

東洋大学長 殿  
To the President of Toyo University

ウクライナからの研究員 研究報告書  
Research Report by Researcher from Ukraine

氏名 Name	Ivan Semenist
所属大学名・職名（身分） Affiliation and position name	Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University, Professor
研究課題名 Research topic	“Ukraine–Japan Cooperation: Advancing a Strategic Partnership for Regional and Global Stability in the Context of Emerging Threats”
研究期間 Research period	2026年01月11日～2026年01月26日 From 2026/01/11 to 2026/01/26
研究協力教員氏名（所属） Research partner (affiliation)	Professor James Short, Faculty of Law
研究成果発表 （予定も含む） Publication/Presentation (including future ones)	<p>On the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2026, key remarks and conclusions of the research were presented during a discussion panel at the VI Ukraine–Japan Forum: From Strategic Alliances to Concrete Security Solutions. During this event, I highlighted the main conclusion that the issue of Ukraine has become an integral element of Japan’s security environment and broader regional strategic calculations.</p> <p>Following the internship, I submitted analytical and practical proposals to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. These proposals focus on improving the training of specialists in Japanese studies, strengthening Ukraine’s expert capacity on Japan, modernizing relevant educational programs, and expanding academic mobility in order to reinforce bilateral relations.</p> <p>Selected aspects of the research will be presented in April 2026 at the 4th Forum of Young Orientalists hosted by Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University. The presentation will concentrate on methodological approaches to analyzing strategic partnerships and the implications of the Ukraine case for regional security studies.</p> <p>Further dissemination of the findings is planned at the International Scientific Conference “Issues of Oriental Studies” at V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, where the geopolitical, diplomatic, and educational dimensions of Ukraine–Japan cooperation will be discussed in a broader academic context.</p>

<p>研究成果の概要 Summary of your research achievements</p>	<p>Ukraine–Japan Cooperation: Advancing a Strategic Partnership for Regional and Global Stability in the Context of Emerging Threats</p> <p>From 12 to 26 January 2026, I undertook a research internship at Toyo University (Tokyo, Japan) within the framework of the project “Ukraine–Japan Cooperation: Advancing a Strategic Partnership for Regional and Global Stability in the Context of Emerging Threats.” The purpose of the internship was to conduct an in-depth analysis of Japan’s approaches to regional and global security, to examine Ukraine’s role in Japan’s foreign policy priorities, and to identify practical mechanisms for strengthening the Ukraine–Japan strategic partnership in the context of emerging global challenges.</p> <p>In conclusion, the research internship in Japan became an important milestone in strengthening the intellectual, diplomatic, and institutional foundations of Ukraine–Japan strategic partnership. It confirmed a high level of mutual interest in expanding cooperation in the context of a rapidly evolving global security environment and demonstrated that Ukraine’s security is directly linked to broader regional and global stability considerations, including those relevant to Japan.</p>
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**Ivan Semenist**

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## Research Report

### **Ukraine–Japan Cooperation: Advancing a Strategic Partnership for Regional and Global Stability in the Context of Emerging Threats**

From 12 to 26 January 2026, I undertook a research internship at Toyo University (Tokyo, Japan) within the framework of the project “Ukraine–Japan Cooperation: Advancing a Strategic Partnership for Regional and Global Stability in the Context of Emerging Threats.” The purpose of the internship was to conduct an in-depth analysis of Japan’s approaches to regional and global security, to examine Ukraine’s role in Japan’s foreign policy priorities, and to identify practical mechanisms for strengthening the Ukraine–Japan strategic partnership in the context of emerging global challenges.

On 13 January 2026, I delivered a public lecture at Toyo University titled “Ukraine–Japan Cooperation: Advancing a Strategic Partnership for Regional and Global Stability in the Context of Emerging Threats.” The lecture addressed the transformation of the contemporary international order, the return of power politics, the weakening of international norms, and the implications of Russia’s war against Ukraine for both Europe and East Asia. Drawing on the earlier presentation “HOW FAR IS UKRAINE? Why a War in Europe Matters for Regional Stability in East Asia (Lessons from the War for Japan)”, I emphasized that geographical distance does not imply strategic distance. Developments in Ukraine directly influence alliance credibility, deterrence effectiveness, and strategic calculations in the Indo-Pacific region.

The internship included a series of meetings with representatives of the Japanese academic community. On 17 January, I met with Professor Patrick Hain at Keio University to discuss methodological approaches to the study of international strategic partnerships and analytical tools for assessing contemporary security processes. On 24 January, academic consultations were held with professors at Ritsumeikan University, focusing on international security studies, regional cooperation frameworks, and prospects for joint research initiatives. On 25 January, I met with Professor Freddy Yu at Yamagata University to explore opportunities for policy-oriented research and future academic collaboration. These consultations significantly enriched the conceptual and methodological framework of the project and laid the foundation for long-term institutional cooperation.

Diplomatic and security-related meetings constituted another important component of the internship. On 16 January, I met with the Ambassador of Ukraine to Japan, Yuriy Lutovinov, and Third Secretary Andriy Bukrienko to discuss the current state of Ukraine–Japan relations, coordination within international organizations, and long-term strategic perspectives. On 21 January, I held a meeting with the Military Attaché of the Embassy of Ukraine in Japan, Colonel Andriy Bilenky, focusing on defense cooperation, resilience, and evolving regional security dynamics.

On 17 January, I also met with Serhiy Korsunsky, former Ambassador of Ukraine to Japan (2020–2025) and Professor at Temple University. The discussion provided valuable insights into the evolution of Japan’s foreign policy, the institutional basis of bilateral relations, and the broader geopolitical context shaping Ukraine–Japan cooperation.

On 22 January, meetings were held with members of the National Diet of Japan. The discussions focused on Japan’s foreign and security policy, the strengthening of deterrence capabilities, increased defense spending, and the strategic significance of supporting Ukraine as part of a broader commitment to upholding the rules-based international order. On 25 January, consultations were conducted with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, which provided a deeper understanding of Japan’s diplomatic priorities, sanctions policy, and long-term framework for cooperation with Ukraine.

Engagement with Japanese business and civil society was also an important aspect of the visit. On 21 January, I met with representatives of Takenaka Corporation to discuss potential cooperation in Ukraine’s post-war reconstruction, the application of advanced Japanese construction technologies, and the development of joint educational and training programs. On 18 January, I held a meeting with representatives of the Japanese–Ukraine–Moldova Friendship Association, which highlighted the crucial role of cultural diplomacy, educational exchange, and civic initiatives in strengthening bilateral trust and long-term cooperation.

Based on the meetings and consultations conducted during the internship, several key findings can be identified. First, Russia’s war against Ukraine has significantly influenced Japan’s strategic thinking and its perception of global security dynamics. Second, alliance credibility and deterrence effectiveness are increasingly viewed through the prism of developments in Ukraine. Third, there is a growing recognition in Japan of the interconnectedness between European and Indo-Pacific security.

The principal conclusion drawn from all meetings is that the issue of Ukraine has become an integral part of Japan’s security environment. Ukraine is no longer perceived merely as a geographically distant European state facing aggression; rather, it is regarded as a critical factor shaping the future of the international order, alliance reliability, and regional stability in East Asia.

During the internship, agreements were reached to deepen cooperation between Ukraine and Japan across a wide range of areas, including education, research, and cultural exchange. A process of consultations has been initiated regarding the mutual governmental recognition of educational degrees and academic qualifications between the two countries, which will facilitate academic mobility and institutional partnerships.

As a follow-up to the internship, meetings are planned in Kyiv with representatives of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Ukraine, Masashi Nakagome. These meetings will aim to institutionalize the achieved understandings and translate them into concrete joint initiatives.

In conclusion, the research internship in Japan became an important milestone in strengthening the intellectual, diplomatic, and institutional foundations of Ukraine–Japan strategic partnership. It confirmed a high level of mutual interest in expanding cooperation in the context of a rapidly evolving global security environment and demonstrated that Ukraine’s security is directly linked to broader regional and global stability considerations, including those relevant to Japan.