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Newsletter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications(MIC), Japan

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TOPIC

Results of the Japan-EU Digital Partnership Council

1. The Japan-EU Digital Partnership Council

On Tuesday, April 30, 2024, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), together with the Digital Agency and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), held the second meeting of the Japan-EU Digital Partnership Council in Brussels, Belgium.

The launch of the Japan-EU Digital Partnership was decided at the Japan-EU Summit Meeting in May 2022. The stated purpose of this partnership is to advance cooperation in digital fields of common interest.

The first Council was held in Tokyo in July 2023.

2. Summary of the Council

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. MATSUMOTO Takeaki, the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, Mr. KONO Taro, the Minister for Digital Transformation, Mr. ISHII Taku Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and Mr. Thierry BRETON, European Commissioner for the Internal Market.

Japan and the EU (hereinafter referred to as “both sides”) reaffirmed the importance of the ever-closer strategic partnership between Japan and the EU in upholding the free and open international order based on the rule of law and in promoting their shared values and vision for the digital transformation.

Both sides reviewed the progress made since the first meeting of the Japan-EU Digital Partnership Council and issued a joint statement as a new deliverable.

3. Major points related to MIC in the joint statement

The following paragraphs show major MIC-related points outlined in the joint statement:

- Both sides will cooperate with like-minded countries involved in transoceanic undersea cables including Arctic connectivity, to join forces with trusted entities in the manufacture, installation, operation and maintenance of submarine cables.
- Both sides welcome the launch of the call in 2024 of collaborative research concerning 6G. Both sides also highlighted the value of open, secure, innovative and resilient networks and to strengthen the cooperation on the development of such networks including virtualized ones which require cloud services.

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Results of the Japan-EU Digital Partnership Council



Results of the ministerial-level meeting of the Japan-EU Digital Partnership Council

- Both sides welcome the establishment of EU AI Office and Japan's AI Safety Institute and are committed to future collaboration between the organizations based on a future administrative arrangement. Both sides are committed to accelerating the outreach of the Hiroshima AI Process beyond the G7 including at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting. Both sides will continue to foster interoperability between AI governance frameworks based on the Hiroshima AI process.
- Both sides will deepen cooperation in the areas of regulation and competition pertaining to online platforms and explore establishment of a regular information sharing channel at the appropriate level.

4. Next Digital Partnership Council meeting

The third meeting of the Digital Partnership Council is scheduled to take place in Tokyo in 2025.

