

[Joint research]

Economic Globalism and Regionalism: Countermeasures and Adjustment in Culture, Politics and Institutions

Joint investigators

Shihoko Nemoto (Professor, the College of Economics, Nihon University)

Koichi Kanada (Professor, the College of Economics, Nihon University)

Makoto Kishida (Associate professor, the College of Economics, Nihon University)

Foreword

This joint study project was conducted over a two-year period from Fiscal 2018 to Fiscal 2019. The purpose of the research is to consider how sectors at various regional levels have resisted or adjusted to globalism and marketisation from a historical viewpoint. While globalism and marketisation have been advancing, national legislation and institutions can impose some limits to mitigate the effects of global markets. At the same time, national foreign economic policies are required to be adapted by regionality rather than by global unified standards. This research focuses on three areas, namely, environmental conservation movements, politics and citizens in industrialised society and Japanese aid policies to Asian countries. Each area is discussed from the economic and environmental perspectives, political thought or economic history.

Nemoto's study presents the following main ideas. (1) Japan's early organic agricultural movement in the 1970s and the *teikei* movement that supported it had an aspect of socio-economic thought, namely, resistance to the capitalist market economy including globalism and the way of farming and living. (2) The ideal of the *teikei* movement was to connect producers and consumers through food as a way of recovering from 'natural and human alienation'. (3) This idea still has potential to become a foothold for environmental ethics in that it calls for reconsidering the relationship between individuals, society and nature.

Then, Kanada presents the following. (1) In the development of industrial society, although the local community continues to be a base for people's resistance to globalism and marketisation, it cannot be a movement that fundamentally shakes the market society. (2) Neoliberalism is the successor to economic liberalism, and globalism is a global expansion of market society. A discussion of Tocqueville, Arendt and Polanyi's thoughts leads to the notion that politics will give way to administrations.

Finally, Kishida's research reveals the following. (1) The evolution of Japanese development aid policies in the post-World War II period began with technical assistance to Southeast Asian countries affected by Japan's actions in the war. (2) Japan came under increasing pressure from the United States and international organisations to increase its aid activities starting in the mid-1960s. (3) The evolution of development aid policies in Japan was hampered by a decentralised, multi-ministry approach to policy development and an inherent tendency to prioritise domestic interests. (4) The changing geopolitical scene in the late 1960s led Japan to include private sector experts and academics in its External Economic Cooperation Council, marking a turn towards a more expansive aid policy.

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