

Student Reflections and Presentations

INU Student Field Study Seminar

“The Future of Nuclear Weapons and Energy”

The INU Student Seminar, hosted at Hiroshima University, is an interdisciplinary course which aims to allow students from INU universities to learn about the concept of global citizenship through discussions, workshops and cultural activities.



The Program

- UN General Assembly Role Play centered on an important current issue in international relations
- Intensive program with lectures and workshops with academic experts and guest speakers from around the world
- Interactive seminars that encourage stimulating discussion with students from across the globe
- Integrated cultural program that introduces a unique side of Hiroshima, which includes a visit to the Peace Memorial Museum and special entry to attend the annual Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony on 6 August
- Discussions of nuclear weapons, nuclear power, and Japan's efforts to deal with nuclear emergencies



Student Participants:

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MARGASELLA Febria Jikoren
SHIM Ji Hyun
WADA Minori

Faculty:

ROTHMAN, Steven B.

Dates: 4 – 11 August 2012 (Pre and Post Meetings: July 11 and Oct 3)

Venue: In Hiroshima City and at Hiroshima University, Japan

Faculty Advisor: Steven B. Rothman, srothman@apu.ac.jp



The First Day

I went to Hiroshima from Beppu by bus, and I met other members from APU at Hiroshima station. Because they were all older than I, they gave me a lot of advises about what classes I should take in APU to study Peace Studies on the whole way to Hiroshima University. It was so good time and it made me had a feeling that this seminar would be carried on well.

Then, Welcome Reception was held at Hiroshima University, and I could meet all of the participants from all over the world. The atmosphere was similar to APU's one, however the only one thing which is totally different from APU was that almost all international students could not speak Japanese and thus the ability of speaking English was more essential to let us join the seminar actively.



A Survivor and Peace Memorial Museum



On the second day, we had an extremely valuable opportunity which was to meet an Atomic Bomb survivor and to listen to his story. When he began to speak in front of us, all participants were so surprised because he spoke his experience in fluent English even though he was 83 years old. Every survivor is getting older, and it means it might be difficult for young generation to know what happened 8:15a.m, August 6, 1945.



After that, we visited the Peace Memorial Museum.

I have been there once when I was 12 years old, but I became speechless from shock this time also. A burned piece of cloth, a charred tricycle, the warped brick wall...everything shows us how Atomic Bomb was destructive and inhuman. It is possible to try to understand what happened with the brain however it is absolutely difficult to imagine the sight and to feel the fear with our heart.

This is Nuclear Globe. According to Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, 19000 nuclear weapons still exist in 2012. The number is getting smaller and smaller every year but it is not including the nonofficial bombs. Although it seems hard to eliminate nuclear arsenals completely, international states will go towards to reduce the number on condition that a lot of people knows the real facts of nuclear power. We, world citizens must know about that.



Monday, August 6 Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony

To be honest, I have never seen Peace Memorial Ceremony even on TV in my life. It tends to that people live in east Japan are unfamiliar to this event. In commitment to peace, when one children's representative mentioned his

grandfather's story that the grandfather did not speak of the events of that day to anyone for decades, tears welled up in my eyes. He had been suffering for long time alone. He must have needed great efforts to tell about that day to his grandchild. Ironically, the ceremony was held in a clear sky just like sixty seven years ago. In August 6, 1945, only one bombs changed beautiful sky into darkness.



On the way to the ceremony, I met with very disappointed sight. Few people appealed for a possession of nuclear weapons in front of A-bomb Dome. Their argument was that Japan is only one victim state of nuclear Bombs, so only Japan has the right to be a nuclear state in the world. As Japanese, I was so ashamed of their behavior.

UN Role Play

I was a member of Iranian group. Through the mini-trip in Hiroshima city and having lunch every day, the membership became stronger.



Iran was the most important nation in this UN role play. Firstly, we discussed how Iran should argue and behave against international society. The decision was that the nuclear development for weapon is actually accomplished below the surface however Iran declares the nuclear development is



for only peaceful way. During the preparation, I was indignant at the historically unreasonable actions to Iran by America. Not always but sometimes national interests of America seem to have an effect on UN Security Council resolution.

On the role play, I was surprised at America's boycott. In reality each nation has nonnegotiable points or situations to international society. I realized that to ascertain facts by multiple points of view is necessary on studying International Relationship or Peace Studies.



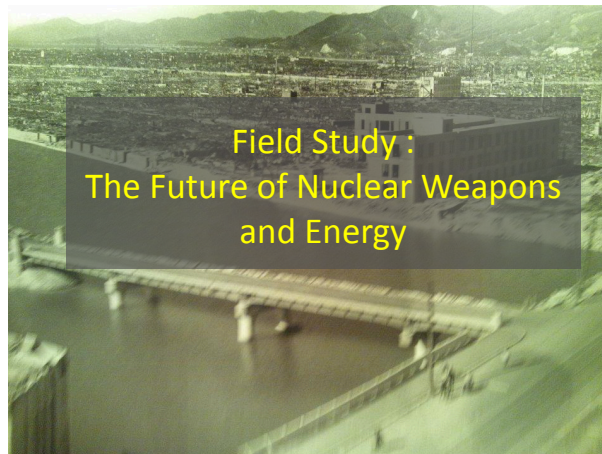
Conclusion

All the participants are from different countries, different environment and different study major. To work together



with each person's strong point was extremely precious experience, and I deeply appreciated all students' cooperation and kindness. This seminar was very helpful to find what I want to do in the future for world peace ability. It is not easy to find such a valuable chance in Japan, so I hope that more and more APU students join this seminar next year.





Schedule

Time : 04-10 August 2012

- 04: - Arrive in Hiroshima
 - Welcome reception
- 05: - Introduction session
 - **Lecture from Hibakusha (survivor of Atomic Bomb)**
 - Attend the Peace Memorial Museum
- 06: - **Attend Peace Memorial Ceremony**
 - Presentation on A-Bombed Trees in Hiroshima
 - Guest Lecture : CTBTO
 - A-Bombed Tree Walking Tour
 - Lantern Ceremony



- 07: - Lecture : "Australian Approaches to Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament"

- **Guest Lecture : "Nuclear Weapon Free World by 2020 – Activities of Majors for Peace"**

- Country Group Study Session
- Movie Night : "Barefoot Gen's Hiroshima"



08: - Workshops

- Lecture : "United Nations History and Governance : the Security Council and Nuclear Disarmament"
- Japanese Culture Activities : Zazen/Karate

- 09: - Lecture : The UN System
 - Minute's Silence
 - **Workshop**
 - Study Session
- 10: - **Role Play**
 - Farewell Party
- 11: - Back to Beppu

Hibakusha

- Keijiro Matsushima
- His lifework is to share his experience of bombing IN ENGLISH.



Peace Memorial Ceremony



Peace Memorial Ceremony

Time	Program
8:00	Opening
8:00	Dedication of the Register of the Names of the Fallen Atomic Bomb Victims
8:02	Address
8:07	Dedication of Flowers
8:15	Silent Prayer and Peace Bell
8:16	Peace Declaration Release of Doves
8:22	Commitment to Peace
8:26	Addresses
8:40	Hiroshima Peace Song
8:45	Closing

Workshop 1 Nuclear Ground Zero (Prof. Manhak Kwon)



Discuss 4 questions and sub-questions :

1. Which country are declared nuclear states, unrecognized nuclear states, and aspirants of nuclear states?
2. Why do Nations want to have nuclear weapons?
3. What conflicts do nuclear weapons give rise to or resolve?
4. What do we need to do concerning nuclear weapons proliferation?

Workshop 2 Nuclear Power : For The Future or From the Past? (Dr. Scott McIver)



- What are the themes of the major debates surrounding the use of nuclear power?
Cost, Safety, Environmental impact, etc.
- Is the use of nuclear power positive or negative? Why?
(-) Expensive, Risk of accidents and radiation release, etc.
(+) Cheap Energy, Efficient and Reliable, Aid to development, etc.
- How do we manage the use of nuclear power? How should we manage it?
3 possible responses : Realist, Liberal, Cosmopolitan
- What is the link between nuclear power and nuclear weapons?

Workshop 3 Nuclear Issues: Where do I stand? Where does my country stand? Where do Non-State Actors stand? (Prof. John Scherpereel)



What is your country's approach to nuclear energy?
To nuclear weapons proliferation or disarmament?

Role Play

Q : Should the International community do more to prevent the development of nuclear weapons by Iran?

Background :

1979 -> Scaled back its nuclear activities
The other countries fear that Iran is secretly pursuing a nuclear weapons program
Iran's leader -> the country's nuclear activities are limited to civilian goal

Japan

Japan – Iran trade relations-> 1979~

January 2012

"strong concerns" regarding Iran's nuclear program

Japan is ready to cut oil imports from Iran :

Japan have reduced Iranian oil imports by 40% in the past five years



Israel

Israel – Iran relation
Peace in Middle East
Requiring more strong sanction to Iran



NO MORE HIROSHIMA



Hiroshima Field Study Daily-log
Instructor: Professor. Rothman

4th Aug



Arrived at Hiroshima around 17:30. Professor and other members are already there in the Lobby. Knew my country group and some of the members in the welcome party.

It is interesting that when doing some simulations, I am always in the Japan-Team. And, this time might be a little bit demanding, because of the complicated relationship between Japan and Iran (but we only have one Japanese Student in our group).

5th Aug



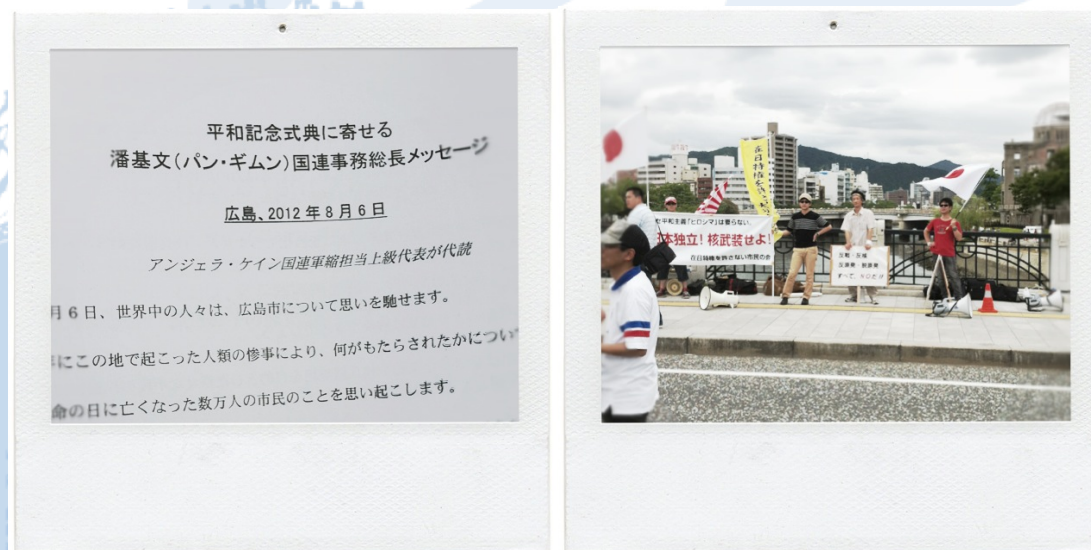
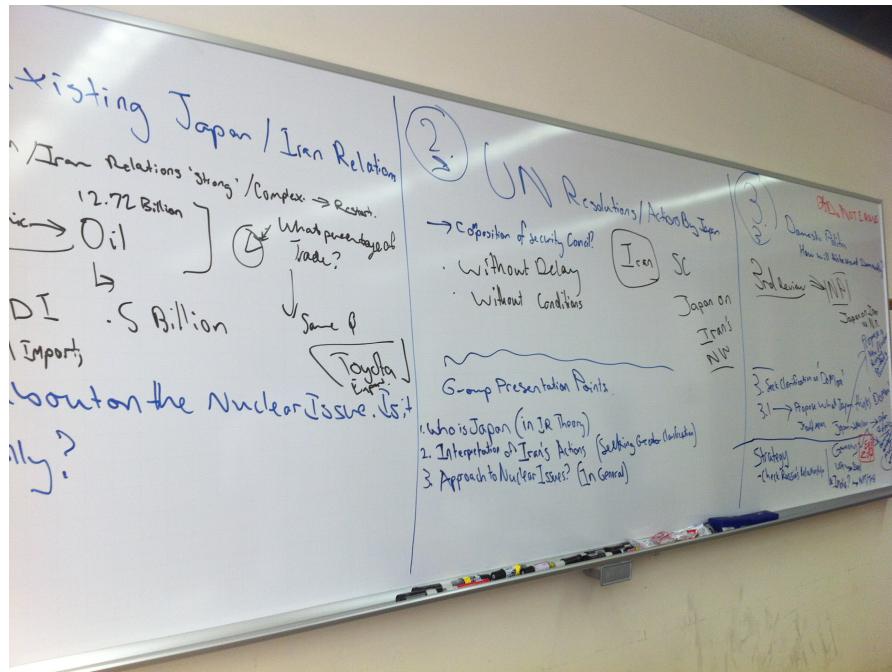
The activities in the Morning were plain. The most impressive thing today, should be the personal account and the Peace Museum. Might different from the other western students, I was thinking about how Japan build its after-war image, and why.

From the Peace Museum, the image of “a victim” was quite strong. Although I am also shocked by the civilians’ suffering during and after the A-bomb (especially from the personal account), I am also considering, to what extent or under what kind of situation, could we separate “the government” from the “country” or “the people”, and are all civilians really innocent for the war or not? If so, how could war occur (just because of the leadership?), and how should we explain the extreme nationalism in both China and Japan (manipulated by the government)?

6th Aug

It was my first time to attend the peace ceremony. Besides its content, I was impressed by the Hiroshima people—from kids to the old. They are going out to provide visitors flowers and other equipment. Since yesterday, I was thinking about that, why China

could not do so as Japan? Even Nanjing accident killed more civilians, and, in WW2, China was not acting as the aggressor. In theory, China should be sympathized by the international society. However, things went to the contrary, quite a number of scholars are casting doubt to the Nanjing Accident, from the number of killings to the authenticity. What kind of factors caused such difference? Does it come from the threat of Nuclear Weapon, which all the humans are facing, or some other political reasons?



After the peace ceremony, on our way to the hotel, we saw a group of Japanese are gathered to remonstrate. This group of people were quite radical, they claimed that, Japan should have its own nuclear weapons, and should be independent from ANPO. They even quarreled with some pass-by who had different view with them. It is interesting to see totally different view here. Although it could be little bit difficult to understand their position (for me), it shows the meaning of democracy.

7th Aug

Today's two lectures aimed at the same notion—get rid of the nuclear weapon. I was a little curious that if it could be too optimistic, especially for those Nuclear Weapon States.

In the afternoon, our country group started to do some background research. The leader divided us into 3 small groups to search some information about:

1. The relationships between Japan and Iran;
2. Relevant UN resolutions/sanctions;
3. Domestic situation of Japan.

I emphasized the importance of Oil, and suggest we should be softer. At least, don't be aggressive and encouraging a more strict sanction upon Iran. But, seemly, there are some misunderstandings about the status quo of Japan's energy. Some members believe that Japan could easily find the supplement, which could take the place of the crude oil imported from Iran (definitely not easy actually). They argue that, 10% is not really high. However, those who suffered from the hot summer under the energy saving plan, we know that even 5% could be very tough, both for the administration and the people.

So, by now, our group plans to cut down the oil trade with Iran in order to put more stress to make Iran yield.

8th Aug-9th Aug

The Two days' workshops were interesting. I still remember when Professor Kwon asked if there is anyone who believes we could have a nuclear weapon free world by 2020, there was only one girl put her hand up, and most students think we could never reach the nuclear weapon free world, because those NWS won't be willing to disarm.

In the Second workshop, I realized that, as a Chinese, I know quite little about my country. I even don't know the percentage of the using of nuclear electricity in China (the data I know was in the end of last century). It was interesting to know the story about the nuclear plants in Swiss, which threatened Denmark after the Japan's Tsunami in 2011.

The second workshop on 9th, discussed about both the disadvantage and advantage of nuclear power, but we did not reach consensus about whether we should use nuclear power or not in the future. And, maybe it is not necessary to reach a kind of consensus, as nuclear power itself has both bright and dark side simultaneously.



Beside the two days workshops and lectures, our country group also developed our “strategy”. But our group has not negotiated with other countries (and other groups have not come to us either), only discussed within the group. Basically, we decided to emphasize the function of IAEA, and try to avoid being involved in the issue directly. But our group leader seems want to stick to his former plan, to cut down the oil trade and ask other parties to push Iran more.

Just after the group meeting, Brazil came to me, and told me that they with Russia would support Iran. They might counter the US and IAEA. I am now a little bit curious if this simulation could be successful, or, in other words, Japan could stick to its own national interests or not.

10th Aug

It was not surprise to see the resolution finally failed. For some groups, it means success, but for Japan, it could be more complex. Actually, no matter the resolution passed or not, Japan could gain something, oil trade or the international image.

But from my view, Japan was yet failed. Not because of the result, but the process. Japan changed its attitude during the conference. Even though we tried to be softer in the later half part, the other states, India, Brazil, Russia, as well as Germany did not trust us. They already have a kind of image that Japan is aggressive and totally stand by the US.

The most important reasons for the failure, as far as I am concerned were the lack of negotiation and wrong prediction of the situation. This simulation game, not unlike the real UNGA, it only has 8 states. It means, even there are only 2 or 3 countries go against this resolution, the resolution could be blocked. Moreover, the simulation game model is much simpler than the reality, and it only plays once. Thus, students could post their decision without calculating the potential cost. Like India, they don't have to worry about their preference to Iran would breach the relationships with the US. It is much more easier for state to take an extreme position. ■