

**The exchange of information and the role of media
in North East Asia
- Asian and European Situation -**

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1. Introduction
2. The Role of Media from the Historical Perspectives
3. European Situation of the role of Media
4. Conclusion

1. Introduction

In the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Constitution said “That since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed;”. And this constitution lasts that “That ignorance of each other’s ways and lives has been a common cause, throughout the history of mankind, of that suspicion and mistrust between the peoples of the world through which their differences have all too often broken into war”.

In this paper, I will discuss the role of media in the view of peace making, comparing with the European Situation.

2. The Role of Media from the Historical Perspectives

The North East Asian States, which are composed of Japan, China, South Korea, North Korea, Russia and Mongolia, have a different background about history, culture and political system. So in these states, the role of the media is difficult because of such differences. None of the only one answer or style of media exist. However the common role in the media can exist. In my paper, I will discuss the role of the media in North East Asia and comparing with the European Situation.

In the 21st century, globalization is expanded more and more. People living in the developed states and developing states can go other states easily. This situation expands in the North East Asian States. And this “globalization” is not only the phenomenon for human traveling but also for information. For example, Japanese girls band “AKB” held concerts in China and South Korea. South Korean famous boys band, “Dong Bang Shin Ki”, also held concerts in each states. Globalization brings economic interdependence, and Bruce Russett pointed out that economic interdependence brings peace¹.

Peace and security have many functions. Michael Lund pointed out that we can distinguish five dimensions from peace to security. The five dimensions are basic peace, durable peace, stable peace, unstable peace, crisis, and final dimension is war.

	Early term	Mid term	Final term
War	Peacemaking		Peace Enforcement
Crisis	Crisis Diplomacy		Peacekeeping
Unstable Peace	Preventive diplomacy		Postconflict Peace Building
Stable Peace	Peacetime Diplomacy		
Durable Peace			

Michael S.Lund(1996)*Preventing violent conflict :a strategy for preventive diplomacy* , Washington, D.C. : United States Institute of Peace Press,p.38.

According to Lund, what is the most important is to prevent conflict between or among states, and stay at the stable or durable peace. If the international relationship becomes wrong from stable peace to unstable peace or crisis, emergency treatment is needed. To prevent such a situation and to recover from it, the role of media is important.

Although many times the ex²change of information brings each understanding, sometimes it also brings misunderstanding. The information itself is able to go beyond

¹ Bruce Russett(1994)*Grasping the Democratic Peace*, Princeton; New Jersey, Princeton University Press.
² David Yanagizawa-Drott (2014)”Propaganda and Conflict: Evidence from the Rwandan Genocide”,*The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129 (4),pp.1947-1994.

our imagination. Especially in the North East Asian States, some historical issues which are the comfort women, Nanjing Genocide, and some other issues still exist.

The integrated view about the role of media does not exist in North East Asian States because of the differences of the political system. It is not easy for North Eastern States to make an integrated view about the role of media. However some points we can reach at the common understanding from the view to the making stable peace in North East Asia.

To cease the tension among people or to keep the durable or stable peace among states and people, the media should play an important role. In Rwanda, the start point of Rwandan genocide was the broadcasted racist propaganda by Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines (RTLHC). The radio station agitated the hostility against “enemy” nation, and finally Hutus massacred the Tutsis in Rwanda. In the genocide, about 10% of the people who killed Tutsis was agitated by this radio station.

Other example was Franco-Prussian War or Franco-German War in 1870-1871. The origin of this war was Ems Dispatch, which was the telegram dispatched by Otto von Bismarck. Bismarck used mass media to agitate Germany, and he opened the dispatched telegram to mass media. Newspaper wrote the dispatched information, and then French newspaper wrote the hostility against Germany. Finally these two states started the war.

3. European Situation of the role of Media

In Europe, two organizations follow the information issue. One is Council of Europe, the other is Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe(OSCE).

Council of Europe has produced the exchange of information to young people, which is one of the aim of Council of Europe. The Council of Europe was born in 1948, after the World War II. The aim of this organization was to prevent the war. During the World War II, Germany occupied almost all of Europe except some neutral states such as Switzerland, Sweden, Spain Ireland, and Poland, and one Allied Force, the United Kingdom. Nazis Germany introduced the policy of Jewish persecution in their occupation area and holocaust. So the Council of Europe decided to establish the

stable peace in Europe through the exchange of information. Not only Council of Europe but also OSCE plays an important role in the media and exchange of the information.

In August 1st 1975, the head of the states including almost all of the European States except Albania, the USA and Canada signed the Helsinki Final Act, which was later called Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) process. In the Act, there was no decision about exchange of information. For the Western states, mass media was expected as a role of watcher for the authority or government, but for the Eastern states, mass media was expected as a role of government's advertiser. In addition to this differences, Eastern States' governments made a jamming for the waves from the western media not to get information for East European people³. In this situation, although some decisions were introduced in the HFA, Principle 8 of the Basket 1 and Basket 3, especially Eastern states insisted on the Principle 6 "non-interference of internal affairs" in addition to the Principle 8 to defend the critics from Western States⁴. In this term, for Western states information should be "free from authority or government", but for Eastern states information was a tool of confidence and building between states or between people, and should be controlled by authority or government.

However, some meetings were held under the CSCE process. In 1985, Budapest Cultural Forum, some eastern and western states submitted collaborate proposals to exchange information. Under the Cold War situation in the CSCE process, almost all of the proposals were submitted by Eastern camp, Western camp or Neutral States, and few proposals were submitted by collaborate of Eastern and Western States. So the exchange of information was common issues among participating States in the CSCE.

In the London Information Forum held in April 1989, some Eastern states' delegations like Hungary and Poland were consisted on journalist. And in this Forum, Soviet delegation suggested "Pan-European Information Council". In this suggestion,

³ Pawel Machcewicz (2015) *Poland's War on Radio Free Europe, 1950-1989*, Stanford Univ Press: California, pp.283-284.

⁴ Western States also did not expect that Eastern states should keep the promise about Principle 8.

Soviet delegation said that the role of the council was to promote mutual understanding and confidence-building, and in the document Soviet delegation said that the importance of the code of conduct of journalists and protection of the right of journalists⁵. In the London Information Forum, no final document was declared, but all participating states recalled the importance of the role of media.

Although the norm of the role of media was integrated into the Western view, another problem was occurred in the European Continent. After the Cold War, some federal states such as Yugoslavia ,Soviet Union and Czech-Slovak Federal Republic were collapsed and divided into some states based on the ethnicities. Not only these states but also some Eastern European States after the Communist regime, some political party or government insisted on the nationalism, ethno-centrism, and xenophobia to get supports from voter in the election.

In the CSCE meetings, however, the final documents pointed out the importance to restrict the hate speech and other movements about xenophobia. Also, the documents pointed out that media should play an important role to mediate among different ethnics⁶. At that time in the CSCE, there had a little intention to say a role about media and minorities. After the Cold War, some organizations and mechanisms were established in the framework of the CSCE, but no organization was established about media.

Year	Name of Organization	City	Meeting
1990	Office for Free Elections	Paris	Paris Summit
	Conflict Prevention Centre	Vienna	Paris Summit
	Secretariat Office	Prague	Paris Summit
1992	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights	Warsaw	Helsinki Summit
	High Commissioner on National Minorities	The Hague	Helsinki Summit
1996	Representatives on Freedom of Media	Vienna	Lisbon Summit

Figure.Organizations in the CSCE/OSCE

⁵ CSCE/LIF.2, April 26, 1989.

⁶ In the Final Document of the Expert Meeting on National Minorities in Geneva, and the Final Document of the Moscow Conference on Human Dimension.

In 1996, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel proposed the establishment of the Representatives on freedom of media in the Permanent Council⁷. After the formal proposal was submitted by Germany and other states, the formal decision to establish the Representatives on Freedom of Media in Lisbon Summit Meeting. The Central idea was submitted in Germany, and supported by EU states and other European States like Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia , Malta and Turkey⁸. The USA, Russia and other CIS states did not interfere to the Representatives, so the authority of the Representatives was decided in the Special Permanent Council in November 1997. And in the OSCE Copenhagen Ministerial Council held in next month, Freimut Duvé from Germany was appointed in the First Representatives on the Freedom of Media.

The intention for German to establish this Representatives was to prevent the ethnic propaganda waves⁹. Especially in the Yugoslav Civil War, sometimes the ethnic propaganda waves played an important role to make hatred among ethnics. So one of the important role in the Representatives was to make trust and confidence- building among different ethnics by using media and to prevent making xenophobia by using media.

Not only the Representatives but also High Commissioner on National Minorities strongly insist on the importance of the exchange of information and prevents the agitation about racism and extreme nationalism. Especially High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE stated the importance of the role of media as a mediator among people and different ethnicities.

Year	Recommendations
1996	The Hague Recommendations regarding the Education Rights of National Minorities
1998	The Oslo Recommendations regarding the Linguistic Rights of National Minorities
1999	The Lund Recommendations on the Effective Participation of National Minorities in Public Life
2003	Guideline on the use of Minority Language in the Broadcast Media

⁷ Anne Ruth Herkes (1998) The OSCE Representatives on Freedom of Media, *International Helsinki Monitor*, 9(2), p.51

⁸ *Ibid.*, pp.51-52.

⁹ *Ibid.*, pp.52.

2006	Recommendations on Policing in Multi-Ethnic Society
2008	The Bolzano/Bozen Recommendations on National Minorities in Inter-State Relations
2012	The Ljubiana Guidelines on Integration of Diverse Societies
2017	The Graz Recommendations on Access to Justice
2019	The Tallin Guideline on National Minorities and the Media in the Digital Age

Figure. Recommendations and Guidelines from HCNM

4. Conclusion

In this paper I discuss the importance the exchange of information and the role of media. Now European achieve the peace situation except refugee issue and the era of the crisis of war is over.

Although people who live in the European States have similar common sense and common values, people who live in North East Asian States have a little common value because of the historical circumstance. Comparison with Europe, not only the people's value but also the political regimes were difference in the North East Asian States. In the European States, government of all European states should be elected based on the periodic, free and fair elections. On the other hand, in the North East Asian States, Japan, South Korea and Mongolia are democratic states. China is ruled by Communist Party, and North Korea is dictatorship state. So, the idea for media is different from states like Cold War Europe.

From the European Perspective, one of the important roles of media to create the confidence among different nations and ethnicities. "To create" does not mean to control information. "To manage" the information for making the confidence and preventing the hostile among different nations and ethnicities is important from the European experiences. We can learn some lessons from the European experiences in the role of media and exchange of information.

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