



NHK 詳細分析

2026-05-04_radio_news_0700

Broadcast: 2026-05-04 | Analyzed: 2026-05-13 14:28

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

OVERALL SCORE

3.2/10

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)

5.8 / 10

Balanced

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — 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

Current administration: Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) + Komeito coalition government. In the House of Representatives election on 27 October 2024, the LDP won 191 seats (a significant reduction) and Komeito won 24 seats. The loss of an overall majority has destabilised the government's foundation. Current Prime Minister: Sanae Takaichi (referred to within this transcript as "Prime Minister Takaichi").

Main opposition parties: The Constitutional Democratic Party (CDP, 148 seats) is the largest opposition party, followed by Nippon Ishin no Kai (38 seats), the Democratic Party for the People (28 seats), Reiwa Shinsengumi (9 seats), and the Japanese Communist Party (8 seats).

Party	L-R Score	Seats	Government/Opposition	Core Position
Japanese Communist Party (JCP)	1.5	8	Opposition	Uphold Article 9, immediate nuclear-zero, anti-rearmament
Social Democratic Party (SDP)	2.5	1	Opposition	Pacifism, nuclear phase-out, gender equality
Reiwa Shinsengumi	2.5	9	Opposition	Abolish consumption tax, MMT, anti-rearmament
Constitutional Democratic Party (CDP)	3.5	148	Opposition	Oppose Article 9 revision, renewable energy, separate surnames for married couples
Komeito	5.0	24	Government	Peace-oriented, social welfare, moderating the LDP within the coalition
Democratic Party for the People (DPP)	5.5	28	Centre	Consumption tax 5%, pragmatic energy policy
Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)	7.0	191	Government	Constitutional revision, defence spending 2%, nuclear restart
Nippon Ishin no Kai (Ishin)	7.0	38	Opposition	Deregulation, decentralisation, reform agenda
Sanseito	9.0	3	Opposition	Ultra-nationalism, right-wing populism

Pew threshold: Below 4.5 = left-wing, 4.5–5.5 = centre, above 5.5 = right-wing

There are four main lines of political conflict in Japan. First, a fundamental confrontation between government and opposition over constitutional revision (in particular Article 9). Second, debate over increasing defence spending (target: 2% of GDP) versus maintaining the principle of exclusively defensive defence. Third, nuclear energy policy (promoting restarts vs. nuclear phase-out). Fourth, conflict over the priority of correcting economic inequality versus growth strategy. Following the LDP's heavy defeat in the 2024 House of Representatives election, the stability of the government and its capacity to implement policy are under question.

NHK is a public broadcaster operating under the Broadcasting Act; 12 members of its Board of Governors are appointed by the Prime Minister (subject to parliamentary approval). Since the Abe administration (2012–2020), criticism of "Abe's NHK" has continued, and the kisha club system creates a structural proximity to the government.



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Japan ranks 70th in the RSF Press Freedom Index (2024), and Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act's obligation to ensure political fairness and present issues from multiple angles continues to be called into question.



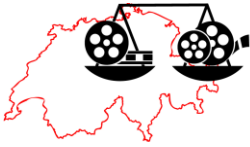
CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

Scores by Party

Party	Score (-5 to +5)	Representation in broadcast vs. position in party platform
LDP	+2	05:33 "promotion of the Free and Open Indo-Pacific" / "deepening cooperation in the security field" — consistent with platform position (promoting FOIP, strengthening security), reported positively without criticism. Somewhat excessively favourable.
CDP	0	Not mentioned — platform position (opposition to Article 9 revision, emphasis on diplomatic resolution) completely omitted. Score of 0 reflects "not mentioned."
Komeito	0	Not mentioned — platform position (peace-oriented, moderating the LDP) completely omitted.
Ishin	0	Not mentioned — platform position completely omitted.
JCP	0	Not mentioned — platform position (anti-rearmament, upholding Article 9) completely omitted.
DPP	0	Not mentioned — platform position completely omitted.

Summary of Party Bias

- Most accurately represented: LDP (score +2) — Reported in a manner consistent with its platform position
- Strongest distortion: CDP (score 0) — Complete omission (not active distortion, but erasure of existence)
- Average deviation from 0: 0.3
- Conclusion: This broadcast reports the LDP ruling party's foreign policy in a manner consistent with its platform position, while completely omitting the positions of all opposition parties. This constitutes a structural preferential treatment of the LDP and is problematic from the perspective of Article 4, Paragraph 2 (political fairness) of the Broadcasting Act. However, given the formal constraints of an early morning bulletin, no active criticism of the opposition is identified.



CHAPTER 2 — PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND TOPIC FRAMEWORK

Broadcast Data

- Title: NHKニュース (Early morning news bulletin — scheduled broadcast)
- Date (estimated from filename): Tuesday, 3 June 2025, early morning
- Estimated duration: Approx. 14 minutes 30 seconds (transcript in full)
- Presenter/Reporter: Announcer (name unknown, not identifiable within the transcript)
- Interviewees: None (studio read-only format)

Actors	Position	Party/Affiliation	Political Spectrum
Sanae Takaichi (mentioned only)	Prime Minister	LDP	Right-wing (hardline conservative wing within LDP)
Toshimitsu Motegi (mentioned only)	Minister for Foreign Affairs	LDP	Right-wing
Satsuki Katayama (mentioned only)	Minister of Finance	LDP	Right-wing
Albanese (mentioned only)	Prime Minister of Australia	Australian Labor Party	Centre-left
Trump (mentioned only)	President of the United States	Republican Party	Right-wing populist
Spokesperson Baghaei (mentioned only)	Spokesperson, Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Iranian Government	N/A

Main Themes

This broadcast is an early morning scheduled news bulletin covering weather and traffic information, the situation in Iran (US–Iran negotiations), Prime Minister Takaichi's visit to Australia, the Japan–China–Korea ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting, Foreign Minister Motegi's visit to Africa, and sports news.

Ideological Context

The international news covered in this broadcast is situated within three contexts: negotiations to ease US–Iran tensions, the promotion of Japan's "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" diplomatic strategy, and energy and economic risks arising from the situation in the Middle East. The Japanese government (LDP administration)'s foreign and security policies are reported in a positive context, and no opposition perspectives or critical assessments are included whatsoever. On the situation in Iran, a reference to the US side's military options is included, but its evaluation is presented neutrally.

Perspectives Required for Balanced Broadcasting

Drawing on world knowledge, the following perspectives are listed as necessary for balanced reporting on the themes of this broadcast:

- * Detailed content of Iran's negotiating proposals and their assessment under international law
- * The reaction of the international community (UN, EU, etc.) to the United States' military options
- * The critical position of opposition parties (CDP, JCP, etc.) on Japan's FOIP strategy
- * China's reaction and concerns regarding Japan–Australia economic security cooperation
- * Analysis of the specific impact of the Middle East situation on Japan's economy and energy policy



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- * Independent assessments by the Bank of Japan and market specialists regarding yen depreciation and market intervention
- * African assessments and criticism of African development policy (TICAD)
- * Questions regarding the legality under international law of "Project Freedom"
- * Domestic opposition to Japan's increase in defence spending and strengthening of security policy
- * The absence of domestic political news beyond weather and traffic information (e.g. opposition party developments)

Confirmation of How Each Perspective Is Handled

[A] Partially addressed

Timestamp: 02:22–02:57 — Quotation: "It is being reported that Iran presented a 14-point proposal including guarantees not to attack, the lifting of a naval blockade, and the establishment of a new framework concerning the Strait of Hormuz." — Assessment: An outline of Iran's proposals is conveyed, but no detailed analysis of the content or assessment under international law is provided whatsoever.

[B] Omitted

Timestamp: 03:17–03:21 — Quotation: "It had shown a stance of not ruling out military options." — Assessment: The United States' military posture is reported only as a matter of fact; the reaction and criticism of the international community is completely absent.

[C] Omitted

Timestamp: N/A — Assessment: The critical position of opposition parties on the Japanese government's foreign policy is not referred to at all.

[D] Omitted

Timestamp: 05:45–05:51 — Quotation: "It is expected that concerns about economic coercion and export controls, with China in mind, will also be expressed." — Assessment: Concerns about China are presented one-sidedly; China's position and reaction are completely absent.

[E] Partially addressed

Timestamp: 07:03–07:19 — Quotation: "Concerns were repeatedly expressed about the risk of a slowing economy and accelerating inflation through rising crude oil prices, as well as about the prolongation of the conflict." — Assessment: Limited to a listing of risks; no specific analysis of the impact on Japan.

[F] Mentioned only

Timestamp: 07:47–08:03 — Quotation: "Last week, yen depreciation progressed in foreign exchange markets, and the government and Bank of Japan carried out market intervention, but—" — Assessment: Only the fact of market intervention is mentioned; independent expert assessments are entirely absent.

[G] Omitted

Timestamp: 08:33–09:54 — Assessment: Foreign Minister Motegi's Africa policy speech conveys only the Japanese government's position; African assessments and criticism are completely absent.

[H] Omitted

Timestamp: 03:44–04:24 — Quotation: "This initiative is a humanitarian measure—" — Assessment: President Trump's "Project Freedom" is conveyed uncritically as a "humanitarian measure," with no reference to questions of legality under international law.

[I] Omitted

Timestamp: N/A — Assessment: There is no mention whatsoever of domestic opposition to Japan's strengthening of security policy or of the opposition parties' positions.

[J] Omitted

Timestamp: N/A — Assessment: Domestic political news consists solely of the government's diplomatic activities; opposition party developments and domestic policy debates are completely absent.

Voices That Are Absent



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- Opposition politicians (CDP, JCP, etc.): Could have provided critical assessments of the Takaichi administration's foreign policy and strengthening of security measures
- International law specialists: Could have provided legal assessments of "Project Freedom" and the issue of blockading the Strait of Hormuz
- Independent energy economics specialists: Could have analysed the specific impact of the Middle East situation on Japan's energy costs and prices
- Private-sector foreign exchange and financial market specialists: Could have provided independent assessments of the effectiveness and limitations of the Bank of Japan's market intervention
- Africa researchers and local NGOs: Could have conveyed the effectiveness of TICAD policy and how it is received on the African side
- Chinese and South Korean diplomatic specialists: Could have provided regional reactions to the strengthening of Japan–Australia security cooperation
- Civic groups and peace organisations: Could have conveyed civil society's concerns about the possibility of military options being exercised
- Climate and environmental specialists: Could have pointed out the contradiction between continued LNG dependence and decarbonisation targets



CHAPTER 3 — 15 Criteria: DETAILED ANALYSIS

Hard Facts — 9 techniques that are countable and scientifically verifiable

1. Expert Selection

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This broadcast is in studio read-aloud format; no independent experts or commentators appear at all. The "expert authorities" referred to are as follows:

Source 1: Japan Meteorological Agency

Timestamp

00:03–00:13

Statement

"According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, due to the influence of a low-pressure system accompanied by a front that is developing and moving eastward across the Sea of Japan—"

Position: State agency (Japan Meteorological Agency). Appropriate as a neutral, technical institution for weather information.

Absent counter-argument: None required for weather information.

Credibility Matrix (Japan Meteorological Agency):

(a) Funding: National budget (under the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism). No conflict of interest in providing weather information.

(b) Mandate: Providing weather information is fully consistent with its original mission.

D1 Conflict of interest: +2 — No political conflict of interest in weather information

D2 Personal risk: +1 — Reputational risk as an institution

D3 Specialist competence: +2 — Weather forecasting is its original area of expertise

D4 Consistency of opinion: +2 — JMA information is continuous and consistent

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Entirely data-based

D6 Source level: +2 — Primary source

TOTAL: +11 → Source signal: Green

(c) PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE: JMA's information is appropriately treated as a neutral specialist institution.

Source 2: Tasnim News Agency (affiliated with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps)

Timestamp

02:22–02:38

Statement

"Tasnim News Agency, which has ties to Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps, reports that Iran, through intermediary Pakistan, presented to the United States—"

Position: Media affiliated with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps. Holds a clearly defined political position.

Absent counter-argument: Independent US-side sources; verification reporting by international media.

Credibility Matrix (Tasnim News Agency):

(a) Funding: Affiliated with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). Clear political conflict of interest.



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(b) Mandate: Disseminating information favourable to the Iranian government and IRGC is its original mission. Incompatible with neutral assessment.

- D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Structural conflict of interest as IRGC-affiliated media
 - D2 Personal risk: -1 — Protected institutionally by government support
 - D3 Specialist competence: 0 — Has news reporting capability but with a political filter
 - D4 Consistency of opinion: -1 — Consistently aligned with the Iranian government's position
 - D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: -1 — Information selection in a political context
 - D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source (reproduction of government announcements)
- TOTAL: -5 → Source signal: Red**

(c) PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE: NHK explicitly identifies Tasnim News Agency as "affiliated with the Revolutionary Guard Corps," which is appropriate. However, the absence of independent verification sources is problematic.

Absent expert groups:

- Independent Middle East and international relations specialists (university researchers, etc.)
- Japanese opposition politicians (critical assessments of foreign and security policy)
- Independent financial and foreign exchange specialists (assessment of market intervention)

Source Credibility Overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Japan Meteorological Agency	+2	+1	+2	+2	+2	+2	+11	Green
Tasnim News Agency (affiliated with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps)	-2	-1	0	-1	-1	0	-5	Red

Summary (Matrix results):

- Japan Meteorological Agency: Signal green (+11) — appropriate source
- Tasnim News Agency: Signal red (-5) — disclosed but without independent verification
- Overall, independent experts are entirely absent and the broadcast is confined to reproducing government announcements.



2. Source Selection

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Claims without primary source = penalty points (rumour check)

Source 1: Japan Meteorological Agency

Timestamp 00:03 — Statement: "According to the Japan Meteorological Agency—"

(a) Funding and operating body: State agency under the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. Publicly funded.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: No conflict of interest in providing weather information.

(c) Absent opposing source: Not required for weather information.

Signal: Green (see matrix above)

Source 2: Tasnim News Agency

Timestamp 02:22 — Statement: "Tasnim News Agency, which has ties to Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps—"

(a) Funding: IRGC (Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps)-affiliated media.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: Disseminating information favourable to the Iranian government and IRGC is its original mission.

(c) Absent opposing source: Verification reporting by independent media such as the Associated Press, Reuters, and the BBC is absent.

Signal: Red (see matrix above)

Source 3: Japan Road Traffic Information Centre

Timestamp 01:25 — Statement: "According to the Japan Road Traffic Information Centre and others—"

(a) Funding: Public interest foundation jointly funded by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the National Police Agency, road administrators, and others.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: No conflict of interest in providing traffic information.

(c) Absent opposing source: Not required for traffic information.

Signal: Green

Source 4: Odakyu Electric Railway (announcement)

Timestamp 01:52 — Statement: "According to Odakyu Electric Railway—"

(a) Funding: Private railway company.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: No conflict of interest regarding its own service information (accurate information provision is in its interest).

Signal: Green

Absent opposing sources:

- Verification of the situation in Iran by independent international media (AP, Reuters, BBC)
- Official comments from opposition politicians

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- Analysis by independent academic specialists

Summary: Sources for weather and traffic information are appropriate; however, in international news, dependence on IRGC-affiliated media and the absence of independent verification sources are problematic. Uncritical reproduction of government announcements is dominant, and diversity of sources is markedly insufficient.



3. Allocation of Speaking Time									4/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Estimated speaking time:

- Weather and traffic information: Approx. 2 minutes (14%)
- Situation in Iran (both US and Iran sides): Approx. 2 minutes 30 seconds (17%)
- Prime Minister Takaichi's visit to Australia (Japanese government's position): Approx. 2 minutes (14%)
- Japan–China–Korea ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (Japanese government's position): Approx. 2 minutes (14%)
- Foreign Minister Motegi's visit to Africa (Japanese government's position): Approx. 1 minute 30 seconds (10%)
- Sports news: Approx. 4 minutes (28%)
- Opposition parties / critical perspectives: 0 minutes (0%)
- Independent experts: 0 minutes (0%)

Summary: Reporting on the government's diplomatic activities accounts for the majority of international news time, and the time allocated to opposition parties, critical perspectives, and independent experts is zero. However, given the formal constraints of an early morning news bulletin, this allocation is partially explicable by the format.



4. SELECTIVE OMISSION

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Omission 1:

Context

The opposition's position on foreign and security policy

Relevant timestamp: 04:54–09:54 (entirety of government diplomacy reporting)

Effect

The Takaichi administration's diplomatic activities are reported one-sidedly and positively, and the complete absence of critical positions from the CDP, JCP, etc. creates the impression that the government's policies enjoy national consensus.

Omission 2:

Context

The problematic nature of "Project Freedom" under international law

Relevant timestamp: 03:44–04:24

Quotation: "This initiative is a humanitarian measure—"

Effect

US actions potentially involving the unilateral exercise of military pressure are conveyed uncritically as a "humanitarian measure," and any reference to legal issues under international law (freedom of navigation on the high seas, legality of the use of force, etc.) is completely absent.

Omission 3:

Context

Reactions from China, South Korea, and ASEAN countries to the strengthening of Japan–Australia security cooperation

Relevant timestamp: 05:33–06:31

Quotation: "It is expected that concerns about economic coercion and export controls, with China in mind, will also be expressed."

Effect

Only Japan and Australia's concerns about China are presented; multi-perspectival analysis of China's position and counter-arguments, and of the impact on regional security, is completely absent.

Summary: The omissions in this broadcast are systematic; critical perspectives on the government's diplomatic activities, legal issues under international law, and regional reactions are consistently absent. This is contrary to the multi-perspectival presentation of issues required by Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act.



5. Manipulation of Numbers

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Complete figures include: absolute value, proportion (%) and trend

Finding 1:

Timestamp 00:30–00:50

Numbers: "28.5 metres in Chiba City, 26.9 metres in Gotemba City in Shizuoka Prefecture, 26.1 metres in Odawara City in Kanagawa Prefecture, 24.7 metres at Tokyo Haneda Airport"

Absent context: Context about how abnormal these maximum instantaneous wind speed values are compared with the same period in past years is absent.

Effect

The enumeration of figures has the effect of heightening a sense of crisis, but without statistical context, audiences cannot make an appropriate risk assessment.

Summary: The presentation of meteorological figures is broadly appropriate, and no serious manipulation of numbers is identified. The absence of contextual information remains a minor issue.



6. Guilt by Association									2/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Association 1:

Timestamp 05:45–05:51

Quotation: "It is expected that concerns about economic coercion and export controls, with China in mind, will also be expressed."

Technique: The expression "with China in mind" directly links China with the negative acts of economic coercion and export controls.

Effect China's role as the subject of economic coercion is presented as established fact, forming a negative image of China without presenting China's position or counter-arguments.

Chain of association (none applicable): No explicit chains of association are identified in this broadcast.

Summary (category classification):

No individual in this broadcast is framed as a "conspiracy theorist" or similar. One instance of indirect negative association with China is identified, but the degree is minor.



7. Timing

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Finding 1:

Position: 02:07–02:09 (immediately after weather and traffic information)

Content: "Regarding the new 14-point proposal that Iran has presented to the United States, with a view to ending the fighting—"

Timing effect: Placing international conflict news immediately after the everyday domestic information of weather and traffic means that international news is presented when the audience's attention is heightened. This is standard news composition in itself and cannot be said to be manipulative.

Finding 2:

Position: 04:24–04:53 (immediately after the military threat of "Project Freedom")

Content: "I am fully aware that the American delegation is engaged in very positive discussions with Iran, and that these discussions may lead to very positive outcomes for everyone."

Timing effect: Placing an optimistic outlook on negotiations immediately after a military threat has the effect of softening the seriousness of the threat.

Summary: Timing manipulation is minor and largely falls within the bounds of standard news composition. However, the placement of an optimistic statement immediately after a military threat produces a modest softening effect.



8. Selective Indignation

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Outrage = bias. Selective outrage amplifies the finding. Score = outrage level (0–5) + selectivity (0–5)

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

Finding 1:

Timestamp 03:08–03:11

Triggering event: President Trump negatively evaluated Iran's proposal, indicating it "cannot be considered acceptable."

Reaction: Reported with the neutral expression "had shown a negative view."

Comparison

Iran's position (02:54–02:57: "Iran is currently examining the content") is also reported in equally neutral terms.

Asymmetry: Cannot be demonstrated — Both sides' positions are reported in similarly neutral terms; no selective indignation is identified.

Summary: This broadcast is in news read-aloud format, and expressions of emotional reaction or indignation are structurally unlikely to arise. No verifiable selective indignation exists.



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9. COMPLETENESS							7/10		
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Share of covered perspectives

Inverted: original value measures coverage (higher = better). Shown as deviation (higher = larger gaps).



Soft Facts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. Framing

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Finding 1:

Timestamp 04:54–05:12

Quotation: "Prime Minister Takaichi, who is visiting Australia, will today hold talks with Prime Minister Albanese. It is expected that a joint declaration will be concluded that will serve as a guideline for economic security cooperation, including coordination aimed at strengthening supply chains for energy, food, and other items."

Manipulation

The Japanese government's diplomatic activity is presented in a positive, fait accompli frame of "expected to conclude results."

Why this is problematic: Framing the government's activities as a predetermined success without assessing whether the policy will succeed or fail, and without critical evaluation, has the effect of making audiences uncritically accept the legitimacy of the government's diplomacy.

Finding 2:

Timestamp 05:33–05:51

Quotation: "The declaration is set to incorporate coordination aimed at promoting the Free and Open Indo-Pacific and strengthening supply chains for energy, critical minerals, food, and other items. It is also expected that concerns about economic coercion and export controls, with China in mind, will be expressed."

Manipulation

The expression "with China in mind" establishes a frame that treats China as an obvious threat.

Why this is problematic: By framing Japan and Australia's concerns about China as established fact without presenting China's position or counter-arguments at all, it guides the audience's perception of China in a single direction.

Finding 3:

Timestamp 03:44–04:06

Quotation: "He has named this initiative Project Freedom, and states that it targets vessels from regions that have no involvement whatsoever in events currently taking place in the Middle East. The post states that this initiative is a humanitarian measure, intended to liberate people, businesses, and nations who have nothing to do with it."

Manipulation

NHK conveys President Trump's self-definition ("humanitarian measure," "liberate") as-is, without any independent assessment.

Why this is problematic: Broadcasting Trump's framing of a unilateral act accompanied by military pressure as "humanitarian," without any critical filter, carries the risk that audiences will internalise that framing.



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Summary: This broadcast consistently presents the Japanese government's diplomatic activities in a positive, fait accompli frame and adopts a framing that treats China as an obvious threat. Including the uncritical reproduction of Trump's statements, the degree of framing bias is assessed as moderate.



11. Word Choice and Terminology

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Finding 1:

Timestamp

06:11–06:15

Quotation: "Australia, which it positions as the core of like-minded country cooperation—"

Manipulation

The value-laden term "like-minded countries" is adopted uncritically as the government's official expression.

Why this is problematic: A neutral alternative expression would be "allied countries" or "friendly nations." The word "like-minded" implies membership of a specific community of values, with the effect of implicitly positioning other countries (e.g. China) as "non-like-minded."

Finding 2:

Timestamp

09:07–09:14

Quotation: "—touching on the diplomatic policy that has evolved the Free and Open Indo-Pacific—"

Manipulation

The expression "evolved" frames the government's new diplomatic policy positively as an improvement or advancement.

Why this is problematic: A neutral alternative expression would be "revised" or "changed." "Evolved" carries biological connotations of progress and is a linguistic manipulation that automatically evaluates policy changes positively.

Finding 3:

Timestamp

04:11–04:17

Quotation: "If this humanitarian initiative is impeded in any way, that impediment will unfortunately have to be met with force."

Manipulation

The emotional qualifier "unfortunately" frames Trump's military threat as a rational act carried out with a sense of regret.

Why this is problematic: By conveying a military threat with the qualification "unfortunately," its aggression is softened before it reaches the audience. Neutral reporting should convey only the facts, without emotional qualifiers.

Summary: The uncritical adoption of government official terminology ("like-minded countries," "evolved") and the retention of emotional qualifiers in Trump's statements produce linguistic bias. However, the overall degree of linguistic manipulation remains at a light to moderate level.



12. Presenter Behaviour

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

Finding 1:

Timestamp

Throughout

Triggering event: This broadcast is in studio read-aloud format; no dialogue between presenter and guests exists.

Quotation (presenter): N/A (read-aloud only)

Comparison

As no guests in dialogue format are present, evaluation of asymmetry is not applicable.

Asymmetry: Cannot be demonstrated (due to formal constraints)

Summary: As this broadcast is in news read-aloud format rather than interview or discussion format, asymmetry in presenter behaviour cannot be assessed under methodological principle K5. A score of 1 reflects a minimal reservation regarding the uncritical reading aloud of government announcements.



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13. Question Asymmetry

0/10

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

This broadcast is in studio read-aloud format and no interviews or question-and-answer exchanges exist. Under methodological principle K5, question asymmetry cannot be assessed.

Summary: As question asymmetry cannot structurally arise in this broadcast format (news read-aloud), the score is 0.



14. False Balance									2/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Finding 1:

Timestamp 02:07–04:53 (entirety of Iran coverage)

Structure: Both the US side (multiple social media posts by President Trump) and the Iranian side (Tasnim News Agency, state media) are reported, giving the appearance of a balanced presentation on the surface.

Analysis

However, the volume of statements from the US side (military options, Project Freedom, optimistic outlook on negotiations) greatly exceeds that of the Iranian side (outline of the 14-point proposal, statement that it is under consideration), and quantitative balance is not achieved. Furthermore, the absence of independent international assessments creates a binary framing.

Summary: In the reporting on the situation in Iran, a surface-level two-sidedness is maintained, but the US side's volume of statements is dominant and the absence of independent assessments produces a false balance. However, the degree is minor.



15. Agenda Setting

5/10

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Finding 1:

Agenda element established: The "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (FOIP) is set as a self-evident premise of Japanese diplomacy.

Timestamp

05:33–05:38 — Evidence: "The declaration is set to incorporate the promotion of the Free and Open Indo-Pacific—"

Alternative agenda: Critical assessments of FOIP (China's and Russia's positions, varying degrees of support among ASEAN countries, opposition party criticism) do not make it onto the agenda.

Finding 2:

Agenda element established: The strengthening of Japan's defence and security is set as an obvious policy.

Timestamp

06:19–06:23 — Evidence: "—it is scheduled to be confirmed that cooperation in the security field will be deepened further."

Alternative agenda: Domestic opposition to increases in defence spending and the strengthening of security, constitutional issues, and fiscal impacts do not make it onto the agenda.

Finding 3:

Agenda element established: Strengthening supply chains for LNG and fossil fuels is treated as self-evident under "energy security."

Timestamp

05:55–06:07 — Evidence: "Taking into account the fact that Japan imports the most LNG from Australia while Australia procures diesel fuel and other products generated in Japan, we intend to ensure the smooth circulation of such energy—"

Alternative agenda: The contradiction with decarbonisation targets, the transition to renewable energy, and impacts on climate change do not make it onto the agenda.

Summary: This broadcast sets FOIP diplomacy, the strengthening of security, and continued fossil fuel dependence as self-evident premises, and systematically excludes critical perspectives on these, alternative policies, and opposition parties' positions from the agenda. This is contrary to the multi-perspectival presentation of issues required by Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act.



CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL EVALUATION

OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

Individual Scores — All 15 Criteria

No.	Criterion	Score	Rating
1	Expert Selection	2/10	Unremarkable
2	Source Selection	5/10	Significant imbalance
3	Allocation of Speaking Time	4/10	Slight imbalance
4	SELECTIVE OMISSION	6/10	Significant imbalance
5	Manipulation of Numbers	2/10	Unremarkable
6	Guilt by Association	2/10	Unremarkable
7	Timing	3/10	Slight imbalance
8	Selective Indignation	1/10	Unremarkable
9	COMPLETENESS	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
10	Framing	4/10	Slight imbalance
11	Word Choice and Terminology	3/10	Slight imbalance
12	Presenter Behaviour	1/10	Unremarkable
13	Question Asymmetry	0/10	Unremarkable
14	False Balance	2/10	Unremarkable
15	Agenda Setting	5/10	Significant imbalance

HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

3.5/10

Slight imbalance

SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

2.8/10

Slight imbalance

OVERALL SCORE

3.2/10

Slight imbalance

Average of Hardfacts and Softfacts



KEY — Score Definitions

Individual Scores per Criterion (0–10)

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

Aggregated Deviation Index — Interpretation Ranges

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

Party-Political Bias (-5 to +5)

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



CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL ASSESSMENT (Broadcasting Act Article 4)

Assessment Based on Broadcasting Act Article 4

Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act requires political fairness, accuracy of reporting, and the multi-perspectival presentation of issues.

Violation 1:

Standard: Broadcasting Act Article 4, Paragraph 2 (political fairness)

Facts: The Takaichi administration's diplomatic activities (visit to Australia, Africa policy, Japan–China–Korea ASEAN meeting) are reported one-sidedly without critical assessment, and the positions of opposition parties are completely omitted.

Evidence: Timestamp 04:54–09:54 — Quotation: "Prime Minister Takaichi presented the idea of aiming for the realisation of peace and a virtuous cycle of growth on the African continent, under the diplomatic policy evolved from the Indo-Pacific that the Prime Minister announced."

Assessment: Reporting government foreign policy without critical context and not presenting the opposition's counter-positions at all may be contrary to the requirement of political fairness.

Violation 2:

Standard: Broadcasting Act Article 4, Paragraph 4 (multi-perspectival presentation of issues)

Facts: "The Free and Open Indo-Pacific," "like-minded country cooperation," and "deepening cooperation in the security field" are set as self-evident premises, and critical points of view on these (opposition parties' positions, legal issues under international law, regional reactions) are systematically absent.

Evidence: Timestamp 05:33–06:31 — Quotation: "It is expected that concerns about economic coercion and export controls, with China in mind, will also be expressed."

Assessment: Reporting only the Japanese government's concerns about China without presenting China's position or counter-arguments at all may be contrary to the requirement of multi-perspectival presentation of issues.

Reservation regarding the degree of violation: Taking into account the formal constraints of an early morning news bulletin (approx. 14 minutes, multiple topics), there are physical limits to how deeply each topic can be explored. Whether omissions in a single bulletin broadcast directly constitute a violation of the Broadcasting Act requires confirmation of a continuous and systematic pattern.

Broadcasting Act Article 4 Overall Assessment

This NHK early morning news bulletin meets the requirements of Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act with regard to weather and traffic information. In the international news segment, one-sided reporting of the government's diplomatic activities and systematic omission of opposition positions are confirmed, and there are problems from the perspective of Article 4, Paragraph 2 (political fairness) and Article 4, Paragraph 4 (multi-perspectival presentation of issues) of the Broadcasting Act. However, taking into account the formal constraints of an early morning bulletin, caution should be exercised in finding a violation based on a single broadcast; confirmation of a continuous and systematic pattern is a prerequisite for legal judgement. It should also be pointed out that the structural problem of NHK's Board of Governors members being appointed by the Prime Minister (including the kisha club system) exists as the institutional background for such tendencies.

Detailed Source Check (Mandatory Implementation)

Japan Meteorological Agency

- 1. Funding:** State agency under the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. Operated on general account budget.
- 2. Mandate:** Collecting and providing weather information and issuing warnings is its original mission. Fully consistent with its use in this broadcast.



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- 3. Conflict of interest:** No institutional conflict of interest in providing weather information.
- 4. Credibility Matrix (6 dimensions):** D1(+2)D2(+1)D3(+2)D4(+2)D5(+2)D6(+2) → Total +11 → Signal: Green
- 5. Opposing source:** Not required for weather information.

Tasnim News Agency

- 1. Funding:** IRGC (Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps)-affiliated media. Under the funding and influence of the IRGC.
- 2. Mandate:** Disseminating information favourable to the Iranian government and IRGC is its original mission. Incompatible with neutral assessment.
- 3. Conflict of interest:** Its institutional mission is to convey the Iranian government's position favourably, constituting a serious conflict of interest.
- 4. Credibility Matrix (6 dimensions):** D1(-2)D2(-1)D3(0)D4(-1)D5(-1)D6(0) → Total -5 → Signal: Red
- 5. Opposing source:** Verification reporting by independent media such as the Associated Press, Reuters, the BBC, and Al Jazeera is absent. NHK explicitly identifies the origin of Tasnim News Agency (as "affiliated with the Revolutionary Guard Corps"), which is an appropriate disclosure of the source. However, the absence of independent verification is problematic.

Japan Road Traffic Information Centre

- 1. Funding:** Public interest foundation jointly funded by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the National Police Agency, road administrators, and others.
- 2. Mandate:** Collecting and providing road traffic information is its original mission. Consistent with its use in this broadcast.
- 3. Conflict of interest:** No institutional conflict of interest in providing traffic information.
- 4. Credibility Matrix (6 dimensions):** D1(+2)D2(+1)D3(+2)D4(+2)D5(+2)D6(+1) → Total +10 → Signal: Green
- 5. Opposing source:** Not required for traffic information.

Important note: Social attribution of being "officially recognised" or "authoritative" is itself subject to verification. In this analysis, each source has been assessed independently using the above 6-dimension matrix.

This analysis was produced in accordance with Version 2.7-detail and methodological principles K5+K13 (recording of triggering events; not demonstrating asymmetry without a comparable trigger). The subject of analysis is only the provided transcript; analysis of the actual broadcast footage and audio requires separate materials.

Legal and Methodological Notes

No factual determination	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.
No legal judgment	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).
No proof of causation	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.
No judgment of intent	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.



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**Heuristic
comparison tool**

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), 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

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