

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION

Japan is a country who was joining the Second World War with aggressive military force. Japan was conquering many countries through its domination of military power. At the end of Second World War, Japan as a developed country (today) suffered defeat in the Second World War. Japan surrendered right on August 15, 1945, after attacked by the United States with nuclear bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. After experiencing defeated, Japan had no other choice to signing the Japanese Instrument of Surrender and promulgated the Japan Constitution that controls their military activity by its Article Nine.

The defeated of Japan became the gate of Japan in the economic, industrial, infrastructure and technology development success. The development of those sectors is successful because of the focus allocation of budget to the economic sector. The development of economics did by Japan is in order to rebuild their infrastructure that broken in the Second World War and also modernizing the economic relationship. Japan also use economic development to change and recover their name in the international context.

The development of economics cannot be separated with their pacifist system. Japan pacifist system provided by Article Nine of Japan Constitution. The Article Nine containing a border of military action for Japan as a punishment as the looser in the Second World War. The Article Nine prohibit Japan to develop their military force and joining into the battlefield. Japan prohibited to produce, establish and procure the military armament and to ban the export of military armament. Japan only has Japan Self-Defense Force (JSDF) that comprised of three Ground SDF, Maritime SDF and Air SDF. As its name, JSDF only has the capability to defend their territory without the capability to attack first.

The existence of Article Nine controlling Japan aggressiveness in military intervention. Japan choose to use

diplomacy to settle problem and dispute with other countries or other organization. It can be said that Article Nine is a collar for Japan to reduce the military intervention in the international issues.

The absence of military power leads Japan to depend on the other actors. The United States is taking an actor as the Japan protector from the domestic or international threat. The United States granted the use of land, air, and sea as their base in exchange for the protections. The United States build a military base in Okinawa as the implementation of this treaty and also a base for monitoring the condition of Japan.

As long as Japan using pacifist system, they had achieved many achievements. Japan achieve the success in the industry as the first Non-Western country successful in industrialization. The human right also highly developed and upheld by all the layer of society in Japan. Japan become one of the safest places in the world to visits. The peace education also implemented in Japan since they were young. Japan believes that peace education since childhood is important in order to achieve a peaceful life.

Japan is also taking an important step that cleans their name in the international. Japan by active in initiating Arms Control, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation in the context of Weapon Mass Destruction (WMD) in the context of nuclear, chemical and biological weapon. Japan also gives many contributions by sending their expert in weapon mass destruction into the Chemical Weapon Convention (CWC).

Starting from the leadership of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Japan entering a period of remilitarization. In 2014 Shinzo Abe pressing the cabinet and parliament to pass bills as the step to reinterpret the Article Nine of Japan Constitution. Finally, in 2015, Shinzo Abe and cabinet approved 11 bills about the military in the full house of Parliament and took effects on March 29, 2016. Those bills give the ability to JSDF to take actions in overseas and defending their allies.

There are countries support this movement and also rejecting this movement. The country rejecting this event is

China and South Korea because they do not agree with the way Japan did to reinterpret the Article Nine. Also, they are afraid Japan become the cold-blooded country like in the Second World War because they feel trauma as colonies of war did by Japan. There is also a supporting country for Japan reinterpret. The supporting country is the United States as Japan allies. The United States agree with this movement because United States believes that Japan will give more contribution to the global peace if their military is activated. The other reason is Japan is a strategic market for their military armament.

To prove Japan already implement the reinterpretation of Article Nine, Japan did a lot of actions in the international context. The first action in overseas is the involvement of Japan in the Peacekeeping Operation in South Sudan. Japan sent their troops to South Sudan to rescue the United Nations staffs and the other forces that under siege. Japan also has a big role in defending the UN Peacekeeping Operation base.

The decision taken by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe must be considered from many aspects. In foreign policy decision, the country must see from many aspects such as domestic politics, economic and military and the international context.

Inside of Japan, many dilemmas come from the internal and external country. For the external country, Japan needs to reinterpret the Article Nine to give more contribution to the global peace. Japan also need to protect their sovereignty from the threat from the other countries such as North Korea, China, and ISIS. Japan need to upgrade their military armament especially for the missile defense system to counter North Korea ballistic missile threat. On the other hand, there are a lot of Japanese citizens oppose this reinterpretation. Japanese citizens did a demonstration in front of the Parliament building to show their disagree with the reinterpretation. Same as the other opposing countries, Japanese citizens also afraid and trauma of the past that Japan did the aggressive military expansion and made Japan nuclear bombed by the United States twice.

Japan already have a good position in economic. Thanks to the development of industry, infrastructure, and technology that support the development of Japan economics. However, only developed in economic does not enough for the sovereign country. The richer a person, they need more protection in securing their property. This also applies to the state. The rich country has many weak points and enemies. Because of that, a state needs to protect their sovereignty including peoples and property inside it. By allocating budget into the military, Japan can develop their military strategy. Japan can procure, maintain and produce weapons for their self so strengthening their military.

When foreign policy decision already made by the country, it is needed to wait for a response from the international society. The response from the other countries needed to evaluate the strength or weakness of the foreign policy and determine the benefits for the domestic politics. It is needed by Japan to evaluate this decision whether it can danger the sovereignty or not.

The development of reinterpretation of Article Nine of Japan Constitution shows that Japan already has the power to compete in the International military combats. It's shown by the development of Japan military budget and Japan military armament. Even though Japan reinterpretation of Article Nine already supported by the cabinets, many of Japan citizens still disagree with this movement.

In the case of Japan military development, Japan also got the protest from the countries such as China and South Korea; this shows that there are countries who aware and afraid of Japan to be an offensive country. The arms race can happen in Japan neighbor countries because they are afraid of Japan strong military power and will take over their territory. As we know that Japan had a bad record in the military in the Second World War by conquering the other countries territory and killed many peoples.

In reality, Japan did not really care about the opinion from the other countries. China stated critics like mentioned in

the middle of this chapter about Japan decision, but Japan still declares their reinterpretation of Article Nine to the world. The opinion from the other countries just became an input for the sources of their future decision, but not this "reinterpret" decision.

Shinzo Abe can decide Japan should reinterpret the Article Nine because of this movement can give more benefits to Japan and international. Japan has bigger supporting factors than the negative one. Japan can contribute more to global peace and protect their sovereignty inside or outside their country is what Japan get when Japan reinterpret this article. This movement also gives good impact back to the Japanese citizens who oppose this movement. Shinzo Abe sees that the development of military in Asia especially East Asia is dangerous for them because of China and North Korea. So Japan needs more power to counter China and North Korea power because the economic power is still not enough.