Foreign/Security Policy Research Project Grant (General Developmental Projects)
Bottom-up Review of Security Policy

Project overview (FY2017-2019)
With such factors as North Korea’s development of nuclear weapons and missiles, China’s efforts to alter the status quo, and Russia’s provocations undermining the security environment surrounding Japan both quantitatively and qualitatively, and with the advocacy of an “America first” policy by the Trump administration, the future of the Japan-US alliance and extended deterrence has become more uncertain even as infringements on Japanese territory and sovereignty in gray zone situations that do not rise to the level of armed attacks are becoming normalized.

Given these circumstances, this project will conduct an examination (bottom-up review) of security policy based upon objective needs, make an objective analysis of Japan’s security environment, and present threat assessments and issues to be addressed to enable Japan to play a more proactive security role while remaining focused on the Japan-US alliance.

Research Group meetings
Recommendations on policies that contribute to Japan’s security will be prepared in collaboration with the following three research groups:

1. “Bottom-up Review” (Security Research Group; Project leader: Hideshi Tokuchi, Senior Fellow, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies)
2. “Post-Putin Russia” (Russia Research Group; Project leader: Nobuo Shimotomai, Professor, Hosei University)
3. “The Korean Peninsula in an ‘Age of Uncertainty’ and Japan’s Foreign/Security Policy” (Korean Peninsula Research Group; Project leader: Masao Okonogi, Professor Emeritus, Keio University)