



**Japan Society for Tobacco Control**

**日本禁煙学会**

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## **The impact of Japanese companies accompanying Russia's invasion of Ukraine**

Manabu Sakuta, Chairperson, Japan Society for Tobacco Control, general incorporated

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has raised serious concerns in the international community, including in Japan. This situation has greatly impacted Japanese businesses entering the Russian market. According to the fiscal 2022 survey of Japanese companies operating overseas (Russian edition), the negative impact of the situation in Ukraine is obvious, and it was reported that estimated deficits have reached record high levels.

Reference: 2022 Survey of Japanese businesses operating overseas | Russia edition  
URL: [https://www.jetro.go.jp/ext\\_images/\\_Reports/01/9601ab09fd059f0a/20220038.pdf](https://www.jetro.go.jp/ext_images/_Reports/01/9601ab09fd059f0a/20220038.pdf)

However, even under such circumstances, there is a company that provides the Russian government with \$2 billion worth of products annually. This company is Japan Tobacco Inc., and there is no denying that these provisions facilitate the execution of the Russian war and are associated with the extreme suffering by Ukrainian citizens. Furthermore, because the Japanese government owns one-third of Japan Tobacco's shares of stock, the reality is that the Japanese government indirectly aids the Russian government.

JT, influence is serious in Russia's invasion to Ukraine Toyo keizai

<https://toyokeizai.net/articles/-/577283>

<https://watanabeshu.org/politics/ロシアに3000億円納めるjt>

This case is similar to the case in which British American Tobacco, Inc. (BAT) was fined by the international community for violating sanctions by providing tobacco to North Korea. These are examples of how business activities impart a significant impact on international politics and security, and I think that this issue should be given its due attention.

Reference: British tobacco giant fined \$650 million US for continuation of "tobacco sales" to North Korea despite announcement of "suspension of sales" in accordance with sanctions URL:

<https://news.yahoo.co.jp/articles/ca3b0460692a208f5039e5f31afc36920770fb53>

[https://www.bbc.com/japanese/65370718#:~:text=米司法省\(DOJ\)は,活動に関連するもの%E3%80%82](https://www.bbc.com/japanese/65370718#:~:text=米司法省(DOJ)は,活動に関連するもの%E3%80%82)

In the international community, it is unavoidable that business activities exert an influence on politics and security issues. In response to the recent case by Japan Tobacco, I request appropriate responses that fully consider international affairs and ethical issues for future business activities.

I hope that the Liberal Democratic Party Tobacco Diet Members' Alliance will promote responsible business activities while responding to domestic and international affairs.

Reference: Liberal Democratic Party Tobacco Diet Caucus

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