



საქართველოს პოლიტიკის ინსტიტუტი  
GEORGIAN INSTITUTE OF POLITICS



# Thirty Years of Diplomatic Relations Between Georgia and Japan

Public Discussion

September 7, 2022 | 12:00 - 13:45 (GMT+4)

Languages: **English**

**Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Auditorium 107**

This year marks 30 years since the establishment of the diplomatic relationship between Georgia and Japan. For the last three decades the partnership between the two countries has developed to the close partnership as Japan has proved to be a reliable foreign development assistance contributor to Georgia. Official Tokyo has also been a strong supporter of Georgia's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

The aim of the event is to overview the thirty years of partnership between the two countries, assess the achievements and prospects for future cooperation. Discussion will be based on the policy paper by Dr. Mariam Bibilashvili, affiliated researcher of the Special Program in Japanese and Eurasian Studies at University of Tsukuba. The paper argues that the main obstacle on this path is that Georgia still needs to strengthen its capability to provide a favorable environment to Japanese businesses and establish its credibility as a trustworthy actor in the Japan-EU connectivity process. The discussion will focus on the following questions:

- **What have been the main milestones and achievements in Japan-Georgia relations for the last three decades?**
- **What are the new opportunities and challenges that the current developments in the region pose to this partnership?**
- **What could be new initiatives and programs, that would boost even further the relationship between the two countries?**

Registration is required to attend the event: [register here](#)



## Program:

**12:00 - 12:10**

### Introductory Remarks

***Moderator:* Prof. Kornely KAKACHIA**, Director,  
Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP); Tbilisi State  
University

**H.E. Ambassador Mr. IMAMURA Akira**, Embassy  
of Japan in Georgia

**Ms. Medea Tamazashvili**, Japan Desk Officer,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

**12:10 - 12:30**

*EU-Japanese relations: implications  
for EaP states*

### Key-note speaker:

**Dr. HIGASHINO Atsuko**, Professor, Graduate  
School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social  
Sciences, University of Tsukuba

**12:30-12:45**

*Thirty Years of Diplomatic Relations  
between Georgia and Japan:  
Achievements and Prospects for  
Partnership*

### Speakers:

**Dr. Mariam BIBILASHVILI**, Affiliated researcher,  
Special Program in Japanese and Eurasian Studies,  
University of Tsukuba

**12:45-13:05**

*Challenges and prospects of  
Georgia-Japan relations from  
Georgian and Japanese perspectives*

**Dr. Hirotake Maeda**, Professor, Faculty of  
Humanities and Social Sciences, Tokyo  
Metropolitan University

**Ambassador Vano MACHAVARIANI**, Former  
Ambassador, Georgian Embassy to Japan

**13:05 - 13:45**

Two rounds of panel discussions (Q&A)