

**The Second Trilateral Russia – Japan - USA Conference.
Tokyo, Jan.,17-18,2011**

A team of IMEMO researchers attended the 2nd Japan-US-Russia Trilateral Conference “Security Challenges in Northeast Asia” held in Tokyo on January 17-18, 2011. The conference was a regular meeting of experts on security issues in the framework of trilateral dialogue co-organised by the Japan Institute of International Affairs, which hosted this conference, IMEMO and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), based in Washington. The conference also enjoyed the support of the Japan Foreign Ministry and was attended by observers from other Japanese government bodies, as well as Russian and US diplomats.

Agenda for the conference consisted of a number of hot issues related to security in Northeast Asia, attention being focused on three main topics: 1) internal and nuclear affairs of North Korea, 2) energy security in the Far East and East Siberia, and 3) maritime order in East Asia. However, two-days discussions held at the conference covered a much wider range of security-related issues, which included numerous risks and challenges stemming from both old problems and new advances in the international relations in Northeast Asia, as well as from the changing situation in the energy markets. Chinese international strategy was widely discussed with the view of its influence on political, military and economic security in the region, including different scenarios of future developments. Territorial disputes in the region received extensive coverage, while many of the participants offered their particular ideas on future possibilities and new approaches to minimize the associated risks. Issues of security policies and political and economic agenda of the relations between Japan, Russia and the US were discussed within multilateral framework and also as problems to be tackled on bilateral level.

Participants to the conference offered a variety of opinions on the issues discussed, often displaying different vision of particular threats to security in the region, and approaches to challenge these threats. However, the discussion showed that there exist possibilities to try develop guidelines for international efforts, both bilateral and multilateral, to ensure more security and trust in the region, which could be of practical value to policy-makers. The idea that a joint policy proposal on international security in the Pacific Asia could be issued on the basis of scholar discussions and expertise, has been generally supported by the participants. They also agreed to continue discussions at the next trilateral conference which is to be hosted by IMEMO in 2012 in Moscow.

Some of the papers presented by IMEMO researchers at the conference, and the address by Japanese Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara are attached for reference.



Ac. A.Dynkin with President CSIC Dr. J.Hamre and President JIIA, Dr. Y.Nogami



Ac. A.Dynkin meets Japan Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara

