
Kosovo National Day Special

Ongoing cooperation in mutual friendship

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Feb. 17, 2008, is a significant day in the new history of Kosovo. On that day, the democratically elected representatives of the people proclaimed the Republic of Kosovo as an independent and sovereign state.

The Republic of Kosovo has now managed to establish itself in the society of states as a country committed to peace, democracy, rule of law and the protection of human rights.

Ongoing economic growth and financial stability have proven the economic sustainability of our independent state. Diplomatic relations with most countries in the world have confirmed the peace-loving, freedom-loving and democratic orientation of the

government and people of Kosovo.

Kosovo is a good example of how a country can be successfully reconstructed in the wake of war. This process took place in full coordination with the international community. The U.N., EU and NATO have played very important roles in peace-building, democratic reconstruction and economic development in Kosovo. In the process of reconstruction, a critical role has also been played by Japan.

The Republic of Kosovo considers Japan one of its closest friends in Asia. Last year, an agreement was reached to remove visas for diplomatic and official passports. The lasting friendship between our countries was reaffirmed during the visit of Deputy Prime Minister Donika Gervalla to Tokyo in April 2024.

In celebration of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries, Japan's Minister of Foreign Affairs Yoko Kamikawa visited Kosovo on July 19, 2024, marking the first visit of a Japanese foreign minister to

Kosovo. Kamikawa was received by Prime Minister Albin Kurti, who expressed his appreciation for Japan's support and committed to strengthening economic ties, including in the fields of renewable energy and infrastructure. Both sides confirmed they will promote cooperation, taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the 2025 World Expo in Osaka.

Kosovo will use its pavilion at the expo to promote our country's dynamic society. With its geographic position, young population and ongoing economic reforms, Kosovo is becoming a focal point for businesses. Therefore, we will use the opportunity to present the various sectors that offer potential for investment, the benefits of doing business in the country and the main factors that make Kosovo an attractive destination.

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