

**PRESS RELEASE**July 13, 2026  
Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

## Japan–Tonga Bilateral Exercise

The Indo-Pacific Deployment 2026 (IPD26) unit conducted a bilateral exercise with the Tonga Royal Navy as described below in order to strengthen cooperation to realize a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.”

## 1. Objectives

- (1) To improve the JMSDF’s tactical capabilities
- (2) To strengthen cooperation with the Tonga Royal Navy

## 2. Period

July 6–10

## 3. Exercise Area

Nuku’alofa (Kingdom of Tonga)

## 4. Participating Units

- (1) JMSDF  
IPD26 Boarding Inspection Team
- (2) Tonga Royal Navy  
Tonga Royal Navy personnel

## 5. Type of Exercise

Boarding Inspection Exercise



Boarding Inspection Exercise



Group photo