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Kazuhisa Ogawa is Japan's leading defense analyst. From June 2012, he has been advising the governor of Shizuoka Prefecture about disaster and crisis management as a Project Professor at the University of Shizuoka's Global Center for Asian and Regional Research. He is the president of the Strategic Research Institute of International Change, which he founded in 2008.

Mr. Ogawa advises the leaders of national and local governments and public utilities on disaster and crisis management, critical infrastructure protection, counterterrorism, and the Japan Self-Defense Forces' missions abroad.

Prime Ministers Obuchi, Koizumi, and Hatoyama have asked Mr. Ogawa to serve as a Special Advisor. In the last decade, Mr. Ogawa served on advisory groups of Japan's Cabinet Secretariat; Ministries of Defense, Foreign Affairs, and Internal Affairs and Communications; and Coast Guard. He was instrumental in the introduction of air ambulance to Japan from 1999. He teaches in the Japan Self-Defense Forces' staff colleges. He serves as a Director of the Japan Center for Conflict Prevention, which implements de-mining and Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration in post-conflict countries.

Mr. Ogawa's books include an introduction to legal and military aspects of territorial and maritime disputes involving Japan; a proposal for consolidating the US military presence in Okinawa in a way that would satisfy both local and military requirements; the first study of the roles and missions of U.S. military forces in Japan that covered all their facilities; the first comparative study of Japanese and U.S. public policy think tanks; and an influential investigation of the Japanese authorities' failure to fight fire with helicopters after the Kobe earthquake.

Before Mr. Ogawa became Japan's first independent defense analyst in 1984, he was a reporter for a major weekly magazine and a regional newspaper. He studied divinity at Doshisha University after graduating from the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force's Youth Cadet Training School and Aviation School. He was born in 1945 in Kumamoto Prefecture in Kyushu.