

Uruguay Independence Day Special

Strengthening relations for the future

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AMBASSADOR OF URUGUAY



As the Oriental Republic of Uruguay celebrates the 201st anniversary of its Declaration of Independence, this year also marks the 105th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations

between Uruguay and Japan.

This occasion offers an opportunity to celebrate a relationship that has flourished for more than a century, built on mutual trust, shared democratic values, respect for international law and a common commitment to an open, rules-based international order.

Far from simply commemorating the past, this anniversary highlights the remarkable momentum our relationship has gained in recent years. The visit to Tokyo in late 2025 by Vice Foreign Affairs Minister Valeria Csukasi gave fresh impetus to bilateral engagement. Through

Japanese-Uruguayan political consultations and the meeting of the Japan-Uruguay Economic and Trade Committee, both sides deepened the dialogue and advanced cooperation in key areas, including trade and investment, digital transformation, innovation, clean energy, Antarctic research and multilateral affairs.

That momentum has continued throughout 2026. The separate visits to Uruguay by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Iwao Horii and Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Arfiya Eri reaffirmed our shared commitment to expanding cooperation in trade, investment, innovation and regional connectivity, while underscoring Uruguay's role as a trusted partner in Latin America.

Under the leadership of Midori Matsu-shima, a member of the House of Representatives and special adviser to the prime minister, the Japan-Uruguay Parliamentary Friendship League has played a significant role in further strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our countries.

Economic relations are also entering a

new phase. Japan has welcomed the establishment of the working group on Uruguay's accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, reflecting confidence in Uruguay's commitment to high standards and open markets. In parallel, as Uruguay assumes the pro tempore presidency of Mercosur, the regional trading bloc founded by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay in 1991, we remain committed to deepening our trade relationship with Japan.

As we celebrate 105 years of diplomatic relations, the economic dimension of our partnership continues to evolve. Uruguay is actively working to deepen its economic ties with Japan by promoting trade, attracting investment and creating new opportunities for business collaboration. Through an open investment framework and participation in major trade fairs and business promotion events in Japan, Uruguay is presenting itself as a reliable destination for Japanese investment, while also highlighting its high-quality products in the Japanese market, including beef, wine, olive oil, dairy products, caviar and other premium foods.



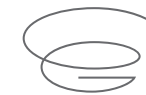
The circular design of the Laguna Garzon Bridge allows pedestrians to enjoy a panoramic view while also slowing traffic through the coastal lagoon and protected bird-watching area. EMBASSY OF URUGUAY

Beyond trade and investment, people-to-people ties continue to grow through educational, academic, cultural and tourism initiatives, bringing our societies closer and fostering greater mutual understanding between Uruguay and Japan.

Despite the geographical distance that separates our countries, Uruguay and Japan have built a relationship grounded in trust, shared values and a common vision for the future. We look ahead with confidence, committed to further advancing our partnership through political dialogue and cooperation in economic, scientific and cultural areas.

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
Uruguay on
the Anniversary of
Their Independence**



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