

# **Emergency Joint Statement Opposing the U.S.-Israel War of Aggression against Iran and the Participation of Japan and South Korea**

## **Endorsing and Calling Organizations**

No More Okinawa War – Nuchi du Takara Association  
Citizens' Association to Reclaim Our Land from the U.S. Military Base in Gunsan  
DSA (Democratic Socialists of America) International Committee  
ZENKO (National Assembly for Peace and Democracy)

On February 28, 2026, the United States and Israel launched a military attack against Iran. This is a unilateral act of aggression carried out without any decision by the United Nations, trampling on international law and the principles of the UN Charter, and it is an extremely dangerous action that risks drawing the region and the world into an expanded war. This attack has caused damage to civilian facilities such as schools, and many civilians, including children, have been killed. We strongly condemn this brutal act of war and demand an immediate cessation of the attacks.

U.S. military bases in Japan and South Korea are already deeply involved in this war. From Okinawa, 5,000 personnel of the III Marine Expeditionary Force embarked on the amphibious assault ship *Tripoli* and were deployed to the Middle East. In addition, Aegis destroyers from the U.S. naval base in Yokosuka were dispatched via White Beach in Okinawa and took part in attacks using Tomahawk missiles. Okinawa has been used as a launch and logistics base for U.S. forces in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, and the Iraq War. The people of Okinawa firmly refuse to once again bear the risk of their land being used as a base for wars of aggression and becoming a target of retaliation.

Similar dangers are emerging in South Korea. Without the consent of the South Korean government, the U.S. government has moved THAAD and Patriot missile systems deployed at U.S. bases in South Korea to the Middle East. If bases and equipment in South Korea are used in the war against Iran, South Korea could also be placed in a hostile relationship with Iran and become a potential target of attack. Furthermore, U.S. President Trump is demanding that Japan, South Korea, and other countries dispatch warships under the pretext of "ensuring security" in the Strait of Hormuz. This is a dangerous move to mobilize Asian countries into an illegal war and turn the region into a party to the conflict.

Within the United States as well, strong opposition to this war is spreading. The attacks by the United States and Israel constitute an imperialist war that violates the sovereignty of the Iranian people and are an extension of policies that have brought suffering to Iranian society through years of sanctions and military pressure. We condemn the attacks on the Iranian people and call for the withdrawal of military forces from the region and a return to dialogue and diplomacy.

If the Japanese government accepts the demands of the Trump administration and proceeds with actions such as dispatching a fleet to the Strait of Hormuz, it would mark the first time since World War II that combat units of the Self-Defense Forces participate in an overseas war. Japan's participation under the name of collective self-defense would not only contradict the principles of the Constitution but would also expose Japanese society to the grave danger of military conflict. If the war expands, the loss of the lives of Self-Defense Forces personnel would become a real possibility.

As civil societies in Japan and Okinawa, South Korea, the United States, and Taiwan, we firmly reject the mobilization of Asian lands and peoples into an illegal war of aggression.

## **We strongly demand the following:**

1. The United States and Israel must immediately cease their military attacks on Iran.
2. Stop using U.S. military bases in Japan and South Korea as bases for attacks on Iran.
3. The governments of Japan and South Korea must refuse to dispatch warships to the Strait of Hormuz and must not participate in the U.S.-Israel war of aggression.
4. End the military system that turns Asia into a launch base for war once again, and promote the removal of bases and the easing of military tensions.
5. Israel must immediately stop the genocide in Gaza and the illegal occupation of Palestine and expansion of settlements.

Through solidarity among citizens across borders, we will expand actions to stop this dangerous escalation of war. To prevent Asia from becoming a launch base for war, and to protect the peace and sovereignty of all people, we stand together and take action.

March 18, 2026

ZHAP (ZENKO Henoko Anti-Base Project) International Meeting