



## NHK 詳細分析

2026-05-04\_radio\_news\_0600

Broadcast: 2026-05-04 | Analyzed: 2026-05-13 14:23

Version 2.8-detail | Universal 2.8-detail | Konverter 3.4 (2026-05-20) | Standard: 放送法 第4条

### OVERALL SCORE

**3.9/10**

*Slight imbalance*

0 = balanced, 10 = strongly biased/manipulative

## POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Classification based on Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) 2024

The Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES 2024) is an academic survey of 609 political scientists in 31 countries. Each party is rated on a scale from 0 (far left) to 10 (far right).

Party	JCP	CDP	DPP	Komeito	LDP	JIP
CHES	1.50	3.50	4.80	5.20	7.00	7.80
Spectrum	<i>Left</i>	<i>Left</i>	<i>Center</i>	<i>Center</i>	<i>Right</i>	<i>Right</i>

The overall tendency is presented on a 0–10 scale (0 = strongly left-favoring, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly right-favoring). The calculation is based on the difference in average favoritism of left vs. right parties (grouping per CHES 2024).

### TENDENCY (L – R)

**6.2 / 10**

*Right-favoring*

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — [chesdata.eu](https://chesdata.eu) | [Jolly et al., Electoral Studies, 2022](#) | Thresholds: [Pew Research Center](#)

This section provides political context and does not contribute to the overall score.



## POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

The current government is a coalition of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Komeito. In the House of Representatives election on 27 October 2024, LDP won 191 seats (a significant reduction) and Komeito 24 seats, falling below an overall majority. The main opposition parties are the Constitutional Democratic Party (CDP, 148 seats), Nippon Ishin no Kai (Ishin, 38 seats), Democratic Party for the People (DPP, 28 seats), Reiwa Shinsengumi (9 seats), and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP, 8 seats). The transcript contains a reference to "Prime Minister Takaichi," suggesting that Takaichi Sanae is serving as Prime Minister.

Party	L-R Score	Seats	Government/Opposition	Key Policies
Japanese Communist Party (JCP)	1.5	8	Opposition	Uphold Article 9, immediate nuclear phase-out, anti-rearmament
Social Democratic Party (SDP)	2.5	1	Opposition	Pacifism, nuclear phase-out, welfare-focused
Reiwa Shinsengumi	2.5	9	Opposition	Abolish consumption tax, anti-rearmament, left-wing populism
Constitutional Democratic Party (CDP)	3.5	148	Opposition	Oppose constitutional revision, renewable energy, separate surnames for married couples
Komeito	5.0	24	Coalition Government	Peace-oriented, social security, moderate constitutional revision
Democratic Party for the People (DPP)	5.5	28	Middle	Consumption tax reduction, pragmatic energy policy
Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)	7.0	191	Government	Constitutional revision, defence budget increase, nuclear restart
Nippon Ishin no Kai (Ishin)	7.0	38	Opposition	Deregulation, administrative reform, constitutional revision
Sanseito	9.0	3	Opposition	Ultra-nationalism, right-wing populism

Japan's main political fault lines are: the government-opposition divide over constitutional revision (particularly Article 9); support and opposition regarding the policy of raising the defence budget to 2% of GDP; the conflict between proponents of nuclear restart and those advocating a nuclear phase-out in energy policy; and differing stances on China policy in the context of economic security. The LDP's failure to retain a majority in the October 2024 general election has destabilised governance, and the movements of centrist parties such as DPP are exerting a major influence on policy decisions.

Under Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act, NHK is obligated to maintain political impartiality, accuracy in reporting, and the presentation of multi-faceted viewpoints. However, the structure in which members of the Board of Governors are appointed by the Prime Minister means that criticism of "an NHK close to the government" has persisted since the Abe administration. In the RSF Press Freedom Index, Japan ranked 70th in 2024, and the press club (kisha club) system creates a structural bias in access to information.



## CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

### Party-by-Party Assessment

Party	Score (-5 to +5)	Depiction in Programme vs. Party Platform
LDP	+2	00:00:01 "Prime Minister Takaichi will attend the summit" — Platform: defence budget increase, FOIP, like-minded country cooperation — Policies were reported positively without criticism (accurate but one-sided)
CDP	0	Not mentioned — Platform: oppose constitutional revision, nuclear phase-out, emphasis on diplomacy — Completely omitted
Komeito	0	Not mentioned — Platform: peace-oriented, social security — Completely omitted
Ishin	0	Not mentioned — Platform: deregulation, administrative reform — Completely omitted
JCP	0	Not mentioned — Platform: uphold Article 9, anti-rearmament — Completely omitted
DPP	0	Not mentioned — Platform: consumption tax reduction, pragmatic energy policy — Completely omitted

### Party Bias Summary

- Most accurate depiction: LDP (score +2) — though one-sided positive depiction
- Strongest distortion: None applicable (all opposition parties are omitted)
- Average deviation from 0: 0.3
- Summary: The political news in this broadcast reports LDP policies without criticism, and all six opposition parties are completely unmentioned. This creates the impression that LDP policy is set as the "norm" and that opposition alternatives and criticism do not exist. This is problematic from the perspective of political impartiality under Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act.



## CHAPTER 2 — PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND TOPIC FRAMEWORK

### Programme Data

- Title: NHK Radio News (Morning News Summary)
- Date (from filename): Not determinable (estimated from weather and sports information in the transcript: around early May, year unknown)
- Host/Announcer: No specific name (announcer on duty at the Radio Centre); weather information: Yoshii Akiko (weather forecaster)
- Interviewees: Minister Katayama (press conference as chair country), Foreign Minister Motegi (visit to Kenya), LDP Policy Research Council Chairman Kobayashi (visit to India)

Actors	Position	Party/Affiliation	Political Spectrum
Prime Minister Takaichi	Prime Minister	LDP	Right-wing (hardliner within LDP)
Foreign Minister Motegi	Foreign Minister	LDP	Right-wing
Policy Research Council Chairman Kobayashi	LDP Policy Research Council Chairman	LDP	Right-wing
Minister Katayama	Finance Minister (chair country)	LDP	Right-wing
Prime Minister Albanese	Prime Minister of Australia	Australian Labor Party	Centre-left
Yoshii Akiko	Weather forecaster	NHK	Non-political

### Main Themes

The development of Japan's diplomacy and economic security policy, centred on Prime Minister Takaichi's visit to Australia, along with an international, social, and sports morning news summary.

### Ideological Context

This broadcast reports on the concrete development of the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" strategy promoted by the Japanese government, with a policy framework premised on supply chain strengthening, energy security, and like-minded country cooperation — all conceived with China in mind. The situations in Iran and Ukraine are also covered, but only briefly. Given the format of a morning news summary, in-depth treatment of each topic is structurally limited, and the broadcast primarily provides information centred on official government announcements.

### Perspectives Required for Balanced Reporting (Based on Background Knowledge)

- \* China's position and counterarguments regarding the mention of "economic coercion against China" at the Japan-Australia summit
- \* Critical and sceptical academic views on the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" strategy
- \* The perspective of environmental groups and advocates of decarbonisation regarding LNG imports and energy security policy
- \* The views of opposition parties and peace organisations on Japan's defence equipment transfer policy (Shinkansen and defence equipment to India)
- \* The diversity of positions among countries at the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting
- \* Independent analysis by market and economic experts regarding the ongoing yen depreciation



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- \* The Ministry of Defence/Self-Defence Forces' official explanation of the SDF logo mark issue, and civil society's reaction
- \* The role of Europe and the international community in Iran nuclear negotiations, and the context of multilateral diplomacy
- \* The current state of ceasefire negotiations in the Ukraine conflict and the humanitarian dimension
- \* The assessment by African countries of Japan's Africa policy (TICAD) and the associated challenges



## CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS

### 1. Framing

Definition: How is the subject fundamentally framed?

#### Finding 1:

**Timestamp** 00:00:41–00:00:52

**Quote** *"cooperation toward strengthening supply chains for energy, critical minerals, food, and other items, as well as the promotion of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, is set to be included"*

**Manipulation** The government's policy slogan "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" has been adopted as the framing of the report without critical examination.

Why it is problematic: Viewers receive this strategic frame as a neutral fact, when in reality it is a political concept reflecting a specific geopolitical position.

#### Finding 2:

**Timestamp** 00:00:53–00:01:00

**Quote** *"to also express concern about economic coercion and export controls with China in mind"*

**Manipulation** A frame implying China as the agent of "economic coercion" is presented without China's position or context.

Why it is problematic: A one-sided geopolitical frame is presented as fact, shaping viewers' perceptions of China.

#### Finding 3:

**Timestamp** 00:01:24–00:01:34

**Quote** *"it is scheduled to confirm deeper cooperation in the security field with Australia, which is positioned as a core part of like-minded country cooperation"*

**Manipulation** The value-laden and exclusionary concept of "like-minded countries" is used without explanation, presupposing a particular view of international order.

Why it is problematic: A binary worldview is formed in which countries not included among "like-minded countries" (China, Russia, etc.) are implicitly positioned as "non-like-minded countries."

Summary: This broadcast adopts the framing of the Japanese government's diplomatic and security policies as-is, with official government positions presented as neutral facts. No counter-framing or critical perspective was presented at all.

### 2. Word Choice and Terminology

Definition: What language is used? What connotations are set?

#### Finding 1:

**Timestamp** 00:01:58–00:02:04



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<b>Quote</b>	<i>"under the new policy of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific announced by Prime Minister Takaichi"</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The government's policy slogan is used without quotation marks, presenting policy terminology as a neutral geographical and political concept.

Why it is problematic: A neutral alternative expression would be "under the diplomatic strategy for the Indo-Pacific region promoted by the Japanese government," which would make its policy character explicit.

<b>Finding 2:</b>	
<b>Timestamp</b>	00:05:53–00:05:56
<b>Quote</b>	<i>"a tanker believed to be part of the so-called shadow fleet transporting Russian-produced oil"</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The qualifying expression "so-called" is used, but the concept of the "shadow fleet" itself reflects a particular frame from Western media.

Why it is problematic: The qualifier "so-called" is formal; in substance, a frame that justifies Ukraine's military action is adopted.

<b>Finding 3:</b>	
<b>Timestamp</b>	00:06:31–00:06:38
<b>Quote</b>	<i>"the posted logo mark was a design depicting an elephant holding a gun, with a human skull drawn on its chest"</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The description of the logo mark is factual, but combined with the subsequent reporting framed around the criticism of being "unsuitable," a negative impression of the Self-Defence Forces is formed.

Why it is problematic: The military and cultural context of the logo mark (similar examples in other countries' militaries, etc.) is not presented, and only the criticism is emphasised.

Summary: Government policy terminology is adopted without critical examination, and language use reflecting a particular geopolitical worldview is observed. However, the use of clearly emotionally manipulative language is limited.

### 3. Expert Selection

Definition: Who is speaking as an expert?

<b>Expert 1:</b> Minister Katayama (Finance Minister, representative of chair country)	
<b>Timestamp</b>	00:03:39–00:03:56
<b>Statement</b>	"Regional cooperation is very necessary, and structural adjustments such as mutually diversifying supply chains and undertaking energy transitions are also needed. I believe a common understanding was reached among Asian countries," he said.

Positioning: As a government minister, a conflict of interest exists. As the chair country's representative at the ASEAN+3 meeting, there is a structural incentive to evaluate the outcomes of the meeting positively.

Missing counterargument: Independent economists, or differing views from representatives of other countries participating in the meeting.

Credibility Matrix (Source Traffic Light, 6 dimensions, -2 to +2 each):

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Structural incentive as a government minister to evaluate policy outcomes positively



D2 Personal risk: -1 — Almost zero personal risk from supporting the government's position  
D3 Expertise: +1 — Possesses expertise in economic policy as Finance Minister, but impartiality is low  
D4 Consistency of views: 0 — No comparative data on past statements  
D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — No specific data; policy statements only  
D6 Source level: +1 — Primary source (direct party) but with conflict of interest  
**TOTAL: -1 → Source Traffic Light: Yellow (-4 to +4)**

This assessment is framed as neutral but is structurally government-leaning → corresponds to Criterion 12 (Source Selection).

### Expert 2: Foreign Minister Motegi

**Timestamp** 00:01:47–00:02:04

**Statement** "He indicated the intention to aim for the realisation of peace on the African continent and a virtuous cycle of growth, under the new policy of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific announced by Prime Minister Takaichi."

**Positioning:** As Foreign Minister, he represents the government's foreign policy position and is not an independent expert.

**Missing counterargument:** Africa researchers, diplomats from African countries, or international relations experts who critically evaluate Japan's Africa policy.

**Credibility Matrix (Source Traffic Light, 6 dimensions, -2 to +2 each):**

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Position as Foreign Minister promoting government foreign policy  
D2 Personal risk: -1 — No risk from supporting government policy  
D3 Expertise: +1 — Possesses foreign policy expertise but lacks impartiality  
D4 Consistency of views: 0 — No comparative data  
D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — Policy statements only, no specific data  
D6 Source level: +1 — Primary source but with conflict of interest  
**TOTAL: -1 → Source Traffic Light: Yellow (-4 to +4)**

**Missing Expert Groups:**

- Independent security and foreign policy researchers (affiliated with universities or think tanks)
- Policy evaluation by opposition politicians (CDP, JCP, etc.)
- Independent analysis of yen depreciation and supply chain policy by international economists

**Summary (Matrix Results):**

- Minister Katayama: Yellow (-1) — Government minister, structural conflict of interest
- Foreign Minister Motegi: Yellow (-1) — Government minister, structural conflict of interest
- All "experts" appearing in this broadcast are government ministers or ruling party politicians; independent experts, researchers, and opposition voices are entirely absent.

## 4. Omission (Selective Omission)

**Definition:** What is not shown despite being relevant? (See STEP 0)

### Omission 1:

**Context** Expression of concern about "economic coercion against China" at the Japan-Australia summit

Relevant Timestamp: 00:00:53–00:01:00

**Effect** The complete omission of China's position, counterarguments, and context creates the impression that China is unilaterally "coercive."

### Omission 2:



<b>Context</b>	Continuation of LNG imports and strengthening of fossil fuel supply chains
	Relevant Timestamp: 00:00:41–00:00:52
<b>Effect</b>	The climate change and decarbonisation perspective is completely absent, and the continuation of fossil fuel dependency is presented without issue as "security strengthening."

### Omission 3:

<b>Context</b>	Defence equipment transfers (Shinkansen and defence equipment to India)
	Relevant Timestamp: 00:02:26–00:02:49
<b>Effect</b>	Critical views from opposition parties, peace organisations, and constitutional scholars regarding the shift in Japan's arms export policy are completely omitted, and the policy is presented as a fait accompli.

Summary: When reporting on government diplomatic and security policies, this broadcast systematically omits critical and opposing perspectives. This potentially contravenes Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act, which requires the "presentation of multi-faceted viewpoints."

## 5. Host Behaviour

Definition: Asymmetry in questions, interruptions, and expressions of sympathy.

Methodological principle (v2.2): Record the triggering event before each assessment. An intervention can only be assessed as asymmetrical if a comparable trigger in the case of another guest did not produce a similar intervention.

### Finding 1:

<b>Timestamp</b>	00:01:36–00:01:43
	Triggering event: Transition from political news to economic news
<b>Quote (host)</b>	<i>"Now, from here, we will bring you a summary of news through this morning, organised by category: politics and economics, international, society, sports, and more."</i>
<b>Comparison</b>	As this broadcast is in the format of a radio news summary rather than an interview, questions and interruptions by the host are structurally absent.
	Asymmetry: Cannot be confirmed (due to format constraints)

Summary: As this broadcast is in the format of a radio news summary rather than an interview or debate, there is structurally no opportunity to assess asymmetry in host behaviour. The score is set low, but this is due to format constraints and is not evidence of active impartiality.

## 6. Distribution of Speaking Time

Definition: Distribution of speaking time among different positions.

Estimated speaking time:

- Government and ruling party figures (PM Takaichi, FM Motegi, Policy Research Council Chairman Kobayashi, Minister Katayama): approx. 3 minutes 30 seconds (28%)
- NHK announcer (conveying government announcements): approx. 5 minutes (40%)
- International news (Iran, Ukraine): approx. 1 minute 30 seconds (12%)
- Social news (SDF logo, microwave oven): approx. 1 minute (8%)
- Sports news: approx. 1 minute 30 seconds (12%)
- Opposition parties and critical views: 0 minutes (0%)



Summary: In the political news, only statements from ruling party and government figures are covered, and speaking time for opposition parties and critical views is zero. However, the structural constraints of the morning news summary format must be taken into account.

## 7. Question Asymmetry

Definition: Differences in the hardness or softness of questions directed at different individuals.

### Asymmetry 1:

This broadcast is in the format of a radio news summary rather than an interview, so there is structurally no opportunity to assess question asymmetry. Statements by government ministers are conveyed in the format "he/she stated that ~," and no critical questions are posed at all.

Summary: While the format constraints make it difficult to assess question asymmetry, the fact that government announcements are conveyed without critical scrutiny indicates substantive asymmetry.

## 8. Guilt by Association

Definition: Discrediting by association with negative groups or ideas.

### Association 1:

**Timestamp** 00:00:53–00:01:00

**Quote** *"to also express concern about economic coercion and export controls with China in mind"*

Technique: By implying China as the agent of "economic coercion," China is associated with a negative actor.

**Effect** The impression that China is "coercive" is formed without evidence or context.

Summary (Category assignment and matrix rationale):

No individual is framed as a "conspiracy theorist" or similar in this broadcast. However, indirect association in which China is implied as the agent of "economic coercion" is observed. This is assessed as a framing issue rather than explicit Guilt by Association.

## 9. Numerical Manipulation

Definition: Selective or misleading use of statistics.

### Finding 1:

**Timestamp** 00:01:02–00:01:13

Figure: "Japan imports the most LNG from Australia"

**Missing context** The absolute volume of LNG imports, the proportion of import dependency, a comparison with alternative energy sources, and consistency with climate change targets are not presented.

**Effect** The scale and problematic nature of LNG import dependency remain unclear, while the situation is presented positively as "security strengthening."

Summary: Explicit numerical manipulation is limited, but the omission of important contextual data obscures the reality of the policy.

## 10. Timing

Definition: Strategic placement of information (opening, middle, end).



### Finding 1:

Position: 00:00:01–00:01:34 (opening)

Content: "Prime Minister Takaichi's visit to Australia and the Japan-Australia summit"

Timing effect: Placing the government's diplomatic achievements at the opening of the broadcast sets the cognitive frame for viewers as "the government's proactive diplomacy." A tendency emerges for subsequent news to be interpreted within this frame.

### Finding 2:

Position: 00:07:14–00:08:40 (closing)

Content: Sports news (player Okamoto, sport climbing, women's football, wheelchair rugby)

Timing effect: Placing positive and emotionally engaging sports news at the end of the broadcast means viewers conclude the broadcast with positive feelings, and critical scrutiny of the political frame established at the opening is softened.

Summary: The structure of placing the government's diplomatic achievements at the opening and positive sports news at the closing may have the effect of suppressing critical evaluation of government policy.

## 11. Image Selection / Visual Language

Definition: Visual framing (to the extent recognisable from the transcript).

**Finding 1:** The transcript contains no visual information.

This broadcast is a radio broadcast, and no visual information exists. It can be assumed that weather charts showing "rain clouds," "low pressure systems," etc. are used in the weather segment, but these constitute neutral information provision and contain no manipulative elements.

Summary: Assessment of visual manipulation is impossible given the radio format. No relevant manipulative elements were identified.

## 12. Source Selection

Definition: Which sources are cited? Is there diversity and independence?

**Source 1:** Japanese government (PM Takaichi, FM Motegi, Policy Research Council Chairman Kobayashi, Minister Katayama)

Timestamp

00:00:01–00:03:56 — Statement: Official announcements regarding government diplomatic and economic policies

**(a) Funding and operating body:** Japanese government (tax revenue)

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** The government has a structural incentive to evaluate its own policies positively

**(c) Missing counter-sources:** Independent research institutions, opposition parties, international organisations, critical experts

**Source 2:** Tasnim News Agency (affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps)

Timestamp

00:05:22–00:05:43 — Statement: "On the 3rd, regarding negotiations with the United States, Speaker Ghalibaf explained that the basis for negotiations was established with the permission of the Supreme Leader"



(a) **Funding and operating body:** Media affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC); receives funding from the Iranian government

(b) **Structural conflict of interest:** Structural incentive to represent the Iranian government's position

(c) **Missing counter-sources:** Official US position, confirmation by independent international media

Missing counter-sources: Views of opposition politicians, independent academic researchers, assessments by international organisations (UN, IMF, etc.), voices of civil society and NGOs

Summary: The sources in this broadcast are significantly skewed toward government and ruling party figures, and independent or critical sources are completely absent. This potentially contravenes Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act's requirement for the presentation of multi-faceted viewpoints.

### 13. Selective Indignation

Definition: Indignation directed at a particular position but not seen toward an equivalent position on the other side.

Methodological principle (v2.2): Record the triggering event before each assessment. A reaction can only be assessed as selective if a comparable trigger in the case of another position did not produce a similar reaction.

#### Finding 1:

**Timestamp** 00:06:39–00:06:48

Triggering event: The 1st Infantry Regiment of the Ground Self-Defence Force posted a logo mark featuring a skull design on X (formerly Twitter)

Reaction: "on the internet, critical voices saying that it was unsuitable as the SDF's logo mark, and so forth, came in succession"

#### Comparison

No critical commentary was added for the Ukrainian military's attack on energy facilities within Russian territory (00:05:58–00:06:08)

Asymmetry: Critical reaction was reported for the SDF logo mark issue, but equivalent critical commentary was not attached to the Ukrainian military's attack operation. However, this is difficult to categorically identify as clear selective indignation, as it may be attributable to the difference in the nature of the subjects being reported (domestic issue vs. international conflict).

Summary: Clear evidence of selective indignation is limited. The critical reporting on the SDF logo mark issue conveyed online criticism as a fact and is to be distinguished from an active expression of indignation by the editorial department.

### 14. False Balance

Definition: Creating an artificial balance despite actual imbalance.

#### Finding 1:

**Timestamp** 00:03:02–00:03:12

Composition: "the joint statement confirmed the importance of regional cohesion and cooperation"

#### Analysis

The conclusion of the ASEAN+3 meeting is presented as a "common understanding," but differences of opinion between countries may in reality exist. However, this is more an issue of omission than of false balance.

Summary: No clear false balance was identified in this broadcast. Rather, the problem is a lack of balance (one-sided government perspective), which is the opposite of false balance.

### 15. Agenda Setting

Definition: What is treated as normal and self-evident? What does not make it onto the agenda?



### Finding 1:

Agenda element set: The "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" strategy is set as a self-evident premise of Japanese diplomacy

#### Timestamp

00:01:58–00:02:04 — Basis: "under the new policy of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific announced by Prime Minister Takaichi"

Alternative agenda: Discussion of the validity, costs, risks, and alternative diplomatic paths of this strategy

### Finding 2:

Agenda element set: Defence equipment transfers are set as a self-evident policy under the guise of "strengthening cooperation"

#### Timestamp

00:02:26–00:02:49 — Basis: "confirmed that they would together support efforts such as the transfer of defence equipment"

Alternative agenda: The constitutional and ethical issues of Japan's shift in arms export policy; criticism from opposition parties and civil society

### Finding 3:

Agenda element set: Energy security is set with the continuation of LNG imports as a given

#### Timestamp

00:01:02–00:01:23 — Basis: "while Japan imports the most LNG from Australia"

Alternative agenda: Transition to renewable energy, consistency with decarbonisation targets, risks of fossil fuel dependency

Summary: This broadcast sets the government's diplomatic, security, and energy policies as self-evident premises, and the validity of these policies, alternatives to them, and critical evaluations do not make it onto the agenda. This potentially contravenes Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act's requirement for the presentation of multi-faceted viewpoints.

### Source Credibility Overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Minister Katayama (Finance Minister, representative of chair country)	-2	-1	+1	0	0	+1	-1	Yellow
Foreign Minister Motegi	-2	-1	+1	0	0	+1	-1	Yellow



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## CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL EVALUATION

### OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

**HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)**

**7.0/10**

*Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation*

**OVERALL SCORE**

**3.9/10**

*Slight imbalance*

*Average of Hardfacts and Softfacts*



## KEY — Score Definitions

### Individual Scores per Criterion (0–10)

<b>0</b>	<b>No finding</b>	No relevant anomaly detected.
<b>1–2</b>	<b>Weak finding</b>	Minor anomaly without substantial impact on balance.
<b>3–4</b>	<b>Slight to moderate finding</b>	Recognizable tendency; low to moderate impact relevance.
<b>5</b>	<b>Moderate finding with impact</b>	Relevant imbalance affecting the audience's opinion-forming potential.
<b>6</b>	<b>Significant finding (threshold)</b>	Scores of 6 and above are classified as 'significant findings.'
<b>7</b>	<b>Significant finding</b>	Clear, well-documented imbalance with distinct impact relevance.
<b>8–9</b>	<b>Severe finding</b>	Pronounced imbalance; multiple documented individual findings in this criterion.
<b>10</b>	<b>Maximum severity</b>	Systematic, pervasive imbalance in this criterion.

### Aggregated Deviation Index — Interpretation Ranges

<b>0.0 – 2.5</b>	<b>Unremarkable</b>	No significant patterns detected; broadcast meets the impartiality standard.
<b>2.6 – 4.0</b>	<b>Slight imbalance</b>	Isolated anomalies; statistically visible but within tolerance range.
<b>4.1 – 6.0</b>	<b>Significant imbalance</b>	Multiple significant findings; relevant impairment of perspective diversity.
<b>6.1 – 8.0</b>	<b>Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation</b>	Pronounced, cross-broadcast patterns; high impact relevance.
<b>8.1 – 10</b>	<b>Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high bias degree</b>	Maximum severity across nearly all criteria; systematically one-sided reporting.

### Party-Political Bias (-5 to +5)

<b>-5 to -3</b>	<b>Strongly disadvantaged</b>	Party is significantly underrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation.
<b>-2 to -1</b>	<b>Slightly disadvantaged</b>	Recognizable but minor disadvantage.
<b>0</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	No detectable favoritism or disadvantage.
<b>+1 to +2</b>	<b>Slightly favored</b>	Recognizable but minor favoritism.
<b>+3 to +5</b>	<b>Strongly favored</b>	Party is significantly overrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation.



## CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL ASSESSMENT (Broadcasting Act, Article 4)

### Assessment Based on Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act

Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act requires political impartiality, accuracy in reporting, and the presentation of multi-faceted viewpoints.

#### Violation 1:

Standard: Article 4, Paragraph 2 of the Broadcasting Act (political impartiality)

Fact: In political news, only ruling party and government figures are adopted as sources, and opposition parties and critical views are completely absent

Basis: Timestamps 00:00:01–00:03:56 — Quote: "Prime Minister Takaichi will attend the summit," "Foreign Minister Moteji indicated the intention," "LDP Policy Research Council Chairman Kobayashi confirmed"

Assessment: From the perspective of political impartiality, reporting only on ruling party policies without presenting the views of opposition parties at all may fail to meet the requirements of Article 4, Paragraph 2.

#### Violation 2:

Standard: Article 4, Paragraph 4 of the Broadcasting Act (clarifying viewpoints from as many angles as possible on issues where opinions are divided)

Fact: On policy issues where opinions are divided — namely defence equipment transfers, the FOIP strategy, and the continuation of LNG imports — only the government's position is presented

Basis: Timestamps 00:02:26–00:02:49 — Quote: "confirmed that they would together support efforts such as the transfer of defence equipment"

Assessment: Defence equipment transfers are a matter on which constitutional and policy opinions are divided, requiring the presentation of multi-faceted viewpoints, but only the government's position is presented.

### Overall Assessment under Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act

Although this broadcast operates under the structural constraints of the morning news summary format, it may not fully meet the requirements of Article 4, Paragraph 2 (political impartiality) and Paragraph 4 (multi-faceted presentation of viewpoints) of the Broadcasting Act in the political news section. In particular, the adoption of only ruling party and government figures as sources, with the complete absence of opposition parties, critical views, and independent expert voices, raises questions about the neutrality expected of a public broadcaster. However, given that the morning news summary format structurally makes in-depth treatment of each topic difficult, it is not easy to conclude that a single broadcast constitutes a violation of the Broadcasting Act, and analysis of ongoing reporting patterns is necessary. There is also an interpretation that the requirements of Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act should be assessed as a tendency across broadcasting as a whole rather than in individual broadcast episodes.

### Detailed Source Check (Mandatory: all expert bodies, NGOs, and advisory bodies cited)

#### Source 1: Tasnim News Agency

**1. Funding:** Media affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). Receives financial support from the Iranian government.

**2. Mandate:** Its primary function is to represent the position of the Iranian government and Revolutionary Guard Corps, which is incompatible with the mandate of a neutral news organisation.

**3. Conflict of interest:** Holds a structural incentive to depict the Iranian government's diplomatic negotiations positively.

**4. Credibility Matrix (Source Traffic Light, 6 dimensions, -2 to +2 each):**

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Represents government position as IRGC-affiliated media



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D2 Personal risk: -2 — No risk from supporting the Iranian government's position  
 D3 Expertise: 0 — Has access to information within Iran but lacks impartiality  
 D4 Consistency of views: 0 — No comparative data  
 D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: -1 — Primarily political statements  
 D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source (conveying government announcements)  
**TOTAL: -5 → Source Traffic Light: Red (<= -5)**

**5. Missing counter-sources:** Official US government position, confirmation by independent international media (AP, Reuters, etc.), assessment by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Important: "Accredited" is not a factual qualification. It is a social attribution that itself needs to be verified. The fact that Tasnim News Agency has been adopted as a source by NHK is not evidence of its reliability but indicates a problem in source selection.

**Source Credibility Overview:**

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Tasnim News Agency	-2	-2	0	0	-1	0	-5	Red

**Legal and Methodological Notes**

<b>No factual determination</b>	The results presented do not constitute factual determinations about individual persons, editorial teams, or broadcasts. They are the product of a standardized operationalization, not a finding of individual responsibility.
<b>No legal judgment</b>	The aggregated deviation index does not replace a legal assessment under 放送法 第4条. The determination of whether a specific broadcast violates legal requirements is exclusively the responsibility of the competent authorities (in particular 総務省).
<b>No proof of causation</b>	Statistical correlations are not to be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intent. Deviation values may be influenced by topic selection, news environment, political controversy, or format logic.
<b>No judgment of intent</b>	The analysis measures observable structural characteristics of broadcasts. A score of 7 means a significant imbalance was detected — not that the editorial team intended it. The methodology makes no claims about motives or strategic objectives.
<b>Heuristic comparison tool</b>	The index serves comparative pattern recognition across thousands of broadcasts, not precise metric measurement of individual segments. Threshold values serve heuristic orientation, not sharp legal qualification.



## APPENDIX 1: NATIONAL BROADCASTING LAW

### Legal Basis Japan — NHK

#### Legislation

- Broadcasting Act (放送法, Act No. 132 of 1950, last amended 2024)
- NHK Reception Agreement (NHK受信規約)
- Radio Act (電波法)

#### Broadcasting Act Article 4 (Editing Standards)

Original text (Japanese):

放送事業者は、国内放送及び内外放送の放送番組の編集に当たっては、次の各号の定めるところによらなければならない。

- 一 公安及び善良な風俗を害しないこと。
- 二 政治的に公平であること。
- 三 報道は事実をまげないですること。
- 四 意見が対立している問題については、できるだけ多くの角度から論点を明らかにすること。

Official English translation:

(1) A broadcaster must comply with the following when editing domestic broadcast programs:

- (i) It must not negatively influence public safety or good morals.
- (ii) It must be politically fair.
- (iii) Reporting must not distort the facts.
- (iv) It must clarify the points at issue from as many angles as possible where there are conflicting opinions concerning an issue.

Ref: e-Gov ([laws.e-gov.go.jp/law/325AC0000000132](https://laws.e-gov.go.jp/law/325AC0000000132)), Japanese Law Translation DB

#### Four Pillars of Bias Analysis

No.	Provision	SVFAB Analysis Reference
1	Must not harm public safety or good morals	Editorial baseline
2	Must be politically fair	Core bias metric — analogous to Swiss RTVG Art. 4
3	Reporting must not distort the facts	Factual dimension
4	Controversial issues: as many angles as possible	Multi-perspective / balance

#### Comparison Switzerland — Japan

Aspect	Switzerland (SRG)	Japan (NHK)
Law	RTVG Art. 4	Broadcasting Act Art. 4
Independent regulator	UBI (binding)	BPO (non-binding)



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State regulator	BAKOM/UVEK	MIC (Ministry of Internal Affairs)
Enforcement	UBI can uphold complaints; BAKOM can sanction	BPO recommends; MIC can issue administrative guidance
Funding	Serafe fee	NHK reception fee (~1,100 JPY/month)
Self-regulation	Moderate (UBI independent)	Weak (BPO co-funded by NHK)

## Regulatory Authorities

### Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (総務省)

- Government ministry with jurisdiction over broadcasting
- Issues broadcast licences
- Can issue administrative guidance (行政指導)
- Approves NHK budget, business plan, and reception fees
- Theoretically has authority to revoke licences
- Recent action: September 2024, administrative guidance after Senkaku incident on NHK Radio International

### BPO (Broadcasting Ethics and Program Improvement Organization)

- Founded 2003, non-governmental, self-regulatory
- Jointly operated by NHK and JBA (Japan Commercial Broadcasters Association)
- Three committees: Ethics Verification, Human Rights, Youth Protection
- Decisions are NOT legally binding — rely on voluntary compliance
- NHK co-funds BPO — structural independence compromised

### Key BPO Decisions Regarding NHK

Year	Case	Ruling
2015	Close-up Gendai — staging allegations	Serious breach of broadcasting ethics
2022	BS Olympic Documentary (Naomi Kawase)	Serious breach — false subtitles
2023	News Watch 9 — COVID-19 reporting	Breach — vaccine families misrepresented

## International Reference

- RSF Press Freedom Index: Japan 2024 Rank 70 (far behind CH: 9, NO: 1)
- Freedom House: Japan classified as "free", but media freedom under pressure (kisha clubs, government proximity)

## Structural Background

NHK is the world's largest public broadcaster by budget (~720 billion JPY / ~4.5 billion EUR). Formal independence is structurally limited through the Board of Governors (12 members appointed by the Prime Minister with parliamentary consent). The kisha club system restricts access to government information to accredited media and fosters proximity between journalists and government.



## APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC REFERENCES

### References

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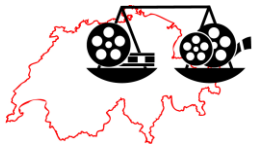
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### SVFAB Working Papers

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- Schläpfer, D. (2026). Systematic AI-Assisted Analysis of Public Broadcaster Impartiality: A Scalable Methodological Framework for Measuring Structural Bias in Public Service Media. [SSRN 6688478](#)
- Schläpfer, D. (2026). Measuring Editorial Noise: A Retrospective Suppression Index for Public Broadcasting Content Analysis. [SSRN 6733280](#)
- Schläpfer, D. (2026). Source Traffic Light: A Six-Dimensional Credibility Framework for Systematic Source Assessment in Public Service Media. [SSRN 6733880](#)

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