

March 23rd ,2023

To United States President Joseph Robinette Biden Jr.

To U.S. Secretary of State Antony John Blinken

NO WAR! NAGANO
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Statement against the G7 Summit in Hiroshima as well as the Foreign Ministers'
Meeting in Karuizawa

On February 24th, 2022, Russian forces invaded Ukraine and the war started. In last September, as the war escalated, the G7 leaders announced more military aid to Ukraine. To join this Western coalition, the Japanese Prime Minister Kishida, on March 21st of this year, suddenly visited Kyiv and met with President Zelensky, to whom he promised to support Ukraine. There he made clear Japanese political stance in choosing one side of the war.

At the G7 Summit in Hiroshima scheduled for May, one of the main subjects will be how to organize and intensify Western military assistance to Ukraine. At the same time, under the title of "Taiwan emergency", the military cooperation of the G7 member countries in Pacific Ocean is also on the agenda.

The G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting scheduled from April 16 (Sunday) in Karuizawa will be a working-level meeting for the plenary session in Hiroshima in May. There will be discussed not only a concrete military assistance to Ukraine, but also an enhancement of security in East Asia under the leadership of the United States, to which Japan is subordinated. In this way, a draft statement to be issued at the Summit in Hiroshima will be prepared in Karuizawa. We believe that both the G7 Summit and the Foreign Ministers' Meeting are not for ceasefire in Ukraine, but for continuation of the war. Especially, we cannot let Japan join in this way a group of belligerent nations in hosting the G7 Summit in Hiroshima. That is the reason why we call on you to call off them.

Prime Minister Kishida said he would guide the G7 leaders to the Atomic Bomb Dome during the Summit in Hiroshima. However, Kishida has made no effort to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapon and has no intention of seriously opposing nuclear weapons. The United States, the United Kingdom, and France are all countries that possess nuclear weapons. Especially, we don't forget it is the United States that dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. Moreover, Kishida is trying to get the G7 leaders' agreement to a recent Japanese decision of rebuilding of nuclear power plants and to the dumping into the sea of water contaminated with radioactivity coming from devastated atomic reactors of Fukushima Daiichi. We also oppose this attempt.

Historically, the Summit was held for the first time about 50 years ago during the Cold War between Western countries and the former socialist countries such as the Soviet Union (Russia) and China. The purpose of the Summit is to protect the interests of Western and Japanese capitalist countries. That initial tension doesn't disappear yet to this day. And the G7, excluding entire regions around the world such as Asia, Africa, and Latin America (Global South), is a discriminatory and exclusive conference that tries to protect Western old powers' political, economic, and military interests.

Now, in Nagano Prefecture and Karuizawa Town, the public and private sectors have created a system to promote the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting together. There is a welcome mood, as is naively told that "on this occasion, Karuizawa can appeal to the world as a resort area" or that "Inbound effect can be expected amid inflation". However, their "welcoming" of the Foreign Ministers' Meeting in the dimension of "regional promotion" means that they are taking part in the world's military tensions without realizing it. In addition, in Karuizawa, school children were served "G7 school meal" and mobilized for the G7 welcome event. The false idea according to which the G7 is a conference for peace is thus inculcated into children and students. On the contrary, we should teach them that the Foreign Ministers' Meeting is for military assistance to Ukraine and building of a war regime in East Asia.

From January to March this year, we had held study sessions about the G7 in various places in the Nagano prefecture, such as Matsumoto, Nagano, and Ueda. We are now

convinced that the G7 Summit is not a conference for peace, but a club of ancient world powers. The obstinate attachment to their old interests, the arrogance, and the self-righteousness of the seven countries that shamelessly call themselves "summit of the world" continually divide the world, cause wars, worsen economic disparities and environmental destruction.

Now, we once again call for the cancellation of the G7 Summit in Hiroshima and the Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Karuizawa.

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