Ceremoniji ustoličenja Njegovog veličanstva, koja je održana u oktobru 2019., između ostalih stranih državnika, je prisustvovao i predsjedavajući Predsjedništva BiH, gospodin Željko Komšić.

Na polju bilateralnih odnosa, prošle godine smo obilježili 25. godišnjicu od uspostavljanja diplomatskih odnosa između Japana i Bosne i Hercegovine. Bila je to odlična prilika da se osvrnemo na protekle godine naše saradnje, historije i prijateljstva, te da ponovo potvrdimo našu spremnost za učvršćivanje naših prijateljskih odnosa.

Vrhunac jubilarne godine bila je zvanična posjeta ministra vanjskih poslova Japana, gospodina MOTEGI Toshimitsu, u maju prošle godine. Tokom posjete, naši diplomatski odnosi su dodatno konsolidirani i dogovoreni su brojni novi projekti saradnje.

U tom smislu, ove godine Vlada Japana nastavlja dalje jačati svoje napore u ekonomskim i poslovnim odnosima, realizovati više projekata saradnje, JICA tehničke pomoći i Grant pomoći za projekte ljudske sigurnosti, doprinoseći socijalnoj i ekonomskoj stabilnosti i razvoju BiH.

Također, očekuje se da će se ove godine poboljšati obrazovna i kulturna razmjena. S tim u vezi, raduje me što vidim da mnogi studenti nastavljaju da uče o japanskoj politici, historiji i jeziku na Univerzitetu u Sarajevu.

Pored toga, tokom prošlogodišnjih Olimpijskih i Paraolimpijskih igara održanih u Japanu, kvalifikovani bh. sportisti su napravili veliki uspjeh i uvjeren sam da će se saradnja između naše dvije zemlje u oblasti sporta dalje razvijati u ovoj godini.

Na kraju, ali ne i najmanje važno, kao ambasador Japana u BiH, ovim putem želim još jednom prenijeti našu najiskreniju zahvalnost narodu i vlastima BiH na ljubaznoj i značajnoj podršci.

Hvala vam još jednom i radujem se našoj daljoj saradnji.

23. februar 2022.

ITO Makoto

Ambasador Japana u BiH