

# JPN/US/UK Trilateral Head of Navy Joint Statement

20 November 2019

We have global responsibilities and interests which compel us to maintain a routine forward presence, maintain positive influence, contribute to wider peace and stability, and protect and promote our interests wherever they are. This includes being able to respond to diverse challenges, including the security of the Indo-Pacific Region.

We cannot shoulder this burden alone. Increasingly, those nations that adhere to the international rules based system desire to preserve good order at sea.

Together, we strive to combat the challenges of piracy, maritime pollution, illicit trade in armaments and narcotics, human trafficking, and attempts to circumscribe freedom of navigation; the very foundation of the trade that is now the lifeblood of the global economic system.

The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, Royal Navy, and U.S. Navy maintain our enduring naval presence which underpins diplomatic relations and is greatly valued by regional partners and allies as a force for good. We encourage others to responsibly take their place on the world stage in cooperation with regional countries.

We reaffirm our commitment to protecting our common interests within this vast sea space, as well as the people who live and work here and, in order to do so, concur in pursuing multi-lateral information sharing solutions in support of these shared aspirations. We have proven that we work best when we work together and will deepen our cooperation to play a role in leading the international community.

