



**THE REINTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 9 AND THE
CHANGE IN ANTIMILITARISM: AN ANALYSIS OF
JAPANESE STRATEGIC CULTURE**

By:

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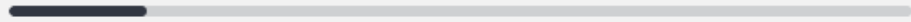
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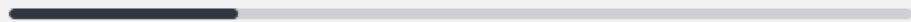
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ABSTRACT

Nadine Evangelista, International Relations, President University.

The Reinterpretation of Article 9 and the Change in Antimilitarism: An Analysis of Japanese Strategic Culture

Adviser: Dr. Muhammad A.S. Hikam, M.A., A.P.U.

In 2014, Japan's Cabinet under Prime Minister Shinzo Abe released a new interpretation of the antimilitaristic provision of Article 9 of the Constitution of Japan. Under the new interpretation, the use of force in collective self-defence is permissible. In the following year, the National Diet acknowledged a set of security bills known as NSL as regulations regarding Japan's new security policies, including the use of force in collective self-defence. This study aims to analyse the change in Japan's strategic culture of antimilitarism using the case study of the reinterpretation of Article 9. In this study, the approach to strategic culture emphasises the role of institutions. Then, the strategic culture of antimilitarism is approached by breaking it down into subcultures of pacifism, anti-traditionalism, and fear of entrapment. This study found that the influential actors in the reinterpretation are Prime Minister Abe and his political party LDP, then the National Diet which was dominated by the LDP-Komeito coalition. The interpretation indicates that certain political camps gained more support in the past years. It also found that the new interpretation does not indicate that Japan is leaving antimilitarism. While the new interpretation and NSL expand the role of JSDF by adding collective self-defence, the interpretation is more or less still restrictive to the practices of the use of force.

Keywords: Japan, Constitution of Japan, antimilitarism, reinterpretation, strategic culture, Shinzo Abe

ABSTRAK

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Pembimbing: Dr. Muhammad A.S. Hikam, M.A., A.P.U.

Pada tahun 2014, Kabinet Jepang di bawah Perdana Menteri Shinzo Abe merilis interpretasi baru dari ketentuan antimilitaristik Pasal 9 Konstitusi Jepang. Di bawah interpretasi baru ini, penggunaan kekuatan bersenjata dalam pertahanan diri kolektif diperbolehkan. Pada tahun berikutnya, Parlemen mengakui seperangkat undang-undang keamanan yang dikenal sebagai NSL sebagai peraturan baru mengenai kebijakan keamanan Jepang, termasuk penggunaan kekuatan bersenjata dalam pertahanan diri kolektif. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis perubahan budaya strategis antimilitarisme Jepang menggunakan studi kasus reinterpretasi Pasal 9. Dalam penelitian ini, pendekatan budaya strategis menekankan pada peran institusi. Kemudian, budaya strategis antimilitarisme dianalisa dengan memecahnya menjadi subkultur pasifisme, anti-tradisionalisme, dan *fear of entrapment*. Studi ini menemukan bahwa aktor yang berpengaruh dalam reinterpretasi tersebut adalah Perdana Menteri Abe dan partai politiknya LDP, kemudian Parlemen yang didominasi oleh koalisi LDP-Komeito. Adanya interpretasi menunjukkan bahwa kubu politik tertentu memperoleh lebih banyak dukungan dalam beberapa tahun terakhir dan juga menemukan bahwa interpretasi baru tidak menunjukkan bahwa Jepang meninggalkan antimilitarisme. Sementara interpretasi baru dan NSL memperluas peran JSDF dengan menambahkan pertahanan diri kolektif, interpretasi tersebut kurang lebih masih membatasi praktik penggunaan kekuatan bersenjata.

Kata Kunci: Jepang, Constitution of Japan, antimilitarism, reinterpretation, strategic culture, Shinzo Abe

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CLB	Cabinet Legislative Bureau
DPJ	Democratic Party of Japan
IGHQ	Imperial General Headquarters
JASDF	Japan Air Self-Defense Force
JCP	Japan Socialist Party
JMSDF	Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force
JSDF	Japan Self-Defense Force
LDP	Liberal Democratic Party
NSL	New Security Legislation
SDF	Self-Defense Force
UN	United Nations
US	United States
WWI	World War I
WWII	World War II