

## **Japan-U.S. military alliance and Sino-Japanese relations**

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Japan-U.S. alliance is an important factor affecting security and stability in East Asia. But during the Cold War period, it had little impact on Sino-Japanese relations because the nature of the alliance was mainly defensive -defending Japan against Soviet aggression. After the Cold War, the Japan-U.S. alliance did not breakup with the collapse of Soviet Union and fade out from the stage of history. Contrarily, it has been strengthened. In the movement of Japanese-U.S. military integration, the nature of the alliance has fundamentally changed, from defensive to offensive. The intention against China, especially intervening in the situation across the Taiwan Straits, is increasingly transparent. The alliance has become an important factor affecting Sino-Japanese relations. It is seriously jeopardizing the political mutual trust and increasing the military tension between China and Japan.

Japan regards the Japan-U.S. military alliance as the core of Japan's diplomacy and defense. But Japan has to review its policy seriously if Japan hopes to maintain peace and stability with its neighborhoods. First, the alliance policy should not be used as a cover for a breach of the peace constitution and pursuing a military power. Japan has realized its economic rise in the framework of the peace constitution. Japan should bear in mind the lessons of its military rise during World War II. Second, the alliance in fact is a kind of bilateral security arrangement, so the scope should not be beyond the territories of two countries. Japan must not jump out of the East Asia. Its security is relying on the good relationships with the countries in the region. Japan should take concrete steps to increase the political mutual trust with its neighbors and pay more attention to the strategic interaction and reciprocity with China. Finally, the exclusive military alliance is a product of the Cold War mentality, which is not in accordance with the mainstream of the world-- peace, development and cooperation. Japan should make greater contributions to the building of the regional multilateral security cooperation mechanism instead of the bilateral military alliance.