



our countries' relationship which benefitted our peoples, and made the region more stable.

When I assumed the Presidency in 2004, due to a number of reasons, the bilateral relationship between Indonesia and Australia was not in an ideal place. I knew this was not healthy for both sides and I immediately established diplomatic relations with Canberra as a foreign policy priority. I was fortunate to find a strong partner in then-Prime Minister John Howard. Before long, we had established a historic Comprehensive Partnership, and signed a bold security cooperation known as the Lombok Treaty. Indeed, Indonesia and Australia later worked together on many regional issues: regional architecture, terrorism, G20, and many more. Once you have that trust, more opportunities would come knocking and the relationship that you invest in would take you a long way.

So, these are my quick three on how we in Indonesia promoted trust internally and externally. Forward-looking mindset. Creative win-win approach. Leadership. Many of the problems around us would benefit from any or a combination of these three elements.

Yet, where trust and harmony is not readily forthcoming, I believe it is important to encourage the present and next generation to keep an open mind. I say this because there is always a risk of the young generation becoming closed-minded and resistant to change.

We must therefore continue to inculcate the culture of peace among the youth of today, because it will be in THEIR minds that the ingredients of mistrust will be gradually chipped away.

And the sooner, the better. Thank you.

[ Keynote Speech ]

# Understanding Korea's 'Trustpolitik'

**Yasuo Fukuda** Former Prime Minister of Japan



## A 'Smaller' World and Global Culture: A Clash of Cultures

I would like to start by emphasizing that our 21<sup>st</sup> century world is characterized by a globalization process that is driven by the evolution of information technology and is intensifying over time. Among many other things, this process has rapidly expedited the flow of information, material goods, human travel and relationships—bringing everything closer together and making the world, in a sense, smaller than it has ever been.

It is difficult to say, however, if this so-called smaller world is more peaceful and stabilized than the world in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Repeated incidents of international terrorism and the spread of political and religious fundamentalism are worsening tensions in the global community. Conflicts between nations and regional disputes continue to persist. At the close of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as the Cold War ended, the value systems of the world's religions, nationalities and societies that had been smothered by the dichotomy of the Eastern and Western blocs began to gradually but vehemently insist on their own *raison d'être*.

In light of these shifts, such reasons for existence, I would argue, are becoming increasingly entangled in today's shrinking world, triggering more friction and conflict. While such friction may be beneficial for social and cultural diversity, it is becoming a serious disrupter of order and stability in the international community.

We continue to claim that values such as freedom and democracy, rule of law and respect for basic human rights are universal throughout the global community, but as individual perspectives within this community continue to diversify, it is difficult to maintain that such values are truly shared and respected on a universal level.

We need to go beyond our individual perspectives and construct a medium of inter-cultural conversation that surpasses anything seen in previous generations, one that's applicable to our smaller, more intimately connected world.

## A New yet Age-Old Dilemma: Growth vs. Equality

The 21<sup>st</sup> century's international community faces new but old challenges such as

growth, equality and the wealth gap. These are complex issues that will continue to pose a daunting task for years to come.

A certain level of economic growth is necessary for the stability and prosperity of a world network that is divided into individual nations. Calls for equality or demands to bridge income gaps that do not include growth strategies are attractive, but not necessarily realistic. On the other hand, from a long-term perspective, growth strategies that lack a cautious and thoughtful system of checks and balances can spawn instability in individual nations that causes ripples throughout the international community.

With all the recent focus placed purely on growth, do we not run the risk of overlooking the problems linked to income inequality?

When it comes to inequality, I believe that are three major types we face:

First, there is the gap between developed and developing countries. This is an age-old problem that is familiar to everyone.

The second type is a bit newer: the income gap that continues to widen within both developing and partially developed countries as they steadily progress in their economic development as a whole.

Such gaps can be seen amid the continual expansions displayed by China's massive economy, as well as within the astounding economic progress achieved by developing nations, such as those of Southeast Asia.

The third type of inequality is the expanding income gap exhibited by the very developed nations that originally led the globalization phenomenon.

The developed powers' middle classes, essential to any mature democracy and functional capitalist system, must absolutely constitute the majority. But in spite of this need, members of this class are becoming increasingly impoverished and weakened by swelling income inequality, which presents serious mid- to long-term problems—socially, economically and politically. The same problem is occurring in both Korea and Japan.

To counter problems of inequality, we need policies that do not focus solely on economic growth but that also seek wealth distribution through social welfare, public enterprises and taxation. We need to realize the urgency of these issues and work to address them now.

#### **Global Issues Such as Energy and Environment**

Lastly, as the world grows smaller in one way, the global population continues to grow, particularly in developing nations. This means we can no longer procrastinate on problems concerning energy, food and the environment—matters that affect all of humanity. Although the term Spaceship Earth is no longer in common usage, we still need to put serious thought into how we can utilize the finite natural resources of our God-given planet. Humans may be foolish animals who take too long to realize their mistakes, but the costs and effort required to reverse problems related to energy and the environment are far too astronomical.

#### **The Age of Asian Polar: The Need for Global Initiatives Based in Asia**

The three points I just shared with you may seem overly philosophical, but it is imperative that we stop focusing on our short-range problems as individual nations and start discussing global concerns as members of the international community so as to start developing long-term countermeasures.

It pains me to say this, but that the international community has shown a disappointing level of awareness and response to globally pressing problems such as the energy crisis and the destruction of our environment. This is especially resonant when considering the discussions that occurred in the 1970s and 1980s regarding the high-intensity growth seen worldwide, or the intercultural conversations and in-depth debate in 2000 that contributed to the U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals.

There are probably several reasons for our negligence, but historical circumstances make me suspect the indirect influence of the world's geopolitical and structural transformations of the past few decades. Though complex and multifaceted, this shift is deeply rooted in the U.S.-Soviet confrontation of the Cold War, the global domination of the United States after the Soviet collapse, and the rapid development of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, a group of emerging economies known as the BRICS. In other words, compared to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the early 21<sup>st</sup> century is clearly no longer in a unipolar or bilateral polar state but in a multipolar one. I see a world that, rather than being controlled by a single or few superpowers, is a global community fueled by the collective leadership of several major powers and the cooperation of numerous middle powers.

At present, however, many nations are unaware of their place in such a community; they seem to either rely on superpowers to provide aid or counsel in times of need, or harbor vague expectations that these countries have an obligation to intervene and lead the way to a solution. As human thought processes generally tend to cling to old patterns, it is difficult to perceive changes in one's surroundings, acknowledge one's new role in such circumstances and adapt accordingly.

I am convinced that no one in the international community can deny the sharply rising economic and geopolitical importance of Asia in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Considering the rising prominence of nations such as Japan, Korea, China, India and Australia, as well as the influence of organizations such as ASEAN, there is clearly a demand for new initiatives to tackle global issues.

What I am referring to is the need for Asian nations to stop looking to outside powers and instead begin to cooperate with one another to lead the world discussion on key issues—an Asian Polar, if you will. To accomplish this, I believe it is important to begin building the necessary momentum and initiative for Asian nations to act collaboratively on both regional and global issues.

#### **Korea's Trustpolitik and Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative**

In light of this desire for mutual prosperity, I stress the need to build cooperative relations within the Asian community, a network founded on trust between nations and individuals. The possibility of a future in which such synergy is possible has compelled me to sympathize with President Park Geun-hye's current "Trustpolitik" policy.

In particular, I believe the nations of Northeast Asia should collaborate through various channels of communication and cooperation to establish a relationship of trust, a Northeast Asian network that would contribute to peace and cooperative relations throughout the region. I hope for the active propagation of communal efforts throughout Northeast Asia in the near future.

It is from such a perspective that I view President Park's Trust-building Process on the Korean Peninsula. May the initiative succeed in denuclearizing Korea and finally bringing peace and security to the Korean people.



#### Fifty Years of Korea-Japan Relations

On a final note, 2015 is a monumental year, marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the re-establishment of Korea-Japan diplomatic relations. Since the two nations normalized relations in 1965, Korea and Japan have steadily strengthened their symbiotic relationship on various fronts, including the realms of politics, economics and international security. Korea-Japan exchange has also dramatically improved, with over 5 million people traveling between our two nations every year. Through 2015's celebration of 50 years of normalized Korea-Japan diplomacy, I hope we can continue expanding our countries' range of mutual understanding in a multitude of areas, and elevate friendly relations to a higher level, thus laying the groundwork for another prosperous 50 years.

I understand that President Park recently told a group of Japanese businesspersons on a courtesy visit that she supports the Korea-Japan summit. I firmly believe we need to continue working to allow future generations of both countries to be more effective in bringing our two nations together.



#### [ Keynote Speech ]

## Regional Conflicts Not to Be Unavoidable

**John Howard** Former Prime Minister of Australia



May I start by saying that it is a great pleasure to share this platform with you, and I am particularly honored and pleased to share the platform with my good friend Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, former President of Indonesia. When Bambang was the president of Indonesia and I was the Prime Minister of Australia. We worked together very closely. We are two nations with vastly different ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, yet in so many areas we found common cause. And speaking for Australia I will not forget the wonderful cooperation that our country received from security forces of Indonesia in the fight against the terrorism and efforts made to capture those responsible for the murder of so many Australians and others in the Bali attack of October, 2002.

When I listened this morning to former Chancellor of Germany Gerhard Schröder speak of the reunification of his country in the wake of the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the fall of the Soviet Communism in the late 1980's and the early 1990's, I was reminded the two great transforming political events that have affected the geopolitics of the world.

Firstly it's been the collapse of Soviet communism and the end of Soviet empire, and also the end of any pretense that there was a genuine contest between the command economic model championed out of the philosophy of Marx and Engels and the practice over the decades with great increasing futility by the Soviet Union and her satellite countries largely, but not exclusively in Eastern Europe. That was the truly transforming event with multiple repercussions around the world.

The other great transforming event that has economic, social and political consequences has, of course, been the rise of the Asian region as the economic and development powerhouse of the world. There is little doubt that the economic future of the world does lie in this part of the globe.

My country Australia has been a companion along that journey as far back as 1957. A commerce agreement was signed between Australia and Japan just 12 years after the end of the Second World War. And an agreement that proved of an enormous significance in the 1960s as Australia discovered minerals and found ready customers in