

Greece National Day Special

Future to focus on cultural, societal relations

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AMBASSADOR OF GREECE



March 25 is Greece's National Day. This landmark date symbolizes the anniversary of the declaration of Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1821, eventually leading to the estab-

lishment of the modern Greek state in 1830.

In commemorating our independence day, we pay tribute to our ancestors for their sacrifice, to the Philhellenes around the world for their continuous support and to our nation's enduring resilience. Today is a day of immense pride for Greeks and an opportunity to look back on the successes and mishaps of the past and draw valuable lessons.

Modern Greece is a vibrant democratic society, an active member of the international community, and committed to democratic principles, human rights and the rule of law. Greece is also an active and reliable member of the European Union and NATO, a strong economic partner in South-eastern Europe and a close ally of Japan. Having fully recovered from the Eurozone debt crisis, which severely affected Greece, our economy has been showing remark-

able resilience and a rapid post-COVID response, systematically ranking very high in economic growth, public debt reduction and foreign investment.

In the international arena, Greece has forged partnerships and cooperation with friendly states, with which we share the same values and principles, jointly supporting freedom, international peace, democracy and the rule of law. Adhering to these principles has proven to be crucial today, at a time when their observance is threatened by unlawful actions. Japan is one of the nations with which Greece maintains strong and fruitful relations in modern times. The establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries 125

years ago has been strengthened over time and has reached a high level of cooperation, embodied in the strategic partnership declaration, signed by the prime ministers of Greece and Japan in 2023.

In addition to stronger political and economic ties, our countries have devoted their attention to culture and people-to-people contacts and agreed to designate 2024 as the Greece-Japan Year of Culture and Tourism. This year our embassy boasts a program of activities and events to promote Greek culture and tourism attractions in Japan, which we invite all our friends to discover.

Warm greetings on our National Day and long live the friendship between Greece and Japan.



The Herodes Atticus Odeon, an amphitheater built in the second century at the foot of the Acropolis in Athens, is used today for art performances. GNT0



The Monastery of Prodromos (St. John the Baptist), built in the 12th century, is a tourist favorite in Arcadia, Peloponnese.

TRAVELPHOTOGR

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 Greece on Their Independence Day

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