



# JAPAN FRESH NEWS

No. 4 (July 2014)

by the Embassy of Japan in Slovenia

(\*Tanabata with photos: see at the end) ~ fresh news, recent events and useful sites ~



Summer is finally here and so is our 4<sup>th</sup> issue! Please enjoy it!

(This newsletter will be issued every end of month, and if your colleagues/friends want to receive this, please tell them to send their email address to: [info@s2.mofa.go.jp](mailto:info@s2.mofa.go.jp).)



## I. Fresh/important news

~ Cabinet approved the "Basic Policies for the Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2014" and "Japan Revitalization Strategy (Revised in 2014)" ~

As a next step in Abenomics, Japanese Cabinet meeting on 24th June has adopted

(1) Basic Policies for the Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2014 and

(2) Revised Japan Revitalization Strategy.

Please check the homepage of the Prime Minister of Japan and his Cabinet ([Link I](#), [link II](#))

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## ~ Japan Day 2014~

The already third Japan Day – a special day dedicated to Japan and Japanese culture – was held on Saturday, 21 June 2014 at the Ljubljana Exhibition and Convention Centre. More than 2,500 visitors participated in various workshops, promotions and lectures through which they discovered different aspects of Japan. A big thank you to all individuals, associations and companies that helped make this event a big success! [Details](#).



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## ~ Opening ceremony of Daihen-Varstroj ~

On 11 June 2014, Daihen-Varstroj, a welding machine maker in Lendava, celebrated its formal opening after Japanese welding company OTC Daihen Corporation took over the Slovenian company in February. [Details](#).



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### ~ Japan's Security Policy ~

On 15 May 2014, the Advisory Panel on Reconstruction of the Legal Basis for Security submitted its report to Prime Minister Abe. Please check the homepage of the [Prime Minister of Japan and his Cabinet](#).

For the reports in English, check this [link](#).

Please also read a contribution to a recent newsletter of Security Europe by Japanese Foreign Ministry official on EU-Japan security cooperation [here](#).

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## II. Upcoming events

### ~ Evening with jazz and Japanese songs ~

Come listen to jazz and Japanese songs performed by Yasuto Ohara, one of the leading Japanese jazz pianists, and famous Japanese sopranos Kaoru Matsumoto and Tomomi Ota. The concert, organized by this Embassy, will be held **on Thursday, 10 July 2014 from 19:00 at the Club CD in Cankarjev dom**. Free tickets are available at the Cankarjev dom box office located at Maxi passageway. Due to limited seating we encourage you to get your ticket at your earliest convenience. [Details](#).

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### ~ Four major genres of Japanese traditional performing arts ~

Would you like to learn more about Japanese traditional performing arts? Dr. Michiko Hirama, lecturer at the prestigious Toho Gakuen School of Music will talk about Gagaku, Noh, Bunraku, and Kabuki. The lecture will be held in English and is free of charge. Join us at the Oton Župančič Library (3rd floor) in Ljubljana **on Thursday, 28 August 2014 from 19:00**. More details will be announced in next Japan Fresh News and on the Embassy's website.

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## III. News on Japanese Foreign Policy

### ~ Prime Minister Abe's keynote address at the Shangri-La Dialogue ~

On 30 May 2014, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe delivered a keynote speech at the 13<sup>th</sup> IISS Asian Security Summit ("The Shangri-La Dialogue") in Singapore and emphasized that the "rule of law" is particularly important in order for the Asia-Pacific Region, a global center of growth, to fully demonstrate its potential and to ensure its peace and stability. Many countries supported his speech.

[Prime Minister's speech in English](#)

[Prime Minister's speech in Japanese](#)

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### ~ "Sea of Japan" – A globally established name ~

The name Sea of Japan is the only internationally established name for the sea area concerned. One neighboring country is trying to change its name to "East Sea" and is promoting their campaign from 1992. Japan has opposed the unfounded argument concerning the name Sea of Japan. Now we made a new video and you can understand easily their claim is unfounded. Japan's position is shared by many international organizations, including the United Nations.

Please check a new video of digest version on the homepage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

[Video in English](#)

[Video in Japanese](#)

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#### IV. Economic/Business News

##### ~ Yaskawa in Slovenia ~

Business daily Finance (12 June) and newspaper Dnevnik (15 June) featured Japanese affiliates Yaskawa Ristro and Yaskawa Slovenija, developers and manufacturers of robotic cells, in articles about the companies' plan to set up a competence center in Ribnica. You can read entire article in Finance [here](#) and in Dnevnik [here](#).

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##### ~ Japanese wine participated in VINO Ljubljana ~

The 56th International Wine competition –VINO LJUBLJANA was held on 27 – 29 June 2014. At this competition 19 wines from Japan participated (total entries were more than 300 wine). It's awarding will take place on **3 September 2014** and this Embassy really hopes there will be some winner of Japanese wine.

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#### V. Recent Events and other

##### ~ Nagasaki's Kaki tree planting in Strunjan ~

On 19 June 2014, the Kaki (Japanese persimmon) Tree of Peace was planted at the Training Center Elvira Vatovec, in the Adriatic coastal town of Strunjan, as part of the "Revive Time" Kaki Tree Project. This Kaki Tree, a part of survived tree of the Nagasaki atomic bombing, was planted as a symbol of peace, by Dr. Bossman, Mayor of Piran Municipality, Mr. Lešnik, the Headmaster of the Elvira Vatovec Training Center, and Mr. Abe, Counsellor, who represented this Embassy. [Details](#).



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##### ~ Ambassador's Interview on Radio Slovenia International (Radio Si) ~

Did you miss the interview with Ambassador Jomori for Radio Slovenia International? Don't worry, you can still listen to him speak about his personal life and professional career, as well as to the selection of his favourite music. The show "My Life, My Music", featuring Ambassador Jomori, is available [here](#).

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##### ~ Review of »Maru« restaurant ~

Do you know the Japanese restaurant Maru? Located in Športna hiša Ilirija (Vodnikova 155, Ljubljana) the restaurant offers the well-known sushi as well as other Japanese dishes rather unknown to Slovenians. Chef Yoshihiko Fujita will take you on a real Japanese culinary experience. Read a review of the restaurant in NeDelo [here](#).

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## VI. Various coming events

*(The events listed below are organized by various institutions/groups. This Embassy is not responsible for these notices/events. Please contact the organizer for details.)*

### ~ Orquesta Libre at Jazz Cerklno ~

The Japanese 12-piece band comprised of former and current members of several prominent jazz and other ensembles is dedicated to modern versions of elegant classic jazz, spiced from time to time with a powerful rock and wildish modern jazz. The mighty orchestra with a tap dancer is touring Europe and will have an exclusive concert in Cerklno! Come and listen to them on **Sunday, 6 July from 21:00 at Star Plac in Cerklno**. Entrance is free of charge. [Details](#).

### ~ Yasuto Ohara Super Jazz Trio ~

The popular Yasuto Ohara Super Jazz trio has been performing on an enviable number of significant jazz stages across the globe. In Ljubljana, the group will perform as part of the Jazz Stage series within the 26<sup>th</sup> International Summer Festival of Imago Sloveniae on Friday, **11 July from 21:00 at the Old Square, near the Hercules Fountain** (in case of rain City Museum of Ljubljana). Free admission (no tickets needed). [Details](#).

### ~ Inform us about your Japan-related event! ~

If your institution/group is organizing a Japan-related event, we welcome to include it in this newsletter! For more information, please send an e-mail to [matej.crnjavic@s2.mofa.go.jp](mailto:matej.crnjavic@s2.mofa.go.jp).

**For more information about Japan, please visit these websites:**

- ①. Prime Minister Abe's government policies
  1. [Abenomics](#) (Prime Minister Abe's economic policy)
  2. [Proactive Contribution to Peace](#)
  3. [A Society in Which Women Shine](#) (Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality)
  4. [Keynote speech at the 13th IISS Asian Security Summit](#) ("The Shangri-la Dialogue")
- ②. Japan and its relations with other countries:
  1. [Senkaku Islands](#)
  2. [Takeshima](#)
  3. [Northern Territories](#)
  4. [Sea of Japan](#)
- ③. Tourist information:
  1. [Japan National Tourism Organization](#)
  2. [Visit Japan Links](#)
  3. [Guide to Japanese Visas](#)
- ④. Study in Japan:
  1. [Study in Japan](#)
  2. [Gateway to Study in Japan](#)



- ⑤. Cultural exchange:
  - 1. [Japan Foundation](#)
  - 2. [Japan: Fascinating diversity](#)
- ⑥. Other useful sites:
  - 1. [JETRO \(Japan External Trade Organization\)](#)
  - 2. [World Heritage in Japan](#)
  - 3. [Web Japan](#)
- ⑦. [Japanese restaurants in Slovenia](#)



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\* **TANABATA (七夕):** »Evening of the seventh« is originally a star festival in East Asian (see Wikipedia). It celebrates the meeting of the deities Orihime and Hikoboshi (represented by the stars Vega and Altair respectively). According to legend, the Milky Way separates these lovers, and they are allowed to meet only once a year on the seventh day of the seventh lunar month. In Japan we developed another custom: put a strip of paper on bamboo tree, with your wish to be realized. In this time you can find many tall bamboo trees with dozens of colourful strips: Nowadays SENDAI, HIRATSUKA (and other) Tanabata festivals are very popular and hundreds of thousands of people visit such festival every season.

These are some photos from the Hiratsuka Tanabata festival:



With small nobori-s





Medium ones

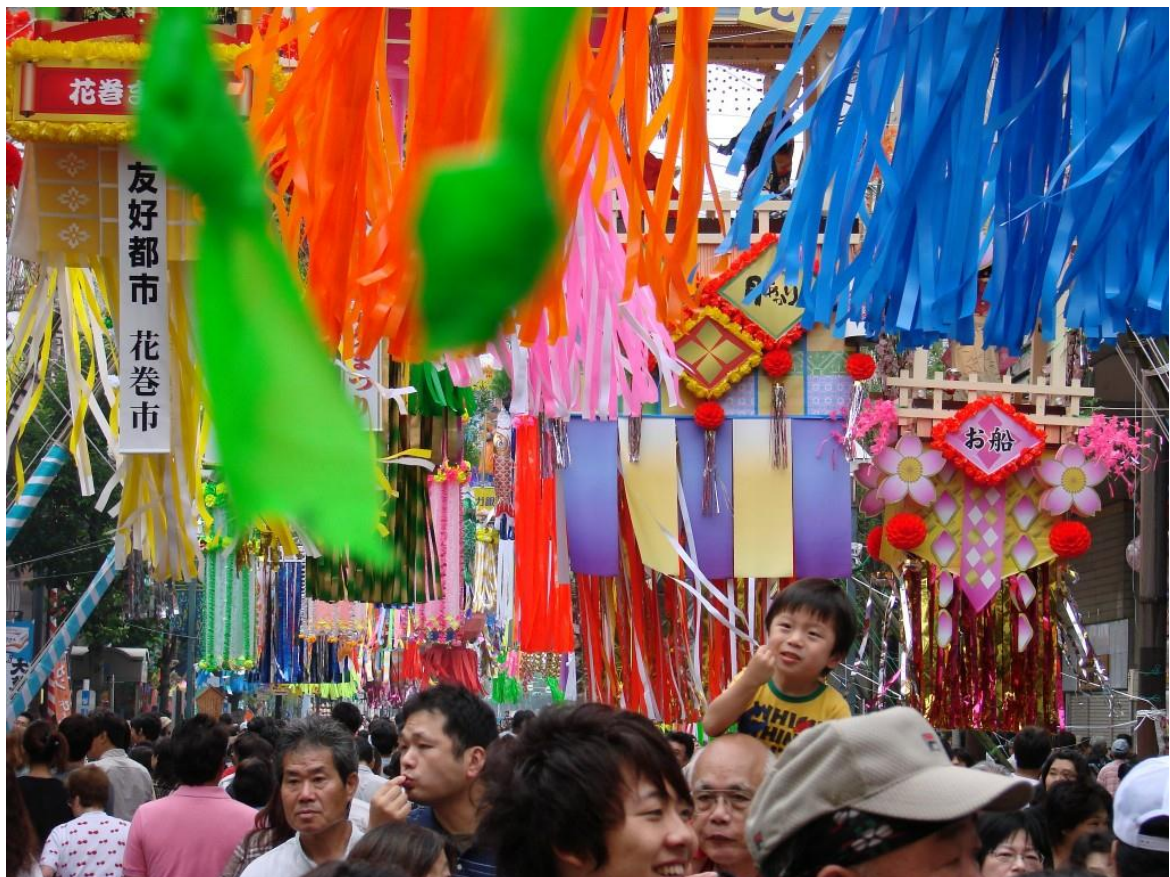


Big ones





Too many wishes so they had to hang them on a rope



So crowded

Please come to visit HIRATSUKA (or SENDAI) TANABATA Festival. It's always around 7 July.