
Former Japanese PMs Warn Against Revising Three Non-Nuclear Principles



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TOKYO, Nov. 19—Two former Japanese prime ministers have voiced concerns over Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's potential move to revise Japan's Three Non-Nuclear Principles, emphasizing that they remain a cornerstone of national policy.

Former Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, in an interview in Hiroshima, reaffirmed that he has

consistently upheld the principles of not possessing, not producing, and not allowing the introduction of nuclear weapons into Japanese territory since taking office. “My stance has never changed,” Kishida said.

Yoshihiko Noda, another former prime minister, expressed similar concerns in Nagasaki Prefecture, noting that public unease over the Takaichi Cabinet is growing. He said he would continue to advocate for strict adherence to the Three Non-Nuclear Principles on all relevant occasions.

First declared in 1967 by Prime Minister Eisaku Sato in parliament, the Three Non-Nuclear Principles have long been considered a national credo. Japan’s 2022 National Security Strategy reaffirmed that adherence to the principles will remain unchanged.

Recent reports suggest Prime Minister Takaichi’s government is considering revising key national security documents by the end of 2026, including a review of the third principle, which prohibits nuclear weapons from entering Japanese territory. The prospect of such a revision has prompted debate and raised public concern.

The statements by Kishida and Noda highlight the political sensitivity of the issue and the continued importance of Japan’s non-nuclear stance in both domestic and international security discussions.

