

adaptor / July 01, 2014 05:11PM

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最新更新：The Japan Times 2014-06-30

引用日期：2014-07-01

引用連結：

<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/06/30/national/politics-diplomacy/thousands-get-behind-article-9-in-last-ditch-rally-at-prime-ministers-office/#.U7J50LuXTTE>

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Thousands get behind Article 9 in last-ditch rally at prime minister's office

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JUN 30, 2014

ARTICLE HISTORY

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On the eve of a historic decision, thousands of people turned up at the prime minister's office on Monday evening to shout their opposition to his plan to reinterpret Article 9 of the Constitution to permit collective self-defense, which could pave the way for Japan to wage war.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet is expected to approve a reinterpretation of the pacifist charter at an extraordinary meeting Tuesday, allowing Japan to come to the aid of an ally under attack even when Japan itself is not.

"We will never recognize such a move," said Ken Takada, who helped organize the rally by Abe's office in Chiyoda Ward.

"We must be aware that we're at a historical turning point in post-war Japan," he emphasized. "We will continue to fight at any cost to stop the Cabinet approval tomorrow."

Chanting "Don't destroy the Constitution," "We absolutely oppose reinterpretation of the Constitution," and "We don't need the right to collective self-defense," the protesters were carrying a wide array of signs, lights and banners to get their message across to the conservative leader.

At one point, a group of right-wing supporters showed up in a speaker truck to interfere with the protest but were shooed off by the police.

Estimates of the size of the rally ranged from 10,000 to 40,000 people.

"I'd like to make the public to know that there are people who are opposing" Abe's drive to reinterpret the war-renouncing Constitution, said Takuya Shigeta, a 53-year-old resident of Fuchu, western Tokyo.

Kinue Yoshino, a 30-year-old employee from Kawasaki, said she came to join the rally because she doesn't want to see Japan take part in a war.

Another woman in her 50s from Saitama, who declined to be named, agreed with Yoshino and said she took part in the rally to help stop that from happening.

更完整訊息，請參閱：

<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/06/30/national/politics-diplomacy/thousands-get-behind-article-9-in-last-ditch-rally-at-prime-ministers-office/#.U7J50LuXTTE>

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搞不懂昨天日本人上街在反什麼的可以參考一下威志的簡短解說，我個人其實非常不樂觀，昨天的突發性集遊雖然不尋常但其實並非預料之外，參與者的動員脈絡其實也不難掌握，媒體徹底消音也是預期之內。

而關於集團自衛權issue的本身可以探討的面向太多了，但無論如何就像威志說的，主張可以用"閣僚決議"(一般說法性質上屬於行政命令，但我一直認為他甚至連行政命令都不是，而只是一種由行政機關作成的公法上意思表示)片面更動"憲法解釋"而成就超越憲法文本的國家權力行使狀態成為常態，這本身就是一種日本版的"超越憲法的男人"阿~安倍醬。

但在這個創傷(311)與憂患(中國崛起)氛圍包夾的國度裡，在這個對法西斯主義滋長而言簡直是絕佳時刻的時代裡，進步主義者的道路又在哪呢？左派到底該不該全面放棄對於"戰爭"議題的詮釋，把話語權交給法西斯？左派應否對於日本的國際戰略與東亞局勢作出更具體的論述和更負責任的現實考量？這是至今為止我完全看不到的、所謂日本左派論述的極限。

Tan Uichi:

"在新宿街頭自焚事件之後，昨天晚上又有上萬人聚集首相官邸前抗議即將通過的「承認集體自衛權」，光看照片發現也有很多年輕人。

馬英九政權的行政權獨大，也同樣發生在這個島國。照理說改變憲法解釋=將本來只有保護本國遭受攻擊時的反擊力量的自衛隊，改成可以參與盟國的戰爭，應該要進行修憲或國會審議，但安倍政權與馬英九主張服貿是行政命令不須國會審議一般，他們將以「閣僚決議」的形式通過這項憲法解釋變更案。

「閣僚決議」就是閣員開會，然後全體達成決議的方式，如此避過了國會監督，但造成了制度上很大的漏洞，就像台灣人不解為什麼國會多數黨國民黨「不敢」好好在國會審服貿一般；日本民眾也不解，你自民黨占國會絕大多數，如果要改變憲法解釋，好好送交國會審議也穩贏的阿，為什麼要用這種規避監督的作法。

也許共通點就是馬英九或安倍都有他們一定要通過的「個人考量」吧。

因為擔心集體自衛權的承認，將讓日本走向戰爭（不管是被捲入，或是自己出兵），很多人聚集街頭；而「行政權獨大」的暴走，應該也是一大懸念。"

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 07/01/2014 05:13PM by adaptor.

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