

Youth Exchange in the Field of Culture

What We Have Done and What We Can Do
for Better Relationship





Objective

Objective:

Give audiences basic knowledge on youth exchange in the field of culture and sports between Japan and Russia for our fruitful discussion.

Outline:

- ① **The History of Youth Exchange**
- ② **The Importance of Youth Exchange**
- ③ **Tools We Used for Better Cultural Understanding (Culture)**
- ④ **Tools We Used for Better Cultural Understanding (Sports)**

History

- Agreed to start youth exchange in 1999
- Agreed to increase cultural and people-to-people interactions in 2016 to promote bilateral cooperation



For the past two decades,
more than 8000 youths have participated in youth exchange between
Japan and Russia.

(1384 youths have participated in the youth exchange in 2018.)

The Importance of Youth Exchange

→ Youth Exchange is a keystone to build a bridge between Japan and Russia.

- To build a bridge between Japan and Russia,

- ① We must make a network among the people of both countries.

- To make a network among us,

- ② Japanese should understand culture, common sense and custom of Russia, and vice versa.

- To understand culture, common sense and custom,

- ③ We must have first-hand experience.

- To have first-hand experience,

- ④ Youth Exchange is inevitable.



What tools have we used for better cultural understanding?

① Culture

- **Shogi**

→ The Japanese version of chess played on a board of 81 squares with 40 pieces to the set

- **Go**

→ A Japanese game for two persons, played on a board having 361 intersections on which black and white stones or counters are alternately placed, the object being to block off and capture the opponent's stones and control the larger part of the board



What tools have we used for better cultural understanding?

① Culture

• Dance (Nihon buyo)

→A generic term for Japanese dance, originated in the early Edo Period in 17th century. Nihon buyo is very different from Western dance forms in that, while Western dances usually have very vigorous movements and leaping, Nihon buyo dancers move quietly in shuffling motions.

• Ballet

→An artistic dance form performed to music, using precise and highly formalized set steps and gestures



What tools have we used for better cultural understanding?

① Culture

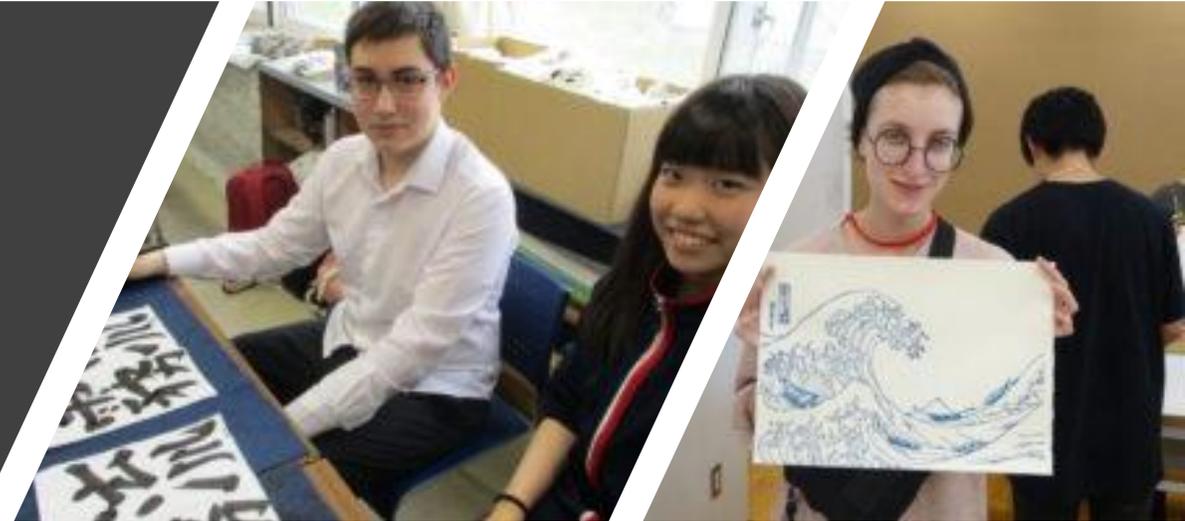
• Art (Ukiyo-e)

→A Japanese art movement that flourished from the 17th to the 19th century and produced paintings and prints depicting the everyday life and interests of the common people

• Calligraphy

→Artistic, stylized, or elegant handwriting or lettering

• Music (Orchestra/Chorus)



What tools have we used for better cultural understanding ?

② Sports

Martial Arts

- **Judo**

→ Developed from jujitsu that emphasizes the use of quick movement and leverage to throw an opponent

- **Kendo**

→ A Japanese sport of fencing usually with bamboo swords

- **Kyudo**

→ The Japanese martial art of longbow archery, incorporating set rhythmic movements and practiced in a meditative state



What tools have we used for better cultural understanding ?

② Sports

• Sumo Wrestling

→A Japanese form of wrestling in which a contestant loses if he is forced out of the ring or if any part of his body except the soles of his feet touches the ground

• Karate

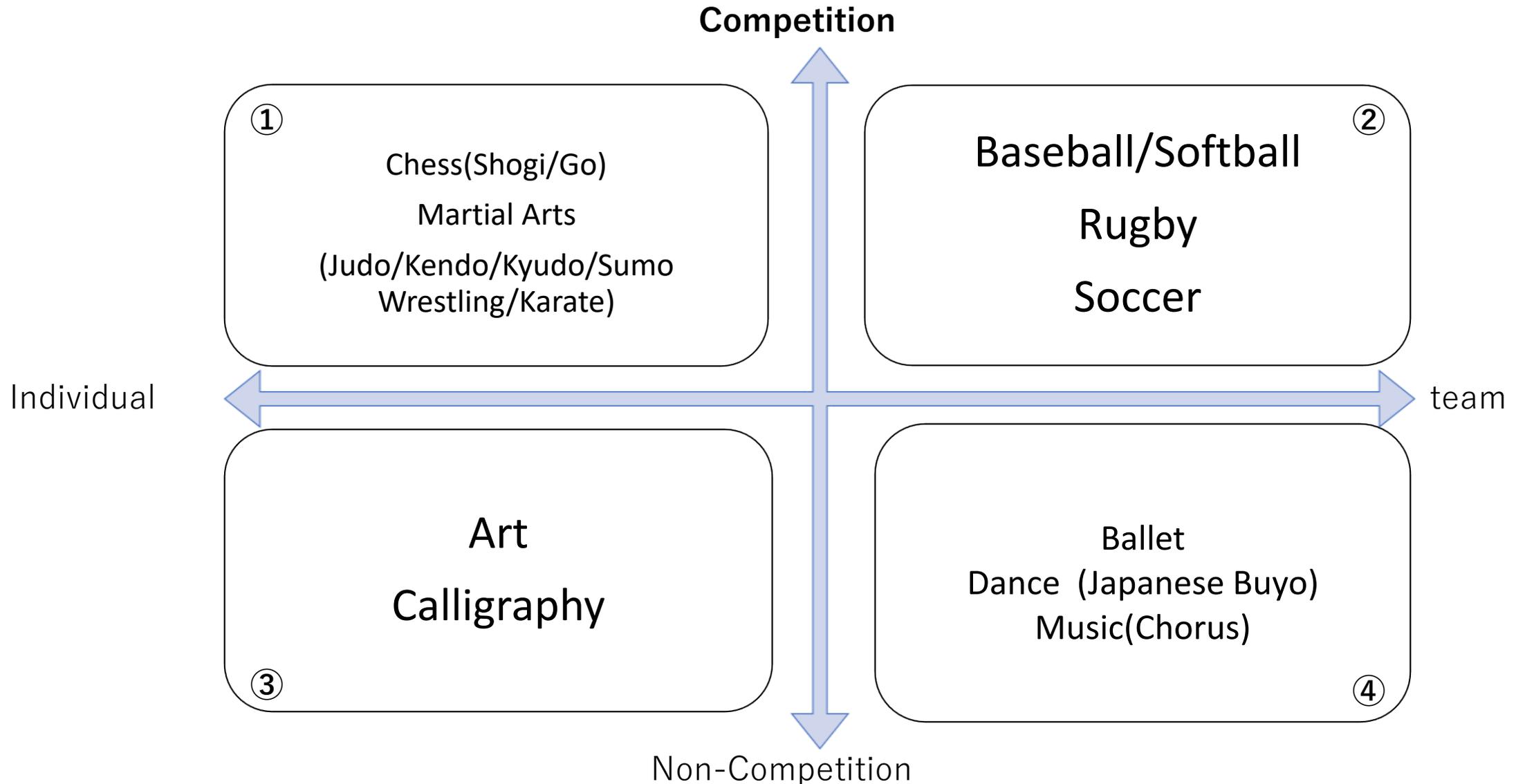
→A Japanese art of self-defense employing hand strikes and kicks to disable or subdue an opponent

Other Sports

- Baseball
- Football
- Rugby



The Category of the tools



The role of each tools

① **Competition × Individual (Chess/Martial Arts)**

→ Share exciting memory through battles

② **Competition × Team (Team Sports)**

→ Learn the importance of team work

→ Observe how Japanese/Russian work as a team

③ **Non-competition × Individual (Art/Calligraphy)**

→ Deeply learn the beauty of each culture

④ **Non-competition × Team (Ballet/Dance/Music)**

→ Deeply learn the beauty of each culture



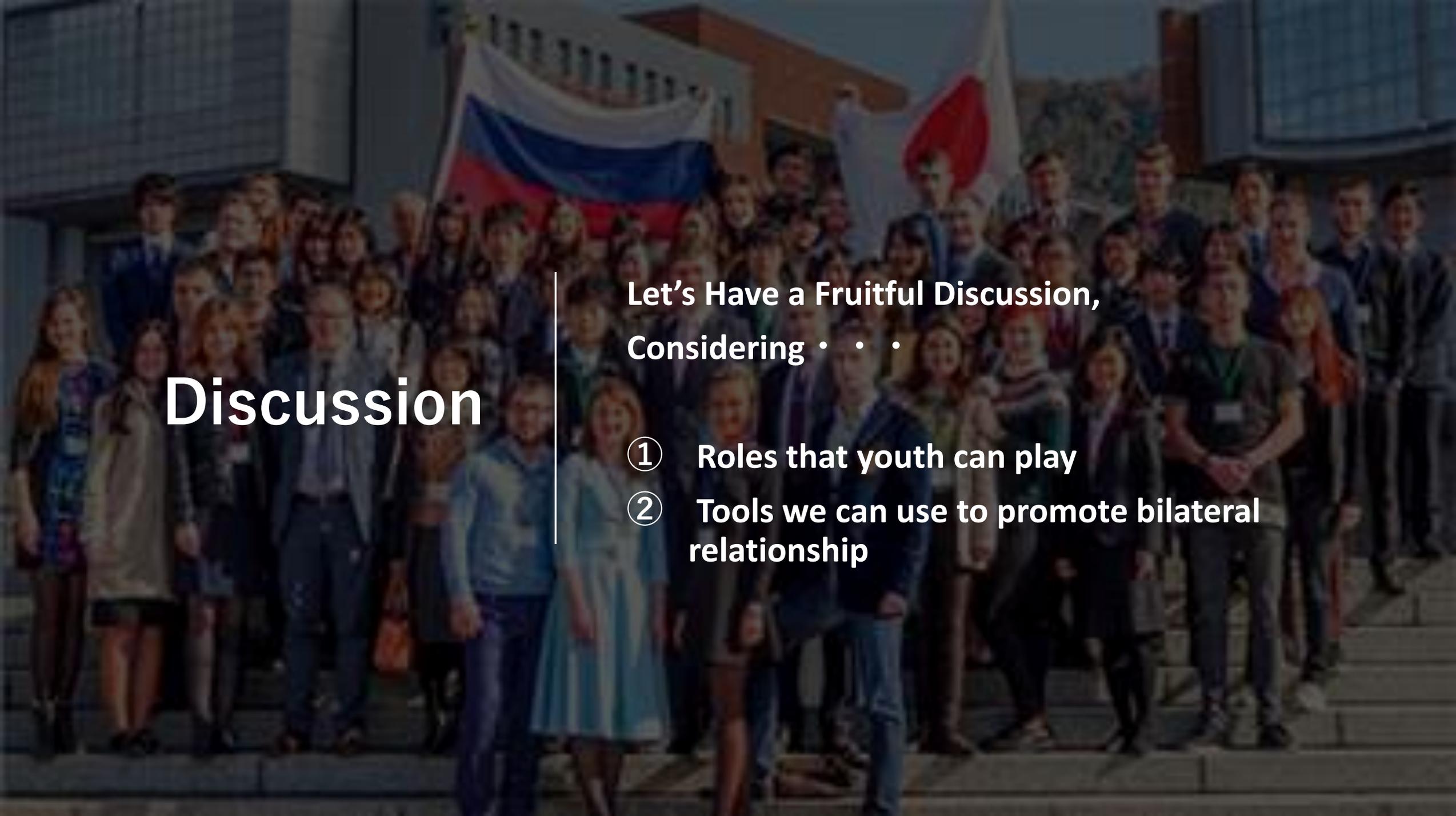
Why are tools important?

① Breaking the Ice

→ Tools can be the main topic of our first talk.

② Exciting

→ Tools can excite us to get to know partner's culture for the improvement of skills.



Discussion

Let's Have a Fruitful Discussion,
Considering . . .

- ① Roles that youth can play
- ② Tools we can use to promote bilateral relationship

Reference

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/index.html>

- Japan Russia Youth Exchange Center

<https://www.jrex.or.jp/forum/>