

For the attention of:
Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe

Petition for the protection of Article 9, and the Constitution of Japan

On May 3rd 2017, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced suddenly the “creation of a new clause within Article 9 for the Japanese Self-Defense Forces”, and “a target of enacting a new constitution by 2020”. In response to this, opposition to this proposed change has rapidly grown.

In the more than 70 years since the end of World War II, both the existence of Article 9 as well as the perseverance of the people of Japan have played a great role in preventing Japan from participating in wars overseas. There is no need whatsoever to alter Article 9, nor to add anything to the original text. We fear that Japan will once again be known overseas as a nation of war.

We oppose this damaging of Article 9 of the Constitution by Prime Minister Abe, and seek a politics that enacts the principles of pacifism, respect for fundamental human rights, and democracy as enshrined in the Japanese Constitution.

I request

- 1. No alteration to Article 9.**
- 2. The realization of national politics built on the principles of peace, human rights and democracy, as enshrined in the Constitution of Japan.**

Signatories:

Article 9 of Japan's Constitution

Aspirating sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes.

In order to accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.