

ABSTRACT

Since 1978, The United States and Japan had 'Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation'. The 1978 Guidelines focused on Japan's self-defense. The collapse of the Soviet Union made strong the U.S.-Japan relationship. The 1978 Guidelines were revised in 1997. The United States decided to create 'The New Guidelines for the Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation' in 2015 because the United States wanted to strengthen the alliance, prepare Japan with increased arms defense to balance the power of the rise of China and development of nuclear and missile North Korea, and cut the cost of U.S. defense development. The main purpose of this study was to find out and describe the reasons why the United States decided to create 'The New Guidelines for the Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation' in 2015. This research was a casual explanation research. It explained the cause of the phenomenon which will be observed. The research method used the qualitative method which used content analysis toward some books, e-journal, document, and news.

Keywords: The New Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation, arms transfer, United States, Japan, national interest, balance of power