

THE BULLETIN OF JSA

No.169, July 25, 2022



(Photo: by Hajime Ono, in Dazaifu-city, Fukuoka Prefecture)

«CONTENT»

Activities

Events and Statements

A Decision of the 53rd Congress of the JSA requiring to abolish Act on Promotion of Economic Security and Act on International Research Universities of Excellence; etc.

What's New

About Us

To Japan and the world, with hope to prevent new constitutional amendments, and to resuscitate the ideal of The Constitution of Japan: From the 2022 rally against “The Day of National Foundation”

The Japan Scientists’ Association will also participate in the operation of the Association of Historical Science, the Association of History, the Tokyo Association of Historical Science, the Association of Historical Educators, the Council of The Constitution Affairs, and the Tokyo Teachers Union. The 2022 2.11 rally (56th) was held at the Nihonbashi Auditorium in Tokyo, sponsored by the Liaison Committee to Protect the Freedom of Thought, Beliefs, and Religion (2.11 Liaison Committee). Under the measures to prevent Covid-19 infection, 60 people participated, and two lectures and a relay talk were given together with online distribution simultaneously as in last year.

Following the organizer’s greeting, the first speaker, SUZUKI Toshio (Secretary General of Children and Textbooks National Net 21), who taught Japanese history at high school, said last year, “What is happening in textbooks now?” The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology’s interference with the textbook company and the offense and defense with the authors and editors who resisted it with the description of “comfort women” and “forced entrainment” in junior high school textbooks. While reporting, he emphasized the danger, that “the textbook attack has entered a new stage by having the description corrected without waiting for the next test” and “becoming closer to the prewar national textbook.”

Next, WATANABE Osamu (Professor Emeritus, Hitotsubashi University) gave a lecture entitled “How to confront the new constitutional amendment pressure under the KISHIDA administration.” WATANABE said that the US Biden administration has shifted its “national security strategy” from the Middle East to the Indo-Pacific against the backdrop of the post-election political party arrangement in which the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), *Komeito*, and the *Ishin-no-Kai* (Restoration Party) occupy the majority of the Diet. Taking over the demand for deterrence against Japan, the KISHIDA administration is accelerating the movement to aim for a constitutional reform that enables emergency privileges by clearly stating the Self-Defense Forces in Article 9 while actively considering possession of “enemy base attack capability.” And, he said, in order to confront this dangerous situation, we will strengthen the civil movement that encourages the constitutionalist opposition parties more than ever, and widely appeal that possession of “enemy base attack capability” will undoubtedly end up on the “road to war”. Overcoming the backflow and zigzag over the joint

struggle, he continued, and “There is no other way to stop the politics of constitutional destruction than the joint struggle”, “Let’s prevent more than two-thirds of the constitutional amendment in the upper house election this summer”.

In the relay talk after the break, HARADA Niki (Chairman of the Metropolitan Youth Workers Union) talked about the serious situation of non-regular workers in the situation of under Covid-19 infectious disease and the movement for support and administrative measures. The Director of the International Affairs Branch of *Shin-Nihon-Fujin-no-Kai* reported on the movement for gender equality, the spread of sympathy, and the struggle with the ruling and rebels who stand against it.

Following two enthusiastic lectures and relay talks, the rally confirmed seven slogans, such as “Do not allow proposals for constitutional reform and regain constitutionalism” and “Immediately withdraw the illegal refusal of appointment of members of the Science Council of Japan (SCJ).” Finally, “We now learn from the history of the past and return to the ideal of the Constitution of Japan, which states that ‘the people of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want.’” At the same time, he adopted an appeal calling for “Let’s create a society in which the idea of the Constitution lives, with an eye on peace in Asia and the world beyond a sincere recognition of history.” (MATSUI Yasutoshi, individual member of Tokyo branch)

Activities (2) JJS Vol.57, No.5 May (2022), p.62 (318)

Online lecture sponsored by the Tokyo branch grad student secretary “Advice for Gakushin application: I will teach you how to fill in the application form”

On February 21, 2022, we held a lecture on how to fill in the application form for the Research Fellowship Program (*Gakushin*) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. The number of participants was 58. In the explanation of the purpose of the plan at the beginning, KUZUYA Y. (Meiji University), the moderator, introduced the living conditions of graduate students, and explained that *Gakushin* is the program for justifying the lack of public funds for higher education with the logic of “selection and concentration.” He raised the question of how to deal with it.

The first report was MORIYAMA T. (University of Tokyo)’s “False obedience strategy to *Gakushin*.” The technique of document preparation was introduced referring to the slogan in application to *Gakushin*: “Don’t sell your soul to write a dissertation, sell it high when filling in the application form,” a word of a sociology teacher. He finished up with calling on participants to do

research for creating a better politics and society.

The second report was “Research Money Tiger” by SENAHA E. (Kyoto University). At the beginning of the report, the following were cited as tactics of writing: firstly pursue the comprehensibility of the content; secondly declutter to narrow down the theme to make the content of the application consistent, and thirdly elaborate the text. It was mentioned to rely on personal connections for this purpose. A concrete episode was told about how the contents from the first draft to the completed draft of the application form were organized. The content gave me an image of how to move the hands.

It is important for each report to have a critical perspective on the fact that *Gakushin* and other research grants are not a mechanism that can cover all graduate students. The reporters called on participants to join JSA so as to improve the research condition of graduate students. At the same time, they emphasized that it is important to tactically challenge *Gakushin* in order for graduate students who aim to be researchers to improve society to survive.

In the questions and answers session, the procedure of filling the application form was asked, and the technical aspects were deepened. After the event many participants mentioned “the lecture was very helpful.”

(YOSHIMURA Sakura, Chuo University)

Activities (3) JJS Vol.57, No.5 May (2022), p.62 (318)

89th Constitution and Peace Thinking Gathering held online by Miyazaki Branch

The Miyazaki Branch of the Japan Scientists’ Association (JSA) held the 89th Constitution and Peace Thinking Gathering online on February 11, 2022. This time, Prof. GONOI Ikuo (political science, Takachiho University) gave a lecture entitled “Constitutional Order and Authoritarianism in Japan: Thinking about the Political Situation after the General Election.” Approximately 70 people participated in the event, including participation of real-time and viewing of recordings.

The lecturer explained that authoritarian state is a political system with partial freedom and restricted elections, where unlike totalitarianism it does not need the existence of charisma, while free democracy premises the freedoms from and to national concerns. It was mentioned how such authoritarianization is proceeding in Japan. It was also stated that in order to prevent this, it is necessary to take measures to protect and utilize various systems and mechanisms that protect the lives

of citizens, that is, “soft guardrails.”

This meeting has been held face-to-face, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been held online twice. The online format does not require you to visit the venue and you can participate from home, so you can safely carry out without the risk of infection with COVID-19. Furthermore, even if it is not convenient on the day, you can watch the recording later and listen to the lecture repeatedly. On the other hand, the total number of participants became definitely smaller than in the face-to-face format. Especially elderly people are not accustomed to the online format, so it seems that many people cannot participate. It is also necessary to devise ways such as watching with multiple people at an intimate person.

But above all, the difficulty with the online format is that it is hard to feel the enthusiasm of the participants, which can be felt in a face-to-face format. By experiencing the online format, I was able to reconfirm the significance of the face-to-face format.

(KINOSHITA Osamu, Miyazaki branch)

Activities (4) JJS Vol.57, No.5 May (2022), p.63 (319)

Study Session of the Liaison Conference of Research Organizations for Peace and Democracy

The Liaison Conference of Research Organizations for Peace and Democracy (*Heimin-Kenren*) held an online study session “Science, Technology and Researchers Mobilized under Economic Security Strategies” on March 7, 2022. The lecturer was Prof. Emeritus IHARA Satoshi of Tohoku Univ. (former secretary-general of JSA). 24 people participated.

He spoke on the Act on Promotion of Economic Security (2022) of Japan; he pointed out the background behind the proposed law and four important points (Ensuring a stable supply of critical materials, Ensuring a stable supply of specific infrastructure services, Supporting the development of certain critical technologies, and Non-publication of patent applications) it contains, and then clarified the dangers of this law.

His lecture was based on the following items: (1) Economic and security strategy is one of Prime Minister KISHIDA’s priorities, (2) International collaboration in an era of trade friction between Japan and the U.S., (3) Economic security strategy for the KISHIDA administration, (4) Diversification and strengthening of supply chain, (5) Ensuring the safety and reliability of key infrastructure, (6) Public-private technical cooperation, (7) Non-publication of patent application, (8) Economic security

following the U.S., (9) Science and Technology Basic Plan and Security, (10) System to monitor universities, research institutes, companies and researchers, (11) Infringement on freedom of research and stifling of researchers, and (12) Conclusion: See his article “Science, Technology and Researchers Mobilized” (magazine “SEKAI”, March 2022) and his witness statement on the House of Representatives Cabinet Committee on March 31¹.

Also NOMURA Yoshihide (Science and Technology Policy Committee of JSA) commented on the impact of the arbitrary operation of the patent non-disclosure system on the field of scientists and engineers.

Participants discussed the problems of government attempts to set the direction of research development, the dangers of a system in which scientists and engineers are monitored by the government, and the need for mechanisms to ensure that disclosure system of information to the citizens is not abused by government.

(MIKI Atsuro, JSA Departments of Social Activities)

Activities (5) JJS Vol.57, No.5 May (2022), p.63 (319)

Spring Fieldwork “Learn about River Disasters Countermeasures” was held

(Not yet translated)

(EMURA Kaoru, Saitama Branch)

Activities (6) JJS Vol.57, No.6 June (2022), p.61 (381)
--

The 3rd anniversary symposium of the forum for overcoming the university crisis and opening up tomorrow: University as Center of Excellence and Society: Research, Education, Governance

The School Education Law stipulates that “universities, as the center of scholarship, aim to impart knowledge widely, teach and study specialized arts deeply, and develop intellectual, moral, and applied abilities.” We decided to explore university issues on a wide range of themes, such as what is the center of science and what is a university, and held an online symposium on Saturday, March 19,

¹ <https://kokkai.ndl.go.jp/txt/120804889X01420220331/8>

with 105 participants.

After MASUDA Masato (Hosei University, Economics), the moderator, stated the purpose of the symposium, KUROSAWA Tairiku (Editorial Writer, *Asahi Shimbun*) raised a cynical question: “Isn’t it the biggest promotion measure of science and technology policy to do nothing?” About the Japanese science and technology policy and the decline in “research capabilities” he looked back on the flow of science and technology policy and pointed out the problems and solutions, like destabilization of employment of young researchers, stagnation of employment rate of Ph., decrease in research time, and decrease in R & D expenses of universities. He also said that he was concerned about the effects of university funds and asked to position the doctorate as an option that young people longed for.

Then, OKI Sayaka (Nagoya University, history of science, theory of science and technology) reported under the title “Who and what the research for?” Its subtitle was “To avoid being overly eroded by ‘innovation’.” What academics are for is a long-standing issue. She pointed out that in recent years there has been an increasing relationship between market principle and bureaucratic coordination that threatens academic freedom. She said that the idea to create a social system that encourages innovation, knowing the risks involved, was different from the promotion of basic research.

Under the title “What is ‘useful scholarship’?” HONDA Yuki (University of Tokyo, pedagogy) criticized that the counter discourse like “Let us do ‘useless studies’. Put money on them” or “It is ‘useful’ other than making money. Put money on it” is not enough out of a sense of urgency about the policy to put money on them “useful” studies according to the motto “Do only ‘useful studies’. Put money on them.” Based on abundant research, she described the visualization of various “useful ways” that are not worth the money.

Under the title “We are ‘picking up’ the children who dropped out of the examination” KUNIEDA Yukinori (NHK Gakuen High School, engaged in high school-university cooperation for many years) said that correspondence high school had many issues that went along with it because how to interact with students was diverse and difficult, although one in 20 high school students was a correspondence high school student and its advantage was that anyone could attend anytime, anywhere.

Under the title “Governance of university facing society” MITSUMOTO Shigeru (Hokkaido University, pedagogy) dug up the problems such as university funds, the Act on International Research Universities of Excellence, and management decision-making by “consultative body” as university governance in the government’s theory of university reform. He traced university governance back to the purpose rule of the university and raised the issue of collective governance of the university related to the corona disaster and the way to overcome the crisis together instead of a selected university.

After the reports, discussions were held on basic issues such as research capabilities, university funds, and what a university is.

(IHARA Satoshi, Secretariat of University Forum)

Activities (7) JJS Vol.57, No.6 June (2022), p.62 (382)
--

Toyama branch online periodical meeting: “Toward effective use of marine biological resources and ensuring food safety and security”

From 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on February 26, 2022, a branch meeting and public lecture on the title above mentioned was held. The speaker was OIZUMI Toru (a former professor of Fukui Prefectural University, Fisheries Food Science) who was transferred to the Toyama branch in 2021. There were 9 participants.

OIZUMI introduced the whole of fishery food science, namely, (1) the production and consumption of fishery products in the world and Japan, (2) the characteristics of fishery products and the significance of fishery processing, and (3) the technical tasks of fishery processing and the current state of research.

In (1), there is a remarkable tendency that the production volume of aquaculture on the sea and inland waters is increasing both in the world and in Japan, and that the production and consumption volume of processed marine products (paste products and frozen foods) are increasing.

In (2), looking at the characteristics of marine products, the catch is unstable due to sea conditions, the fishing season and the fishing grounds are limited, and it is easy to deteriorate due to putrefaction. The significance of fish processing is that the development of refrigeration / freezing technology has made it possible to expand palatability, make inedible materials edible, and produce foreign foods.

In (3), as technical issues of fishery processing, it is required to deal with diversified tastes by utilizing unused resources, ensuring the safety and quality control of processed fishery products, and controlling the taste and texture. And it requires a scientific approach, and the current state of research was introduced as follows.

- In relation to the quality of frozen *surimi* (*kamaboko*, *surimi*, etc.) and additives, what kind of saccharide and how much of the freeze denaturation inhibitor (sugar) should be added, etc.

- Research on the activity of myofibrillar proteins in order to understand and maintain the quality of imported marine products (Norwegian mackerel).

After the lecture, mainly about the scientific approach, there was a lively discussion among the attendees.

(YUKUEDA Makoto, Toyama branch)

Activities (8) JJS Vol.57, No.6 June (2022), p.62 (382)
--

Fukui Branch January periodical meeting: the relationship between the media and the power in Japan today

The Fukui branch held a periodical meeting on the theme above mentioned from 18:00 on January 17th (Monday). It was difficult to hold the event face-to-face due to the Covid 19, so we decided to hold it online by Zoom and opened it for the first time 10 months later from the meeting last time. Thanks to the online meeting, members living in Tokyo could participate.

The theme this time was set in response to a proposal by the branch secretariat to discuss how the mass media should report in recent years, especially issues related to the relationship with the government. The material for the discussion was “Media Criticism,” which was serialized in the monthly magazine the *Sekai*. At the regular meeting held after pre-distributing the articles for the last four months, the reporter, ITO Isamu (sociology), introduced and explained the authors and criticisms of “Media Criticism.” According to him, “media criticism” regards the central role of journalism as “responding to the citizens’ right to know, telling the truth, and monitoring power”, and whether the Japanese mass media can play such a role. From this point of view, we have continuously analyzed and evaluated news programs and articles from time to time. The result is disastrous. Although there are a small number of good fights, the Japanese media generally responds uncritically or weakly to the government and administration, and sometimes even plays the role of a publicist in the government, and this tendency has become stronger in recent years.

Why and how did this happen, and what is needed to break through it? It is a very difficult problem, but in the latter half of the periodical meeting, the reporters gave clues and points of view (modern and contemporary Japanese newspaper history research, “post-truth” situation, media literacy education). From the attendees, the problem of “lack of freedom of press” that expanded under “Abe politics” was pointed out, and lively discussions took place.

(ITO Isamu, Fukui Branch)

Activities (9) JJS Vol.57, No.6 June (2022), p.63 (383)
--

JSA Tokyo Branch's 5th Meeting of Corona Issue Study Series

(Not yet translated)

(YONEDA Mitsugu)

Activities (10) JJS Vol.57, No.6 June (2022), p.63 (383)

Possession of enemy base attack capability against Article 9 of the Constitution

To consider whether the theory of possession of “enemy base attack capability” that suddenly emerged after the withdrawal of the land-based Aegis deployment plan two years ago is valid in terms of constitutional interpretation, a lecture study session was held online on March 20th at Yamaguchi University as the main venue. The session was sponsored by the Yamaguchi University officials Kyujo no Kai and co-sponsored by the JSA Yamaguchi Branch. A little less than 40 persons participated, and 1/4 of them were branch members, and there were also viewing applications from Kansai and the Tokyo metropolitan area.

Firstly, the lecturer MATSUBARA Yukie (Yamaguchi University, Constitutional Law) outlined that pacifism in the Constitution of Japan is described in the Preamble and Article 9. The Japanese government’s interpretation of Article 9 (2) became a problem in the wake of the Korean War. It was developed as a theory of possession of “enemy base attack capability” premised on individual self-defense, and in a government response in the House of Representatives in February 1956, it stated that it was within the scope of self-defense “in legal theory”. MATSUBARA pointed out that it was not considered a realistic policy because Japan didn’t have enough military equipment at that time.

Recently, the Abe Cabinet decided to change the interpretation of the Constitution in 2014, and in 2015 passed the security legislation that allowed the exercise of the right of collective self-defense. The government and the ruling party say that it is constitutionally permitted by quoting the theory of possession of “enemy base attack capability” in 1956, and that there is no change in the idea of

exclusive defense. However, the activation of “enemy base attack” violates international law which make preemptive self-defense or attack illegal and is unreasonable in terms of constitutional interpretation. Those who promote constitutional amendment are aiming for the death sentence of Article 9 (2) by “constitutional amendment” that adds a clause specifying the Self-Defense Forces.

Being wary of the theory of piggybacking on the current Ukrainian crisis, Matsubara concluded the lecture by emphasizing the importance of the preamble to the Constitution of UNESCO that “a peace based exclusively upon the political and economic arrangements of governments” is not permanent, and peace must be built on “the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind.” After lively questions and comments, the session adopted a critical rally appeal against the Russian aggression war in Ukraine and sent it to the Russian Embassy.

(MASHIYAMA Hiroyuki, Yamaguchi Branch)

Activities (11) JJS Vol.57, No.7 July (2022), p.53 (437)

Hokuriku District Joint Symposium in Fukui: “Academic freedom and university autonomy” Held online

The above symposium was held online on April 16, 2022. “Academic freedom and university autonomy” was set as a common theme, and the keynote speech was given by Dr. NAKAJIMA Tetsuhiko (Professor, Aichi Institute of Technology) entitled “Academic and University for the People.”

According to him, academic freedom and university autonomy are meaningless unless they are understood by the people and society. From the perspective of using science and technology standing on the narrow field of view of the Basic Law on Science and Technology and Innovation, which came into effect in April 2021, academics and economic, political, and administrative interventions on universities are increasing. However, the researchers themselves may not be fully aware of it. It is necessary to form a national consensus on the significance of learning.

And, touching on the freedom of national and public universities in a way that contrasts with the freedom of private schools, he said that national and public universities have both aspects as a means of implementing national policies and aspects that are based on civic communality. Academic freedom and university autonomy were therefore created out of conflict and maintained through conflict, not because they were stipulated by the Constitution or the law, but while being oppressed by power, they were stripped from power. Therefore, in order to maintain them as a professional responsibility of

university faculty members, it is necessary to be aware and prepared to undertake this historical challenge.

The following general lecture was first reported by TERAOKA Hideo (former Vice President of the University of Fukui) of the Fukui Branch, “University Autonomy and Education Reform: In the Case of Fukui University.” Regarding the autonomy of universities, he took up the mechanism of presidential election revised in June 2018. As attempts to educational reform, the discussion extended to the reform of common and liberal arts education in which he was involved as a director in charge of education and students, the establishment of the Faculty of International Area Studies, and to the graduate school of teaching profession (cultivation of reflective practitioners by the school-based method, reorganization of teacher training universities by the flagship university).

Next, Dr. NAOE Shunichi and Dr. KIWATA Takahiro (Ishikawa Branch) reported on “How has Kanazawa University changed under the governance led by the President?” President YAMAZAKI Koetsu, who finished his term at the end of this fiscal year (March 31, 2022), began serving as an assistant to the president in 2002, and has been demonstrating his skills as an expert in university administration for almost 20 years. It was said that the ability to execute was recognized in the reform of the liberal arts education system and curriculum of the whole university, the reorganization in the science and engineering department, and the establishment of new departments and schools. In addition, the new decision-making system of Kanazawa University was shown, and the research level of Kanazawa University was mentioned.

Finally, OKAMOTO Katsunori (Toyama National College of Technology) reported from the Toyama Branch, “Issues in the Working Environment in Higher Education Institutions: A Case Study of National College of Technology.” The problem is that there is no university autonomy at the National College of Technology, and before that, the rights as workers are weak. As a whole, the current situation creates a state in the educational field of technical colleges, “There is not enough money, there are not enough people, so the staffs are very busy. But the wages are not worth it.” It is said that it continues to be the main battlefield of labor-management relations.
(YAMANE Kiyoshi, Fukui Branch)

Activities (12) JJS Vol.57, No.7 July (2022), p.54 (438)

“Early summer gathering” by female members of the Tokyo branch

On May 1st, we held the “Early Summer Gathering” of the “Hazuki no Kai”, The women’s group of JSA Tokyo Branch.

The theme was “Thinking about war and peace in the nuclear age,” and it was planned as an opportunity to think from the standpoint of female researchers and engineers trying to seize fire between Russia and Ukraine. There were 31 participants.

The first lecture by INUI Yasuyo (ex. professor of Ibaraki University) “War, nuclear power and colonial rule: What can be seen from Russia’s war of aggression on Ukraine” was followed by the speech of MASHIMA Asako (Nihon University) entitled “The military invasion of Ukraine: Asking us from the perspective of UN research.”

INUI pointed out as follows: The construction of the nuclear power plant in Tokai Village, Ibaraki Prefecture, was carried out with the idea of “Utopia” building on an “undeveloped” land, and the neo-colonialism, that is, administration’s power intervention and exploitation was distinctive to the idea. Those who supported the development of the nuclear power plants obviously did not anticipate any armed attack on the plants. Unfortunately, the locals have supported the nuclear power plants. INUI argued that a locally rooted movement to raise awareness of the risk of having nuclear power plants is necessary.

MASHIMA touched on the role of the United Nations, who have been trying to prohibit the use of force by state. She also argued that the UN must respect the prosperity of basic human rights. She states that UN’s General Assembly’s decision on requesting explanations about vetoing the power of the permanent members of the Security Council on April 26th was significant, as a modification which accommodates the voices from the international communities.

Participants asked questions, such as: “Who is the ruler of colonial rule?” “What is the authority of the UN Secretary-General?” “Who and how was the UN institutional design?” Opinions were given. Some participants talked about witnessing air raids during the World War II. It became an opportunity to reconsider ‘peace’ from scientists’ point of view.

Our Hazuki no Kai issued a protest statement on April 3 against Russia’s invasion of Ukraine². We will keep discussing and disseminating information from the standpoint of female scientists. (MINEO Naoko, Tokyo Branch)

Activities (13) JJS Vol.57, No.7 July (2022), p.54 (438)

Symposium “Hoping for peace in Ukraine”

² https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220409ukraine_tokyo_haduki

The Yamanashi Branch of the Japan Scientist' Association held the titled symposium at the Yamanashi Prefecture Public Library on April 2, 2022.

First, TAKEUCHI Satoshi (Professor Emeritus, University of Yamanashi) gave a keynote speech entitled "Environment and Peace: War is the Largest Environmental Destruction." War is the worst environmental destruction that despises lives and livelihoods, devastates the land, and wastes huge amounts of fossil fuels. Galtung's concept of *positive peace*, which seeks to eradicate direct, structural, and cultural violence from the world, guarantees basic human rights and democracy, and creates a healthy, safe, secure, and peaceful society. According to the lecture, the concept is rooted in the idea of "human security." It should be also noted that this idea has been proclaimed since 75 years ago in the preamble of the Constitution of Japan. It is necessary to question the wars and conflicts that have occurred so far, especially current Russia's invasion of Ukraine from various points of views, TAKEUCHI argued.

After that, a Ukrainian KSENIA Fomichova (adjunct lecturer at Yamanashi University) gave a lecture entitled "Peace in Ukraine: Thinking about my home country." She showed beautiful sceneries and folk cultures of Kharkiv, her birthplace. After that, she showed cityscapes and family houses destroyed by the invasion of Russia.

In addition, we connected the lecture hall and Ukraine online. Professor DORMATOV of Kharkiv Aerospace University talked about the situation of the universities and urban areas, where education and research still keep going under the war.

After the lectures, a press conference was held, and a statement by the Yamanashi branch secretariat, "Call for an immediate withdrawal of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and a solution by peaceful means!" was issued. The statement called for Yamanashi's solidarity with Ukraine.

While listening to the lectures and seeing the war scenes on internet, we shared a calling for "peace in Ukraine" with the participating citizens.

(TAKEUCHI Satoshi, Yamanashi Branch)

Activities (14) JJS Vol.57, No.7 July (2022), p.55 (439)

Report of "Ishiki Dam Problem in Nagasaki Prefecture, Thinking from Dam Geology", April Meeting of Yonmoku-kai

Yonmoku-kai is a voluntary meeting organization that has a cooperative relationship with the Kyoto branch, and holds regular meetings once a month. On April 21, a monthly meeting was held with the above theme. Lectures was given by IWASHITA Kazuo (Absolute Opposition Alliance for Ishiki Dam Construction) in the Koubaru district of Nagasaki Prefecture, SHIMAZU Teruyuki of Japan River Keeper Alliance, and NAKAYAMA Toshio, a Geologist. The meeting was carried out

by connecting Nagasaki, Tokyo and Kyoto online.

The Ishiki dam construction project was based on water utilization plan and a flood control plan. The former based on an excessive water demand forecast in 1975 and the latter is ineffective. 13 local households are persistently opposed. So far, the construction period has been prolonged 9 times, and the geological survey is still ongoing.

The basement of the dam site has a structure in which lava flows (andesite) of each geological period are deposited in layers. The boundary of the sedimentary layer is crushed in a mess, and it is extremely easy for water to pass through. In the Lugeon test (permeability test) of the bedrock, an extremely large value (high permeability) appears at a depth of 100 m. The same thing is pointed out for the secondary dam constructed on the saddle of the terrain in addition to the main dam. There is a quarry site with a depth of 50 m just downstream of the dam, which may also increase the permeability of the dam basement.

[Discussion] It is clear that there is a serious geological problem, but the dam construction side says they can deal with it by countermeasure construction. However, even so, a huge additional investment need to be made in the countermeasure construction. As a result, the construction cost of the dam will increase steadily. The construction cost of Tokuyama Dam has increased by 10.6 times initial estimation. In Henoko, it increased from 350 billion yen at the beginning to 930 billion yen.

Furthermore, even if we request for disclosure regarding the content and cost of such countermeasure construction, it will not be disclosed because it is related to the contract.
(UTAMI Tadashi, Kyoto Branch)

Activities (15) JJS Vol.57, No.7 July (2022), p.55 (439)

Fukuoka Branch's Dialogue between citizens and scientists (3): "How to deal with the climate crisis, what can each person do?"

(Not yet translated)

(MIYOSHI Eisaku, Fukuoka Brnch)

We require to abolish Act on Promotion of Economic Security and Act on International Research Universities of Excellence which destroy Academic Freedom and Universities' Autonomy

A Decision of the 53rd Congress of the JSA on June 12, 2022³

In October, 2022, the Japanese administration under the ex-Premier SUGA Yoshihide refused designation of six recommended candidates to the Science Council of Japan (SCJ). This Refusal of designation means a political intervention against academic freedom and therefore it should not be allowed⁴. The present administration under Premier KISHIDA Fumio has not yet regretted it. On the contrary, it intended to strengthen its academic intervention while it enacted “Act on Promotion of Economic Security” and “Act on International Research of Excellence” one after another in May, 2022.

Based on the US-strategy supposing an “economic war” with China, Act on Promotion of Economic Security aims to strengthen the governmental control over our civil economy and to increase regulation and mobilization on the pretext of “security.” Above all, we scientists can never overlook the fact that the act supposes to establish a system in which patent-applications concerning about sensitive military technologies can be regarded as secret and to promote large-scaled researches of “designated important technologies” related to the security.

In 2015, under Premier ABE Shinzo, the Ministry of Defense launched a new competitive foundation system of “promotion of security technology researches.” However, only a few universities applied because of the SCJ’s “statement about the military security research” published in 2017. Assumed that academic freedom and researchers’ autonomy hinders military technology research, ex-Premier SUGA refused designation of six SCJ candidates and the government planned a realignment of the SCJ. In the framework of today’s Act on Promotion of Economy Security, the national government will promote directly military-related researches establishing the “promotion program for designated technology of economic security” whose annual budget will be far more than the “promotion of security technology researches” of 10.1 billion yen in 2022. Supplementary budget in 2022 has already assigned the “promotion program for designated technology of economic security” foundation of 250 billion yen. Its amount is larger than the *kakenhi*, grants-in Aid for Scientific Research, whose annual budget in 2021 was 237.7 billion yen and was more than a half of whole governmental competitive promotion. The administration will intend to raise it to 500 billion yen. Worse, the secret patent system will be introduced regardless of academic freedom based on the

³ Besides this decision (<https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220612academicfreedom>), the executive committee of JSA Hokkaido-branch has published the statement on the “Seriously Problematical Act on International Research Universities of Excellence” on June 8, 2022 (https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220608_hokkaido).

⁴ Cf.: The Statement adopted in the 52nd Congress of the JSA on June 13, 2021, <https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20210613scj>

principle of openly public access. We are afraid that scientists and engineers are not only obliged to commit themselves in military researches in exchange for huge sums of money but also fated to be mobilized until the last moment because of their confidentialities with penalties.

Supposedly “targeted” universities have not applied to the “promotion of security technology researches.” Maybe, they will be reluctant to apply to the “promotion program for designated technology of economic security.” Besides the designated technologies of Act on Promotion of Economic Security, Act on International Research Universities of Excellence has a legal structure with which the government and the business communities can easily intervene and destroy academic freedom, especially against the “targeted” universities and academism as a whole.

In the framework of this law, several universities chosen as international excellent universities will be supposedly forced self-motivated reforms to be “money-making” universities on the basis of several ten billion yen of annual financial support from the investment profit of a ten trillion yen already started universities fund. Recognition of the international research universities of excellence will be based on political intention, not on the principle of peer-review, mutual expert verification as a main guarantee for academic freedom. Further, it is expected that each of such universities will collect donations, make an effort to reach three percent growth of business scale every year, and form the supreme decision-making organ above the university president whose majority members must be designated from the outside. Therefore, this law will reinforce a financial concentration only on several universities and makes a structural change in the ideal of universities and scientists. We are afraid that the merits of widespread Japanese sciences and technologies will disappear and that liberal atmosphere of research and education will be injured. It is not excluded that excellent researchers who prefer good research conditions will go abroad and already exhausted Japanese universities and scientists will suffer unrecoverable blows.

The other problem consists in the fact that two acts that will make a structural change of universities and research institutions passed hastily the parliament without any consents of researchers, teachers and students and that the authority has not made any accountabilities to the nation, i.e. the sovereign of Japan. We the JSA are worried about the danger of these acts seriously and therefore require to abolish Act on Promotion of Economic Security and Act on International Research of Excellence strongly.

Events and Statements

On June 5, 2022, the Saitama branch of the JSA published: “The statement to protest against the termination of employment of *RIKEN*’s⁵ fixed-term employees and to require to withdraw it” (https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220605_saitama_riken) and “The statement to protest against the ocean release of radioactive contaminated water from the Fukushima-Daiichi NPP” (https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220605_saitama_1f).

On May 11, 2022, JSA’s Kumamoto branch and the regional conference in Kyushu-Okinawa district decided: “We protest against repeated unjust judgements in the Minamata-disease lawsuit” (https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220511_kumamoto_minamata).

Scientists Forum of World Conference Against A & H Bombs will be held on July 2 and 31, 2022 (<https://jsa.gr.jp/05event/scienceforum.htm>).

The 24th Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention (CSSC) will be held from November 19 to December 11, 2022 (<https://jsa.gr.jp/05event/sougaku.htm>).

Events Information <https://jsa.gr.jp/05event/index.html>

What’s New

An environmental physicist HAYASHI Hirofumi, xx, died on July 24, 2022 in xxxx.

About Us

“In order to harness and develop science for human beings, it is necessary for scientists especially to conscience their social responsibility, synthetically develop every field of science, and work the

⁵ The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research, founded in 1917, <https://www.riken.jp>

society to peacefully use the fruits. **The Japan Scientists' Association (JSA)** was established and has been acting for these purposes. Hoping independent and synthetic development of Japanese science consistently since its foundation in 1965, to carry out its social responsibility, the Association has been tackling several problems: peace and disarmament problem like as elimination of nuclear weapons, environmental conservation to defense human life and living, protection of university autonomy, and establishment of right and position of scientists.”

(From “Introduction of the Japan Scientists' Association”, <https://jsa.gr.jp/intl/introduction.html>)

The Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS), a monthly magazine published by the JSA, is a unique comprehensive academic journal, in which scientists and citizens share various subjects relating to contemporary human society and interests in nature (https://jsa.gr.jp/intl/Introduction_of_JJS.pdf). You see all contents of back-numbers: <https://jsa.gr.jp/04pub/index.html#nihonnokagakusya>. Every JSA member can submit manuscripts to the JJS editorial commission. The papers in English are published online on the JSA web page.

THE BULLETIN OF JSA is edited and published by

THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION

Chasu Bldg. 9F, 1-9-15 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0034, JAPAN

Fax: +81-3-3813-2363 <https://jsa.gr.jp> <https://jsa.gr.jp/intl/>

E-mail: mail@jsa.gr.jp

Editorial Board members:

KIDO Eiichi, MAEDA Sadataka, MIYAKE Yoshimi, NISHIOKA Keiji, OHMURA Yoshiaki,
ONO Hajime (Chief), and YAMAMOTO Fujio

If you want to join in our slack, please send an e-mail to hajime@cc.kogakuin.ac.jp.