

**Ways towards an immediate resolution of  
The abductions issue with time constraint**

# The Online Symposium in the UN on the Abductions Issue

2025  
**June 26<sup>TH</sup>**

Date **7:30am-9:15am EST**  
(8:30pm-10:15pm JST)

Co-hosted by Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States, and the European Union

The abductions issue is not a historical event but an ongoing problem and an international challenge that requires immediate resolution. Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States and the European Union will co-host an online symposium on the issue, as a side event of the UN, with the participation of the members of permanent missions to the UN in New York.

This online symposium will present the voices of families of the victims from Japan and other countries. We have also invited experts on the international situation concerning North Korea to discuss and deepen understanding of the ways to resolve the abductions issue and its importance to the international community.

## PROGRAM

### 1 Opening Remarks

**YAMAZAKI Kazuyuki** Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,  
Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN

### 2 Keynote Remarks

**HAYASHI Yoshimasa** Chief Cabinet Secretary and Minister in Charge  
of the Abduction Issue of Japan

### 3 Remarks by the Representatives of co-hosts

**Dorothy Shea** Ambassador,  
Acting Representative of the United States to the UN

**James Larsen** Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative of Australia to the UN

**Hwang Joonkook** Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the UN

**Stavros Lambrinidis** 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

**YOKOTA Takuya** Representative of the Association of Families of  
Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea

**IIZUKA Koichiro** Secretary-General of the Association of Families of  
Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea

**MIZUI Toru** Secretary of the Family Association of the Missing Persons

**James Sneddon** Brother of Mr. David Sneddon

**Banjong Panchoi** Nephew of Ms. Anocha Panchoi

### 6 Panel Discussion

**Moderator NISHINO Junya** Professor of Keio University, Japan

**Panelists Greg Scarlatoiu** President & CEO of the Committee for Human  
Rights in North Korea in Washington, D.C.

**Yun Dukmin** Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
of the Republic of Korea to Japan

### 7 Closing Remarks

**YAMAZAKI Kazuyuki** 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, Korean and Thai). It will also be posted in the archives.

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

Japanese, Korean and Thai

[https://www.youtube.com/  
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UN Web TV

English

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

