

# Belarus National Day Special

## Strong ties amid resilient cooperation

**RUSLAN ESIN**  
AMBASSADOR OF BELARUS



The Belarusian Embassy congratulates all Belarusians and our friends in Japan on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus.

We are celebrating this day amid turbu-

lent times, when the world is going through a period of transformation, tested by the coronavirus pandemic, economic hardships, geopolitical rivalries and the uncertainties of the future. Yet one should be rather optimistic when looking at how much progress the international community has achieved in the face of inconceivable challenges by utilizing the potential of cooperation, solidarity and compassion.

In a rapidly changing world, Belarus will determine the ways it will use to adapt to the “new normal” and ensure the ongoing prosperity of its people. I believe in these

trying times that mutual support and open dialogue remain the most effective instruments in the toolkit.

After the All Belarusian People’s Assembly in Minsk in February, which pointed out the main avenues for further development of the state, Belarus continued to pursue a foreign policy of building cooperation with its partners, including Japan.

The relationship between Belarus and Japan rests on a solid foundation of several decades of interaction and a much longer period of people-to-people contacts.

Looking forward to the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Belarusian-Japanese diplomatic relations, the embassy is proud to present a series of essays published on the mission’s social media accounts dedicated to the symbolic episodes from the history of Belarus-Japan relations.

Among those episodes are the Chernobyl nuclear catastrophe and the Great East Japan Earthquake, followed by the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear disaster. 2021 marks 35 and 10 years, respectively, since these national tragedies occurred. The sad anniversaries are giving us a chance to deeply

comprehend the consequences of these devastating events and reflect on the strong emotional bond between Belarusians and Japanese united by the experience of living through accidents at nuclear power plants.

Our present-day cooperation is based on the experience of the past, and it also lays the ground for future engagements. The current engagement between our two nations extends from business and investment, cultural and humanitarian collaboration to contacts between Belarusian and Japanese regions and cities and bilateral engagement in international organizations.

This year bilateral trade turnover looks promising, which proves that Belarusian-Japanese economic cooperation stands resilient to global challenges.

Recently, the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry appointed a representative in Japan, and our new honorary consul opened an office. These events will surely make an additional significant contribution to furthering the development of the Belarus-Japan relationship.

The Belarusian government will keep on exploring new and unorthodox ways of



**Ambassador Ruslan Esin poses in Fukui with designer Mutsumi Okuno, who made a kimono inspired by traditional Belarusian dresses and the stork, Belarus’ national bird, on May 25.**

BELARUSIAN EMBASSY  
IN TOKYO

bilateral engagement on our post-COVID realities and continue to develop dialogue with our Japanese partners when discussing matters of mutual interest and concern, including commerce and investment, cultural and youth exchanges, science, sports, human rights, international security, health care, climate change and other areas.

These days the attention of the whole world is focused on Japan as host of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. It is my strong belief that Tokyo will hold this remarkable sporting event that symbolizes humankind’s unbeatable spirit, ever-lasting aspiration and invincible will in a safe and secure manner. As the Olympic Games draw near, I wish the athletes, organizers and sponsors, as well as all the citizens of Japan, the best of luck and every success.

I look forward to Belarus and Japan working to strengthen and expand engagement for the benefit of their people.

.....  
*Twitter:*  
*@BelembassyJPN*  
*Facebook:*  
*/BelembassyJPN*  
.....

*This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.*

Congratulations  
to the People  
of  
the Republic of Belarus  
on the Occasion  
of  
Their Independence Day



JAPAN TOBACCO INC.

Kamiyacho Trust Tower, 1-1, Toranomon 4-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-6927 JAPAN  
Phone: (03)6636-2914 FAX: (03)6772-0495 URL: <http://www.jt.com>