



The Weekly Observer

September 21-25

YOUR WEEKLY RECAP OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN!

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

PM Takaichi Attends UN General Assembly Session

Prime Minister Takaichi Sanae attended the United Nations General Assembly in New York from September 22-23.

Takaichi addressed the General Assembly, pointing out the importance of upholding a free and open international order based on the rule of law amid difficult challenges on multiple fronts. She expressed Japan's "consistent support" for the International Criminal Court (President Akane Tomoko), which has come under sanctions from the United States.

Takaichi stated that ensuring free and safe navigation through the Strait of Hormuz for all vessels without additional costs is extremely important not only for the security of the Middle East, but also for the stability of the global economy.

She said that while advances in AI bring tremendous opportunities for humanity, they also pose

challenges related to national security. She added that it is Japan's mission to lead international efforts towards a "world without nuclear weapons."

Takaichi also met with U.S. President Donald Trump during her visit to New York, agreeing to further strengthen cooperation on a wide range of fields including economic security and security. The two leaders exchanged views on issues related to China ahead of the U.S.-China Summit meeting, agreeing that the two countries will coordinate closely on such matters.

Takaichi had a brief phone call with Trump on Saturday following his summit meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping. The two leaders reaffirmed the unwavering Japan-U.S. alliance and agreed that they will contribute to the peace and stability of the region and the world together. Takaichi confirmed that the two countries have "now become allies who trust each other more than ever," following concerns over Trump referring to China as an ally in World War II.

Cabinet Approval



62% (+/- 0 pt.)

33% (+1 pt.)

[Nikkei Shimbun](#) (September 21)

State of the Economy

Elderly Population Stats (2026):

36.24 million (+20,000 from 2025)

1st increase in 2 years

Share of total population rose by 0.2 percentage points to 29.6% (record high since comparable data became available in 1950)

Aging rate projected to reach 34.8% in 2040 and 37.1% in 2050

Elderly population was highest among 39 countries worldwide with populations of 40 million+

20.54 million women (32.6% of total)
15.71 million men (26.3% of total)