# Japan-Germany Joint Leaders' Declaration on Advanced Technology Cooperation

October 28, 2026

Japan and Germany are Premium Partners, sharing values, principles, and high technological capabilities. Japan and Germany believe that close cooperation between the two countries in the field of science and technology, underpinned by the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology, is mutually beneficial in achieving the common goal of improving the quality of life in each country as well as in contributing to international peace and stability. Recognising that excessive reliance on certain advanced technological infrastructure could lead to structural dependencies and vulnerabilities, both countries will leverage their advanced technologies to strengthen resilience and enable relevant partners, including those in the Global South, to exercise their freedom to make their own choices, including in the field of technology, in order to maintain a free and open international order in cooperation with relevant countries. Both countries have deepened cooperation in a wide range of scientific and technological fields, including in the private sector, to achieve this common goal. Japan and Germany will further strengthen this cooperation and clarify its importance by promoting collaborative efforts, especially in the following areas. This Joint Declaration builds upon the overarching Japan-Germany Leaders' Declaration and complements the Joint Leaders' Declaration on Economic Security Cooperation, adopted on the occasion of Chancellor Merz's visit to Japan in October 2026.

## Cooperation areas

In addition to our priority areas of cooperation, as set out in the Japan-Germany Joint Leaders' Declaration on Economic Security Cooperation, such as artificial intelligence, 6G, quantum technology, the maritime industry and semiconductors, research security and research integrity, we commit to advancing our bilateral cooperation in the following areas of advanced technologies.

**(Space)**

- We welcome the signing of the Joint Declaration of Intent between the Cabinet Office of Japan and the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space of the Federal Republic of Germany on Space Cooperation for Peaceful Purposes in June 2025. We note the long-standing and close cooperation between the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the German Aerospace Center (DLR), including through projects such as the Martian Moons eXploration (MMX) mission and CALLISTO. As a notable example of this cooperation, we particularly celebrate the successful launch of the MMX mission on 20 October 2026. We intend to further strengthen cooperation in space science and exploration, building on the strong partnership between JAXA and DLR.

- We will explore opportunities to deepen bilateral cooperation in the space fieldto enhance operational capabilities and interoperability, including through the Letter of Intent in Cooperation in the Space Domain between the Japan Air Self-Defense Force and the German Air and Space Force, signed in July 2026.

- We also welcome the progress of cooperation in the private sector between Japan and Germany in the domain of space.

**(Fusion energy)**

- We welcome the preparation of the Joint Declaration of Intent on cooperation between the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan and the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space of the Federal Republic of Germany in the field of fusion energy, including both stellarator and laser-based approaches. We will promote collaboration among research institutes and companies through initiatives such as the MoU between MITSUI & CO.,LTD, Kyoto Fusioneering Ltd., and Siemens Energy Global GmbH & Co.KG, the MoU between Fujikura Ltd. and Proxima Fusion GmbH, the MoU between Kyoto Fusioneering Ltd. and Proxima Fusion GmbH, the MoU between Kyoto Fusioneering Ltd. and Focused Energy GmbH, the MoU between the Institute of Laser Engineering, The University of Osaka and Focused Energy GmbH, and the Joint Statement of Intent between Helical Fusion Co., Ltd. and Gauss Fusion GmbH.

**(Clean hydrogen and its derivatives)**

- We will further promote cooperation between Japan and Germany in the research and

development of technologies that contribute to securing de-fossilised energy sources, including clean hydrogen and its derivatives. We appreciate the ongoing exchange on energy within the framework of the Japanese-German Energy partnership and the signing of a new Joint Declaration of Intent to deepen the cooperation on clean hydrogen and its derivatives between the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

**(Synchrotron radiation science)**

- We welcome the growing cooperation between our two countries in the field of synchrotron radiation science and look forward to enhanced research collaboration, personnel exchanges, and reciprocal access to and utilisation of SPring-8 and PETRA III. We also look forward to deepening cooperation towards the next generation of synchrotron radiation facilities, including the upgrade of SPring-8 to SPring-8-II. A strong partnership between flagship facilities reflects and strengthens the research and high-tech strategies of Japan and Germany.

**(Health research)**

- We welcome the cooperation between the Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS) and the German Network of University Medicine (NUM) in infectious disease research and will further strengthen joint efforts in pandemic preparedness.

**(Road infrastructure)**

- We welcome the signing of the “Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Road Infrastructure” between expressway companies of Japan and Germany, aimed at fostering and maintaining close, friendly cooperation through the sharing of policies, technologies and expertise in the infrastructure sector.

**(Research cooperation/exchanges)**

- We will seek opportunities to further promote concrete cooperation between national laboratories, actors in the private sector and academia in critical and emerging technologies, including the above-mentioned areas.
- We welcome the joint initiative between the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and the German Centre for Research and Innovation (DWIH) / German Academic

Exchange Service (DAAD), representing the wider German research community, to foster bilateral research collaboration, talent circulation, and early-career researcher mobility in advanced fields of strategic importance through programmes such as JST's ASPIRE, thereby strengthening the long-term foundation of Japanese-German scientific cooperation.

- We will explore the potential to expand research cooperation between Japan and Germany by leveraging the framework of Horizon Europe. We will also seek to further advance bilateral research cooperation through existing and new programmes established between the two countries' research funding agencies.

- We will expand various efforts in both countries, including the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Overseas Research Fellowships, and further promote exchanges among early-career researchers between the two countries.

**Follow-up**

- We will follow up on our bilateral collaboration and discuss ways to further deepen it through appropriate forums, such as the Joint Committee on Cooperation in Science and Technology, on a regular basis.