

学位論文の要旨 (論文の内容の要旨)  
Summary of the Dissertation (Summary of Dissertation Contents)

論 文 題 目 Environmental Civil Society Organizations:  
Activism and Advocacy for Deliberating Energy Policies in Post-Fukushima Japan

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The 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami known as the Great earthquake disaster of East Japan (Higashi nihon daishinsai) occurred on March 11, 2011, and caused a nuclear accident in the Fukushima Daichii nuclear power plants in the following days. Following the Fukushima nuclear accident, which created a public backlash, the energy-related discussions have been reshaped. The Fukushima issue went beyond a technical understanding of nuclear energy issue and became a nationwide socio-political issue.

The doctoral research study focuses on a case study of the environmental civil society organizations (ECSOs) based in Japan, to find out how these environmental organizations have articulated and interpreted their goals for a nuclear-free policy in the post-Fukushima era. In other words, this research seeks to understand the ways environmental civil society organizations mobilize political institutions for energy policies and a shift toward renewable energy alternatives in Japan, and to what resources they use for the creation of a political opening and engagement with the Japanese government in the mobilization process.

It examines the extent to which environmental civil society organizations (with a particular focus on Greenpeace Japan, Friends of Earth, The Institute of Sustainable Energy Policy, and Renewable Energy Institute) have been influential in the energy decision-making process since the Fukushima accident. It highlights the socio-political dimensions of the nuclear energy issue in Japan, including the efficacy level of ECSOs, deliberative and democratic spaces of civic actors, the degree of functionality of environmental governance, the interactional dimensions of state-civil society partnership, and the dynamics of the energy policymaking process in contemporary Japan. The findings shed light on in what ways ECSOs create a linkage for the transformation of nuclear energy policies and how they achieve their desired outcomes. If not an achievement, what are the underlying factors behind this failure?

The doctoral research study lies in establishing a socio-political linkage between civil society and the Japanese state by exploring the interactions between them. This research offers new insights and perspectives on contemporary Japanese civil society and non-governmental organizations (hi-seifu soshiki) and institutions. It distinctively stimulates comprehensive debate from several perspectives and concepts, and highlights the intersection of the Sociology of Science, Technology and Society; Critical Political Studies; and Public Policy. It also aims to play a reflective role in the nexus of environmental sociology and collective actions.

備考 論文の要旨はA4判用紙を使用し、4,000字以内とする。ただし、英文の場合は1,500語以内とする。

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