

Japan-Ukraine Defense Ministerial Meeting (Summary)

February 15, 2020
Japan Ministry of Defense

On February 15, 2020, from 10:30 (local time) for approx. 25 minutes, Defense Minister Kono, who was visiting Germany to attend the 56th Munich Security Conference, held a meeting with the Ukrainian Minister of Defence, H.E. Andriy Zahorodnyuk. The summary of the meeting is as follows:

1. Opening Remarks

At the beginning of the meeting, Minister Kono stated that he welcomes a first-ever defense ministerial meeting between Japan and Ukraine. He also stated that Japan supports Ukraine's unity of sovereignty and territories and will never tolerate the unilateral attempts to change the status quo with a force at the backdrop. In response, Minister Zahorodnyuk expressed desire to further advance the Japan-Ukraine defense cooperation and exchanges.

2. Japan-Ukraine Defense Cooperation

Both Ministers affirmed the importance of bilateral defense cooperation, and shared the view that they would materialize various cooperation based on the Memorandum on Defense Cooperation and Exchanges that they signed in 2018. Minister Kono added that he would like to deepen cooperation in the defense/security domain through various dialogues.

3. Regional Situation

Both Ministers exchanged views on issues such as security situations surrounding both countries.

(End)