

Diplomacy

Hello, everyone. I'm Ken Fukuda, belonging to the diplomacy group. Through this forum, Japanese and Russian students exchanged their opinions in various fields so I would like to show you the process.

About democracy, some Japanese people think that the power of the Russian government is quite strong. For that opinion, Russian students mentioned that it is because of the western mass media, which emphasize the opinion of Russian president and the prime minister. Japanese students agreed for it. And of course, Russia has become more and more democratic after the collapse of the Soviet Union. And then, the level of democracy in Russia become higher, the relationships between Japan and Russia will be stronger, and it will promote the cooperation of Russia and Japan, especially in the field of economy.

In addition, we talked about the partnerships between Russia and Japan. The delegates explained how Russia would be the reliable partner for Japan. We were impressed not only by their words but also the way they talked to us.

We also talked about Japanese technology and agreed making use of Japanese technology is important to develop Far-east area in Russia. Japanese railway technology is necessary to modernize Trans-Siberian railway. Japanese petrochemical technology will play a big role in developing Russian petrochemical industry in Far-east area.

After that, we decided to hash over the mutual image of Japan and Russia.

We understood that Russian people respect Japan especially economic area and have a good image of Japanese people such as polite and hard-working. We appreciated of this image and we hoped communicational opportunity between Japan and Russia increase and Russian people know more about Japan and Japanese people.

And we had a discussion about prejudices from Japanese to Russian. Japanese think Russian are calm, unkind and speak not too much because it is very cold in Russia. In Japan, Russia is near and far country. This phrase means that Russia is near geographically but far in heart. But Japanese delegates know now, those are false. Actually, Russians are warm, very kind and love to talk each other with tea and sweets. And of course, Russia is so near in our heart.

Thus, we discussed about many topics, sometimes very hotly and we reached some agreements in some points. Though we may not have much to do to change the diplomatic relationship between Japan and Russia, we are going to find ways to tighten up our relationship. Thank you.