

**Speech of the Prime Minister of Romania, Mr. Ilie Bolojan,  
at the reception for Japan's National Day  
(His Majesty Naruhito, Emperor of Japan's Birthday)**

*J.W. Marriott Hotel, February 20, 6:00 p.m.*

Your Excellency, Ambassador Katae,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Distinguished guests,

I am honoured to be here with you today celebrating Japan's National Day and the anniversary of His Majesty Naruhito, Emperor of Japan.

On behalf of the Romanian Government, allow me to convey our respect and best wishes to you and the Japanese people. Let me also congratulate Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi on her victory in the elections that took place earlier this month and wish her a successful mandate.

Since March 2023, our countries have been bonded by a Strategic Partnership acknowledging a friendship nurtured for over a century.

Today, this relationship is reflected by numbers and common projects. Japan is the main destination for Romanian exports in Asia. During the first ten months of 2025, common trade exceeded \$1.1 billion. And it continues to grow.

There are over 400 Japanese companies in Romania, contributing, through their activity, to our country's development and modernization. We want new investments, joint projects, and technology transfer. The M6 metro line is one good example of such a project, due to bring clear benefits for both Romanian and foreign tourists coming to visit Bucharest.

We can envisage concrete opportunities in the fields of industry, energy, technology, and research. From nuclear and renewable energy to artificial intelligence and digitalization. The High Power Optics Center in Măgurele brings evidence to the fact that we can jointly develop large-scale projects.

We have numerous formats of bilateral cooperation. We must make the most of them in order to turn ideas into solutions and to add real value to our economies.

Last but not least, I would like to mention Romania's participation to Expo 2025 Osaka. Almost one million visitors visited our national pavilion. This has brought

us an image capital that we need to convert into new investments and collaborations.

We are going through complicated times from the security point of view. Even though geographically far apart, Romania and Japan are close in terms of common values and interests. We are supporting a closer cooperation between the European Union, NATO, and Japan in order to defend democracy and the rules that are the basis of international stability.

In closing, let me extend my best wishes of health and prosperity to His Majesty Emperor Naruhito and the Japanese people.