

## **Attendance of Foreign Minister Kishida at the 50th Munich Security Conference**

Mr. Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, attended the 50th Munich Security Conference in Munich, Germany, on February 1, 2014. The conference brought together primarily ministerial-level officials from over 60 countries and representatives of more than 10 international organizations, who engaged in wide-ranging discussions on security challenges faced by not only Europe, but also each region and the world at large.

Minister Kishida participated in the session “Global Power and Regional Stability” held in the morning of February 1. He made a 15-minute comment summarizing the session ([Full Text of the summarizing comment](#)).

Minister Kishida, in his comment, presented an overview of the world’s security over the next half-century, introduced the efforts made by Japan (in Africa, the Middle East, ASEAN, UN Peacekeeping Operations, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, strengthening the rule of law, etc.) as part of its vision for “Proactive Contributions to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, and expressed the determination of Japan to even more actively contribute to peace and security in the region and the world.

China’s participant, however, claimed that Japanese leaders deny history. In response, Minister Kishida stated that Japan faces its history squarely and has clearly expressed remorse for the war and its colonial rule; that since the end of World War II, Japan has supported freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law in East Asia and as a champion of these values, has consistently contributed to the peace and prosperity of the region and the world; and that Japan will continue to pursue the path of a peace-loving country.

Minister Kishida’s participation in the conference provided a good opportunity to disseminate Japan’s security policy to the world, particularly in gaining the full understanding of the participants regarding Japan’s consistent path as a peace-loving country since the end of World War II and Japan’s security policy as an extension of the peaceful course that Japan has taken.