



Photo: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENT OPPORTUNITY FROM THE YOKOSUKA COUNCIL ON ASIA-PACIFIC STUDIES (YCAPS)

Pacific Forum is pleased to share an upcoming virtual event opportunity hosted by our friends at **Yokosuka Council for Asia-Pacific Studies.** Please see the full announcement below for additional information about the webinar and how to register.

MONGOLIA CONNECT: A CONVERSATION WITH ELBEGDORJ TSAKHIA, THE FORMER PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER OF MONGOLIA

Moderated by Nicholas Millward YCAPS President & Member of Pacific Forum's Young Leaders Program

> 22 May, 2021, 09:00 am (UB), 10:00am (Japan) 21 May, 2021 9:00pm (Washington, DC)

Mongolia, Japan, and the US have constructed strategic partnerships built on mutual understanding and a shared pursuit of global and regional peace and security, as well as the protection of human rights, freedom of speech, national independence, and territorial integrity. The partners recognize that Mongolia-Japan-US ties have grown stronger and closer based on common strategic interests, shared democratic values, good governance, principles of sovereignty, and respect for human rights. They also recognize their shared interest in cooperating more

closely, in order to ensure peace, security, and stability in the region. Mongolia has established strategic partnerships with both Japan (2010) and the United States (2019).

In this upcoming webinar we will discuss how these partnerships have progressed and what we think their future trajectory might be. President Elbegdorj will provide his perspective on Mongolia-Japan-US relations, while reflecting on both the challenges and accomplishments of the recent past. The event will end with a Q&A session.

To join please use this <u>link to register</u> with Zoom. You will need the link and passcode provided in the confirmation email.

President Elbegdorj Tsakhia is a public servant, freedom fighter, and policymaker from Mongolia. In 1990, he was one of the key leaders of the Mongolian Democratic Revolution and since then has continuously served Mongolia. This includes as a Member of Parliament four times, as Prime Minister two times, and as President for two terms. Born in the isolated Western Mongolia as the youngest of eight sons from a humble, traditional nomadic beginning, he has worked as a machinist in a copper mine, a soldier and a journalist in the army newspaper.

As Prime Minister, Member of Parliament, and President, Mr. Elbegdorj prioritized strengthening the rule of law in Mongolia, fostering social justice, fighting poverty, combating corruption, supporting environmental sustainability, and advancing active participatory democracy. He has also initiated and led many social, economic, and governance reforms. Aiming to consolidate democracy in Asia, Mr. Elbegdorj established the Asian Partnership for Democracy initiative within the confines of the Community of Democracies, the largest international organization that drives the global democracy agenda which Mongolia presided in 2011-2013. Under the chairmanship of Community of Democracies, Elbegdorj developed a plan on promoting civil society and advocating women's rights, particularly political rights.

Currently, Mr. Elbegdorj is continuing his work to improve public policy, governance, and democracy through the Elbegdorj Institute, a think tank that he founded in 2008. During his tenure as President, he also focused on the impacts of climate change, air and soil pollution, the two most significant public health issues in the capital of Mongolia. Through his Green Belt Foundation, he continues this work as well, by bringing together multi-stakeholders to find novel solutions to these challenges. He also supports Mongolian studies and aims to successfully achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in Mongolia.

Mr. Elbegdorj is now Commissioner of the International Commission against Death Penalty (ICDP), Patron of the World Sustainable Development Forum (WSDF) and Member of the World Leadership Alliance – Club de Madrid. He holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government (2002) and a bachelor's degree in Journalism from Land Forces Military Academy of Lviv of former USSR (1988).

Webinar Cost: Free of charge

Co-sponsor: <u>American Center for Mongolian Studies (</u>ACMS), <u>Institute for Contemporary Asian</u> <u>Studies (ICAS), Pacific Forum</u>

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