



September 19th, 2026

Japan Joint Staff

(Announcement)

Japan-U.S. Bilateral Exercise

Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) and United States (U.S.) Armed Forces conducted a bilateral exercise amid an increasingly severe security environment surrounding Japan. This bilateral exercise reaffirms the strong will between Japan and the U.S. not to tolerate unilateral changes to the status quo by force. This also demonstrates the readiness of JSDF and U.S. Armed Forces, and further strengthens the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance.

1. Date

September 18th, 2026

2. Exercise Area

The airspace over Pacific Ocean, east of Okinawa

3. Participating Units

(1) Japan Air Self-Defense Force

F-15 x 4, 9th Air Wing

(2) U.S. Armed Forces

F-22 x 9

KC-135 x 1

4. Types of Exercise

Tactical exercises