

Peru National Day Special

Solid ties in economic, social sectors

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This is a special year for Peru as it marks the celebration of the bicentennial of its independence. Every July 28, Peruvians remember the proclamation made in Lima in 1821 by the open *cabildo*, declar-

ing the country's independence from all foreign domination.

Two hundred years have passed since that date and Peru is now a solid and stable democracy that guarantees respect for constitutional democracy, the separation of powers, rule of law, respect and promotion of human rights, the free market, compliance with international law and sustainable development.

Thanks to efficient and timely action at different levels of the international scene and using its strengths and competitive advantages, Peru has established itself as a midsize

emerging regional power with a powerful projection toward the Asia-Pacific region and a key player in Latin America.

Peru shows strong regional leadership when dealing with the main issues on the multilateral agenda, such as climate change, defense of democracy and humanitarian aid to immigrants.

Regarding its bilateral relationship with Japan, Peru occupies a privileged position in Japan's foreign policy with Latin America. Peru in 1873 was the first Latin American country to establish diplomatic relations with Japan, and it was also the first South American country to accept systematic immigration of Japanese people. Since 1899, the community of Japanese descendants in Peru has contributed to the country's development and has played an important role as a bridge between the two countries.

The Peruvian-Japanese relationship has a solid foundation in the economic sector with both the bilateral investment treaty and the economic partnership agreement, which have been in force since 2009 and 2012, respectively. Furthermore, Peru and Japan signed in 2019 the convention for the elimi-



nation of double taxation, which is already in effect.

Likewise, Peru and Japan share universal values in defense and promotion of democracy and human rights, free trade, the condemnation of terrorism, advocacy for total elimination of nuclear weapons, peaceful solutions for controversies, climate change, and other issues that make us close partners in multilateral forums. Additionally, both share partnerships in the regional frameworks of the Pacific Basin, such as Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, commonly known as APEC, and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Peru and Japan's friendship is rooted in different aspects, an important one being their



Situated more than 2,400 meters above sea level, Machu Picchu is an important legacy of the Incan civilization.
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cultural ties based on more than 120 years of Japanese migration to Peru, the large Nikkei-Peruvian community settled in Japan, as well as the confluence of interests in multilateral forums.

It is worth noting that during the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan's cooperation was crucial for Peru to ensure necessary medical supplies. Now, Peru is on its path to recovering and celebrating its 200 years of existence as a free and strong country where ancient civilizations flourished in the distant past.

Nevertheless, despite the commemoration of Peru's bicentennial, we cannot fail to mention the hard times that Peru (and the entire world) have gone through during the pandemic, which has claimed thousands of lives. I should like to pay tribute to all of them.

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 Peru
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence

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