

Study Group for Issue-Specific Analysis of Chinese Diplomacy

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[Overview of research]

China's presence has grown considerably in recent years, and it is now widely recognized that China's behavior in various facets of the international community has a major impact on global developments. What's more, as China has become a major power, its diplomacy has become multi-dimensional and developed in diverse ways. The diplomacy of today's China and its future course must be analyzed from a number of angles to gain a proper understanding.

Nevertheless, almost all research done on the foreign affairs of a single country, with the exception of external economic relations, focuses on that country and other countries. While there has been some degree of analysis made of relations with international institutions, there have still been essentially no attempts made to research a country's diplomatic efforts by field. This tendency is especially conspicuous with regard to Chinese diplomacy.

A study group was thus organized to analyze each of the problem areas in Chinese diplomacy. This study group has sought to develop a research structure of experts and leading intellectuals well-versed not only in Chinese issues but also in such fields as security and social/economic policy, and will work in future to bolster this structure. As restrictive factors within China have a major impact on China's diplomacy and on its standing in the international community, the group will conduct multi-faceted and comprehensive survey research taking into account not only the international political perspective but also the policy decision-making process within China.

[Future plans]

This study group was established in December 2009 and has met twice, with plans to hold one more study group meeting before the end of FY2009. Study group meetings will be held on an as-needed basis in FY2010 as the group builds on its FY2009 work and endeavors to enhance the research of its respective members. A report will be compiled at the end of FY2010, and the group hopes to find methods of disseminating the final research results to the broader public.

[Study group members]

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