

## **Sub-project II: Regional Research Group (Country-specific Policy Research Group)**

### **1. Profile of Research Group**

The Regional Research Group will prepare a “country profile” for each of the major maritime nations in the Indo-Pacific region, and will analyze and evaluate efforts being made within regional frameworks to establish/maintain the rule of law

The Research Group’s first goal will be to prepare a “country profile” of each country’s maritime security policies and issues, including the interpretations of maritime law and territorial defense postures of major maritime nations, organize this information into a database, and then make it available to the general public. Among the principal topics to be examined in these country profiles will be interpretations and state enforcement of maritime law, maritime security policies, maritime security postures, and relations with Japan and other countries (their track records of cooperation thus far as well as areas/issues allowing for possible future assistance and joint action).

The second goal will be to study/research confidence building and crisis management in the Indo-Pacific region, ongoing efforts to seek peaceful resolution of disputes, and issues involved in strengthening the maritime order and the rule of law. Some of the key items to be analyzed are international arbitration between China and the Philippines (a topic of interest shared by the International Law Research Group), Japan-China maritime liaison mechanisms and Japan-China high-level consultations on maritime affairs, the US-China maritime code of conduct, the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and a relevant code of conduct, and approaches being taken within regional frameworks.

In pursuing country-specific research, Group members will take research trips overseas to exchange views and conduct interviews as well as collect and sort data, and will research and analyze in detail each country’s views, postures, and policies on maritime security and the issues confronting it. Drawing upon these country-specific studies and upon research on a variety of issues, the Research Group will formulate foreign policy recommendations for Japan designed to strengthen the maritime order and the rule of law in the Indo-Pacific region. Furthermore, the Research Group will strive to develop the human resources necessary to carry out maritime security research from a multi-faceted perspective, and will foster younger researchers by offering courses on maritime security.

### **2. Research Group Membership**

**Group Leader**      KIKUCHI Tsutomu (Adjunct Fellow, Japan Institute of International Affairs / Professor, Aoyama Gakuin University)

#### **Group Members**

ITO Toru (Associate Professor, Department of International Relations, National Defense Academy of Japan)

KOGA Kei (Assistant Professor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

TSUCHIYA Takahiro (Senior Fellow, Keio Research Institute at SFC)

FUKUSHIMA Teruhiko (Professor, Department of International Relations, National Defense Academy of Japan)

FUKUDA Madoka (Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Hosei University)

HONNA Jun (Professor, College of International Relations, Ritsumeikan University)

YAGI Naoto (Instructor, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Staff College)

**Group Members/Secretaries**

MAEKAWA Nobutaka (Director of Research Coordination, The Japan Institute of International Affairs)

KOTANI Tetsuo (Senior Fellow, The Japan Institute of International Affairs)

ISHIDA Yasuyuki (Fellow, The Japan Institute of International Affairs)

**Research Collaborators**

NGUYEN Thi Lan Anh (Deputy Director, South China Sea Research Institute, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam)

Sumathy PERMAL (Senior Fellow, Maritime Institute of Malaysia)