# Japan-US Security Cooperation around the Arctic Ocean

…From Japan’s View…

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## 1. Changes in the Arctic Ocean and their impact on the security and defense fronts

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<th>Short term:</th>
<th>Impacts of new international maritime traffic lanes, <strong>Military close games in the Arctic Ocean</strong></th>
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| Med term:   | Competition to resources, **Changes in strategic mobility, Decline in credibility of US nuclear deterrence,**  
             | **Security challenges in surrounding seas,** **Necessity of new international rules around the Arctic Ocean** |
| Long term:  | Sparing negative influences on environmental changes |

1. Impacts driven by the emergence of new international maritime traffic lanes

2. **Military close games in the Arctic Ocean**
   - Russia: Military deployment based on “Federated Maritime Doctrine”, “Arctic State Policy” and “Arctic Federated Strategy”
   - Canada: Bolstered exercising of sovereignty and military deployment in the Arctic, based on the “Northern Strategy: 2009”
   - U.S.: Proactive stance based on “Arctic National Strategy”, “Arctic National Defense Strategy” and “Navy Arctic Roadmap”
   - Denmark: Rivalry over rights with Canada and Russia, new vessels with Arctic specifications, new Arctic unit (Greenland)
   - Norway: Stagnation in relationship with Russia, Military equipment with Arctic specifications
   - AC member states (Iceland, Sweden, and Finland), observer states (Italy, Japan, China, South Korea, India, and Singapore)
   - In particular, China is actively moving as a self-declared “near-Arctic state” or “Arctic stakeholder”

3. Intensifying competition to obtain resources in the vicinity of the Arctic Ocean

4. **Changes in strategic mobility**
   - Russia: Remarkable improvement in maritime strategic mobility, focusing on military superiority in the Arctic Region
   - U.S.: Researching year-round operable ships, revising area of responsibility for regional commands

5. **Decline in credibility of the U.S.’ extended nuclear deterrence capability**
   - Russia: Expansion of SSBNs deployment, increased activities by SSBN/SSN, vigilance over the U.S. BMD network
   - U.S.: Gradual increase in interest, reactivation of activities centering on SSBNs in the Arctic Ocean (ICEX2014)
   - China: Boosting of SSBN/SSN as “decisive deterrent power to the U.S.”, ambition to deploy those around the Arctic Ocean
   - Japan: Awareness in “National Security Strategy”, concrete arguments underdeveloped

6. Occurrence of various security challenges in surrounding sea areas of the Arctic Ocean
   - Maritime traffic in the Sea of Japan (SOJ) and the three major straits becoming congested
SAR and HA/DR responses in the Arctic Ocean and the northern waters becoming regional challenges

Necessity for building defense structure to prepare for emergency situations in the Arctic Ocean and the northern waters

(7) Necessity for establishing new international rules around the Arctic Ocean

2. Responses that Japan should explore

(1) Promoting the utilization of Arctic shipping routes and diplomatic policies aligned to its national interests (including proactive participation in creating international rules)

(2) Reviewing the defense structure…bolstering the autonomous defense capabilities

Arctic Ocean-focused security and defense policies conducting by the Abe Administration’s

Improving strategic information capability, antisubmarine capability and BMD (IAMD) capability

Preparing vessels and aircrafts with Arctic specifications, and enhancing their operational capabilities

Strengthening defense structure for SOJ and three major straits, retaining year-round operable vehicles in the northern waters

(3) Reviewing the Japan-U.S. security and defense cooperation structure…deepening the U.S.-Japan Alliance

No vision for the Arctic Ocean issues in the current Japan-U.S. defense cooperation guidelines

Significant deterrent effects if strong maritime security and defense cooperation in the Arctic Ocean described in guidelines

Advantageous to Japan’s utilization of the Arctic Ocean through close relationship with the U.S., a major player in the AC

Strengthening the Japan-U.S. alliance, if Japan’s supports substantial to the U.S Arctic Strategy including nuclear deterrent

Trilateral security and defense cooperation between Japan, the U.S. and Russia is important

(4) Reviewing maritime security cooperation with friendly nations…promoting Maritime Security Coalitions (MSC)

Building the MSC with the regional and global friendly maritime nations

Adopting a cooperative approach in relation to the Arctic Ocean issues on the security and defense fronts in the MSC

Providing SAR in the northern waters by Japan in return for securing maritime security supports in distant regions from Japan

*SSBN/SSN : Nuclear-Propellant Strategic Submarine/Nuclear-Propellant Attack Submarine

*SOJ : Sea of Japan

*BMD : Ballistic Missile Defense

*SAR : Search & Rescue

*HA/DR : Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief

*IAMD : Integrated Air & Missile Defense

*MSC : Maritime Security Coalition