



Now is the time to realize a Global Charter for Peace modeled on the principles of Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution

Toward a world without war, arms, nuclear weapons and violence

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The greatest dream of mankind is to rid the world of war.

At the conclusion of the 20th century, which was known as a century of war after two world wars followed by the Cold War, it was hoped that the 21st century would be a century of peace. However, this was a short-lived dream.

As the US-led war of aggression on Afghanistan and Iraq in the wake of the September 11 terror attacks became bogged down, indiscriminate terror by the Islamic State and other Islamic extremists actually increased.

In East Asia, the nuclear armament of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea accelerated in response to years of nuclear threats from the US, even putting the world at risk of an accidental outbreak of nuclear war at one point.

Nevertheless, or perhaps because of this, compelling voices around the world calling out again against war and in favor of permanent peace began to be heard and to swell.

Meanwhile, based on deep remorse for the Asia-Pacific War, the Japanese people commanded their government to permanently renounce war and the maintenance of arms. Similarly, around the world there has been renewed sympathy and increased support for the principles of Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution, which promise this to the world.

The initiation and intensification of the Cold War between the US and the Soviet Union immediately after the Second World War saw the Japanese government that drew up the ground-breaking Constitution of Japan that contains Article 9 and the US government that welcomed it abruptly begin to see it as a problem. With the signing and subsequent strengthening of the US-Japan military alliance, Article 9 has been at constant risk of erosion and destruction. However, the fact that definitive revision of Article 9 has somehow not been permitted is down to resistance from peace-loving Japanese over many years.

Continuing this history of resistance, we resolve to do whatever it takes to protect Article 9 and, further, to join hands with the peace-loving people of the world, pulling together our knowledge and power toward realizing mankind's dream of a world without war.

Toward this, we appeal broadly to peace-loving people in Japan and around the world. Now is the time to work toward a world without war, arms, nuclear weapons and violence and in solidarity with international movements to realize the right to peace and ratify the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty, create a great global movement toward a global peace charter based on the principles of Article 9 of the Constitution of Japan.

We urge those who support the call above to add their signature on the Article 9 Society for Global Peace Charter website.

<https://www.9peacecharter.org/>
Contact the secretariat at 9.globalpeace@gmail.com

Official English translation of Article 9 of the Constitution of Japan:

(1) Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes.

(2) In order to accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.