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**Subject:** Japanese Internationalism in the 21st Century: Reshaping Foreign Policy in an Era of Upheaval

## Japanese Internationalism in the 21st Century: Reshaping Foreign Policy in an Era of Upheaval

November 2017

Michael Auslin

### Key points

- Implementing Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's vision of a more regionally and internationally engaged foreign policy is essential to the future of Japan and the region.
- Abe has distanced his country from its postwar pacifism and unveiled a new, more realist foreign policy. His attempts to modernize Japan's foreign and security policies are limited by how much internal change he and other Japanese are willing to accept.
- The competition between Tokyo and Beijing is poised to enter an even more intense period.
- As Asia's most developed democracy, Japan can be a key partner for the United States in championing liberal values.

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