

Une nouvelle gouvernance mondiale pour le développement durable

Taking the Initiative on Global Governance and Sustainable Development

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Some Comments on Global Governance

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Generally speaking, global governance is not well functioned in every field, in the midst of globalization led by the United States of America.

As a result of inadequate global governance of the global financial market, a lot of transfer of fund took place in the market, and many developing countries like Central and Latin America and Asian countries have experienced monetary crises and disturbances.

Multinational and transnational corporations, main agents of globalization, are increasing their enterprise activities, which go beyond national borders. But it is difficult to say that we have enough global governance to watch and control these enterprise activities.

Furthermore, we have not yet paved the way for our success of solving various global issues (war, environment, energy, population, human rights, poverty, ethnicity, gender, discrimination, human destruction, sustainable development, etc.) which came out from modernization process.

Nowadays, the United States of America look like an Empire to many people. This Empire exercises sovereignty, which is global and going beyond territoriality. Multinational and transnational enterprises are taking active part in moving beyond national borders. But it is within the United States that they expose their economic power. Especially after September 11, they are trying to cope with terrorist attacks by mainly using military power which is tied with the sovereignty of the nation state.

Within the context I mentioned above, It is very important and essential for us to claim the inevitability of multilateralism to the world. And its claim should be clearly separated from the claim of national interests. Multilateralism as a result of a mere compromise of various national interests, has a risk of hurting real multilateralism.

In order to relativise national interests, it is necessary for new agents, new subjects and new actors (corporate, NGOs, local government, epistemic communities, etc.) to participate in the international negotiating process. This understanding should not be an accidental, pragmatic and situational understanding. As a result of the new information technology revolution, we have three new spheres, that is cyberspace, infosphere and noosphere. New actors mainly come from these new spheres. Without participation from these new spheres, we cannot solve global issues including security problems.

In many advanced societies today, simultaneously with globalization comes individualization. Each individual is obliged to live by coping with a difficult problem of how to be independent, autonomous individual. The central problem in industrial society was what makes and how social order possible. But what and how makes individual order possible is the most important problem in information societies. Globalization, politics and everything must be evaluated by their meanings to individual. Therefore the level at which sustainable development issues should be implemented is not only at the global, regional, local but also individual level. It is essential for individuals in advanced societies today to produce themselves as post colonial citizens who overcome all kinds of colonialism (internal colonialism, orientalism and so on).

The basic contradiction between multilateralism based on the peace constitution and dependency on US and the one based on Japan-US security treaty has been troubled and weighs heavily on Japan. The government and the ruling party are hurrying up the materialization of Japan-US alliance including military collective defense. But the majority of our people have some reservation on our government's choice, whether its choice is the best one for their future or not, economically and politically. In order to avoid the transition from a peace-loving nation, which renounces the war to "ordinary state", it is necessary for us to recognize and experience that we cannot solve the basic problems exclusively by Japan-US alliance. In this sense, it is terribly important for us to solve North Korean problems peacefully by collaborating with China, the Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States. The basic direction is to create the East Asian Community by accumulating these experiences. In order to succeed in creating this community, the Japanese should become post-colonial global citizens.