

Co-hosted by the Governments of Australia,  
Japan, the Republic of Korea,  
the US, and the European Union

# The Online Symposium in the UN on the Abductions Issue

The abductions issue is a serious concern for the international community. The governments of Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the US and the EU will co-host an online symposium on the issue, as a side event of the UN, with participation of the members of the Permanent Mission to the UN in New York.

At this online symposium, we will have an opportunity to directly listen to the voices of families of the victims from Japan and another country. We have also invited Former-President of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the UN, Former- Ambassador for North Korean Human Rights, the Government of the Republic of Korea and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom to the Republic of Korea to discuss the current situation in North Korea and the ways to resolve the abductions issue.

**International cooperation to resolve the abductions issue as a global issue**

# June 29, 2023 8:00am-9:45am EST (21:00-22:45 JST)

(1) Opening Remarks	ISHIKANE Kimihiro	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN
(2) Keynote Remarks	MATSUNO Hirokazu	Chief Cabinet Secretary and Minister in Charge of the Abduction issue of Japan
(3) Remarks by the Representatives of co-hosts	Linda Thomas-Greenfield Mitch Fifield Joonkook Hwang Olof Skoog	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the United States to the UN Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Australia to the UN Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the UN Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Head of Delegation of the European Union to the UN
(4) Remarks by a member of the House of Representatives of Japan	FURUYA Keiji	Chairman of the Committee of Congressional Members to Act for the Early Rescue of Japanese Victims Abducted by North Korea
(5) Appeal by the Families of Victims	YOKOTA Takuya IIZUKA Koichiro KITAKOSHI Yuko Banjong Panchoi	Representative of the Association of Families of Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea Secretary-General of the Association of Families of Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea Member of the Family Association of the Missing Persons Probably Related to the DPRK Nephew of Ms. Anocha Panchoi
(6) Panel Discussion	Moderator NISHINO Junya Panelists Michael Kirby AC CMG JungHoon Lee Colin James Crooks LVO	Professor, Keio University Former-President of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the DPRK, the UN Former-Ambassador for North Korean Human Rights, the Government of the Republic of Korea Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom to the Republic of Korea Former Ambassador of the UK to North Korea
(7) Closing Remarks	ISHIKANE Kimihiro	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN

Please watch the live broadcast of the symposium on UN Web TV (in English) and the official YouTube Channel of the Headquarters for the Abduction Issue, the Government of Japan (in Japanese and Thai)

YouTube "The Official Channel of the Headquarters for the Abduction Issue, the Government of Japan"

<https://www.youtube.com/@rachitaichannel/streams>



UN Web TV

<http://webtv.un.org/>

