

Argentina and Japan: A forward-looking partnership

By Eduardo Tempone

Ambassador of the Argentine Republic

Every May 25, Argentina commemorates the beginning of its path toward independence, a defining milestone that continues to shape its national identity and global engagement. On this occasion, I would like to extend my warmest greetings, on behalf of the government and people of Argentina, to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan, as well as to the government and people of this distinguished nation.



Eduardo Tempone

This year marks 140 years since the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in Argentina. Long before formal diplomatic relations were established, early human exchanges laid the groundwork for a relationship based on trust, resilience and mutual respect. What started as individual stories of migration and integration has evolved into a robust and dynamic partnership, increasingly focused on economic cooperation and shared strategic interests.

Argentina and Japan are at a promising moment for collaboration. Amid supply chain disruptions and the pursuit of stable investments, Argentina offers resources and potential, while Japan brings capital and technological expertise. Together, their strengths create a strong foundation for cooperation.

Energy lies at the heart of this opportunity. Argentina is home to some of the largest unconventional energy reserves in the world, including extensive shale gas and shale oil resources. These assets position the country as a potential long-term supplier in a competitive and uncertain global energy market. Additionally, Argentina is making strides toward diversifying its energy matrix by expanding its renewable energy capacity, particularly in wind and solar. The country is also actively promoting the development of hydrogen as a crucial component of future energy systems.

For Japanese companies, this is not just about accessing resources; it's an opportunity to develop a large-scale energy ecosystem. Argentina needs investment and technology to unlock its potential, and Japan has a strong reputation in these areas.

Argentina serves as the foundation, while Japan offers tools to enhance value and efficiency. Beyond natural resources, Argentina boasts strong technological and scientific capabilities supported by a skilled workforce. Its achievements in nuclear energy, satellite development, biotechnology and advanced engineering highlight its innovation potential, and it has created partnerships that cover the entire value chain — from exploration to industrial application.

Argentina is becoming a significant global supplier of lithium, which is essential for battery technologies and electrification, as well as hydrocarbons. As Japanese industries maintain their leadership in automotive manufacturing, energy storage and advanced materials, it is increasingly important to secure reliable, diversified



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Argentina's Salta Province is one of the world's most lithium-rich regions.

sources of lithium. Argentina not only provides these resources but also offers opportunities to develop local value chains for processing and technology. Hydrogen offers a significant opportunity for collaboration. Argentina, with its natural resources and renewable energy potential, can become a leading producer of low-emission hydrogen. For Japan, a pioneer in hydrogen innovation, this partnership can provide long-term benefits while enhancing bilateral relations.

From an investment standpoint, Argentina is making concerted efforts to establish itself as a reliable and appealing destination for international investors. There is growing recognition of the importance of providing stability, predictability and clear frameworks for these investors. For Japanese companies, this situation fosters an environment where long-term strategic projects — especially in the energy and infrastructure sectors — can be confidently developed for mutual benefit.

The human dimension of the relationship is equally important. The Japanese community, with its decades of integration and contributions, plays a unique role in strengthening the ties between the two nations. Its presence fosters business interactions, cultural understanding, and trust — elements essential to successful eco-

nomie partnerships.

In a world increasingly defined by uncertainty, fragmentation and competition for resources, alliances grounded in complementarity and long-term vision are more valuable than ever. Argentina and Japan have the opportunity to build such an alliance — one that combines natural resources, technological excellence and human capital in a mutually reinforcing way.



@bonodori.cba / Instagram

Across Argentina, Japanese Nikkei associations keep their roots and traditions alive through festivals such as bon odori. The photo shows one such event in Córdoba Province.

The next step is clear: we need to turn potential into real projects. By promoting joint initiatives in energy, critical minerals and innovation, both countries can achieve tangible results that will benefit their economies and contribute to global stability. Argentina is well-prepared to be a strategic partner for Japanese investors looking for scale, diversification and future-oriented opportunities.



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1-16-7-502 Ebisuminami, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0022

TEL: 03-5722-9103 FAX: 03-5722-9003

E-mail: gs.ebisu8@gmail.com