

# Japan's perspective on North Korea

Atomic weapons



RUSSIA

KAZAKHSTAN

MONGOLIA

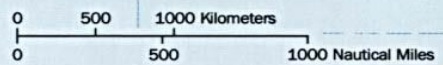
CHINA

INDIA

AUSTRALIA

Scale 1:60,000,000

Miller Cylindrical Projection



Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.

# Rise of Imperial Japan

- 1853: Japan ends historic isolation
- 1894: Japan goes to war with China
- 1904: Japan defeats Russia in a war
- 1910: Japan annex's Korea
- 1914: Japan enters World War I
- 1917: Japan unstatified with the Treaty of Versailles
- 1931: Japan invades Manchuria
- 1941: Pearl Harbor
- 1945: World War II ends, Japan withdraws from Korea
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uuO2W6ZIMsk>

# Post War Japan

- Occupied by the United States
- Wrote a new Constitution
  - Article 9
    - Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes.

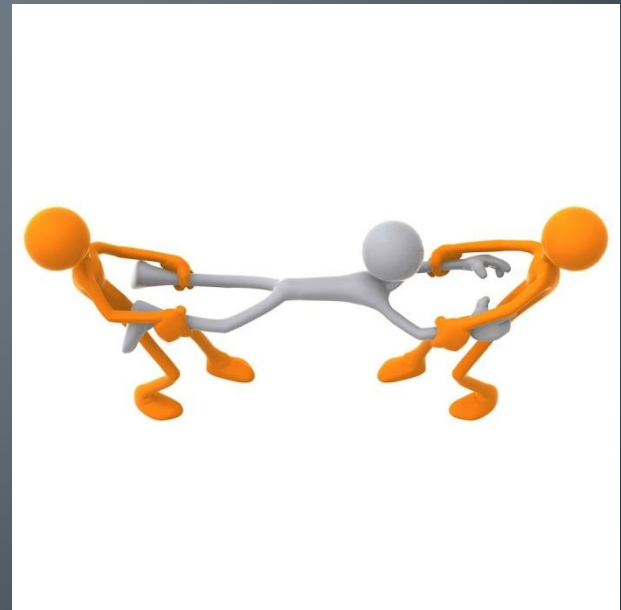
In order to accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imdPL3Etlq4>

# Post war Korea

## Division: 1945-1950

- USSR and US accept Japanese surrender in WWII
  - The USSR and US agree on a border of the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel



# Japan

- US enemy during World War II
- Occupied by US in the post war era
- US ally in the Cold War
  - Strategic location
  - Major producer or supplies for Korean & Vietnam Wars
- Japanese economic miracle producing companies like Toyota, Sony and Honda

# North Korea and South Korea different paths

## North

- Depended on aid from the USSR
- economy deteriorated after 1991
- 2006, North Korea tested nuclear weapon for first time

## South

- Built foreign trade
- High tech economy
- US ally
- Democratic since the 1970's



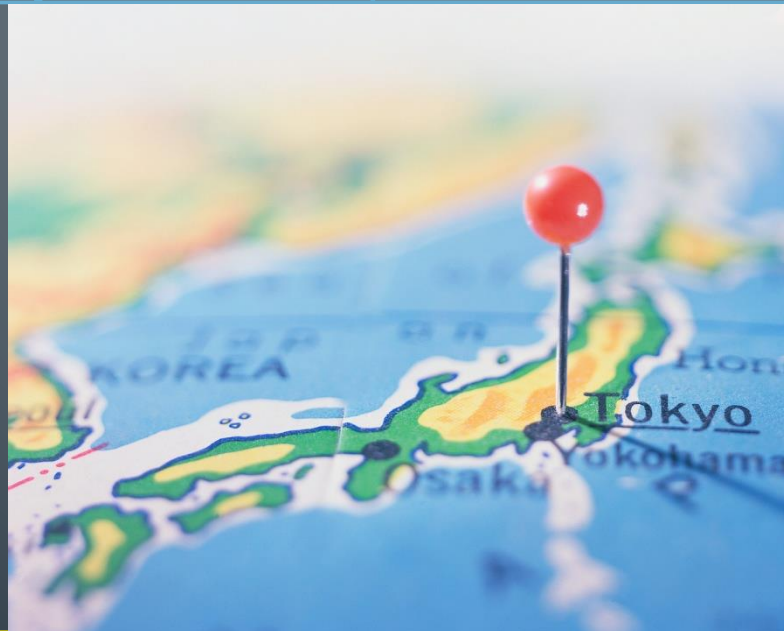


# North Korea Today

- Kim Jong-Un is now President
- Has 4<sup>th</sup> largest standing army in world
- Has nuclear weapons
- Has missiles that can hit Japan
- Tests missiles of over Japan

# Japan's perspective

- Feared it would be the target if North Korea launched a nuke
- Has a large military no nuclear weapons
- Pacifist constitution
- Historical animosity with Korea
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BnS8nEUJVP4&t=156s>



# Questions to consider

- Why does Japan have article 9?
- In light of recent developments should Japan amend article 9?
- What are the pros and cons of Japan allowing the United States to take the lead on North Korea?
- If you were the foreign minister of Japan how would you advise the Prime Minister to deal with North Korea?