

2020 Autumn Conferment of Imperial Decorations

On 3 November 2020, the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2020 Autumn Imperial Decorations. Two New South Wales residents were among the recipients:

Mr David Harley Jacobs AM, CEO of the Australia-Japan Business Co-operation Committee, and
Mr Manuel Panagiotopoulos, Managing Director of Australian and Japanese Economic Intelligence.

Both gentlemen were awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette.

The late **Mr David Harley Jacobs AM** was recognized for his contribution to the promotion of Japan-Australia business relations and mutual understanding.

Mr Jacobs contributed greatly to fostering the relationship between Japan and Australia through regularly organising events to promote Japanese culture and Japanese-language learning during his tenure as the president of a non-profit organisation, the Australia Japan Society of NSW, from 2007. In 2015, he was appointed as the CEO of the Australia Japan Business Co-operation Committee (AJBCC), and he worked to raise the profile of Japan and Japanese companies in Australia, while promoting business between the two nations and strengthening the Japan-Australia relationship.

In January 2020, Mr Jacobs was appointed a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) by the Australian Government for his achievement in the development of Japan-Australia business.

The Consulate-General of Japan in Sydney was deeply saddened to learn of Mr Jacobs' passing in the same month of the announcement, on 16 November.



Mr Manuel Panagiotopoulos was also recognized for his contribution to the promotion of Japan-Australia business relations and mutual understanding.

Mr Panagiotopoulos contributed greatly to the development of mutual understanding between Japanese and Australian business communities through organising economic seminars and providing them with relevant economic information and liaison services as the Managing Director of Australian and Japanese Economic Intelligence, which he established in 1998. Australian and Japanese Economic Intelligence is the only organisation

in Australia which specialises in the area of Japan-Australia business and economy, and provides information and business research services, as well as networking opportunities through the Australia-Japan Roundtable, to Japanese and Australian public and private organisations.



Prime Ministers Suga and Morrison meet in Tokyo



The first leaders' summit to be hosted in Japan by the new Prime Minister Suga Yoshihide was with Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on Tuesday 17 November 2020.

The Japanese and Australian leaders first met one-on-one, with interpreters, for approximately 20 minutes before their formal meeting which lasted approximately 50 minutes. Later, Prime Minister Suga hosted a working dinner which lasted just over an hour.

Prime Ministers Suga and Morrison also held a joint press conference where they released a joint statement of their intent to further strengthen their cooperative relationship in fields including security and defence cooperation and the economy.

For a summary of the meetings and of the Prime Ministers' Joint Statement see:

https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/ocn/au/page3e_001080.html

Photos of the Consul-General's visits and Consulate events are regularly uploaded to our website and Facebook.

Facebook: CGJSYD

www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp

Consul-General Kiya's official Twitter account—[www.twitter.com/CGJapanSydney](https://twitter.com/CGJapanSydney)