

**Japan and South China Sea:
In the context of New East Asian
Power Relations**

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Three Principles in North East Asia under UN Charter

- May 2011, Shanghai Forum:
- 1. The claiming power should refrain from using physical or military force.
- 2. The status quo power should be ready to listen and talk.
- 3. The two sides should engage in establishing CBM and strengthen trust

How is it implemented before 2011?

	Claiming Party	Result of principle 1	Status quo Party	Result of principle 2
Northern Territories	<u>Japan</u>	Completely peaceful negotiations	<u>Russia</u>	Agree to talk since 1986
Takeshima/ Dokto	<u>Japan</u>	Completely peaceful & not to centrality	<u>South Korea</u>	No: since the middle of the 1990's
Senkaku/ Dyaoyutai	<u>China</u>	Basically peaceful and propose to shelve	<u>Japan</u> tacit understanding to shelve	No: since the middle of the 1990's

When was the dividing date of claimer and status quo?

- Northern Territories: August 1945 Russia occupied by force and became status quo and Japan became claimer.
- Takeshima: February 1954 Korea occupied by force and Japan became claimer.
- Senkaku: No force was used before and after 1971 when China and Taiwan began to claim.

Situation at Paracel and Spratly

- Continuous usage of military and physical forces!
- 1. January 19 1974 Chinese troops defeated Vietnamese and occupied Western Part of Paracel.
- 2. March 14 1988 skirmishes at Johnson South Reef between China and Vietnam. China won.
- 3. 1994 China built structures at the Mischief Reef of Spratly.

Can we apply the Three Principles to South China Sea?

- Yes and No.
- Yes: Can we consider November 4 2002 when the DOC was adopted as the dividing date between the status-quo and claiming powers?
- No: There are too many territories where claims duplicate but neither side has established uncontested effective control.

2012!

- April 2012 at Scarborough Shoal stand off began between Chinese Coastal Guards and Vietnamese Navy. In September China began constructing blocks.
- September 2012 triggered by GOJ's purchase of Senkaku, China on regular basis began sending their coastal guards into the territorial waters of Senkaku.

Is there a hope?

- Abe from February 2013 began stating: “There is no territorial issue but the door for dialogue is always opened”.
- September 15 2013 at Suzhou ASEAN and Chinese high-level officials had talk on Code of Conduct in South China Sea: “gradual progress and consensus through consultation”?
- Can dialogue overcome use of forces?