Association of Scholars Opposed to the Security-related Bills

Call for Support

A large number of scholars have issued a joint appeal opposing the International Peace Support Bill and the omnibus Peace and Security Legislation Consolidation Bill that the Abe administration has submitted to the Diet.

We are now opening the appeal to broader support and signatures. Additional signatories will be listed on our website and announced to the media. We also plan to deliver this list to Diet members. We would thus appreciate it if you would spread the word through SNS and other means.

Initial signatories (in alphabetical order)

Aoi Mihike (Gakushuin University, law) *
Asakura Mutsuko (Waseda University, law) *
Awaji Takehisa (Keio University, civil law lawyer)
Chiba Shin (International Christian University, political thought)
Hama Noriko (Ehime University, international economics)
Higuchi Yoichiro (Constitutional Law, Japan Academy member)
Hirota Teruyuki (Nihon University, education)
Hirotsu Teruhisa (Sendai University, Law, former President of Science Council of Japan) *
Horio Teruhisa (University of Tokyo, education)
Ichikawa Yasutaka (University of Tokyo, sociology)
Ikuchi Setsuro (Nagoya University, astrophysics)
Ishida Hitomasa (University of Tokyo, sociology and media)
Ito Makoto (University of Tokyo, economics)
Kafu Norio (National Astronomical Observatory, astronomy)
Kaino Michitaka (Waseda University, law)
Kaneko Masaru (Keio University, fiscal policy)
Kato Takashi (Seikei University, political philosophy)
Kawamoto Takashi (International Christian University, social policies)
Kihinohara Akihiko (Ritsumeikan University, constitutional law and peace studies)
Kobayashi Satoko (Kagawa University, constitutional law)
Konomi Yoshi (University of Tokyo, modern Japanese literature)
Kubo Tetsuji (Shinshu University, history)
Kudoh Arko (Tokyo University, political science)
Mamiya Yoshiko (Aoyama Gakuin University, economics) *
Masuiwaka Yoshindo (Kyoto University, physics, Nobel laureate) *
Mishima Kenji (Osaka University, philosophy & History of thought)
Miyamoto Hisao (University of Tokyo, philosophy)
Miyamoto Ken'ichi (Osaka City University, economics)
Mizuno Kazuo (Nihon University, economics)
Mizushima Asako (Waseda University, constitutional law)
Nagata Kazuhiko (Kyoto Sangyo University, cybernetics)
Nakatsu Akihiko (Hitotsubashi University, modern Japanese history)
Nishihara Jun (Waseda University, international economics)
Nishizawa Osamu (Peikyo University, philosophy & history of thought)
Nishizaki Fumio (University of Tokyo, history)
Noda Masao (psychologist)
Oguma Eiji (Keio University, historical sociology)
Okano Yosuke (Osakihara University, History of Western political thought)
Okawa Masao (University of Tokyo, social policy)
Saito Jun'ichi (Waseda University, political science)
Sakai Koichi (Chiba University, Iran politics)
Sato Manabu (Gakusaucn University, education) *
Shirama Sosuke (Sophia University, religion)
Sugita Atsushi (Hosei University, political science)
Takahasi Tetsuya (University of Tokyo, philosophy)
Takahama Kanako (Kyoto University, law)
Uchida Tatsuru (Kobe College, philosophy) *
Ueno Chika (University of Tokyo, sociology) *
Ueno Ken (University of Tokyo, mathematics)
Ukai Satomi (Hitotubashi University, French literature and thought)
Uno Shigeki (University of Tokyo, history of political thought)
Ushio Akiyoshi (Keio University, history, Japan-Asia relations)
Uyeda Saya (University of Tokyo, geophysics, Japan Academy member)
Wada Haruki (University of Tokyo, history)
Washino Isamu (Chuo University, conservation ecology)
Watarabe Osamu (Hitotubashi University, political science & constitutional law)
Yamaguchi Jiro (Hosei University, political science)
Yamamura Shinichi (Kyoto University, political science)
Yukoya Sanke (ex-Chuo University, clinical psychologist)
Yoshida Yutaka (Hitotubashi University, Japanese history)
Yoshikawa Hiroshi (Kyushu University, history of science)

(Those marked with * are drafters.
Institutional affiliations for identification only.)

1 Sign the appeal

You can sign this appeal at our website. Signing is open not just to scholars but to the general public as well. We hope you will read the appeal, agree with it, and join us as signatories.

Website URL: http://anti-security-related-bill.jp/index_en.html

2 Spread the word

You can find us on Twitter at @anpogakusya.

3 Donate

This campaign is financed solely by donations. Your contribution will help fund additional activities going forward.

Bank: Dai-ichi Kangyo Shin’yo Kumiai (credit cooperative)
Branch: Sendagaya (024)
Account type: Ordinary (futsu)
Account #: 6849043
Account name: Association of Scholars Opposed to the Security-related Bills (アンセンホシュウカンレンホウアンニハンタイスルガクシャノケイ)
Appeal by the Association of Scholars Opposed to the Security-related Bills

Today, 70 years after the war, Japan stands at a critical juncture. One path is that of a nation that does not wage war. The other, a nation that wages war. The Abe administration has submitted an International Peace Support Bill and an omnibus Peace and Security Legislation Consolidation Bill amending 10 war-related laws for the worse to the Diet, where they are currently being deliberated. Violating Article 9 of the Constitution, these bills would provide for Japan’s Self-Defense Forces to cooperate actively with U.S. and other foreign military operations overseas. We very strongly appeal for the Diet to consider them most carefully and to defeat them in keeping with the Constitution.

If adopted, the legislation would allow (1) using military force, even if Japan is not attacked, if another nation is attacked and the administration deems this situation a threat to Japan’s survival, (2) sending SDF units anywhere in the world where the U.S. or other militaries are waging war and having them provide support in close proximity to combat zones, and (3) deploying the SDF alongside U.S. and other allied forces and authorizing them to fire their weapons ostensibly in defense of their military and other supplies.

Although Prime Minister Abe contends the use of military force would be limited, the legislation opens the way for unbridled use of force by the SDF and violates the principle of exclusively self-defense. Anywhere the SDF uses military force will automatically become a combat zone. As such, the bills are in clear violation of Article 9 paragraph 1’s prohibition against the use of force in combat. For over 60 years, successive administrations have understood that the exercise of collective self-defense violates the Constitution, yet the Abe administration seeks to overturn this and pave the way for Japan’s SDF to take part in American wars of aggression. Should this legislation pass, there is a very real danger that Japan could become a party to hostilities and the SDF an army of aggression in violation of international law.

We bear a special historical burden in that universities collaborated with Japan’s war of aggression and sent numerous students off to battle. Profoundly repentant of this history, we have adopted Article 9 as our own, have engaged in research and education as the bedrock for world peace, and have worked so as to never again be visited by the horrors of war. We cannot allow a situation to arise anew in which our young people are sent off to war to kill and be killed.

In the name of scholarship and conscience, we most strongly protest this unconstitutional legislation’s having been submitted to the Diet and are appalled it is even being deliberated by the Diet. We stand in resolute opposition to this legislation.

June 15, 2015
Association of Scholars Opposed to the Security-related Bills

Signed by over 9,000 scholars and over 15,000 non-academic citizens, as of 9:00am on July 9, 2015.