



PRESS RELEASE

September 8, 2026

Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

Japan–New Zealand Bilateral Exercise

The JMSDF conducted a bilateral exercise with the Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) 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 RNZN

2. Period

September 7–8

3. Exercise Area

South of Kanto

4. Participating Units

- (1) JMSDF: JS *AMAGIRI*
- (2) RNZN: HMNZS *TE MANA*, HMNZS *AOTEAROA*

5. Type of Exercise

Tactical Maneuvering, LEAP FROG, COMMEX and PHOTOEX



LEAP FROG



JMSDF members seeing off HMNCS *TE MANA*