

Workshop II:

The UN Dialogue on Civilizations and the Role of China/Japan/Korea

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The 2010 was “International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures”, proposed by the General Conference of the UNESCO and decided by the General Assembly of the UN. This Project is analogous to the “the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue” of 2008. Now intercultural dialogues are animated in world-wide level. The intercultural dialogue has not been commenced recently in the UNESCO and the UN. Deepening international mutual understanding has always been one of the agenda of the UNESCO since its creation and various projects has been implemented which aimed the intercultural dialogue. Nevertheless, it is precisely after the 1990s that the actions for the intercultural dialogue in the UNESCO and the UN were strengthened. In face of the acceleration of the globalization and the increase of the terrorism, the intercultural dialogue has acquired a new importance.

In the first part of my presentation, I will clarify the characteristics of the intercultural dialogue projects after the 1990s carried out by the UNESCO and the UN. I will focus on the resolutions concerning the cultural dialogue adopted by the UNESCO and the UN and confirm the backgrounds and objectives of each cultural dialogue embodied in these resolutions. I will consider also the attitudes of member States which directed the activities of the UNESCO and the UN in this domain and thus evaluate the intercultural dialogue activities in the UNESCO and the UN.

In the second part of my presentation, I will treat the recent hostilities between Japan and Korea, Japan and China. I will search the historic, legal and political reasons of these hostilities, and try to propose the way to cease them from the viewpoint of intercultural dialogue.

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Introduction

I. Characteristics of the intercultural dialogues implemented by the UNESCO and the UN

- (1) Outline, background and objective of the cultural dialogue
- (2) Attitudes of the member States toward the cultural dialogue

II. Recent hostilities between Japan and Korea, Japan and China

- (1) historic, legal and political reasons of these hostilities
- (2) way to cease them from the viewpoint of intercultural dialogue.

Conclusion