

The **35**th Policy Recommendations

Expansion of China and Japan's Response



January 2012

The Policy Council
The Japan Forum on International Relations

Greeting

The Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR) organized the Policy Council within itself immediately after it was founded in 1987, and has since publicly announced a series of policy recommendations approximately on a biannual basis (see Appendix at the end of this booklet). The Policy Recommendations on “The Expansion of China and Japan's Response,” which we hereby present, is the 35th in such a series. As China's political, economic and military presence was growing, the incident of a Chinese fishing boat ramming against Japan Coast Guard patrol vessels off the Senkaku Islands in September 2010 shocked Japan and the Japanese. From this arose a concern that the expanding China might have finally abandoned her cooperative line of diplomacy called “Tao Guang Yang Hui .”

With this awareness in mind, the Policy Council of JFIR started deliberations in its first meeting on this theme on February 28, 2011 and adopted them in their final version of the draft at its fourth meeting on December 5, 2011. The final version of the recommendations as approved by the fourth meeting of the Policy Council was sent to all the members of the Policy Council, of which 68 members agreed to its contents and signed the Policy Recommendations.

In line with the tradition, the full text of this set of Policy Recommendations, both in Japanese and in English, was submitted to the Prime Minister of Japan, released to the press, distributed to opinion leaders both at home and abroad, and made accessible at the website of the Japan Forum on International Relations, <http://www.jfir.or.jp/e/>. In addition, in view of the importance of the issues raised in this set of Policy Recommendations, we decided to appeal directly to the public at large by running a full-page advertisement of the Policy Recommendations in the January 27 issue of; The Sankei Shimbun, The Asahi Shimbun, The Nikkei and The Japan Times.

The objective of JFIR is to encourage its members to discuss, study and propose ideas on matters of foreign policy, thereby enlightening the public in and out of Japan. In doing so,

however, JFIR as an institution neither takes nor rejects any specific positions on matters of foreign policy. The responsibility for the contents of these Policy Recommendations lies solely with those Members of the Policy Council who signed them. JFIR as an institution, trustees, officers and members of JFIR as well as other parties to JFIR who did not sign them are exempted from any responsibility for the contents.

January 2012

ITO Kenichi
President of JFIR
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Introduction

The incident of a Chinese fishing boat ramming against Japan Coast Guard patrol vessels off the Senkaku Islands in September 2010, the ban on the export of rare earth metals to Japan that followed, and a series of other strong measures against Japan, including the arrest and detention of Japanese citizens staying in China, not only shocked Japan and the Japanese but also flared up their distrust of China. Those incidents were considered as actions related to the intensified self-assertion of China, which had been observed earlier in China's seizures of fishing boats of Southeast Asian nations in the South China Sea and her opposition to the U.S.-South Korea joint military exercise in the Yellow Sea. In this context, there arose a concern that the expanding China, having economically surpassed Japan to be the second largest economy in the world, might have finally abandoned her cooperative line of diplomacy called "Tao Guang Yang Hui."

Under these circumstances, it is vitally important to comprehend the macroscopic background of the problem before reacting to each of the microscopic phenomena. After World War I, the "outlawry of war" was achieved. Then, after World War II, a war between major powers became essentially impossible due to the realization of "Mutual Assured Destruction." Even so, during the Cold War, politics of "Balance of Power" were practiced in which the two camps led by the U.S. and the Soviet Union confronted each other. However, as the end of the Cold War arrived, the U.S.-Soviet confrontation was resolved and universal values such as freedom, democracy, market economy and renunciation of war have spread to every corner of the globe, the core bearers of which being the advanced democracies participating in NATO and/or the Japan-U.S. alliance. In the era when "human security" and "responsibility to protect" are presented as principles of international society, the advanced democracies, who have become the core bearers of those principles, can be described as a "no-war community" or "collective security community." In the post-Cold War world, nations are required to address themselves to the resolution of the global issues beyond the command of their narrowly defined national interests. While "post-modern" stage nations, who are ready to squarely address themselves to the issues, can be called

“no-war community” nations, “modern” stage nations, such as China, Russia, etc., are not yet ready to do the same, and put up resistance.

When seen from a macroscopic standpoint, we can say that the incident over the Senkaku Islands in September 2010 clearly exposed differences between Japan and China in the positions they occupied in the world and the stages of development. China, as customary with a “modern” stage nation, tends to adhere to assertions of national sovereignty and to pursue narrowly defined egoistic national interests. On the other hand, Japan, as a “post-modern” stage nation, interprets the concept of national interests more widely and realizes the need to respect international public interests more keenly. It must be noted that the factors that define Japan-China relations include not only historical conflicts and territorial disputes inevitable for neighboring big powers, but also the difference in the stages of development as a state and the difference in the positions assumed in world politics.

Questioned here is how China, who has been strengthening her presence in the world as a result of her sustainable high growth over three decades, will exert her growing influence on the formation of the future international order. In other words, it is whether China is able to behave as a “responsible stakeholder” in the international system. We cannot help being concerned about three things. First, China does not share such values as human rights, freedom and democracy with the advanced democracies including Japan. Second, China’s military expansion and modernization are devoid of transparency in its long-term goals. And, third, the possibility cannot be denied that the aggravation of China’s domestic contradictions generated by her economic development may result in political instabilities. Speaking from this perspective and taking it into consideration that bearers of governance of our globalizing world economy expanded from the G-8 to the G-20, we must make efforts to engage “modern” stage nations including China and Russia in roles as bearers of a “no-war community,” which has been responsible for the formulation and maintenance of an international order in the post-Cold War world. If we call it an “engagement” policy, the “engagement” policy must be the very basis of the macroscopic policy line toward China of Japan or a “no-war community.”

Even if the incident of a Chinese fishing boat ramming against Japan Coast Guard patrol vessels off the Senkaku Islands in September 2010 was not intended by the Chinese government for the purpose of changing the status quo, the Japanese government will not be condoned to be at a loss again when another crisis of the same sort happens. After the incident, China has modified her strong line of self-assertions given the repugnance of international society. Especially in her relations with Japan, China demonstrated her cooperative attitude in the wake of the 3.11 Great East Japan Earthquake. However, it would be too early to conclude that China's hard line has finally been abandoned. Though we adopt an "engagement" policy in the context of our macroscopic judgement, we need to prepare ourselves in advance for the scenario in which China may shift to a hard line and choose the worst course of actions, including an exercise of military means. Nevertheless, it must be noted that the forces involved in China's foreign policy making are diversified, and that complicated political games are played over each diplomatic issue. Generally speaking, there are two forces struggling against each other, i.e. "hard-liners" and "soft-liners." When confronted with China's hard-line attitude, it is important for us to avoid being emotionally caught in a trap of the scene spreading immediately before us. It is always important to grasp, calmly and appropriately, the macroscopic context of the situation.

Even though it is undeniable that China is growing gigantic with a potential to be an eventual threat, Japan has no other option but to adopt an "engagement" policy toward China as already mentioned. The "engagement" policy is possible and necessary because we have a macroscopic recognition that a "no-war community" has been created and functioning in the post-Cold War world, and because a "no-war community" as a whole, not Japan alone, is expected to act jointly in case China shifts to adventurism. Today, the "expanding China" is not an issue for Japan alone, but rather an issue which must be coped with through widely coordinated actions among the U.S. and other "like-minded countries" who share common values. To achieve its objectives, the "engagement policy" must have a set of consistent policies. This set of policy recommendations presents the nine items as shown below.

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(In alphabetical order)

Policy Recommendations

Recommendation 1. Do Our Best to Perfect the Systems of the Defense of the Territory, Territorial Sea, Sovereignty and Dignity of Japan

This set of policy recommendations adopts the position of “engagement” toward China as its macroscopic judgement. However, it does not mean that Japan needs no system to protect her territory, territorial sea, sovereignty and dignity. On the contrary, the very success of Japan’s “engagement” policy toward China hinges upon the presence of such systems. The incident of a Chinese fishing boat ramming against Japan Coast Guard patrol vessels off the Senkaku Islands in September 2010, be it intentional or not on the part of China, caught Japan off her guard and the then Kan administration of Japan was completely at a loss over what to do. Japan, as a sovereign nation, should never tolerate the recurrence of such an off-guard situation, whatever country may be involved. The Japanese government should not only strengthen effective control over its territory and territorial sea but examine in advance every likely scenario of crisis and do our best to prepare ourselves for the crisis. In peace we must prepare for adversity.

Recommendation 2. Review Japan’s System of Survival and Self-Defense in a National Emergency in Terms of Both Hardware and Software

With the Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) and Japan Coast Guard being the linchpins of Japan’s system of ensuring her survival and self-defense in times of national emergency, developing the operational software of her capabilities in legal and strategic perspectives is as important as, or even more important than, developing such hardware capabilities as arms, ships, etc. With regard to the JSDF, the concept of the “Dynamic Defense Force” as indicated in the new “National Defense Program Guidelines” should be considered an appropriate one. And it is imperative that the enhancement of island defense capabilities be steadily implemented, centering on the strengthening of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) activities in southwestern Japan during the life of the “New Mid-Term Defense Program.” Besides, while the enactment of national emergency legislation is in pressing need, the present strict interpretation of the constitution

on the operation of the JSDF should not be left unaddressed, but be reconsidered in a prompt manner, including the possibility of constitutional amendment, taking the realities on the ground into consideration.

Recommendation 3. Make Constant and Best Efforts to Maintain the Credibility of the Japan-U.S. Alliance

It goes without saying that Japan's own self-help efforts are a prerequisite to the defense of Japan, without which Japan could never expect any country to come to succor Japan. Practically speaking, however, Japan cannot survive alone on her own efforts, and the U.S. commitment to the defense of Japan, including the U.S. "nuclear umbrella," under the Japan-U.S. alliance is the last resort for the security of Japan. Therefore, it is imperative for Japan to constantly make her best efforts to maintain the credibility of the Japan-U.S. alliance. While continuing the highest-level strategic dialogues between the leaders of Japan and the U.S., Japan should make such efforts as to solve the issue of the relocation of the Futenma base, to approve exercise of the constitutional right to collective self-defense, and to re-examine the Three Principles on Arms Exports, etc.

Recommendation 4. Further Strengthen the Relations of "Engagement" with China in Various Fields

While trying to "forge solid footing" as indicated in Recommendations 1 ~ 3 on the one hand, Japan should further strengthen her relations of "engagement" with China in various fields on the other. The establishment of a "communication mechanism between the defense authorities" of the two countries to "prevent the occurrence of unexpected circumstances at sea," which was agreed upon on the occasion of the visit of Premier Wen Jiabao to Japan in 2007, is urgently needed for the crisis management as the recent incident off the Senkaku Islands demonstrated. However, this task is yet to be achieved, despite a series of subsequent agreements to accelerate negotiations on it. Nevertheless, it is highly appreciated that Japan and China agreed to set up "Japan-China High-Level Consultation on Maritime Affairs" and to conclude "Japan-China Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR) Cooperation" in principle on the occasion of the visit of Prime

Minister NODA Yoshihiko to China in December 2011. Besides, there are many other fields of cooperation where Japan should “engage” China, such as those against pandemics, drug trafficking and illegal immigration, etc. Also, it is of significance for us to take part in U.N. Peacekeeping Operations together with China, thereby making joint efforts in pursuit of common goals. Along with participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) to which the U.S. attaches importance, Japan should also express her understanding toward the realization of the East Asia Free Trade Area (EAFTA) to which China attaches priority.

Recommendation 5. Develop Multilateral Approaches of Japan into a “No-War Community” and Let China Take Part in It

Japan should call on other “like-minded countries” than the U.S. to expand the scope of regional security cooperation. As for Australia, the “Japan-Australia Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation” was adopted in March 2007 and a Japan-U.S.-Australia joint military exercise was conducted in the South China Sea in July 2011. Military exercises are also planned to be jointly conducted by Japan and the U.S. plus India, and further by Japan and the U.S. plus South Korea. There is a further prospect of such military exercises to be expanded to include ASEAN member countries. It is also noted that the East Asia Summit (EAS) held in November 2011 adopted the “Declaration of EAS,” which took security of the South China Sea into consideration. While these arrangements are meant to serve for the freedom of the seas and the security of the sea lanes, we must see to it that they should not be seen as “containment of China.” They are essentially an embodiment of a “no-war community” composed of “post-modern” stage nations and is ideologically not designed to rule out the participation of China.

Recommendation 6. Let the “Six-Party Talks” and the “Japan-China-South Korea Summit Meeting” Assume Roles of Regional Security Mechanisms

Though Northeast Asia inherited from the Cold-War era potential flash points in the Korean Peninsula and the Taiwan Strait, it is still devoid of any effective mechanisms for regional security to address crises that may occur in the

area. Under such circumstances, however, it is a valuable fact that the “Six-Party Talks” agreed “to explore ways and means for promoting security cooperation in Northeast Asia” in their joint statement of 2005. Though the activities of the “Six-Party Talks” have been regrettably suspended since 2008, the parties concerned are urged to resume and revitalize the talks promptly. Meanwhile, the “Japan-China-South Korea Summit Meeting” was institutionalized in 2008 and has since been convened every year. We should seek the possibility of letting the “Japan-China-South Korea Summit Meeting” assume the role of a regional security mechanism in Northeast Asia.

Recommendation 7. Encourage China to Enhance her International Contributions for the Resolution of Global Issues

Both Japan and China are confronted with such global issues common to humankind as food, energy and environment, etc. Besides, it is an undeniable fact that China, with her rapid economic growth, is partially responsible for the deterioration of these issues. For instance, China is the world’s biggest emitter of greenhouse gases and is also one of the sources of trans-border pollution. It is imperative for China to participate in establishing and steering international institutions and/or frameworks for the resolution of global issues. Especially, China is expected to play a significant role in the maintenance of world peace and stability in the U.N. Security Council, and in the coordination for stability and growth of the global economy in the IMF, World Bank and G-20, etc. Encouraging China to address herself to the global issues will serve not only to resolve those issues as such, but to work as an instrument of our “engagement” policy toward China, as it will help China to awake to its role as a “responsible power.”

Recommendation 8. While Introducing the Vitality of the Chinese Economy into Japan, Refrain from Excessive Dependency on the Chinese Economy

The enormous size of the Chinese market brought about by the growth of not only the wealthy but also the middle class is steadily expanding. The Japanese economy, on the other hand, is falling into a long-term stagnation due to her low birthrate and high longevity, with the addition of the recent great earthquake and

tsunamis, the appreciation of the yen, etc. While facilitating development and the sharing of rules and institutions concerned in both Japan and China, we should positively attract Chinese capital and tourists into Japan. Meanwhile, the incident of the ban on the export of rare earth metals by China lucidly illustrated a risk of excessive dependency in the procurement of important resources on any one specific country. As for important resources, we should not only multiply the sources of our procurement and increase our strategic stockpiles, but work for the establishment of a multilateral framework to ensure stable supplies of these resources.

Recommendation 9. Deepen Mutual Understanding on the Opinion Leader Level

As is clearly demonstrated in the tones of argument of the mass media and the findings of public opinion polls both in Japan and China, the perception of the two peoples on the image of each other has deteriorated recently. The incident of a Chinese fishing boat off the Senkaku Islands in 2010 broke out under such circumstances and exerted a significantly adverse impact on the mutual perception of the peoples of Japan and China. Against this background there have been observed among the Japanese a variety of anti-Chinese sentiments inspired by the diffusion of anti-Japanese sentiments fostered by the “patriotic education” in China during the reign of then President Jiang Zemin and also by the persistent objection of China against Japan’s entry into the U.N. Security Council as a permanent member, etc. Additionally, with the rapid advance of various media and the Internet, emotional conflicts between the two peoples have been amplified. Never before has mutual understanding, especially that on the level of opinion leaders, been so much asked for as it is today. Besides, there is such a new trend of life as the surge of Chinese tourists pouring into Japan. We must see to it that they return home with positive impressions of Japan.

Appendix

The List of Policy Recommendations

The most significant activity of JFIR is carried out by its Policy Council, which is engaged in policy research and helps its members to produce policy recommendations. The 35 sets of “Policy Recommendations,” which have so far been deliberated by the Policy Council, are shown below. Out of these 35 sets of “Policy Recommendations,” the 7th and 34th failed to be adopted by the Policy Council due to lack of consensus in the Council.

1. *“The Structural Adjustment of Economies of Japan, U.S. and Asian NICs”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. WATANABE Toshio (March 3, 1988)
2. *“Long-term Political Vision for Stabilization and Cooperation in Northeast Asia”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. KAMIYA Fuji (March 15, 1989)
3. *“How to Best Utilize Economic Resources of Japan for Development of World Economy”* by the Task Force headed by Mr. KANAMORI Hisao (July 25, 1989)
4. *“Japan, the United States and Global Responsibilities”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. INOBUCHI Takashi (April 5, 1990)
5. *“Stabilization of the International Monetary and Trade Systems”* by the Task Force headed by Mr. MANO Teruhiko (August 14, 1990)
6. *“Japan’s Response to the Changing Soviet Union”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. TAKUBO Tadae (April 10, 1991)
7. *“For a More Open Market in Japan”* by the Task Force headed by Mr. TAKENAKA Kazuo (failing to be adopted by the Policy Council on February 27, 1992)
8. *“The Strengthening of the U.N. Peace Function and Japan’s Role”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. SATO Seizaburo (October 7, 1992)
9. *“Japan’s Response to the Transformation of Socialist Economies in Asia”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. SATO Tsuneaki (June 8, 1993)
10. *“Political Cooperation with Europe: Japan’s Agenda for 21st Century”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. NAKANISHI Terumasa (November 16, 1993)
11. *“The Future of Regionalism and Japan”* by the Task Force headed by Mr. KOBAYASHI Minoru (June 17, 1994)
12. *“The Future of China in the Context of Asian Security”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. KOJIMA Tomoyuki (January 25, 1995)
13. *“The Essence of U.S.-Japan Economic Conflicts and Japan’s Response”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. SHIMADA Haruo (August 3, 1995)
14. *“The Perspective of Security Regimes in Asia-Pacific Region”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. WATANABE Akio (June 5, 1996)
15. *“The WTO System and Japan”* by the Task Force headed by Prof. SAKAMOTO Masahiro (November 27, 1997)

16. “*Japan’s ODA in the 21st Century*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. KUSANO Atsushi (March 5, 1998)
17. “*Japan and International Society in the Age of Information Revolution*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. KUMON Shunpei (August 24, 1998)
18. “*Japan’s Initiatives towards US, China and Russia*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. ITO Kenichi (April 19, 1999)
19. “*Economic Globalization and Options for Asia*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. TRAN Van Tho (May 27, 2000)
20. “*Towards Collective Human Security: A New Internationalism and Japan*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. INOBUCHI Kuniko (July 6, 2001)
21. “*Japan’s New Initiative for Global Environment*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. YAMAMOTO Ryoichi (October 24, 2001)
22. “*Building a System of Security and Cooperation in East Asia*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. TANAKA Akihiko (December 18, 2002)
23. “*Japan’s Initiative for Economic Community in East Asia*” by the Task Force headed by Mr. YOSHIDA Haruki (June 20, 2003)
24. “*New World Order of No-War Community and Future of Japan-U.S. Alliance*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. ITO Kenichi (April 28, 2004)
25. “*Japan’s Place in the World: The Strategic Value of Culture and Education*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. HAKAMADA Shigeki (December 13, 2004)
26. “*Emerging New Threats and Japan’s National Security*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. SASE Masamori (August 10, 2005)
27. “*The Establishment of an International Energy Security System*” by the Task Force headed by Mr. NAITO Masahisa (May 18, 2006)
28. “*Japan and China in the Changing Asia*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. KOJIMA Tomoyuki (October 30, 2006)
29. “*India’s Leap Forward and Japan*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. SAKAKIBARA Eisuke (September 5, 2007)
30. “*Nature of Russian State and Japan’s Strategy towards Russia*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. HAKAMADA Shigeki (February 20, 2008)
31. “*Japan’s Strategy for its Agriculture in the Globalized World*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. HONMA Masayoshi (January 14, 2009)
32. “*Positive Pacifism and the Future of the Japan-U.S. Alliance*” by the Task Force headed by Prof. ITO Kenichi (October 22, 2009)
33. “*Prospects and Challenges for the Acceptance of Foreign Migrants to Japan*” by Amb. HIRABAYASHI Hiroshi and Prof. IGUCHI Yasushi, Drafters (November 24, 2010)
34. “*Japan’s Response to Global Terrorism*” by Prof. YAMAUCHI Masayuki, Drafter (failing to be adopted by the Policy Council on January 7, 2011)
35. “*Expansion of China and Japan’s Response*” by Prof. ITO Kenichi, Drafter (January 20, 2012)

Introduction to The Japan Forum on International Relations

The Forum conducts a variety of activities hosting conferences, organizing research programs, and publishing research reports and policy recommendations, etc.

[History]

The Japan Forum on International Relations, Inc. (JFIR or The Forum) was founded on March 12, 1987 in Tokyo on the private initiative of Dr. OKITA Saburo, Mr. HATTORI Ichiro, Mr. ITO Kenichi, and 60 other independent citizens from business, academic, political, and media circles of Japan, recognizing that a policy-oriented research institution in the field of international affairs independent from the government was most urgently needed in Japan. JFIR celebrated its 20th anniversary on March 12, 2007. And on April 1, 2011, JFIR was reincorporated as a “public interest foundation” with the authorization granted by the Prime Minister in recognition of its achievements.

[Purpose]

The Forum is a private, non-profit, independent, and non-partisan organization dedicated to improved understanding of Japanese foreign policy and international relations. The Forum takes no institutional position on issues of foreign policy, though its members are encouraged not only to analyze but to propose alternatives on matters of foreign policy. Though the Forum helps its members to formulate policy recommendations on matters of public policy, the views expressed in such recommendations represent in no way those of the Forum as an institution and the responsibility for the contents of the recommendations is that of those members of the Forum who sign them alone.

[Organization]

JFIR is a membership organization with four categories of membership, namely, (1) corporate, (2) associate corporate, (3) individual and (4) associate individual. As for the organizational structure of JFIR, the “Board of Trustees” is the highest decision making body, which is in charge of electing the “Directors” and of supervising overall activities of JFIR, while the “Board of Directors” is an executive body, which is in charge of the management of day-to-day operations of JFIR.

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ICHIKAWA Isao

[Activities]

In tandem with the core activities of the “Policy Council” in making policy recommendations, another important pillar of JFIR’s activities is the BBS “Hyakka-Seiho” which means “Hundred Flowers in Full Bloom” (<http://www.jfir.or.jp/cgi/m-bbs/>). The BBS, which started on April 12, 2006, is open to the public, functioning as an interactive forum for discussions on foreign policy and international affairs. All articles posted on the BBS are sent through the bimonthly e-mail magazine “Meru-maga Nihon Kokusai Fōramu” in Japanese to about 10,000 readers in Japan. Furthermore, articles worth attention for foreigners are translated into English and posted on the English website of JFIR (<http://www.jfir.or.jp/e/index.htm>) as “JFIR Commentary.” They are also introduced in the e-mail magazine “JFIR E-Letter” in English. “JFIR E-Letter” is delivered bimonthly to about 10,000 readers worldwide.

The screenshot displays the homepage of The Japan Forum on International Relations, Inc. (JFIR). The header includes the JFIR logo and the organization's name in English and Japanese. A search bar is located in the top right corner.

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Announcement!

We are happy to announce that on April 1, 2011, with the authorization granted by the Prime Minister, The Japan Forum on International Relations Inc. (JFIR) was reincorporated as a public interest foundation that specializes in activities for public interest purposes. In Japan, all the non profit organizations are being asked by law to qualify itself either as a public interest entity or as a non public interest.

Topics

- The 74th "Diplomatic Roundtable" meeting on "The Current and Prospective Situation of China-Japan Relations" Held
- The 74th "Diplomatic Roundtable" meeting on "The Current and Prospective Situation of China-Japan Relations" was held on 13 October 2011. [more](#)
- The 237th "Foreign Policy Luncheon" meeting on "Recent Situation in Korea and Japan-Korea Relations" Held
- The 237th "Foreign Policy Luncheon" meeting on "Recent Situation in Korea and Japan-Korea Relations" was held on 27 September 2011. [more](#)
- The 3rd Meeting of the Policy Council of JFIR on "Expansion of China and Japan's Response" Held
- The 3rd Meeting of the Policy Council of JFIR on "Expansion of China and Japan's Response" was held on 7 September 2011. [more](#)

JFIR Commentary

"JFIR Commentary" introduces news analyses and opinions in Japan on Japan's position in the international community, but they do not represent the views of JFIR as an institution.

- No. 73 The DPJ Administration Should Address the Issue of Comfort Women on the Basis of Japan's Legal Status and Past Efforts (HRABAYASHI Hiroshi) November 24, 2011
- No. 72 Asian Military Balance Destabilized by China's Military Expansion (NABESHIMA Kazuo) September 21, 2011
- No. 71 Develop a Multilateral Framework for Maintenance of the Maritime Security in the South China Sea (TAKAMINE Kouzou) July 29, 2011
- No. 70 Prime Minister and Top Leaders Should Speak Up (HRABAYASHI Hiroshi) May 30, 2011
- No. 69 Economic policy should be rearranged around GDP per capita instead of GDP (KAWATO Aki) March 17, 2011

Sister Organizations

- The Global Forum of Japan (GFJ) - "GFJ Commentary"
- The Council on East Asian Community (CEAC) - "CEAC Commentary"

JFIR E-Letter - Free subscription

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What's New

- 2011
- December 23
- The 222th "Foreign Policy Luncheon" meeting on "Recent Situation in Korea and Japan-Korea Relations"
- December 20
- JFIR E-Letter (20 December 2011, Vol. 4, No. 6)

Publications

- Publication List

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