



OVERVIEW

The U.S.-Japan Council develops and connects global leaders to create a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship. It is an organization whose members believe people-to-people relationships are a powerful way to bring together leaders in the U.S. and Japan to address and create solutions to mutual concerns. The Council is a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational organization that was founded in 2008 and is headquartered in Washington, DC with staff in California, Hawaii and Tokyo. In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created and in 2013, it became a Public Interest Corporation (*koeki zaidan hojin*). The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) maintains an office in Tokyo, Japan. In May 2020, Suzanne Basalla succeeded Founder Irene Hirano Inouye as President and Chief Executive Officer.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

U.S.-Japan Council signature programs are the TOMODACHI Initiative, Bilateral Boardroom, Japanese American Leadership Delegation program, USJC Annual Conference, Emerging Leaders Program, Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship, Governors' Circle, Silicon Valley Japan Platform (SVJP) and regional programs. Additionally, the Council collaborates on legislative and business networking, with the shared goal of bringing together Japanese and American leaders for collaboration and exchange. Virtual regional networking events, policy discussions and other activities are planned throughout the year.

TOMODACHI INITIATIVE

The U.S.-Japan Council has partnered with the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to establish the TOMODACHI Initiative, which is also supported by the Government of Japan. TOMODACHI is a public-private partnership, born out of support for Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake, and invests in the next generation of Japanese and American leaders through educational and cultural exchanges as well as leadership programs. The initiative seeks to foster a "TOMODACHI Generation" of young American and Japanese leaders who are committed to and engaged in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations, appreciate each other's countries and cultures, and possess the global skills and mindsets needed to contribute to and thrive in a more cooperative, prosperous, and secure world.



MEMBERSHIP

USJC comprises members and supporters committed to the mission of the organization. Included in these ranks are top leaders from major corporations, academia and research, politics and law, as well as entrepreneurs and thought leaders. Council Leaders are leaders who actively contribute to shaping U.S.-Japan relations. Associates are young professionals ages 18 to 40. Friends of the Council are individuals who support the Council's work and initiatives but for various reasons are not able to become actively engaged.

GOVERNING BODIES

The U.S.-Japan Council's Board of Directors consists of leaders who provide expertise and guide the Council's mission and activities. USJC also receives guidance from its distinguished Board of Councilors, consisting of leaders recognized for their life-long contributions and commitment to strengthening U.S.-Japan relations.

SUPPORT

USJC operates thanks to the generous support of individuals, foundations and corporations who share the same vision of a strong U.S.-Japan relationship and a vibrant Asia-Pacific region.

The Council was founded in 2008 and is headquartered in Washington, DC and has staff in California, Hawaii and Tokyo. In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of the TOMODACHI Initiative and support networking activities in Japan. The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) is a registered Public Interest Corporation (Koeki Zaidan Hojin) and maintains an office in Tokyo, Japan.