Civil Society Efforts to Establish a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone in Northeast Asia (NEA-NWFZ): A Case of Japan

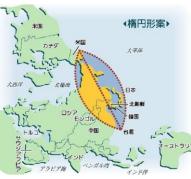


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Proposals on a **Northeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free** Zone (NEA-NWFZ)





1996 Hiromichi Umebayashi: 3 + 3 **NEA-NWFZ**"

1996 Kumao Kaneko: circular zone

2003 Sewongwhun Cheong, Tatsujiro Suzuki: Triparty treaty

2004

(draft)

Umebayashi, et

al., "Model

NWFZ Treaty"

1995 John Endicott, et al. : Limited NWFZ; Andrew Mack: a NWFZ involving the ROK, DPRK, Japan and Taiwan

2008 Jaejung Suh: Adding protocols to the Joint Declaration for the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula

2007

J. Enkhsaikhan: Approach to form a zone through relevant non-nuclear constituent states' attaining single state NWF status

2008 Nautilus institute: Idea for initially forming then expanding a NWFZ between Japan & ROK

2023 Umebayashi, et al., "Revised Mode NWFZ Treaty" (draft)

2015 RECNA's

Approach to a

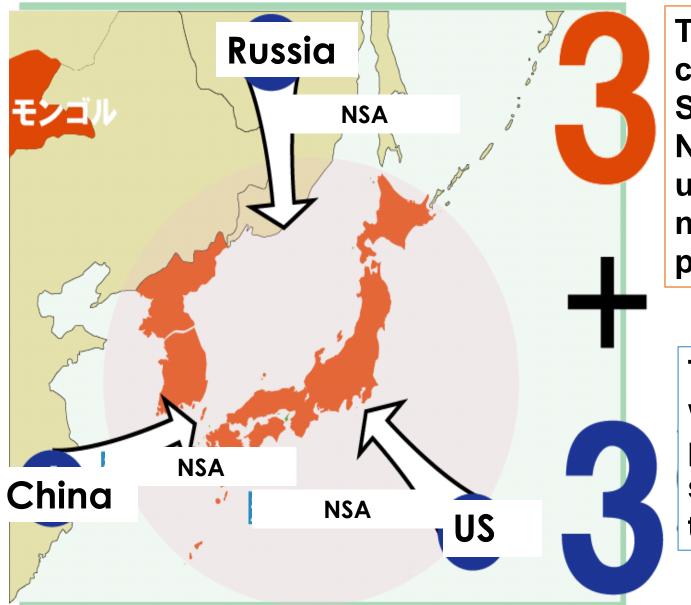
NEA-NWFZ"

"Comprehensive

Proposal on

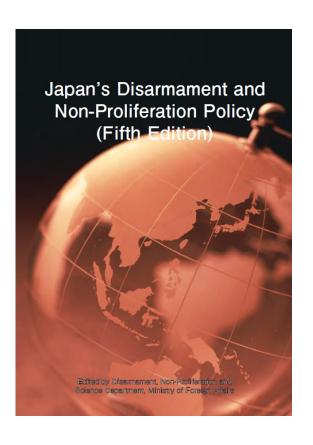
2011 Morton H. Halperin: Approach to conclude a comprehensive agreement on key elements including the establishment of a NWFZ

"Three plus Three" Northeast Asia NWFZ



Three regional countries (Japan, South Korea and North Korea) undertake their non-nuclear policies

Three nuclear weapon states provide negative security assurances to the region



"In the Northeast Asian region where Japan is located, domestic and foreign researchers and experts have proposed the establishment of a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone as an approach to alleviate the severe security environment in the region. Although there are some differences in the scope and countries covered by each proponent, the concept of a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone covers several countries, including Japan, and pledges not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons within the zone.

In recent years, the "3+3" concept has attracted some attention, under which only Japan, South Korea, and North Korea will not produce, acquire, or possess nuclear weapons as countries within the zone, and the United States, China, and Russia will provide negative security assurances to them. Some have pointed out that under this concept, countries that should be within the Northeast Asian region are treated as if they were outside the region, and that the scope of application is insufficient to fulfill the term "Northeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone." (Original language is Japanese. Tentative translation)

"Japan's Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Policy" (Seventh Edition, 2016)

Proposal: A Comprehensive Approach to a Northeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (2015)

A methodology that seeks to resolve several concerns related to peace and security in Northeast Asia simultaneously, rather than a nuclear-weapon-free zone by itself.

Japan, South Korea, North Korea, the United States, Russia, and China conclude a "Comprehensive Framework Agreement for the Denuclearization of Northeast Asia (CFA)" consisting of the following four items:

- 1. Declare to terminate the Korean War and provide for mutual nonaggression, friendship, and equal sovereignty among CFA state parties.
- 2. Assure equal rights to access all forms of energy, including nuclear energy. Establish a Northeast Asia Energy Cooperation Committee.
- 3. Agree on a treaty to establish a Northeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone.
- 4. Establish a permanent Northeast Asia Security Council.



Morton Halperin, former Special Assistant to the President of the United States



"Nagasaki Process" for confidence-building

- Objective: To promote peace and security in Northeast Asia through the establishment of a NEA-NWFZ. To promote "Track 2" dialogues involving civil society, researchers, government officials, and others in order to realize this goal.
- In November 2016, the Panel on Peace and Security of Northeast Asia (PSNA) was established with experts from Japan, the United States, South Korea, China, the United Kingdom, Russia and Australia, and Mongolia.
- The second meeting of the PSNA was held in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia) in June 2017.
- Third PSNA meeting held in Moscow (Russia) in May 2018. Two North Korean government officials participated as observers for the first time.
- In June 2019, a Japan-Korea joint workshop was co-hosted by the Sejong Institute of Korea and RECNA in Seoul, Korea.
- August 2022 PSNA2 is inaugurated.









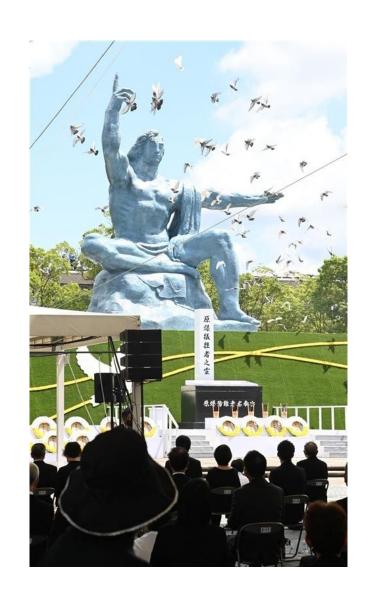




Support from civil society: Local governments

"One regional method of protecting the future from nuclear war is the creation of "Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones". Currently, more than half of our Earth's landmass is already covered by such a Zone. I suggest that along with enacting the Three Non-Nuclear Principles, Japan should investigate a "plan for a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone". This would be one method for protecting the Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Japan from nuclear weapons. The leaders of more than 500 Japanese local governing bodies support this concept, and this circle of agreement will continue to grow."

Nagasaki Peace Declaration 2014



Support from civil society: Local governments



As of December 31, 2016, 546 Japanese local government leaders had signed the statement "We Support the Establishment of a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone in Northeast Asia," which was launched by Japanese and South Korean NGOs.

"Toward the Establishment of a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone" -- Educational Brochure published by National Council of Japan Nuclear Free Local Authorities (currently 356 members)



Support from civil society: Parliamentary Groups

- The Parliamentarians for the Promotion of Nuclear Disarmament of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) released the "Northeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Draft)" on August 14, 2008.
- The World Federalist Movement (WFM/IGP) established the Coalition for the 3+3 (C3+3) to assist the government(s) of Japan and/or the Republic of Korea in formally expressing their intention to work toward a NEA-NWFZ treaty.
- Parliamentary Coalition (P3+3) launched in August 2022.





https://www.3plus3.org/

August 9, 2022, Nagasaki

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is precisely because the international security environment is deteriorating so dramatically that the concept of a nuclear weapon-free zone is becoming increasingly important, as it simultaneously pursues the dual goals of enhancing regional security and contributing to the global goal of eliminating nuclear weapons.
- It is important to further raise awareness, especially in Japanese and Korean society, that even if a nuclear weapon-free zone is not achieved immediately, placing it on the political agenda as a concrete policy goal and initiating the process toward its realization will lead to a breakthrough in the current crisis.
- To raise such awareness, it is essential to strengthen disarmament education, especially among politicians, bureaucrats, local government leaders, media, academics, NGOs and other opinion leaders. The need to strengthen outreach to the younger generation should also be emphasized.
- While the role of civil society in Japan and Korea is obviously important, it is also essential to pursue greater global cooperation. Strengthening cooperation with states belonging to other nuclear-weapon-free zones, civil society actors and international organizations is particularly important.