

## Lecture at School of International Studies, University of Jordan

On February 6, 2019, Japanese Ambassador to Jordan Mr. Hidenao Yanagi gave a lecture titled “Japan’s Diplomacy in the Middle East Region and Japan-Jordan Relations”, at Prince Al Hussein Bin Abdullah II School of International Studies, University of Jordan.

In the lecture, Ambassador Yanagi explained the 6 pillars of Japan’s diplomacy, namely “Strengthen the Japan-U.S. Alliance”, “Enhance relations with neighboring countries”, “Promotion of economic diplomacy”, “Initiative for global issues”, “Engagement in the Middle East Peace and Stability”, and “Free and Open Indo-Pacific”.

With regard to the 5th pillar “Engagement in the Middle East Peace and Stability”, he also explained “Kono Four Principle”, which Foreign Minister Taro Kono announced in 2017, namely “Intellectual and Human Contribution”, “Investment in “People””, “Enduring Efforts”, and “Enhancing Political Efforts”, and related Japanese contributions in the Middle East region, such as “Corridor for Peace and Prosperity” initiative, which aims to support economic development of Palestine, and “Japan-Arab Political Dialogue”, the first session of which was held in 2017. Furthermore, he stated that the Middle East is also an important region in the above mentioned “Free and Open Indo-Pacific”.

As for the Japan-Jordan bilateral relations, based on the traditionally strong ties between Japan’s Imperial family and Jordan’s Royal family, mutual visits of H.M., Prime Minister, and Foreign Ministers, which are getting more and more frequent these days, importance of Jordan as a strategic partner of Japan, and Jordan’s current challenges such as acceptance of a large number of refugees, he explained various assistances that Japan extends to Jordan, and economic and cultural relations between the two countries.

Almost 100 people attended the lecture, including students of the school, Dean of the school Prof. Qatatsheh and other professors, and a few diplomatic corps in Jordan. After the ambassador’s lecture, there was a lively Q&A session with the audience.



Introduction by Dr. Tahboub



Lecture by Ambassador Yanagi



Around 100 audience



Group Photo with professors