Position Paper



Committee: The general Assemble Country: Japan Topic: Russia and Ukraine Crisis

On Feb 24th, 2022, Mr. Putin had started to invade (special military operation) in Ukraine, where he claims has been a part of Russia both culturally and historically. When we look at the history of both countries, we will find what he is saying should make sense. However, because of its invasion, more than 13,000 people have passed away. And despite of some actions from NATO or US such as economic suctions or military supports, Russia still has not been stopped.

As a delegate from Japan, I (we) really would like to emphasize the importance of looking at view both from Ukraine and Russia. As some people claim, Ukraine has been an 'identity' for Russian people. Some people even argues that Ukraine is like 'Kyoto for Japan', which used to be the capital city and obviously very important place for us. Addition, regarding the NATO expansion, despite there is no international promise not to expand to the east, the US secretary of State James Baker had mentioned, 'NATO is not going to move one inch to east'. Considering these facts, we cannot blame everything on Mr Putin as we believe there have been at least some responsibilities for Western countries as same as the case shown in the German after the WW1. However, we strongly think that it could not be justified to kill many people in Ukraine, and most importantly, Russia has stolen/broken their home country. Although we, Japan, have accepted refugees from Ukraine, it should not have been as comfortable as they did in Ukraine.

And the key point we think on this war is that neither Russia nor Ukraine have got benefits from it while US and China might have. For example, US has sold natural gas for Europe countries and troops not only to Ukraine, but to countries around it.

On the other hands, Russia firstly has lost its global reputation for sure. Secondly, its economic effects would have been huge. For example, some say 40 billion dollars have been spent for military per day by Russia in addition to various economic sanctions, and it has lost many soldiers.

Therefore, to be realistic, the best way / a common interest for Ukraine and Russia should be to finish this war immediately. Since Russia has already accepted meetings with Ukraine to stop the war 4 times, we assume that Russia has at least some interests to stop it to prevent more sacrifices.

Thus, our/Japanese stance will be against Russia in terms of what they have done even if that were to protect their important place. And the best solution should be to stop the war right now with a help of other countries, and then we could discuss whether Ukraine could join the NATO or not.

References

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