

KAKEHASHI Project Inbound Program (USA, Young Researchers Slot No.4) Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 42 young researchers visited Japan. During the 7 days program from February 24 to March 1, 2016, the participants studied the Japanese government, society, history, culture, foreign policy, and much more. The participants aim to promote Japan through mediums such as SNS.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

USA (42 Participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo and Hiroshima

4. Program Schedule

February 24 (Wed) Arrival at Narita International Airport

February 25 (Thu) **【Orientation】** , **【Lecture】** "Japan's Foreign Policy" by the North American Affairs Bureau, MOFA

 * Group A ・ B **【Visit】** Middle East Research Center, Institute of Energy Economics, Japan / JERA Co., Inc

 * Group C ・ D ・ E **【Visit】** Japan Institute of International Affairs
 【Visit】 Canon Institute for Global Studies (Group C ・ D)
 【Ministry Visit】 Policy Planning Division, MOFA (Group E)

February 26 (Fri)

 * Group A **【Visit】** US Embassy, National Diet Building **【Lecture on Japan】** Meiji University

 * Group B ・ C ・ D ・ E **【Ministry Visit】** Ministry of Defense
 【Visit】 Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. / Japan Atomic Energy Agency (Group B)
 【Visit】 Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan (Group C ・ E)
 【Observation】 Tokyo Tower (Group D)

February 27 (Sat) Move to Hiroshima
 【History and Culture】 Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Atomic Bomb Dome, Epicenter of Atomic Bomb

February 28 (Sun)

【Regional Industry】 Sake Brewery "KAMOTURU", Saijo Sake Brewery
 Street Walk
 【UNESCO World Heritage Site】 Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima

【Workshop】

February 29 (Mon) Move to Tokyo

【Visit】 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Group A)

【Visit】 Japan International Cooperation Agency (Group B)

【Visit】 National Security Council (Group C)

【Visit】 Professor Nobumasa Akiyama of Hitotsubashi Univ. (Group D)

【Visit】 The Tokyo Foundation (Group E)

【Reporting Session】

March 1 (Tue)

【Visit】 Edo Tokyo Museum (Group A・B・E),

Yasukuni Shrine and Yushukan (Group C)

Japan Platform (Group D)

Departure from Narita International Airport

5. Young Researchers Slot No.4 Program photo



February 25 Middle East Research Center, Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (Tokyo)



February 25 Canon Institute for Global Studies (Tokyo)



February 25 Policy Planning Division, MOFA (Tokyo)



February 26 National Diet Building (Tokyo)



February 26 Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. M's Square (Tokyo)



February 26 Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan (Yokosuka-City, Kanagawa Pref.)



February 27 Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum (Hiroshima-City, Hiroshima Pref.)





February 27 Epicenter of Atomic Bomb (Hiroshima-City, Hiroshima Pref.)



February 28 Sake Brewery KAMOTURU (Saijyo-City, Hiroshima Pref.)



February 28 Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima (Hatsukaichi-City, Hiroshima Pref.)

	
<p>February 29 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Tokyo)</p>	<p>February 29 Reporting Session (Tokyo)</p>

6. Voice from Participants

◆ U. S. Young researcher

This entire trip has been so incredibly informative and through. The Kakehashi Project introduced me and my colleagues to a wide view of Japanese societies as a whole: from foreign policy to industry to history and more. Additionally, I have never felt so comfortable and welcomed while travelling abroad, even in counties where I spoke the Language. Japanese society is very polite and it was an absolute pleasure to be introduced to it during the past week. Japan, like the rest of the world, faces a number of challenges-economic, security, demographic, ecologic and more. Yet it is dealing with these problems in unique and admirable ways.

◆ U. S. Young researcher

As a researcher on international security affairs, I was most interested in our briefings at the ministries of foreign affairs and defense, as well as our discussions at the Japan Institute for International Affairs and the Canon Institute for Global Studies. Most valuable was the substantive exchanges on the particular areas of policy- maritime disputes in the East China Sea and South China Sea. When I return to the United States, I hope to establish further communications on these areas with some of the contacts I made on this trip, as well as incorporate the information I was provided in these briefings into my research. In this way, the Kakehashi program has directly enriched the quality of our projects on Japan security affairs and built networks between officials and researchers across the Pacific.

◆ U. S. Young researcher

I was most impressed by the security policies of Japan, stemming both from the longer-term implementation of the Constitution and the recent changes through the National Security Strategy and pending legislation. Japan is an example of peaceful self-defense that should be emulated in other countries wherever possible.




Japan also has such a rich heritage and tradition that can be seen both in cultural and historical sites, as well as everyday life. The rich traditions of Japan blend beautifully with the innovation of modern day life here.



◆ U. S. Young researcher

I was most impressed by the resilience of the Japanese people after the bombing in Hiroshima – to rebuild and to focus on peace and nonproliferation for the whole world. It was interesting to understand how this event influences Japan’s pacifist foreign policy.

I was also struck by how kind and polite Japanese people are – everyone was very gracious towards me. It is interesting to me that the Japanese people don’t appear to hold much bitterness towards Americans, and to learn how important and strong US-Japan ties are.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

<p><i>Our Knowledge of Japan Before Versus After Visiting Japan...</i></p> <div> <div>Perspective Before Visiting Japan (key themes)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> POP CULTURE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anime, Sushi, Miyazaki films STRATEGIC/SECURITY: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S.-Japan Alliance Advanced technology CULTURAL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A polite and respectful culture Demographics  </div> <div> <div>Perspective After Visiting Japan (key themes)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> STRATEGIC/SECURITY: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A nation that promotes peace and stability Article 9 CULTURAL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A polite and respectful culture A clean, quiet, efficient, and safe nation Demographics (diversity, including Tokyo vs. Hiroshima (cities vs. rural regions) Shintoism, Buddhism, and religious influences (the interest in harmonious coexistence)  </div>	<h4>LESSONS LEARNED</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discovered the depth and unique nature of the alliance between Japan and the United States. Learned the far reaching implications of recent national security legislation, the reinterpretation of Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution, and the revision of bilateral defense guidelines. These changes will have a profound impact on the U.S.-Japan alliance, allowing both parties to reevaluate the scope of the alliance and maximize opportunities.
<h4>Findings through the Program</h4>	<h4>Findings through the Program</h4>
<div> <div>SPREADING THE WORD</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What: Photo essay on New Atlanticist with impressions and descriptions of meetings and sites How: Post on Atlantic Council website and share on Facebook and Twitter Why: To share our experiences and impressions of Japan with our colleagues and fellow international relations researchers through an easy to follow, visually attractive medium When: Mid-March Who: Team effort to assemble the essay Audience: Atlantic Council colleagues and constituents -- policymakers (US and foreign government), researchers, and private sector partners </div>	<div> <div>ACTION PLAN: DUE DATES & POINT PERSONS</div> <div> INTERNAL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memo March 5 Chapter Engagement (DC, NYC, TX, SF) March 25 Truman Asia Expert Group Engagement March 10 </div> <div> EXTERNAL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Op-Eds Staggered March 20 – April 20 Social Media Now – March 10 and ongoing External Collaboration Pending Asia Group discussion Our “day jobs” (informal) Ongoing </div> <div>All tasks have point persons assigned. All delegation members have assignments.</div>  </div>
<h4>Action Plan</h4>	<h4>Action Plan</h4>

<div>CSIS CENTER FOR STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES</div> <div></div> <div>What we think now</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can sense the “two lost decades,” especially outside Tokyo, but were still very impressed with the technology we saw • We were surprised by the consensus view of China presented by the speakers we met with • We were also surprised by the confidence in Japan’s political stability expressed by our speakers • We gained a deeper understanding and appreciation of the importance for Japan of the U.S.-Japan alliance, and how invested Japanese are in U.S. domestic politics • We deepened our understanding of the tension between Japan’s commitment to pacifism and its threatening environment <div>4</div>	<div>CSIS CENTER FOR STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES</div> <div></div> <div>Moving forward</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several group members are incorporating lessons from this trip into ongoing research on Chinese coercion, maritime domain awareness, military cooperation, Asian economic architecture and Japan-Korea & U.S.-India-Japan relations • We will look for further opportunities to collaborate with Japanese experts organizations on future research • Beyond specific projects, we will incorporate what we’ve learned into our ongoing research. • We All Hope to Return To Japan! <div>5</div>
Findings through the Program	Action Plan