

The Weekly Observer

May 25-29, 2026

The 226th edition of the weekly newsletter aggregating news on Japanese politics. This week focuses on the Quad foreign ministerial meeting, the LDP's recommendations for the security documents revision, the Japan-Philippines summit meeting, media reports on delayed Tomahawk missile delivery to Japan, the ongoing debate on the FY 2026 supplementary budget, the ongoing discussions on the consumption tax cut, progress on key legislation, the status of the legislature's position on stable Imperial Household succession, OpenAI granting access to its frontier AI model, the Nikkei index hitting new highs, the Monthly Economic Report in May, and more.

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I. News of the Week

1. Quad Foreign Ministers Meet for First Time in 2026

- On Tuesday, Minister for Foreign Affairs Motegi Toshimitsu [participated](#) in the Quad foreign ministerial meeting held in New Delhi, India. This was the [first time](#) the foreign ministers met since July 2025.
- The ministers [announced](#) several new initiatives, including the “Quad Initiative on Indo-Pacific Energy Security” to help regional energy resilience, the “Quad Critical Minerals Initiative Framework” to strengthen supply chains, and the first-ever “Indo-Pacific Surveillance Collaboration” to enhance information sharing and maritime domain awareness capacity with an initial focus on the Indian Ocean.
- The joint statement [issued](#) after the meeting reiterated the importance of adhering to international law and respect for the safety and uninterrupted flow of global commerce through the Strait of Hormuz. It voiced “serious concern” about the situation in the East and South China Seas, reiterating strong opposition to any destabilizing or unilateral actions including by force or coercion. It reaffirmed the commitment to the complete denuclearization of North Korea.
- Motegi [held](#) a bilateral meeting with Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, welcoming the launch of the “Japan-Australia Strategic Consultations” and the “Japan-Australia Diplomatic Exchange Program” to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the basic treaty between the two countries.
- Motegi [held](#) a bilateral meeting with Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, agreeing to accelerate cooperation between the public and private sectors, particularly in the field of economic security, including strengthening supply chain resilience for critical minerals, as well as to promote economic growth in both countries through investment and innovation.
- Motegi [held](#) a bilateral meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, exchanging views on the regional situation in the Indo-Pacific, covering issues related to China, as well as the situation in the Middle East. They reaffirmed the importance of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait.

2. LDP Presents Recommendations for Security Reform

- On Monday, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Research Commission on Security [approved](#) its recommendations toward the revision of the three strategic national security documents. The response to new modes of warfare was

characterized as: “We must transform our defense capabilities into ones that can demonstrate a high degree of autonomy and resilience.”

- The LDP [recommended](#) promoting the introduction of drones in a “drastic and speedy manner” across all three services. It also recommended that the GOJ consider utilizing long-range drones and the development of a domestic manufacturing base.
- The LDP urged the full-scale adoption of AI to speed up intelligence collection, analysis, and decision making, as well as the development of systems to move the mass number of drones. Meanwhile, the LDP also recommended securing war-sustaining capabilities — stocking supply — on an annual basis.
- On defense spending, the LDP did not mention a specific target amount, urging instead to clearly articulate the “national will to defend the country” and secure necessary funding. It stated that Japan “should complete the transformation of defense capabilities within five years.”
- *Mainichi* [reported](#) that the Japan Innovation Party (*Nippon Ishin no Kai*) is considering its own recommendations to the GOJ, which will include policies that the LDP refused to touch in its recommendations. This includes the revision of the Three Non-Nuclear Principles and the acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines.
- Meanwhile, *Yomiuri* [reported](#) that the GOJ is considering explicitly stating the need to ensure “collective autonomy” as a new strategic concept for economic security in the strategic documents. This envisions Japan working with like-minded nations to address economic weaponization, such as the use of export controls on critical materials to exploit dependence on specific countries.

3. Foreign Policy Developments

- On Thursday, Prime Minister Takaichi Sanae [hosted](#) President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. of the Philippines in Tokyo, agreeing to elevate the bilateral relationship to a comprehensive strategic partnership. The two sides also agreed to begin negotiations for a General Security of Information Agreement (GSOMIA). Meanwhile, the two countries [announced](#) Japan’s support for national stockpiling of crude oil in the Philippines, as well as ASEAN-wide joint stockpiling under the framework of the Partnership On Wide Energy and Resources Resilience Asia (POWERR Asia).
- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) Trade Policy Bureau Director-General Arai Masayoshi and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) European Affairs Bureau Deputy Director-General Ishikawa Masaki [led](#) a delegation of GOJ officials to Russia for two days to communicate with the Russian side with a view to

- protecting the assets of Japanese companies in the region. The GOJ [maintains](#) that the dialogue will not result in the withdrawal of sanctions against Russia.
- The GOJ [revealed](#) during a meeting of the LDP HQ for Economic Partnership Agreements that it may commence economic partnership agreement negotiations with Mercosur — Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Bolivia — as early as June. While LDP lawmakers [welcomed](#) a potential agreement with a large economy with critical resources like rare earths and crude oil, some voiced concerns about the Japanese market getting oversaturated with cheap agricultural products.
 - *Asahi* [reported](#) Monday that the G7 nations will likely forgo issuing a joint communiqué when the leaders meet in Evian, France, from June 15-17, the second consecutive year the leaders will not issue a joint document. Instead, the leaders are arranging to issue sector-specific documents in areas like critical minerals and correcting macroeconomic imbalances.
 - The *Financial Times* [reported](#) that Chinese President Xi Jinping criticized Takaichi for Japan's "remilitarization" during his summit meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump. The U.S. president reportedly "emphasized his deep respect for the Japanese people and his close personal relationship with Prime Minister Takaichi." The Chinese foreign ministry [argued](#) that the "media reports do not match the situation as understood by the Chinese side."
 - On Saturday, Takaichi [delivered](#) a message of condolence to Xi following the gas explosion that occurred at a coal mine in Shanxi Province on May 22. She prayed for the rescue of as many people as possible and the speedy recovery of the injured.

4. Security/Defense Developments

- On Friday, Minister of Defense Koizumi Shinjiro [made a courtesy call](#) on General Secretary To Lam of the Communist Party and President of Vietnam on the sidelines of the Shangri-la Dialogue in Singapore. Koizumi explained his emphasis on cooperation particularly in maritime security and outlined Japan's consistent policy of contributing to peace and stability in the region and the international community.
- The MOFA [announced](#) that the GOJ has contributed \$14.66 million from the FY 2025 supplementary budget to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) "Prioritized Ukraine Requirements List" initiative. The contribution is for a package under the initiative that covers only non-lethal equipment.
- Koizumi [announced](#) that the GOJ will dispatch four JSDF officers to the NATO Security Assistance Ukraine (NSATU) for approximately one year. The officers will

- be based at a U.S. military base in Germany, reportedly to learn “new modes of warfare” such as the utilization of drones.
- The JASDF Tsuiki Air Field [revealed](#) that the JASDF will conduct F-2 fighter jet flight training using the runway at the civilian Kitakyushu Airport on June 3. This is the third iteration of the training since June 2025. Kitakyushu Airport has been designated as a “specified use airport/port” to be prepared for use by the JSDF and Japan Coast Guard in times of emergency.
 - On Tuesday, the Joint Staff Office [announced](#) that it confirmed that the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Navy’s aircraft carrier *Liaoning* sailed through the Pacific Ocean southwest of Okinotorishima and conducted takeoffs and landings of its carrier-based fighter jets and helicopters.
 - The *Financial Times* [reported](#) Sunday that the United States has warned Japan that the delivery of four hundred Tomahawk cruise missiles may be delayed by two years as the Pentagon works to replenish stocks depleted in the Middle East military campaign. Koizumi [indicated](#) on Tuesday that there are no plans to change the schedule of acquisition despite the media reports.
5. GOJ Aims to Enact FY 2026 Supplementary Budget on June 5
- On Monday, Takaichi [announced](#) that the GOJ will formulate a FY 2026 supplementary budget of over ¥3 trillion to strengthen efforts to ensure that the lives and livelihoods of the public, as well as economic activities, are not disrupted by the ongoing situation in the Middle East.
 - The GOJ plans to use the funds to implement utility subsidies from July to September. The subsidy is expected to reduce costs on an average household by approximately ¥500 billion in the three months.
 - Takaichi explained that the budget would be financed by special public bonds (deficit bonds), though the ¥3 trillion or so expected to be issued in June may not be necessary due to the anticipated increase in tax revenue. Meanwhile, Takaichi emphasized that diversification of crude oil supply will be raised to around 80 percent, securing sufficient resources until next spring (naphtha until year-end).
 - NHK [reported](#) Friday that the GOJ will adopt the FY 2026 supplementary budget next week, amounting to ¥3.11 trillion, with ¥2.5 trillion for the reserve fund to respond to the situation in the Middle East, ¥513.5 billion to return the FY 2026 reserve fund back to ¥1 trillion, and ¥100 billion for regional tax allocation grants. The GOJ [approved](#) on Tuesday the allocation of the ¥513.5 billion from the reserve fund for the July-September utility subsidies.

- The GOJ [informed](#) the ruling and opposition parties on Wednesday that it plans to submit the FY 2026 supplementary budget on June 3, with plans for Minister of Finance Katayama Satsuki to deliver a financial policy speech the same day. The ruling and opposition parties [agreed](#) on Friday to begin deliberations on June 3.
- The parties agreed to hold a Q&A session with Takaichi on June 4 and 5, with plans to put the budget up for a vote on June 5. The ruling parties [seem to have gotten](#) what they wanted — a quick process toward enactment — despite strong demands from the opposition to secure two days each of questioning in both Houses (technically achieved through leaders' Q&A and Budget Committee Q&A).

6. GOJ Considers Implementing Consumption Tax Cut in April 2027

- *Sankei* [reported](#) Friday that the GOJ is considering lowering the consumption tax on food and beverages to one percent starting April 1, 2027, a compromise from the zero tax pledge given updating cash registers would take more time for zero percent.
- Takaichi had pledged during February's Lower House election to slash the eight percent tax to zero. However, system developers for cash register IT systems informed the GOJ that the updates would take approximately a year to complete.
- The tax cut will be implemented for two years. The National Conference on Social Security is expected to make a final decision as early as late June. There will be questions asked about Takaichi's decision to "break" her promise with voters.
- On Wednesday, the Conference's working level council [convened](#) and presented a proposed design of the refundable tax credit, which is expected to kick in after the consumption tax cut. The design removes the tax deduction and involves only a cash handout tied to income in an effort to redress handing out a fixed amount to everyone.
- The handout fluctuates in four stages based on income level: 1) fixed amount, 2) progressive and gradual increase, 3) fixed amount, and 4) progressive decrease. The benefit drops to zero when a certain threshold is reached. The GOJ will also consider handouts for senior citizens with a net burden of social security costs equivalent to a low- to medium-income worker. It also presented a proposal to support families with children by increasing the amount of assistance and raising the income ceiling.

7. Key Legislation Tracker (221st Special Diet Session)

- **Enacted:**

- **Amended Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act:** [Enacted](#) on Friday. The bill establishes a new equivalent to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) to tighten foreign direct investment screening.
- **Amended Health Insurance Act:** [Enacted](#) on Friday with votes from the ruling parties, the Democratic Party for the People (DPFP), and Sanseito. Key measures include requiring patients prescribed “OTC-like drugs,” which have similar ingredients and effects to over-the-counter medications, to pay an additional copayment, as well as making childbirth costs effectively free.
- **Amended Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act:** [Enacted](#) on Friday with votes from the ruling parties, DPFP, and Komeito. It raises the maximum fee for resident permits for foreign nationals for the first time in forty-four years.
- **Amended Act on Strengthening Industrial Competitiveness:** [Enacted](#) on Friday. If an investment plan is approved by the METI, companies may choose between a tax credit equal to 7 percent of the investment amount, which is deducted from corporate income tax, or immediate depreciation, which allows the full depreciation expense to be recognized in the first year.
- **Amended Act on Annual Payment, Travel Expenses, Allowances, etc. Payable to Members of the Diet:** [Enacted](#) on Friday. The amount of the “year-end bonus,” which is equivalent to a bonus for members of the Diet, will remain unchanged until the next national election,
- **Act Concerning the Promotion of Solar Panel Recycling:** [Enacted](#) on Friday. The bill primarily targets operators of large-scale solar power plants (megasolar) and requires them to submit plans detailing the volume of panels to be disposed of, the timing of disposal, and disposal methods, with the aim of promoting proper disposal. If the disposal plan is insufficient, the GOJ will issue recommendations or orders, and penalties will be imposed on operators who fail to comply.
- **Act to Establish the National Intelligence Council:** [Enacted](#) on Wednesday with votes from the ruling parties and the DPFP. The GOJ aims to craft a National Intelligence Strategy and anti-espionage act next.
- **Amended Comprehensive Acts on Decentralization:** [Enacted](#) on Wednesday. A key element of the bill is to enable local governments to issue local bonds in the form of digital securities.
- **In Progress:**

- **Amended Code of Criminal Procedure:** Expert testimony [began](#) on Friday in the Lower House Committee on Judicial Affairs. The bill effectively prohibits prosecutors from appealing retrial decisions.
- **Amended Economic Security Promotion Act:** Deliberations in the Upper House [began](#) on Wednesday. The bill aims to strengthen public-private partnerships and is designed to ensure Japan's peace, security, and prosperity from an economic perspective.
- **Amended Personal Information Protection Act:** Lower House [passed](#) the bill on Tuesday. It includes a provision requiring businesses that repeatedly engage in the unauthorized acquisition or improper use of personal information to pay a "reasonable amount" of their profits into the national treasury as a surcharge.

8. Key Political Developments

- On Friday, the LDP [discussed](#) the bill to realize the "second capital initiative," or designating a secondary capital to serve as a backup for the capital's functions in the event of a major disaster. LDP lawmakers agree in principle but oppose the supplementary provision viewed as putting Osaka at an advantage over other prefectures given *Ishin's* strong push to achieve the Osaka Metropolis Plan.
- On Thursday, the political parties [presented](#) their positions on electoral reform at the Lower House Council on the Election System. The opposition parties disagreed with the ruling parties' push to aim for enactment of a bill to reduce the number of Lower House seats by 10 percent this year. The ruling parties also [proposed](#) raising the threshold for candidates to be resurrected in the proportional representation block after defeat in single-member districts (currently at 10 percent of total vote).
- The Lower House Commission on the Constitution [convened](#) to discuss future topics of discussion related to amending the Constitution. While the LDP proposed drafting provisions to establish an "emergency situations clause," the Centrist Reform Alliance (CRA) proposed limiting the prime minister's authority to dissolve the Lower House (and call a snap election). Meanwhile, the latest census results showing large voting disparities between prefectures is [expected to accelerate](#) discussions in the Upper House toward dissolving at-large constituencies across prefectures.
- *Yomiuri* [reported](#) that the speakers and vice speakers of both Houses will soon present a draft of the legislature's position on securing stable Imperial Household succession. It deems both proposals — one allowing female members of the family to retain status after marriage, and another to welcome male-line descendants of former Imperial families into the family through adoption — as "fundamentally appropriate." They aim to finalize the legislature's position in the first half of June.

- *Yomiuri* [reported](#) that the LDP's Headquarters for Foreign Nationals Policy will soon finalize its report on land restrictions, which urges authorities to consider regulations that would prevent individuals of concern — regardless of nationality — from acquiring land deemed critical to national security, such as areas surrounding JSDF bases. The GOJ will compile a framework policy plan in the summer.
- On Wednesday, the ruling and opposition parties [agreed](#) on the framework of amendments to the Public Offices Election Act and Information Distribution Platform Act. Starting in March 2027, social media platforms will be required to implement measures to mitigate the harmful effects of the spread of misinformation during elections. Platforms will be required to disclose information once a year.

9. Economic Security and Tech Developments

- *Nikkei* [reported](#) Saturday that Japan, the United States, and the Philippines will cooperate to foster the energy industry, including liquefied natural gas, in addition to AI and semiconductors at the Luzon economic corridor set up in 2024. An investment forum will be held in September to encourage private sector participation.
- *Nikkei* [reported](#) Friday that OpenAI has granted access to its frontier AI model “GPT-5.5-Cyber” to Japan as part of its “Japan Cyber Action Plan.” OpenAI signed a memorandum of cooperation with the AI Safety Institute to assess risks associated with frontier models. This is the first such partnership in Asia. Japan's three megabanks are the first to gain access to the frontier AI model.
- The G7 digital and technology ministerial meeting [took place](#) in Paris, France. The ministerial declaration [reaffirmed](#) the commitment to supporting AI openness and fostering AI adoption while ensuring that AI is secure. The nations also [set up](#) a common set of seven principles defining a safer and more secure digital space for minors, including encouraging age verification and parental monitoring of usage.
- *Nikkei* [reported](#) Thursday that approximately thirty manufacturers including Asahi Kasei are planning to invest in the joint venture “Japan AI Foundation Model Development” between SoftBank and other major Japanese companies. Ten are expected to invest in June. Leading manufacturers from sectors like chemicals and robotics will join existing partners from major automakers to electronics companies.
- On Wednesday, the first meeting of the Japan-Italy Economic Security Consultations [took place](#) in Tokyo. According to the readout, both sides exchanged views on key issues related to economic security, such as the resilience of supply chains including those for critical minerals, addressing economic coercion and non-market policies and practices, as well as promoting industrial cooperation.

- *Nikkei* [reported](#) Tuesday that the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) will consider amending the Wire Telecommunications Act and other legislation to expand the scope of operators required to obtain permits for the installation of submarine cables connecting Japan with overseas locations. It aims to make it easier for the GOJ to request infrastructure improvement measures by cable owners, not just the cable connecting operators, like Google and Meta.

10. Key Economic/Financial Developments

- On Friday, the Nikkei Stock Average (Nikkei 225) [broke](#) the ceiling once again, increasing ¥1,636 from the previous day to ¥66,329.50 led by investment in AI and semiconductor companies. The rate of increase compared to the end of 2025 will exceed 30 percent, outpacing major global indices. Meanwhile, the yen is [creeping](#) towards the ¥160 to the dollar threshold, despite a ¥11.7 trillion market intervention by the GOJ and Bank of Japan (BOJ), which created a ¥1 effect on exchange rates.
- The MIC [released](#) preliminary results from the 2025 census, which found that total population as of October 1, 2025, fell 3.09 million (2.05 percent) from the last census in 2020 to 123.05 million. Both the decrease and the rate of decline have [reached](#) record highs, indicating that population decline is accelerating. Only Tokyo and Okinawa saw an increase in population.
- On Thursday, the LDP's Japan's Growth Strategy Headquarters chaired by former Prime Minister Kishida Fumio [presented](#) its proposed policy recommendations to the GOJ on achieving a "strong economy." It proposed utilizing "bridge bonds," which are issued with the source of future repayment funds specified in advance by law, to finance the GOJ's crisis management and growth investments. Failure to [present](#) a credible repayment plan carries the risk of leading to higher interest rates.
- On Wednesday, the GOJ [presented](#) plans during the Japan Growth Strategy Council's labor market reform subcommittee session to establish a system in which ministers in charge of the seventeen strategic growth sectors certify reskilling courses developed by the relevant government agencies. People taking courses to develop necessary skills in the growth sectors can receive subsidies covering up to 80 percent of costs.
- On Tuesday, the GOJ made an [unprecedented announcement](#) replacing the heads of three major government-affiliated financial institutions — the Development Bank of Japan, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, and the Japan Finance Corporation. The GOJ aims to establish a framework to encourage corporate investment and restructuring that will help strengthen economic security in response to the rapidly changing international environment.

- On Sunday, the METI [announced](#) that Minister Akazawa Ryosei visited China for the APEC trade ministerial meeting held in Suzhou from May 22-23. While he was unable to have a formal meeting with Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao, he had a [brief conversation](#) with him on May 22. The Commerce Ministry [explained](#) that a formal meeting did not happen as Beijing continues to “call for a direct examination of the root causes and the establishment of conditions for normal relations.”

11. State of the Economy

- On Friday, the Cabinet Office (CAO) [announced](#) that the consumer confidence index in May rose 1.4 points from April to 33.6, the first improvement in three months as all four indices improved. The CAO [maintained](#) the assessment that confidence remains “weak.”
- The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) [announced](#) that the seasonally adjusted jobs-to-applicants ratio in April remained at 1.18 times, as the number of new job openings [continues to decline](#) due to automation despite the labor shortage. Meanwhile, the MIC [announced](#) that the unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage points to 2.5 percent, the first decline in two months.
- On Thursday, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) [announced](#) that the import volume of naphtha in April fell 47 percent from the same month last year to 1.14 million kiloliters, with imports from outside the Middle East [increasing](#) 50 percent. Meanwhile, the METI [announced](#) that crude oil imports fell 65.7 percent from the same month last year to 4.07 million kiloliters, the [smallest amount imported](#) since comparable statistics became available in 1989.
- On Wednesday, the Japan Business Federation (*Keidanren*) [announced](#) the first round of results from the 2026 spring wage negotiations, which [found](#) that the combined wage increase rate for major companies, including regular and base pay increases, was 5.46 percent, up 0.08 percentage points from last year and the third consecutive year that wage hikes exceeded 5 percent. The average wage hike rate increased ¥622 to ¥19,964.
- On Tuesday, the CAO [released](#) the Monthly Economic Report for May, which [maintained](#) the assessment for the third consecutive month that the economy is “recovering at a moderate pace, while attention should be given to the effects caused from the situation in the Middle East.” Meanwhile, the BOJ [announced](#) that the services producer price index (SPPI) in April rose 3 percent from the same month last year to 114.3, with the growth rate [falling](#) 0.3 percentage points from March.
- The MOF [announced](#) that Japan’s net foreign assets as of the end of 2025 increased 4.4 percent from 2024 to ¥561.75 trillion as the price of foreign securities increased

and investment overseas was brisk. By country and region, Japan [fell](#) from second to third place, overtaken by China.

II. Public Opinion Poll

- A *Mainichi* poll [released](#) on Monday found that the Takaichi Cabinet's approval rating was 50 percent, down three points from April, while disapproval remained at 33 percent.
 - 52 percent of respondents said that they supported the Cabinet because they have high hopes for Takaichi's leadership; 21 percent said because it is better than the alternatives; and 18 percent said because they have high hopes for its policies.
 - 46 percent of respondents said that they did not support because they have no hopes for its policies; 23 percent said because it is centered around the LDP; and 17 percent said because they have no hopes for Takaichi's leadership.
 - 49 percent of respondents said that they believe it is desirable to have stable U.S.-China relations for the international community, while 20 percent said they do not believe it is desirable.
 - 32 percent of respondents said that they believe Takaichi should maintain the current distance with U.S. President Trump; 27 percent said she should maintain some more distance; and 14 percent said they should forge a closer relationship.
 - 63 percent of respondents said that they approve of Takaichi's decision to formulate a FY 2026 supplementary budget to subsidize utility costs, while 18 percent said they disapprove.
 - 52 percent of respondents said that they believe the GOJ should ask citizens to conserve petroleum-related products more than before, while 25 percent said it is not necessary.
 - 32 percent of respondents said that they believe it is alright if the consumption tax cut on food and beverages is one percent; 30 percent said it should be zero as promised; and 25 percent said they do not believe there is a need for a consumption tax cut.
 - 41 percent of respondents said that they believe a consumption tax cut would be better as an inflation relief measure, while 29 percent said a cash handout would be better.
 - 34 percent of respondents said that they believe it is appropriate to leave an exception for the prosecution to appeal a retrial decision, while 30 percent said there should not be an exception to the rule.
 - 29 percent of respondents said that they believe the emergency situations clause is unnecessary as part of discussions to amend the Constitution; 15 percent said that the Cabinet should be given more authority; 11 percent said the Cabinet should be given more authority along with an extension to Diet members' tenures in office; and 6 percent said Diet members should be given an extended term in office in the event of an emergency.

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- 37 percent of respondents said that they believe that female members of the Imperial Family should be able to remain in the Imperial Household after marriage; 26 percent said they support both proposals; 11 percent said they support adoption of “male-line descendants” from former imperial families back into the Imperial Household; and 5 percent said they oppose both proposals.
- The survey also collected data on the latest approval ratings of political parties.

Political Party	Approval Rating (%)
Liberal Democratic Party	28 (+1)
Centrist Reform Alliance	4 (-1)
Japan Innovation Party	3 (-2)
Democratic Party for the People	5 (± 0)
Japan Communist Party	2 (-1)
Reiwa Shinsengumi	1 (± 0)
Suffrage Party (Sanseitō)	3 (± 0)
Japan Conservative Party	2 (± 0)
Socialist Democratic Party	0 (± 0)
Team Mirai	4 (± 0)
Constitutional Democratic Party	3 (-1)
Komeito	1 (± 0)
Independent (No Party)	43 (+4)