

“How can Japan and Germany cooperate and commit themselves to global issues”

Referring to the seven pillars of cooperation between Germany and Japan, intentions for teamwork between both countries were already spoken out and new defined by Joschka Fischer and Yohei Kono in Tokyo on 30th Oct. 2000.

The seven pillars (which are: freedom and stability for the international community, strengthening world economy and trade relations by using impulses of globalisation, contribution to solving global problems and social tasks, contribution to the stability of instable regions, expanding the trustful political relations between Germany and Japan, promotion of trade relations, as well as promotion of mutual understanding and cultural exchange) include most of the ideas that come to my mind when I think about possible ways of cooperation between both countries but I noticed that there has not been a concrete time schedule, yet. Mostly, it is only spoken from a “contribution” to a global issue. For example: a contribution for freedom and stability of the international community.

In my opinion Japan and Germany should not just think of contributions, in contrary they should lead and initiate these processes, especially those concerning freedom, development of the third world and ecological problems.

Being the third and second economic power Japan and Germany have a global force and a voice that has to be listened to when speaking in a unique language.

Regarding the fact that both countries are well developed and enjoy a high living standard I put particular measures to their global acting. They have a responsibility for the entire world and need to set up standards in global acting. Germany and Japan play an important role in their continents, Japan in Asia, Germany in Europe. Both countries can be an example and a motor for the whole world when working in tight cooperation.

To assure this, committees for each mentioned problem field should be formed that coordinate the cooperation of both countries and give good advise to the governments. These committees should meet several times a year. The decisions made and the results of their meetings should be taken as the base of projects to realize these ideas.

Also, should both governments meet more regularly and discuss global issues. By agreeing on a common way of global acting in before, they can get more hearing on international community meetings and put decision making into the right direction.

It is important to strengthen international institutions. This can only happen by submitting oneself to international laws and following them honestly, even if this means to make sacrifices. Here I see a leading role for both countries. They can make other countries follow international rules using their economical power.

Being leading giver countries, Japan and Germany must create common help projects for the development of third world countries and learn from each other’s experience. More efficient help can be given to developing countries by working together.

An independent committee should be formed that is only composed of intellectuals. The main task of this committee would be to bring up fresh ideas and set up moral standards. Furthermore it should remind our governments on their responsibility for the rest of the world and represent our conscience. This committee would be able to freely speak out concerns and praises since it doesn’t contain politicians who often must follow diplomatic conduct.

The intercultural exchange, especially between the youth of both countries, must be expanded to ensure good cooperation and understanding in the future.

To create an equal, just world where liberty, peaceful coexistence and a good living standard for everybody is granted, our countries must commit themselves to the principles of fair trade, caring and showing respect for others, selflessness, banning exploitation and securing freedom by improving other people’s living standards.

Living this to the extremes will carry along other countries and show them that this is the right way to create a better world.