Confidential

The 9th Korea—Japan Joint Public Opinion Poll (2021)



East Asia Institute



Genron NPO

<In Cooperation with>
South Korea: Hankook Research Co. Ltd.
Japan: Public Opinion Research Institute Corporation

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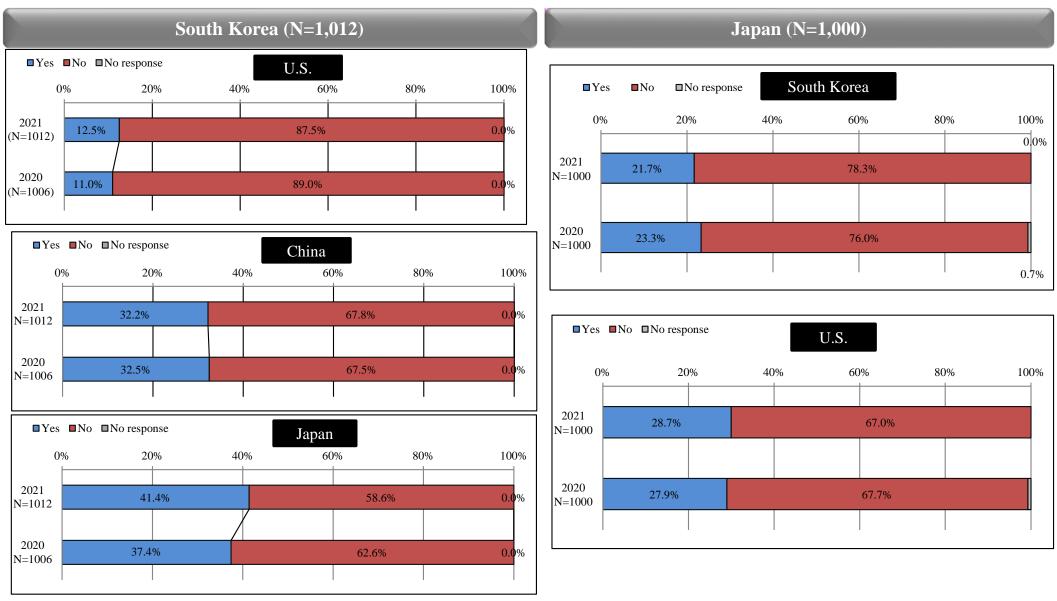
Survey Overview

	Survey in South Korea	Survey in Japan		
Region	All region throughout South Korea	All region throughout Japan		
Target	Adults aged 18 and over	Adults aged 18 and over		
Sampling Methods	Samples were collected from 17 administrative districts across South Korea and were proportioned according to the population size and gender and age distributions of the respective district.	20 samples were collected from each of the 50 designated locations throughout Japan and were proportioned according to the national gender and age distributions.		
Survey Method	Face-to-face interviews	Door-to-door visits (self-administered)		
Survey Period	2021.08.26~2021.09.11	2021.08.21~2021.09.12		
Valid Samples	1,012	1,000		
Sample	Male 49.5%, Female 50.5%	Male 48.6%, Female 51.4%		
Description	Middle school graduate or lower: 13.0% High School graduate: 37.6% College, University, Technical Schools, University, Graduate or Postgraduate School: 49.4%	Elementary, Middle school: 5.2% High School: 48.4% Vocational School, Technical College: 19.8% College: 23.6% Graduate School: 1.8% Other: 1.0% No Answer: 0.2%		
	18 ~ 29 : 12.9% 30 ~ 39 : 15.3% 40 ~ 49 : 18.9% 50 ~ 59 : 19.7% Over 60 : years of age 28.7%	Under 20 years of age: 2.5% 20 ~ 29: 11.8% 30 ~ 39: 14.9% 40 ~ 49: 17.3% 50 ~ 59: 14.8% Over 60 years of age: 38.7%		

※ In some cases, the total is less than 100.0% due to rounding up to the second decimal place.
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Experience of Visiting the Other Country

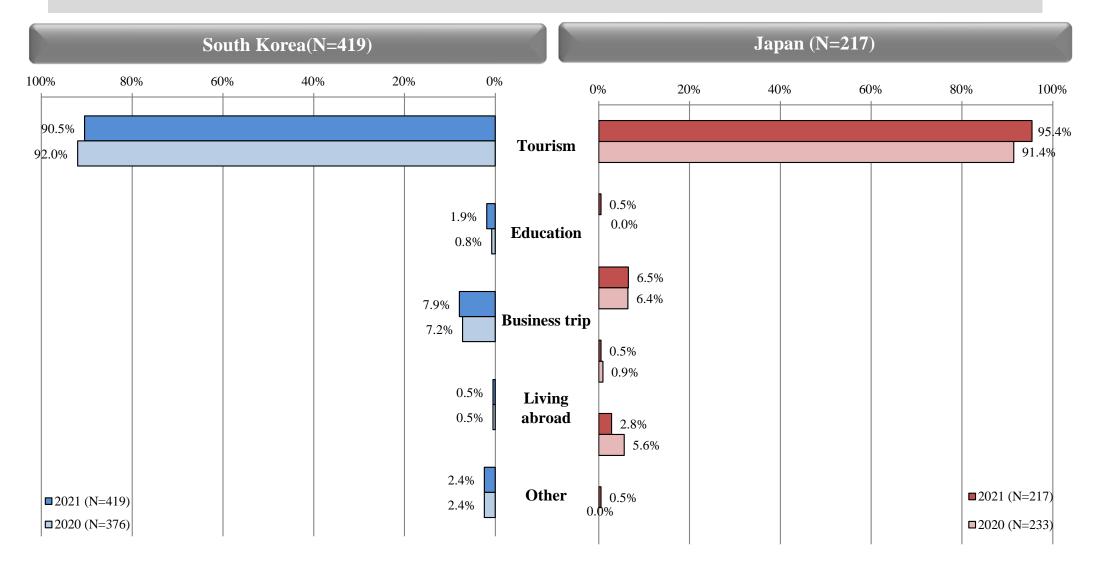
Q1. Have you ever visited any of the following countries? [Single response]



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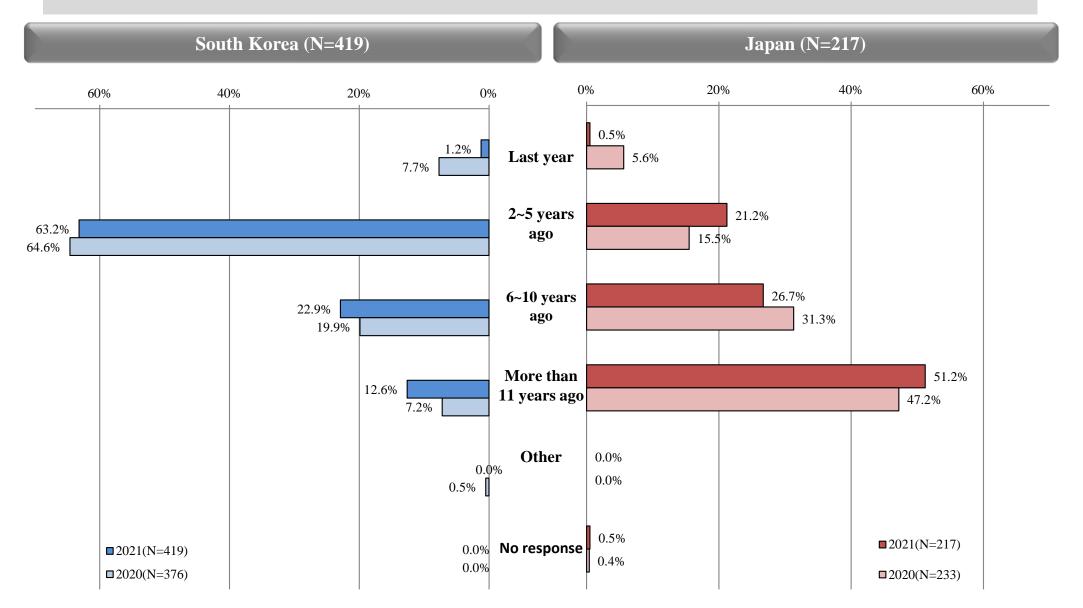
Purpose of Visiting the Other Country

Q1-a. (Only those who answered "Japan/ South Korea" in Q 1) What was the purpose of your visit to the other country? [Multiple responses]



Period of Visit to the Other Country

Q1-b. (Only those who answered "Japan/Korea" in Q1) When was the last time you visited the other country? [Single response]



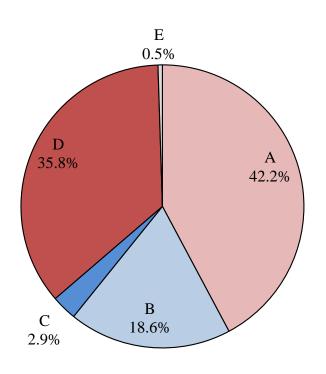
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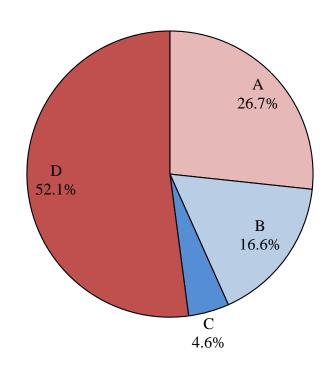
Number of Visits to the Other Country Over the Past 5 Years

Q1-c. How many times have you visited the other country (Japan/ South Korea) in the past five years?



Japan (N=217)

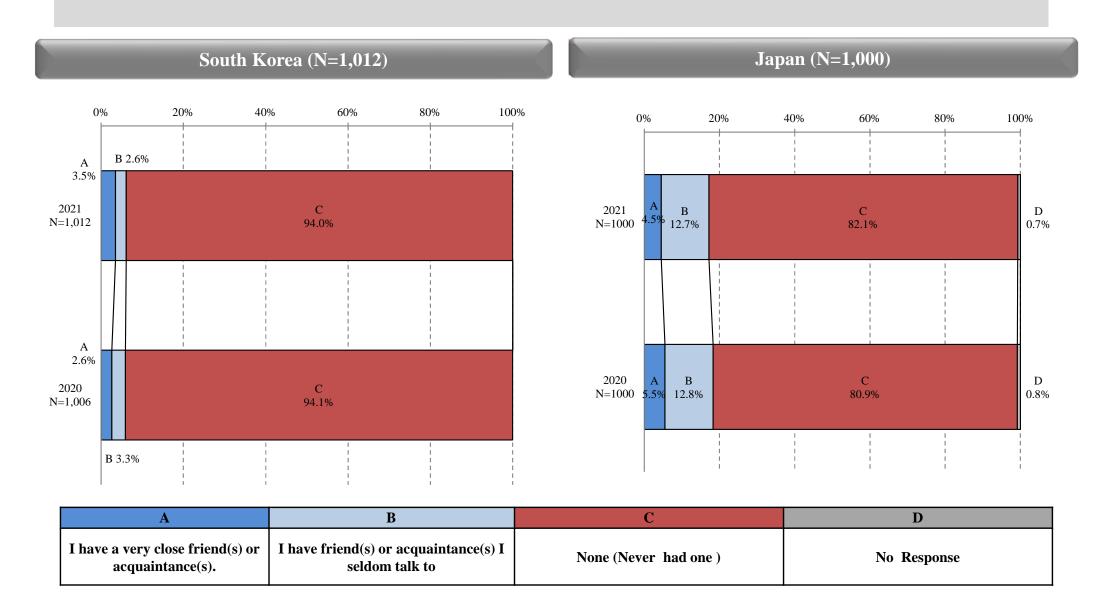




A	В	C	C D	
Once	2~4 times	More than 5 times	Never	Not sure/ No response

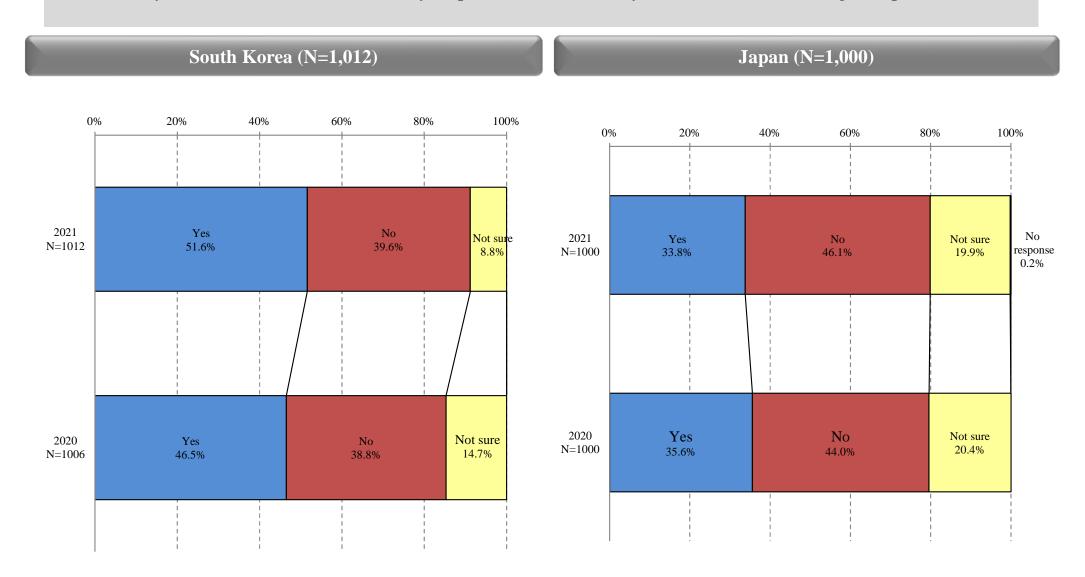
The Presence or Absence of Acquaintances in the Other Country

Q2. Do you have any relatives or acquaintances in the other country (Japan/South Korea)? [Single response]



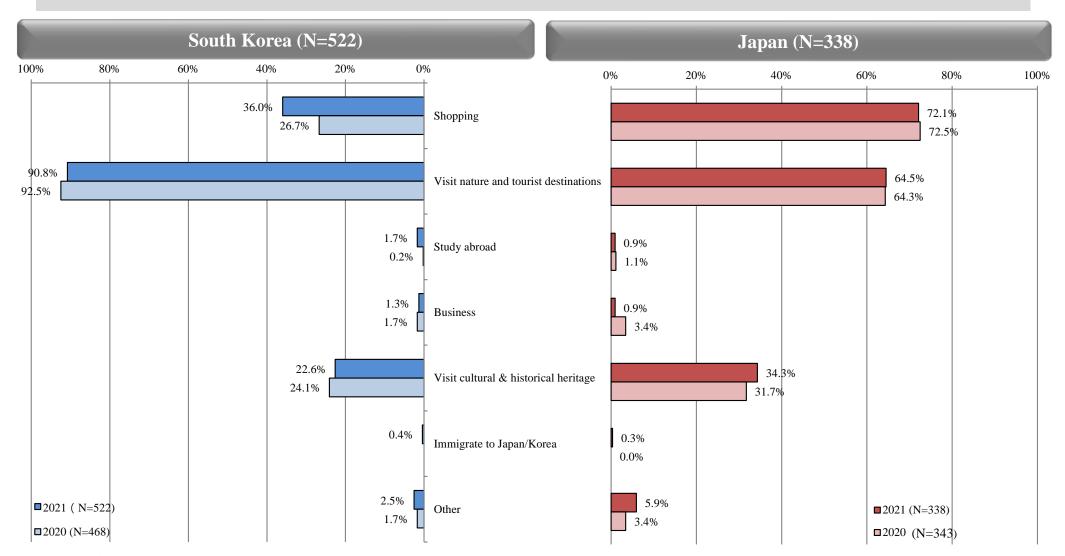
Expectations to Visit the Other Country

Q3. Would you like to visit the other country (Japan/ South Korea) if you had the chance? [Single response]



Purpose of Visiting the Other Country

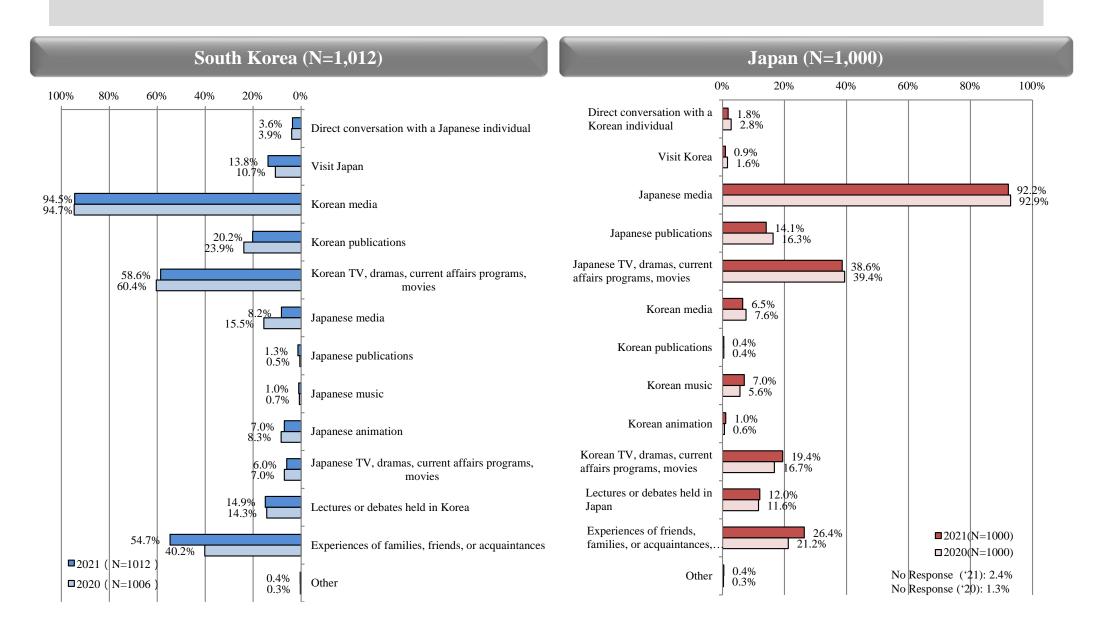
Q3-a. (Only those who responded "I want to visit" in Q3) What do you want to do when you visit the other country (Japan/ South Korea)? [Multiple response]



^{* &}quot;Immigrate to Japan" was added in the 2021 survey.

Acquiring Information on ROK-Japan Relations

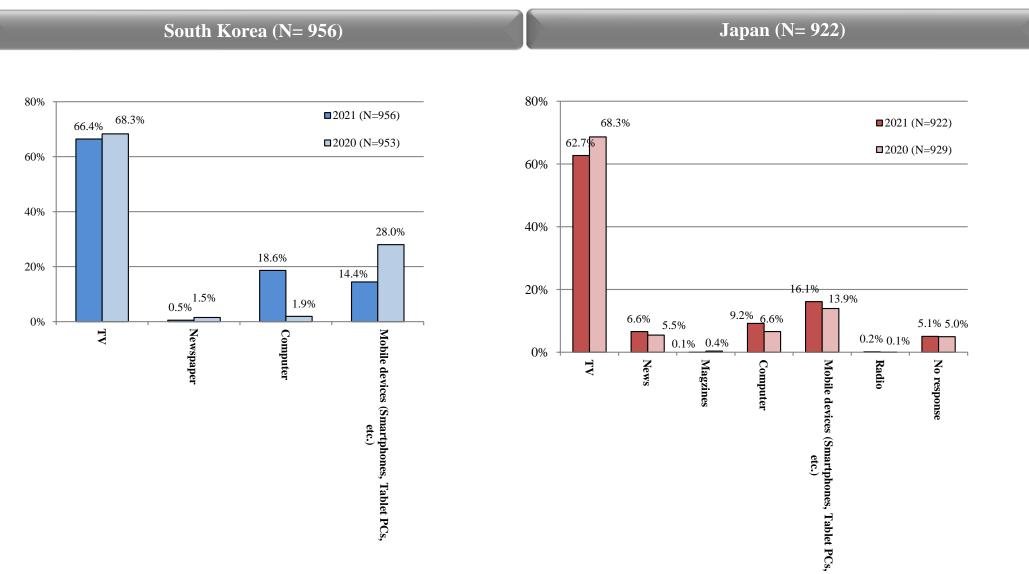
Q4. How do you usually get information about the other country or ROK-Japan relations?



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Means of Media for Acquiring Information

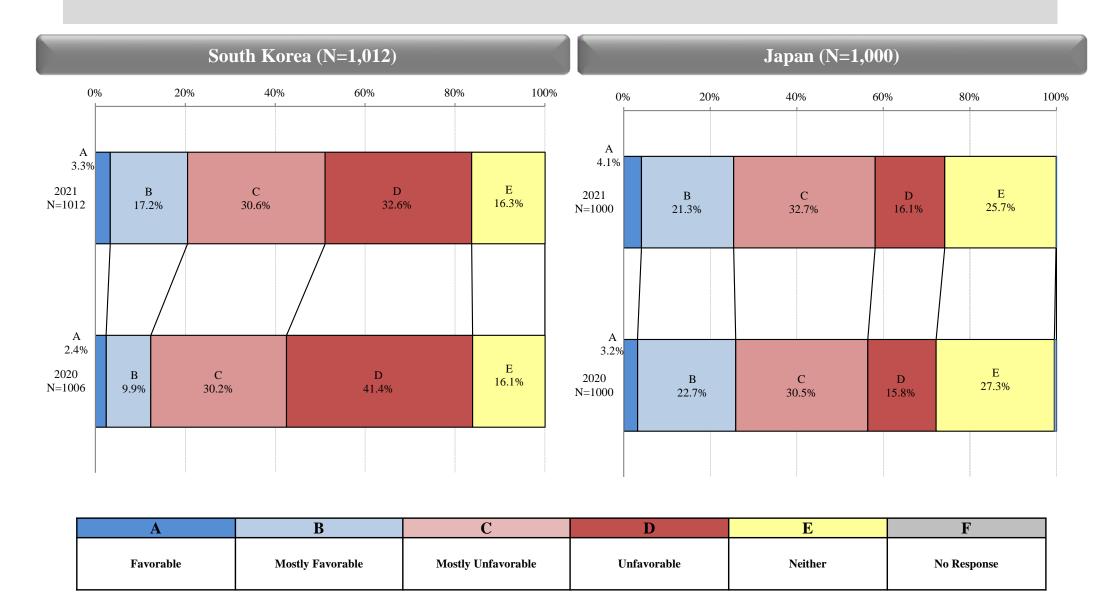
Q 4 -a. (Only those who responded that they were getting information through media of their own country in Q4) Which media source do you encounter the most information about ROK-Japan relations? [Single response]



^{*} In the 2020 survey, "Radio" was calculated as 0.3%; this was excluded in the South Korean 2021 survey.

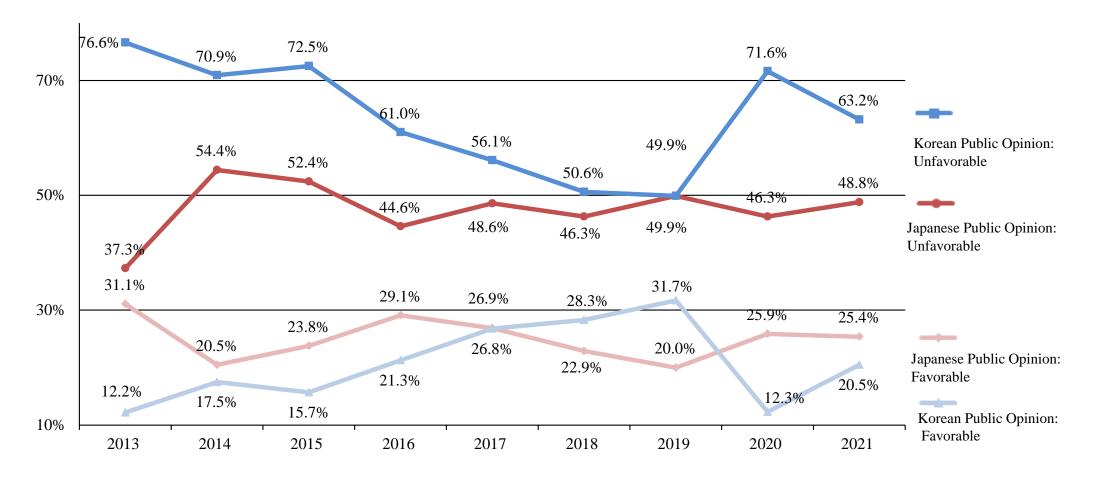
Perception of the Other Country

Q5. What is your impression of the other country (Japan/ South Korea)? [Single response]



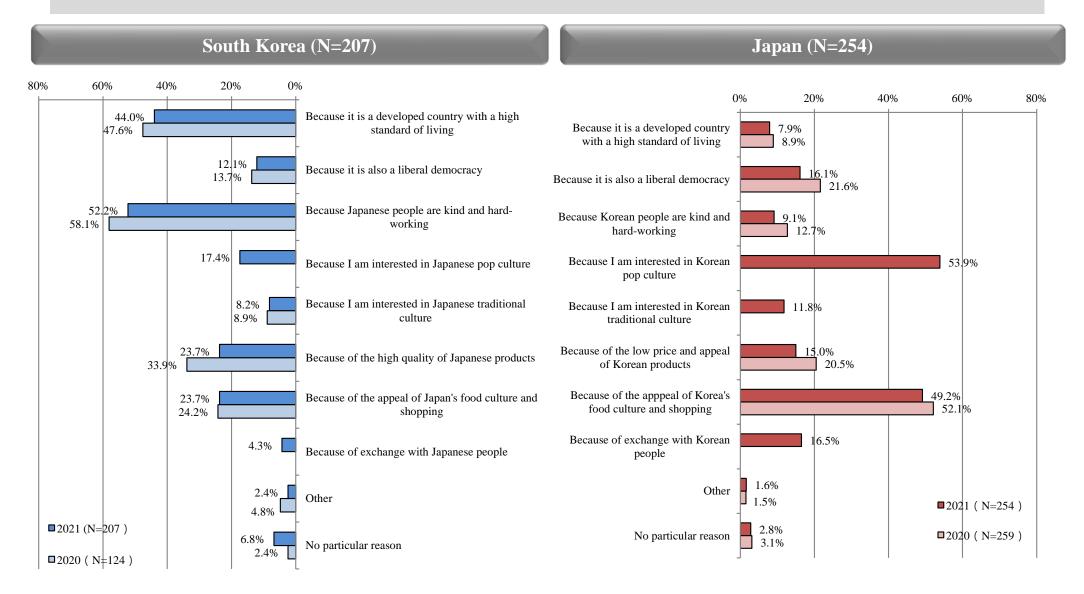
Perception of the Other Country('13~'21)

Q5. What is your impression of the other country (Japan/ South Korea)? [Single response]



Reasons for Favorable Impressions

Q5- a. (Only those who answered that they had a favorable impression in Q5) Why do you have a favorable impression of the other country (Japan/ South Korea)? [Up to 2 responses]

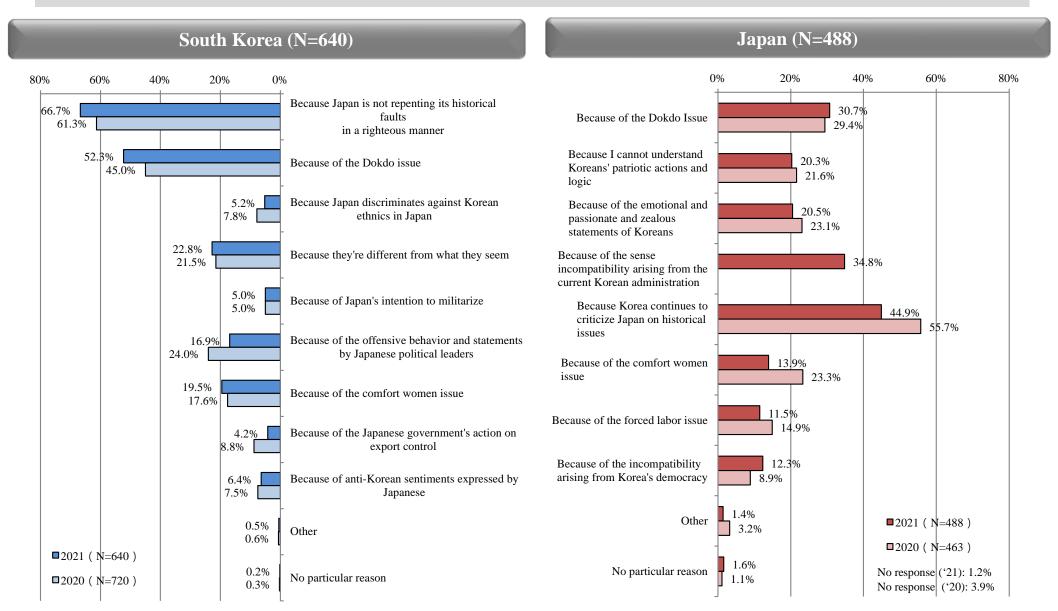


^{*} In 2021, choices "because I am interested in Japanese pop culture" and "because of exchange with Japanese people" were added

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Reasons for Unfavorable Impressions

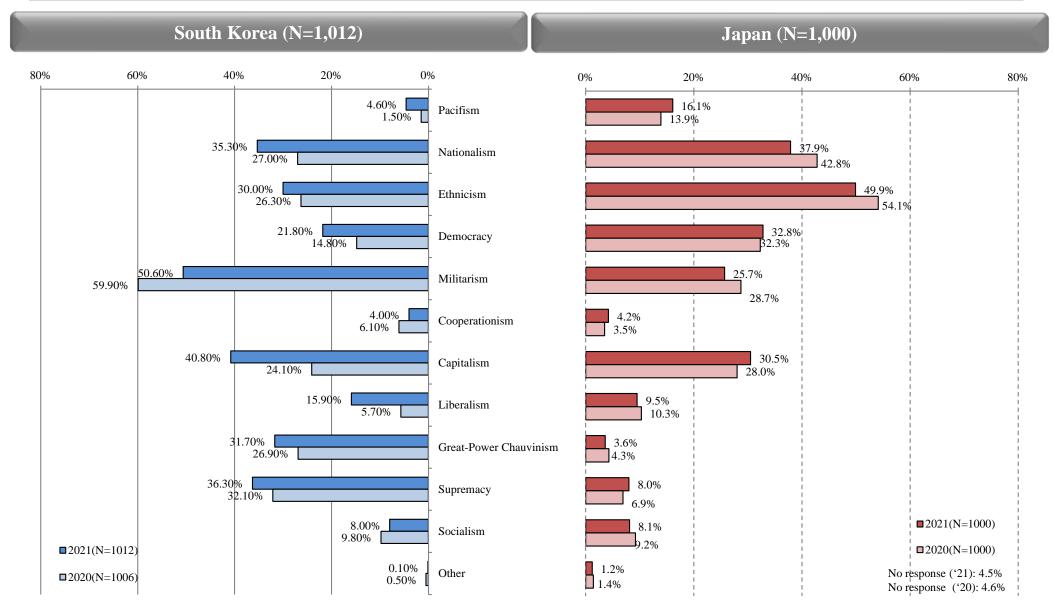
Q5- b. (Only those who answered that they had an unfavorable impression in Q5) Why do you have an unfavorable impression of the other country (Japan/South Korea)? [Up to 2 responses]



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Perception of the Other Country's Social and Political System

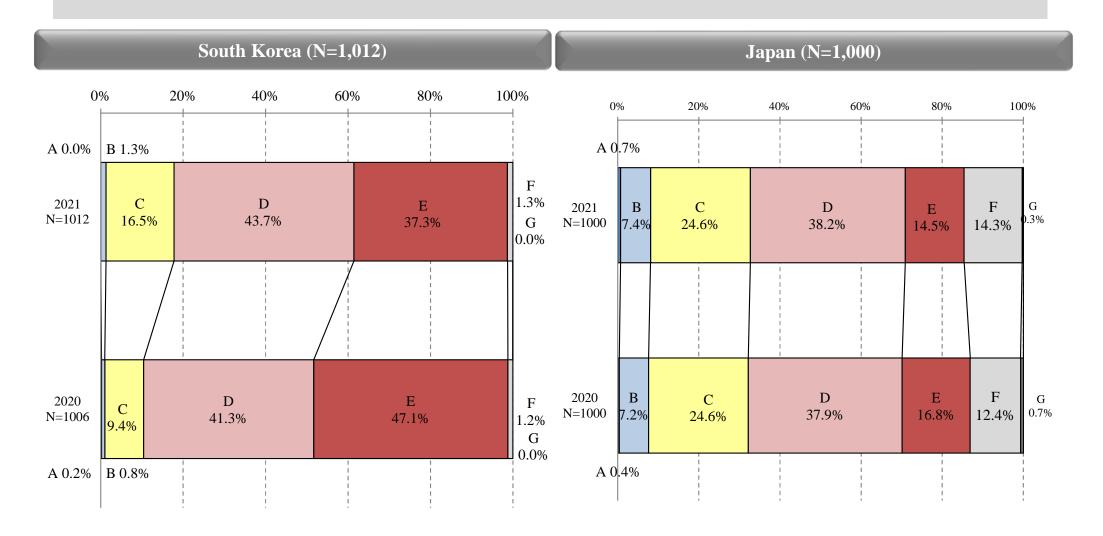
Q6. What do you think the other country's (Japan/South Korea) political and societal system is like? [Up to 3 responses]



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Current ROK-Japan relations

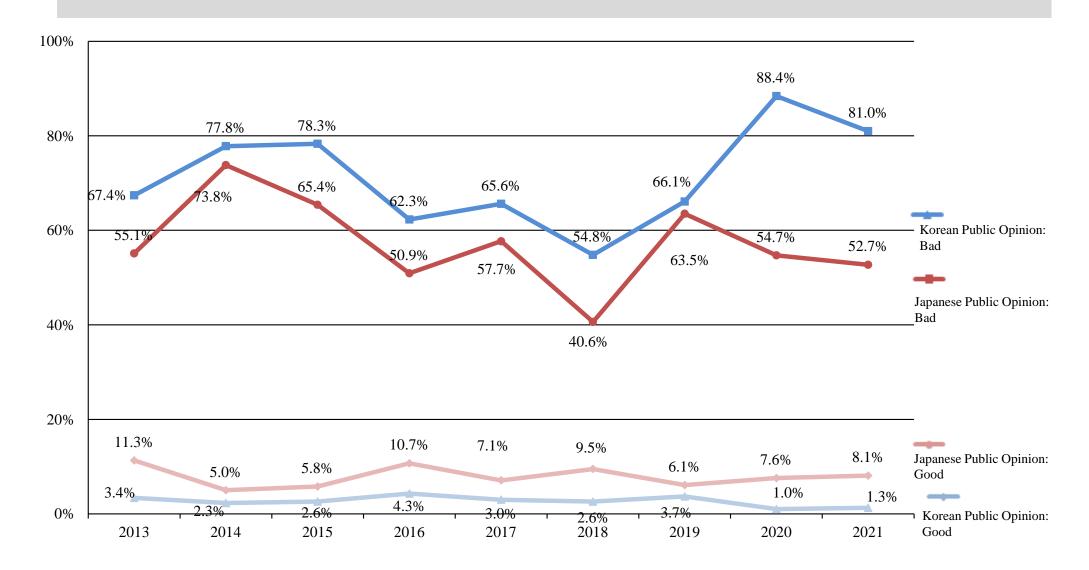
Q7. What do you think current relations between Korea and Japan are like? [Single response]



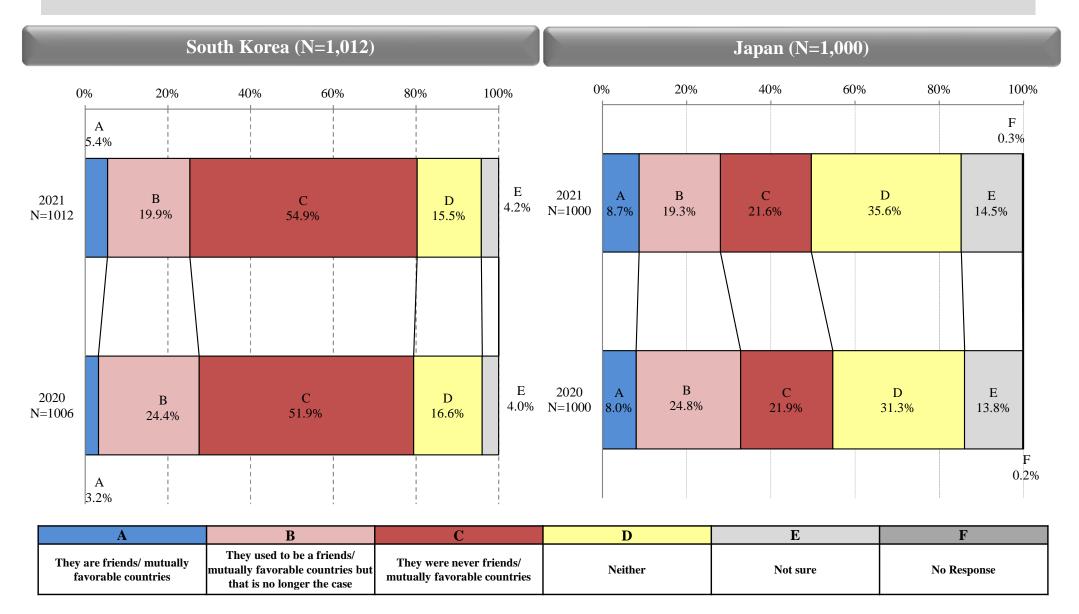
A	В	C	D	E	F	G
Very good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very Bad	Not sure	No response

Current ROK-Japan Relations ('13~'21)

Q7. What do you think current relations between South Korea and Japan are like? [Single response]

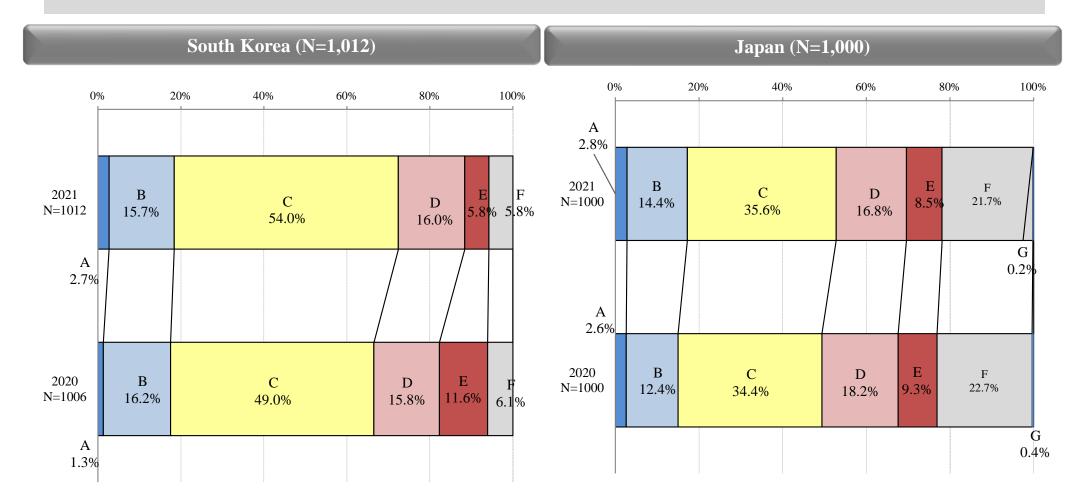


Q8. Do you consider the other country (Japan/ South Korea) as a "friend" to your home country (South Korea/ Japan?) [Single response]



Future of ROK-Japan Relations

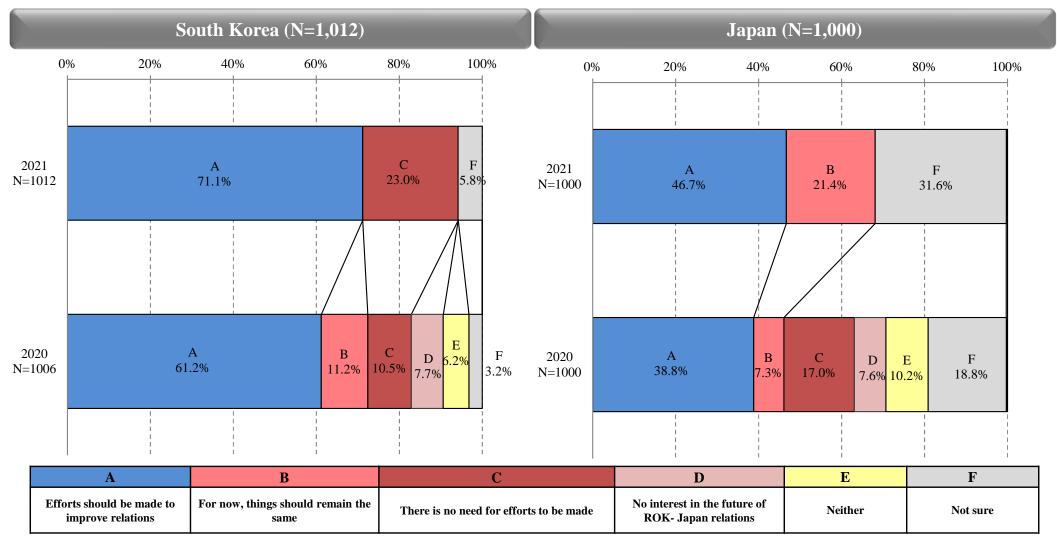
Q9. What is your assessment of the future state of bilateral relations between South Korea and Japan? [Single response]



A	В	C	D	E	F	G
Will improve	Will slightly improve	Will stay the same	Will slightly worsen	Will worsen	Not sure	No response

Efforts to Improve ROK-Japan Relations

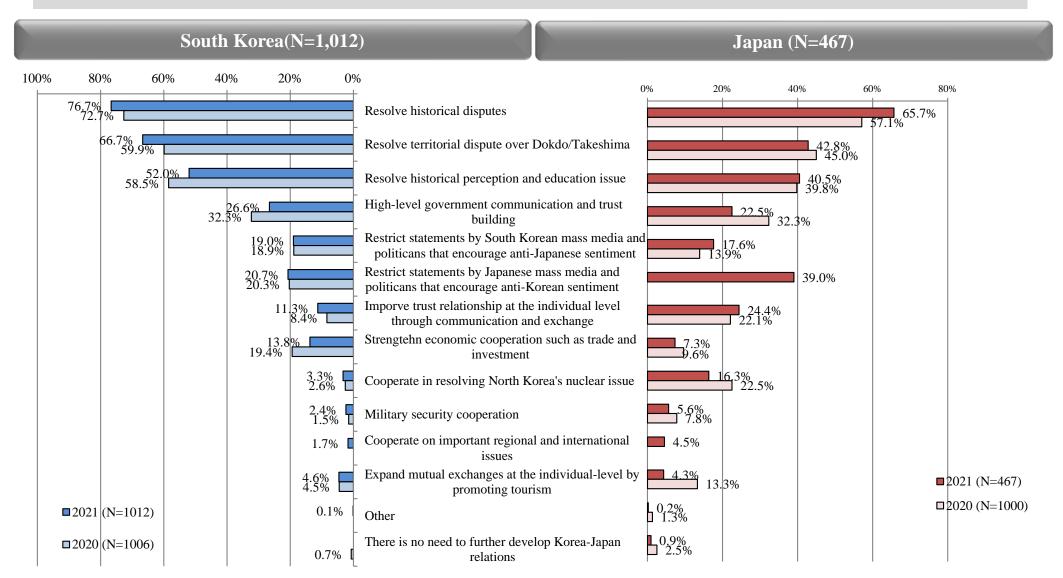
Q10. Do you think efforts need to be made to improve ROK-Japan relations, which have deteriorated due to historical issues? [Multiple response]



^{*}In the 2020 survey, the wording of the question was as follows: "What should be done to improve South Korea- Japan relations which have been deteriorated due to historical issues?" In the 2021 survey, the question was changed to the one above and choices "For now, things should remain the same" and "No interest in the future of South Korea-Japan relations" were omitted.

Ways to Improve ROK-Japan Relations

Q11. What should both countries do to improve ROK-Japan relations? [Up to 3 responses]



^{*}In the 2021 opinion poll, choices "cooperate on important regional and international issues" and "other" were added. Choice "no need to further develop Korea-Japan relations" was removed.

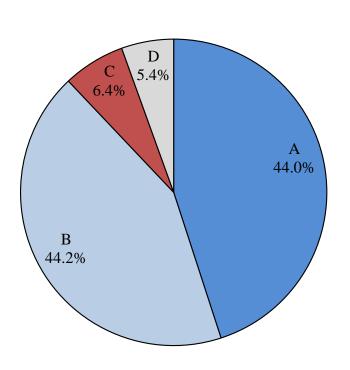
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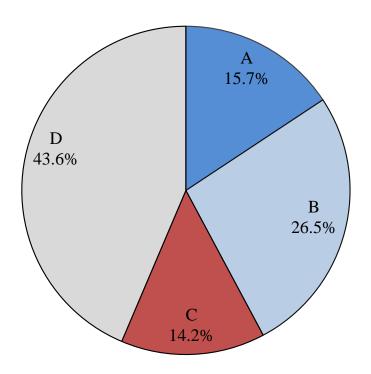
Whether or Not the Two Countries are Equals

Q12. Do you think ROK-Japan relations have become more equal as the gap in national power decreases? [Single response]

South Korea(N=1,012)

Japan (N=1,000)





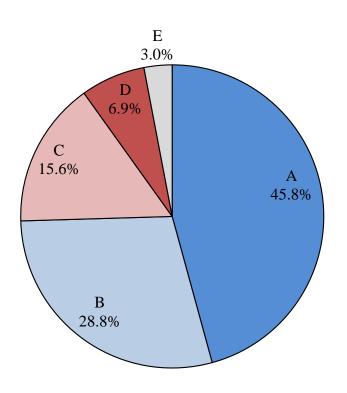
A	В	C	D
Agree	It is not an equal relationship but is moving towards that direction	Japan still has the upper hand and the equal standing of Korea-Japan relationship will occur in the distant future	Not sure

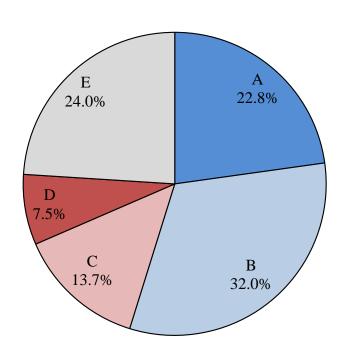
Position the Two Countries Should Take on ROK-Japan Relations

Q13. What kind of relationship do you think your own country (South Korea/Japan) should have with the other country (Japan/South Korea) in the future?

South Korea (N=1,012)

Japan (N=1,000)

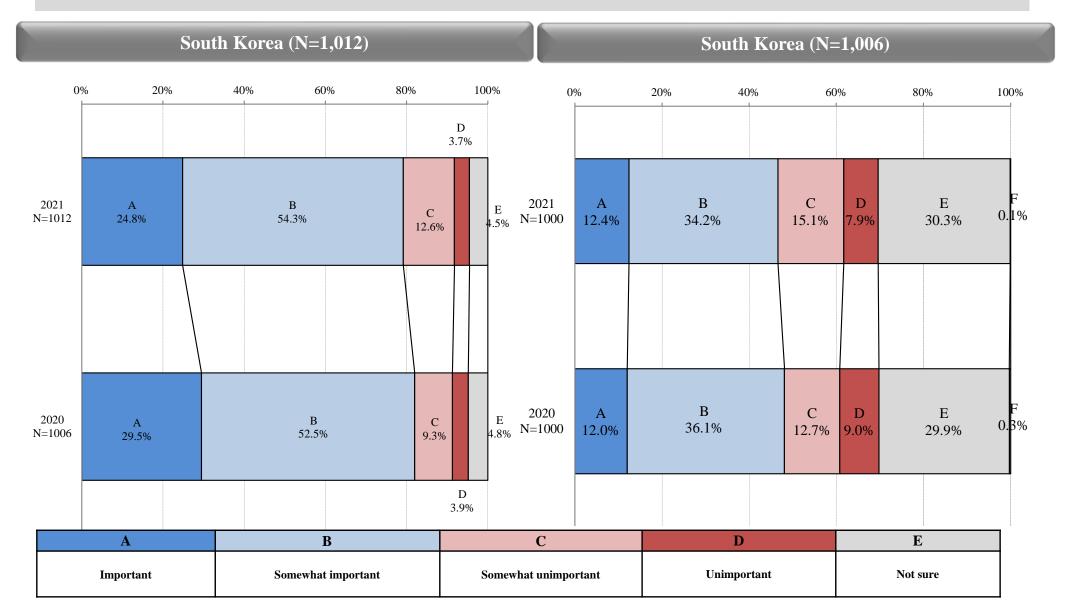




A	В	С	D	E
The conflict between South Korea and Japan must somehow be overcome in a future-oriented way	Political conflict, at the least, should be avoided	I government's response change.	Since establishing a future-oriented relationship with Japan/Korea is difficult itself, distance should be kept with Korea/ Japan	

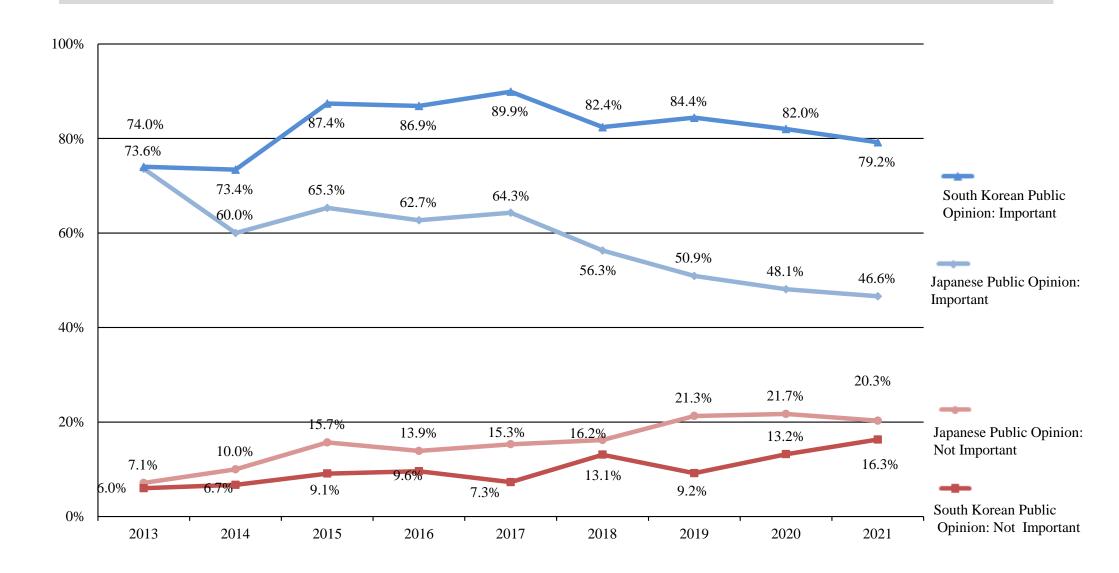
Importance of ROK-Japan Relations

Q14. Currently, how important are ROK-Japan relations to your own country (South Korea/ Japan)? [Single response]



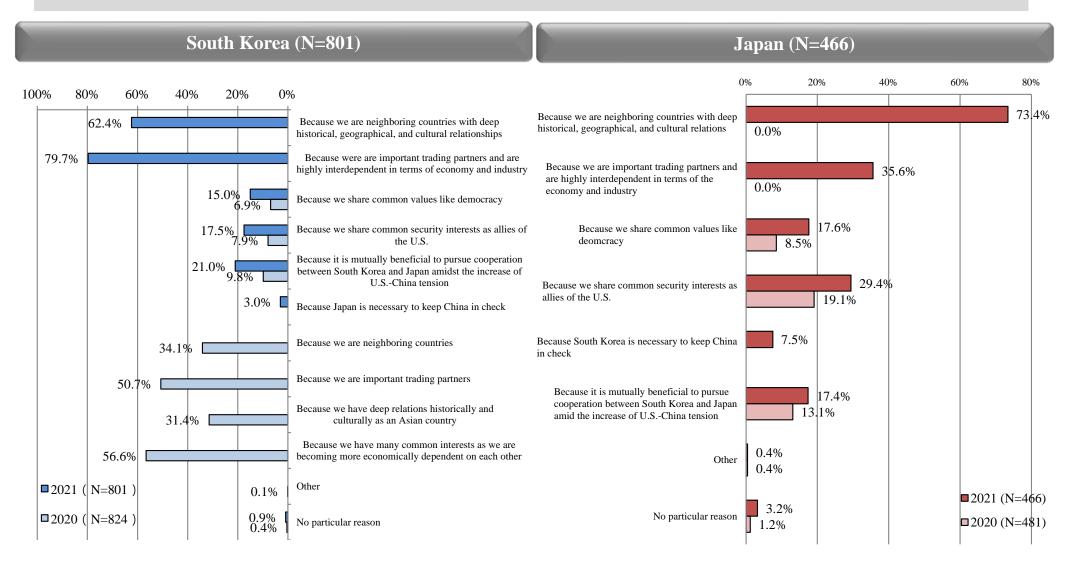
Importance of ROK-Japan Relations ('13~'21)

Q14. Currently, how important are ROK-Japan relations? [Single response]



Reasons for the Importance of ROK-Japan Relations

Q14-a. (Only for those who responded 1 or 2 in Q14) Why are ROK-Japan relations important for the future of the country? [Up to 2 responses]

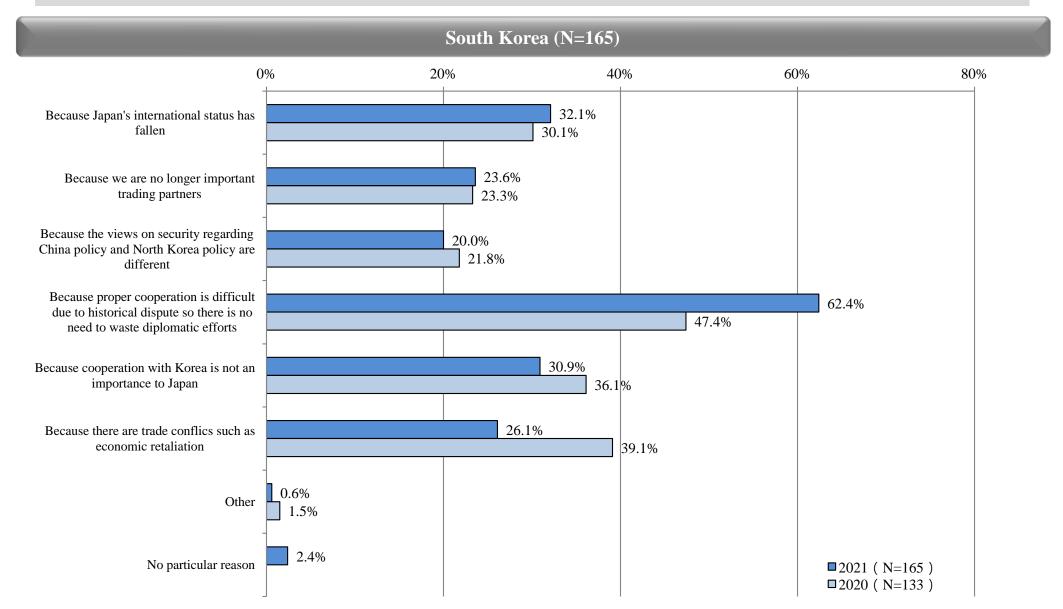


*In the 2021 opinion poll, "because we are neighboring countries" and "because we have deep relations historically and culturally as an Asian country" were combined to form "Because we are neighboring countries with deep historical, geographical and cultural relationship." Choices "because we are important trading partners" and "because we have many common interests as we are becoming more economically dependent on each other" were combined to "because we are important trading partners and are highly interdepended in terms of economy and industry." In 2021, choice "South Korea/Japan is needed to keep China in check" was added

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Reasons why ROK-Japan Relations are Not Important

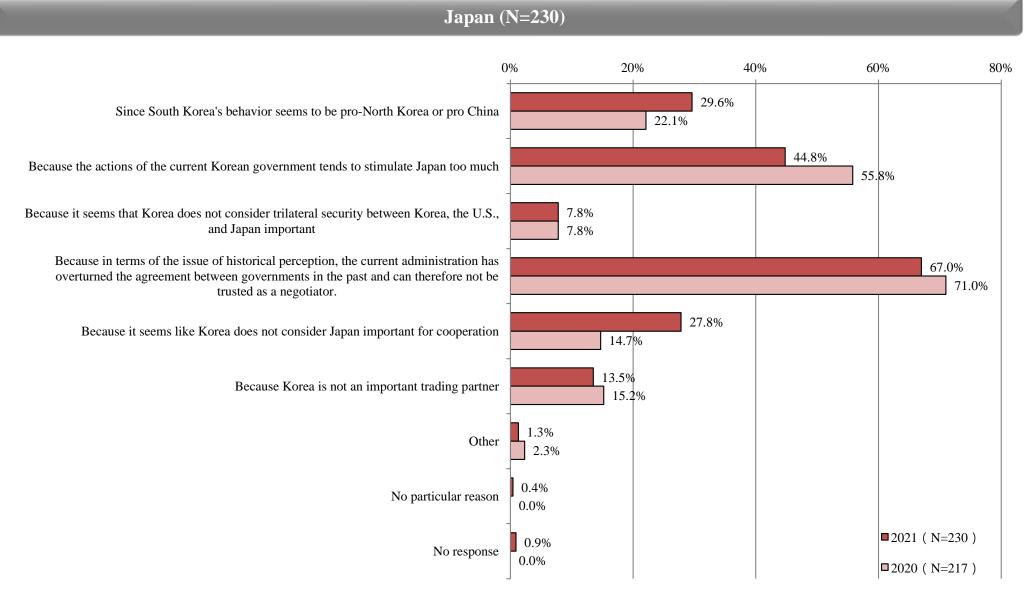
Q14-b. (Only for those who responded 3 or 4 in Q13) Why are ROK-Japan relations not important? [Up to 2 responses]



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Reasons why ROK-Japan Relations are Not Important

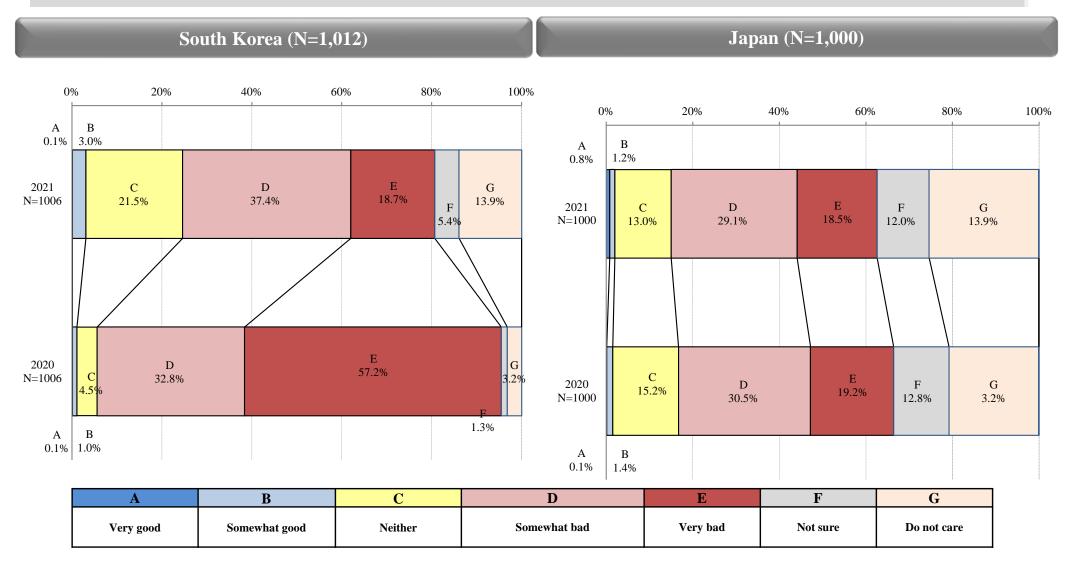
Q14-b. (Only for those who responded 3 or 4 in Q13) Why are ROK-Japan relations not important? [Up to 2 responses]



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Impression on the Other Country's (Japan/South Korea) Leader (Suga Yoshihide/ Moon Jae-in)

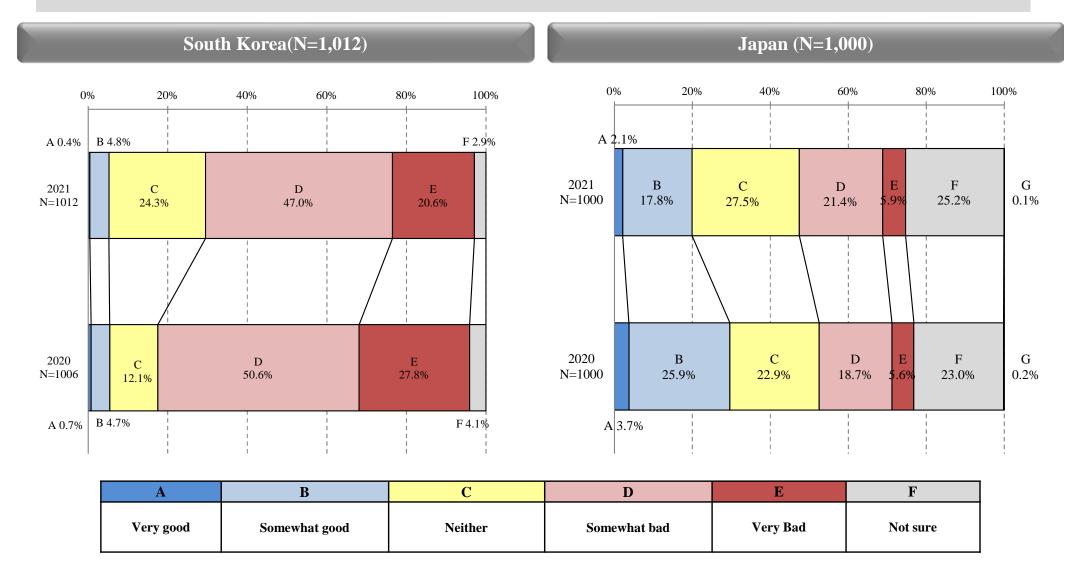
Q15. What is your impression on the other country's (Japan/South Korea) leader (Suga Yoshihide/ Moon Jae-in)? [Single response]



^{*} In 2020, for the same question the question was worded as the following: "What is your impression on the Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzo?"

Assessment on the Japanese Government's Policy Towards South Korea

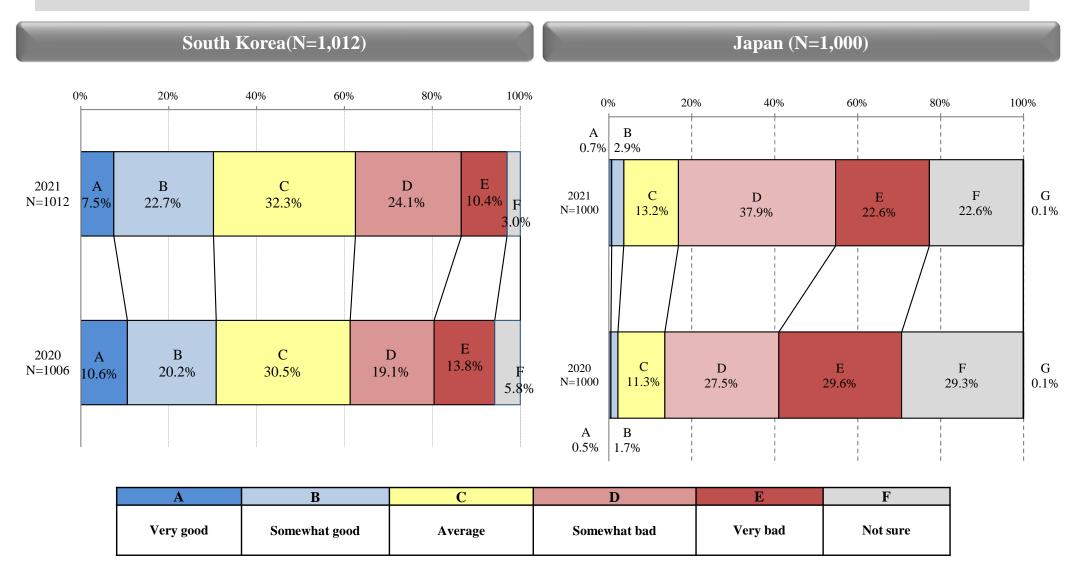
Q16. What is your assessment on the Japanese administration's response and attitude towards South Korea?" [Single response]



^{*} In 2020, the question was worded as the following: "What is your assessment on the Abe regime's response and attitude towards Korea?"

Assessment on the South Korean Administration's policy towards Japan

Q17. What is your assessment on the South Korean government's policy and attitude toward Japan? [Single response]



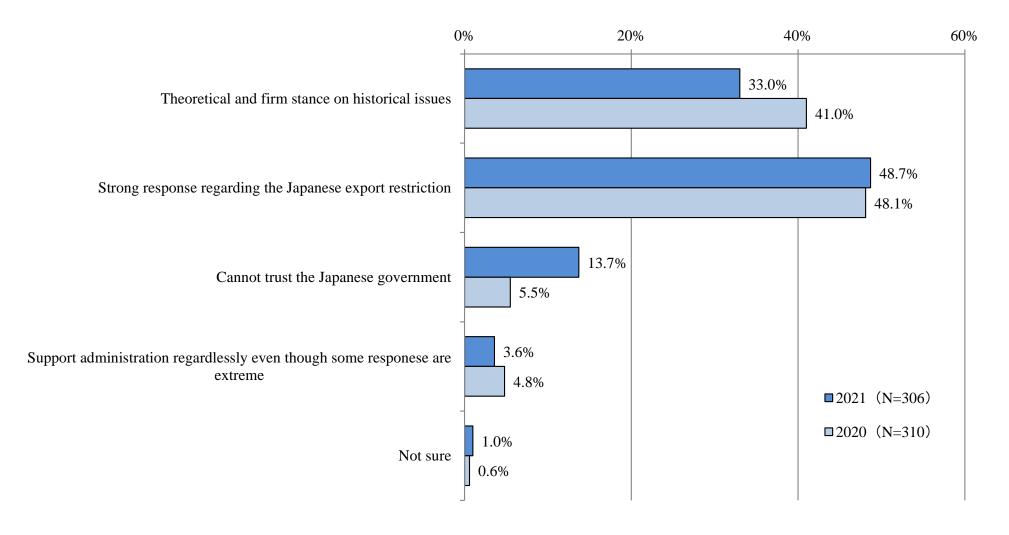
^{*} In 2020, the question was worded as the following: "What is your impression on President Moon Jae-in administration's policy and attitude towards Japan?"

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Assessment on the Moon Administration's Japan Policy

Q17-a. (Only for respondents that answered 1 or 2 on Q17) Why do you positively evaluate the Korean government's response and attitude towards Japan? [Single response]

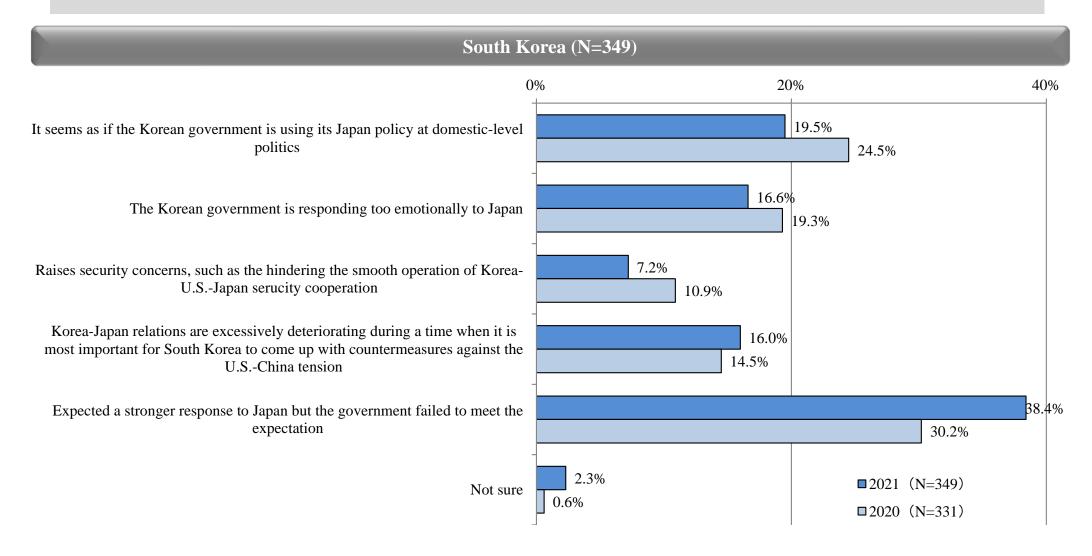




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Assessment on the Moon Administration's Japan Policy

Q17-b. (Only for respondents that answered 4 or 5 on Q17) Why do you negatively evaluate the Korean government's response and attitude towards Japan? [Single response]

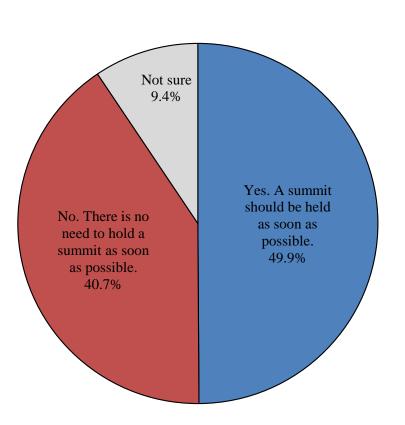


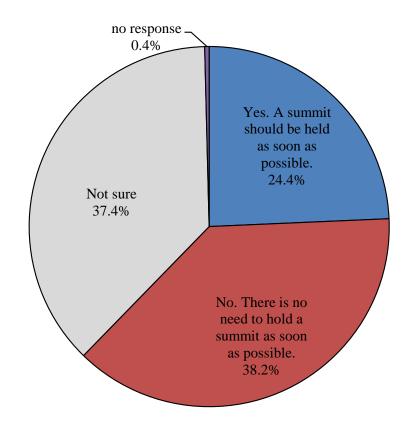
Hosting a ROK-Japan Summit

Q18. No official summitry meeting between South Korea and Japan has been held for a long time. Do you think a ROK-Japan Summit should be held as soon as possible? [Single response]

South Korea (N=1,012)

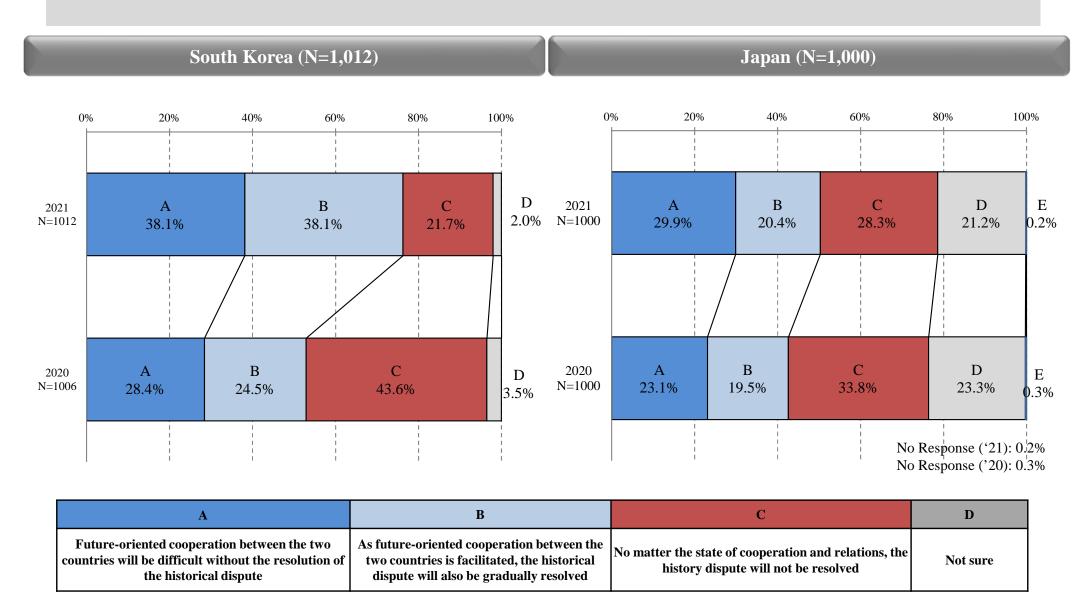
Japan (N= 1,000)





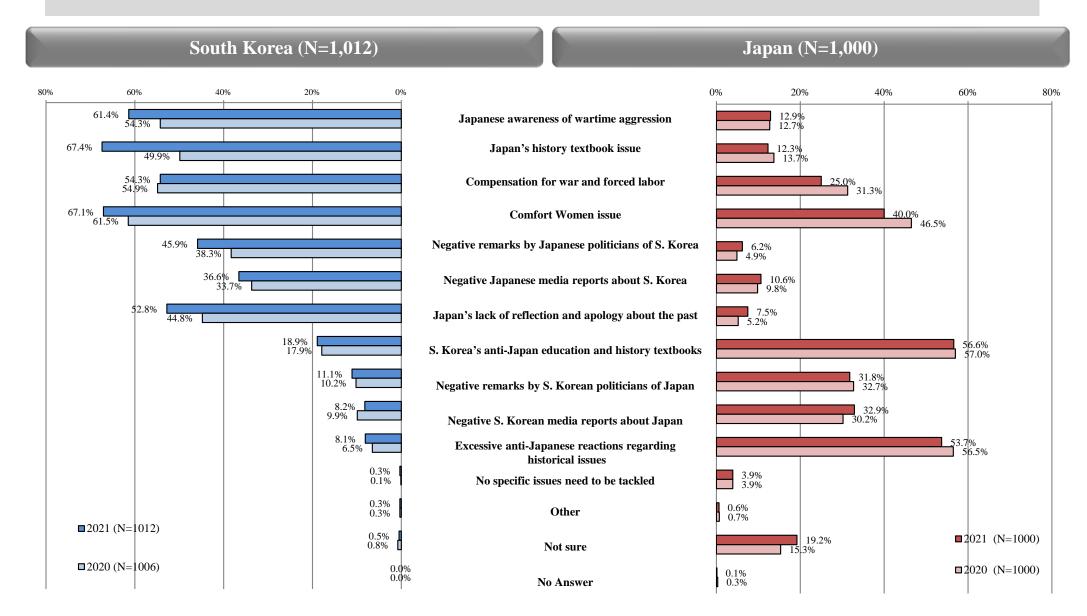
ROK-Japan Relations and the Historical Dispute

Q20. What do you think of ROK-Japan relations and the historical dispute? [Single response]



Resolution of Historical Issues

Q21. Which issues must be resolved regarding historical issues between South Korea and Japan? [Multiple response]



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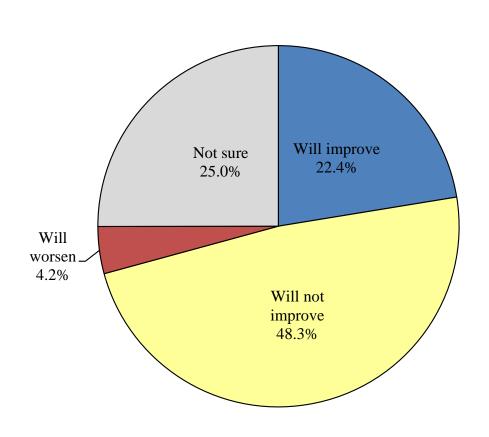
The New Government and the Improvement of ROK-Japan Relations

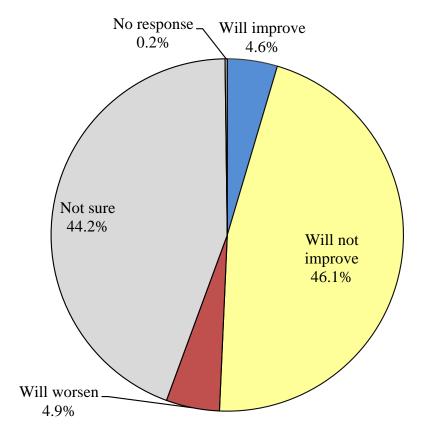
Q22. In Korea, the presidential election will be held in March 2022 and a new government will come into office. Do you think the inauguration of a new government in Korea will improve ROK-Japan relations?

[Single response]

South Korea (N=1,012)

Japan (N=1,000)





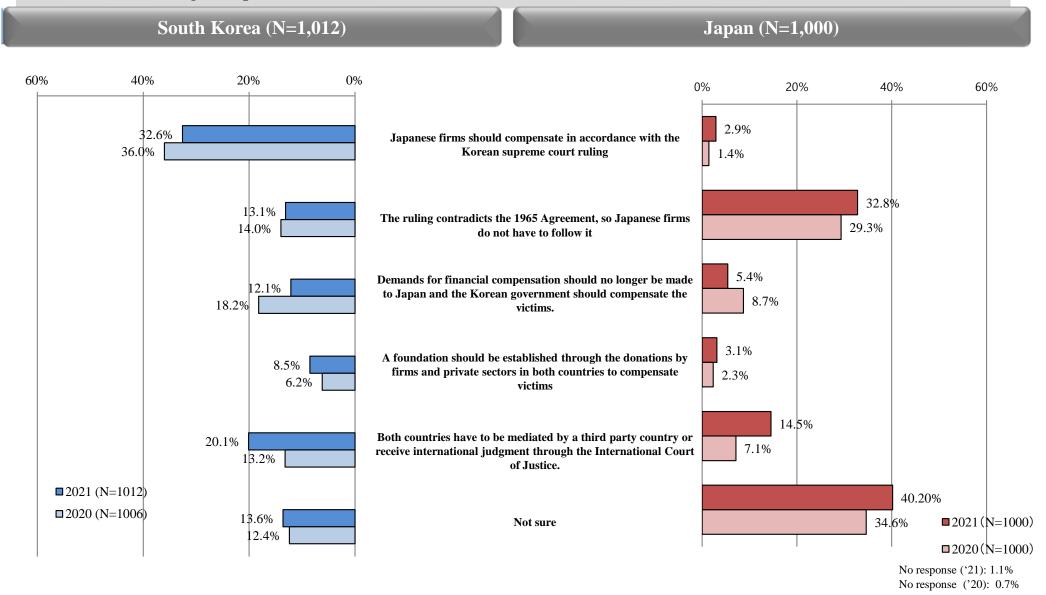
The New Government and the Improvement of ROK-Japan Relations

Q23. Do you think ROK-Japan relations could improve by the Japanese government after the Japanese general election scheduled for Fall 2021? [Single response]

South Korea (N=1,012) Japan (N=1,000) Will improve 1.6% Will improve 18.1% Not sure 24.8% Not sure Will Will not 36.2% worsen improve 4.8% 59.7% Will not improve 52.3% Will_ worsen 2.5%

Ways to Resolve Bilateral Tensions Resulting from South Korea's Supreme Court Decision

Q24. Conflicts between the two countries continue as under the South Korean Supreme Court ruling on forced labor, forced seizure and cashing of domestic Japanese firm's assets has become possible. How can this issue be resolved? [Single response]

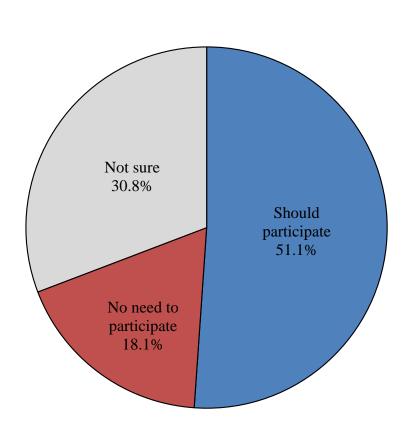


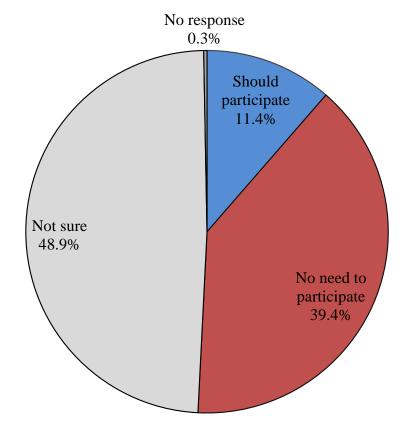
Possibility of Joining the Quad

Q25. Recently, Japan, the United States, Australia, and India have established a new cooperative platform called Quad. Do you think South Korea should also participate in the quad? [Single response]

South Korea (N=1,012)

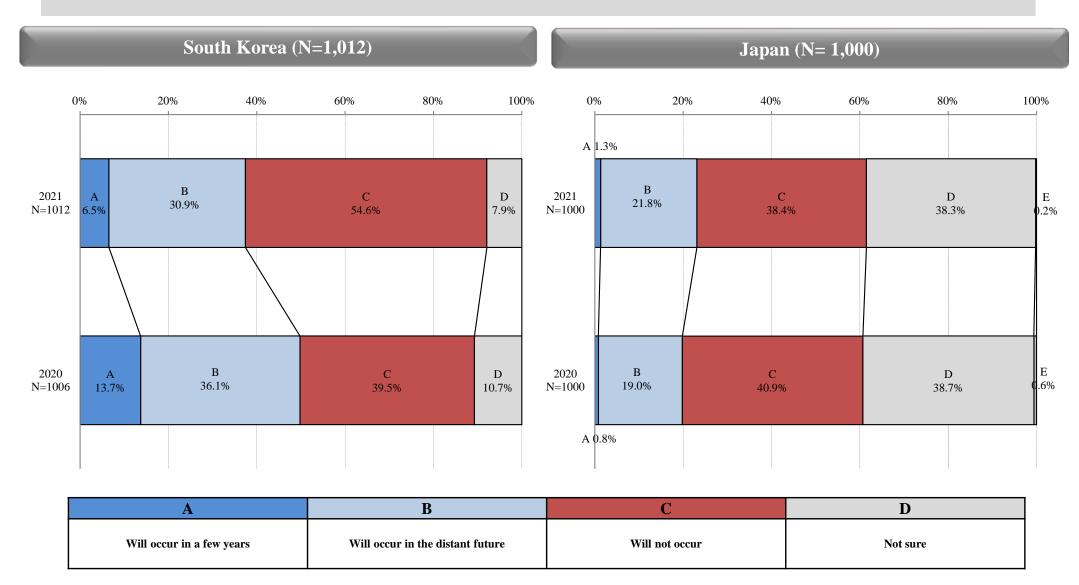
Japan (N=1,000)





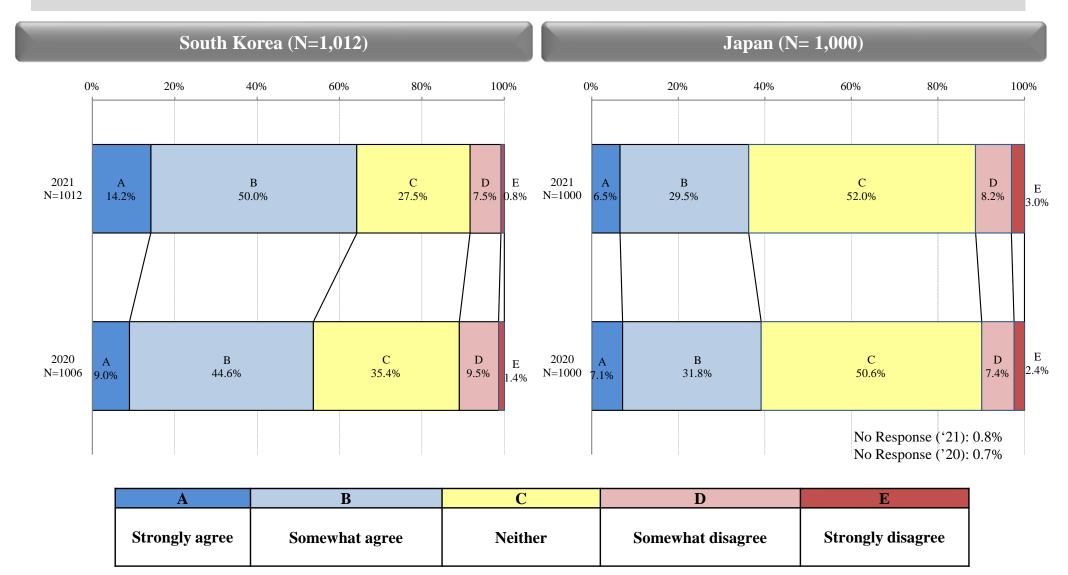
Prospects of Military Conflict between South Korea and Japan

Q26. Do you think that there is possibility for military conflict between South Korea and Japan around the Dokdo Islands? [Single response]



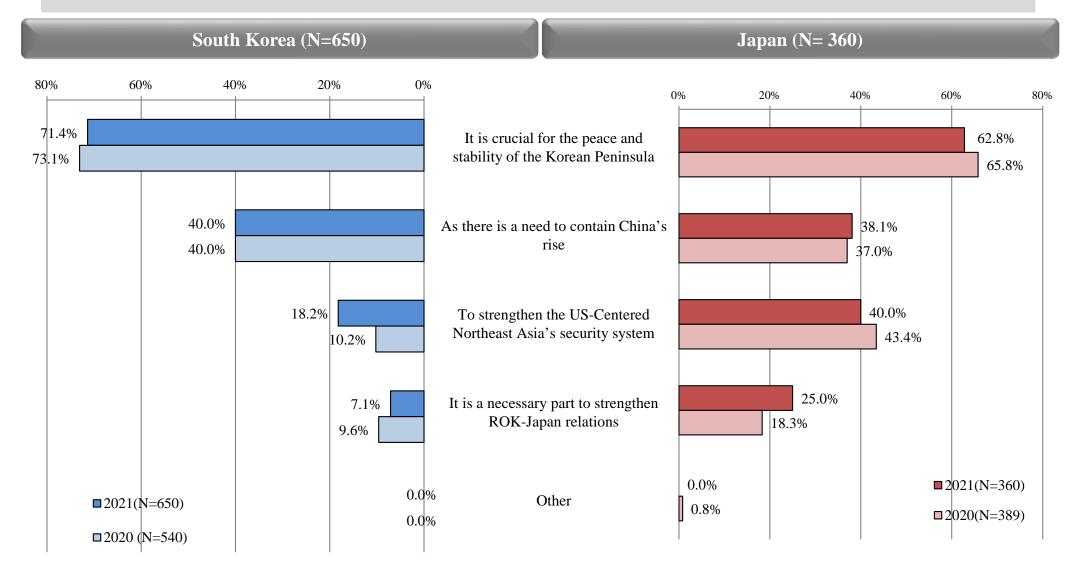
Views on Strengthening the ROK-US-Japan Trilateral Security Alliance

Q27. Do you think that ROK-US-Japan trilateral military-security cooperation should be strengthened? [Single response]



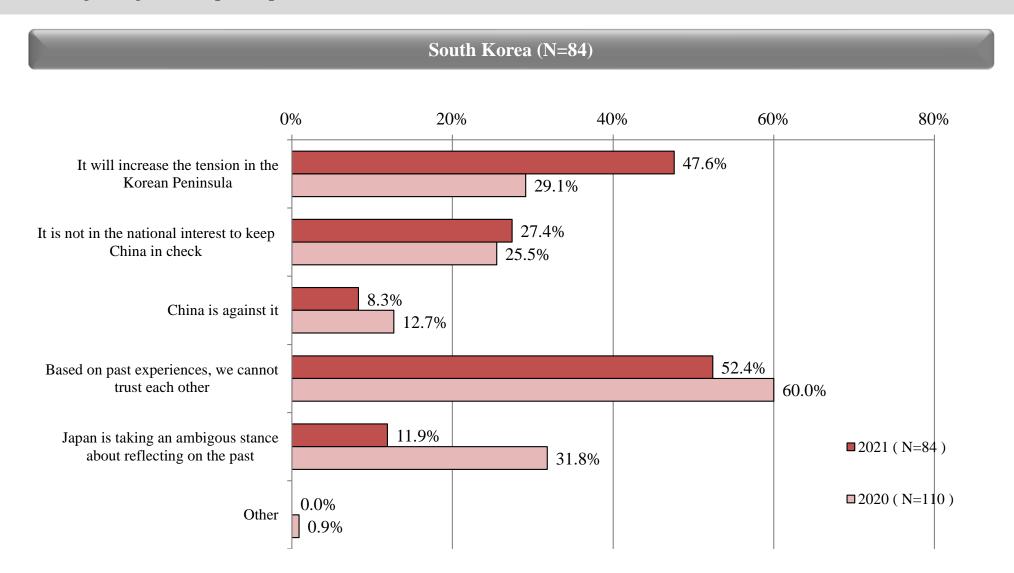
Reasons why the ROK-US-Japan Trilateral Security Alliance Should be Strengthened

Q27-a. (For those who answered "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree" to Q27) What are your reasons for agreeing? [Multiple response]



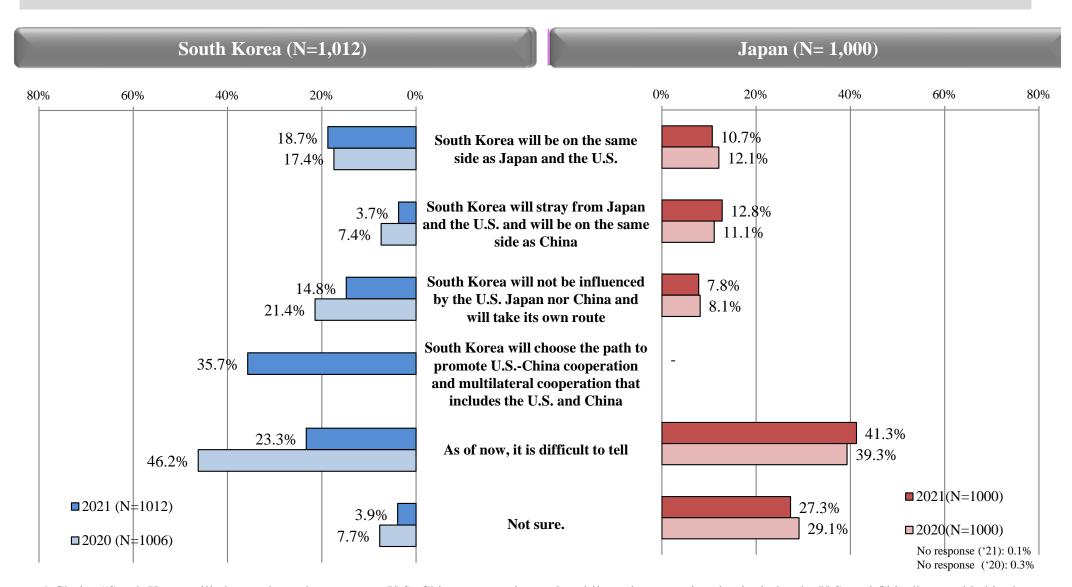
Reasons why the ROK-US-Japan Trilateral Security Alliance Should not be Strengthened

Q27-b. (For those who answered "strongly disagree" and "somewhat disagree" to Q27) What are your reasons for disagreeing? [Multiple response]



Prospects for South Korea's Future in East Asia

Q28. What direction do you expect South Korea to move towards in East Asia? [Multiple response]

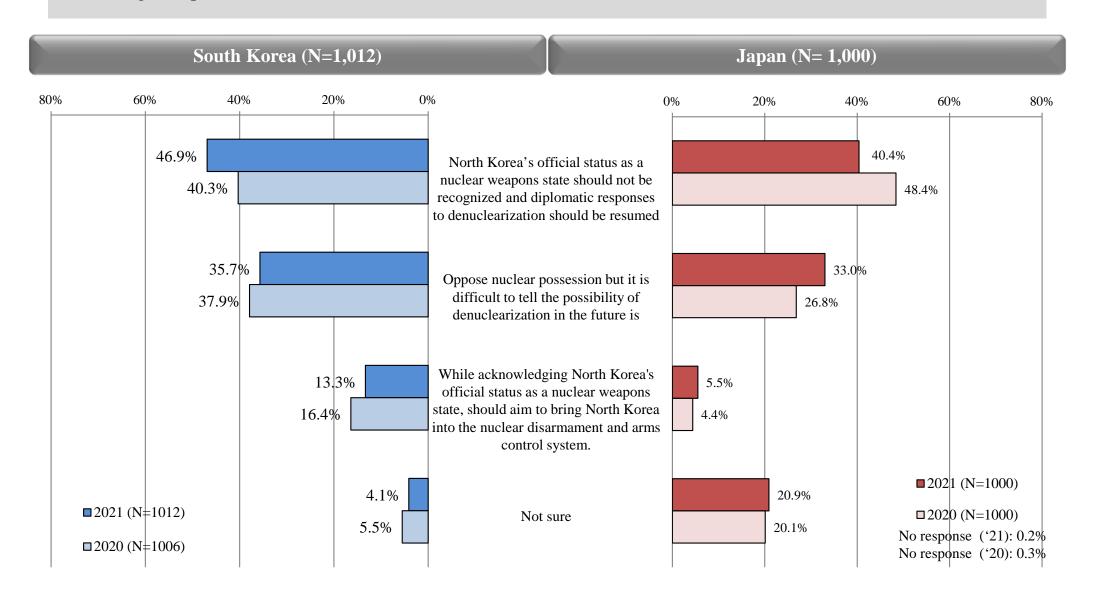


^{*} Choice "South Korea will choose the path to promote U.S.-China cooperation and multilateral cooperation that includes the U.S. and China" was added in the 2021 survey.

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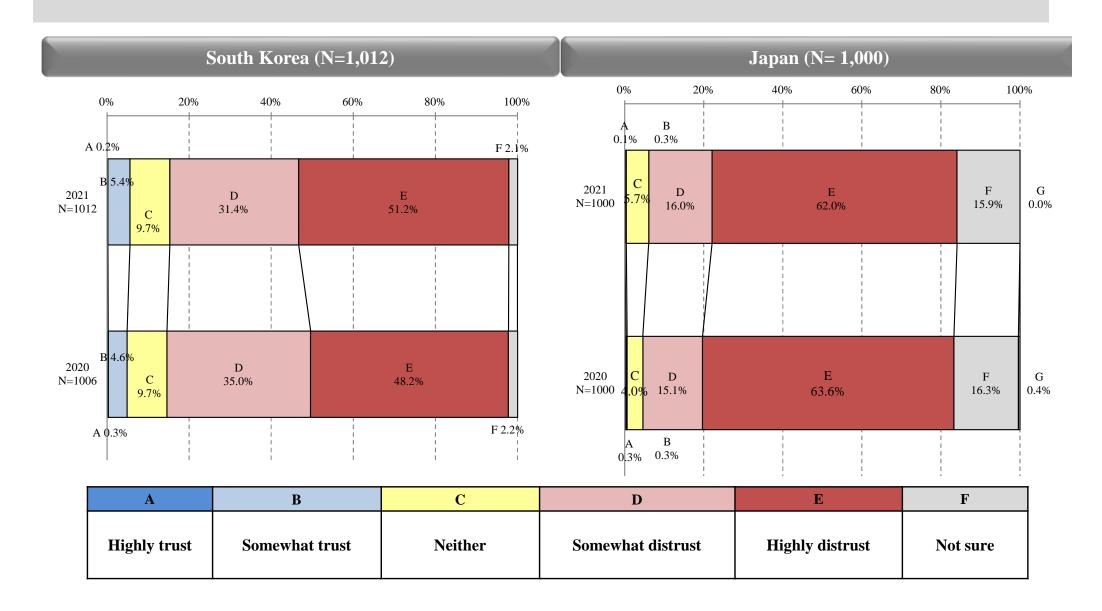
Opinion Regarding North Korea's Nuclear Weapons Status

Q29. North Korea has now virtually become a powerful nuclear weapons state. What do you think about this situation? [Single response]



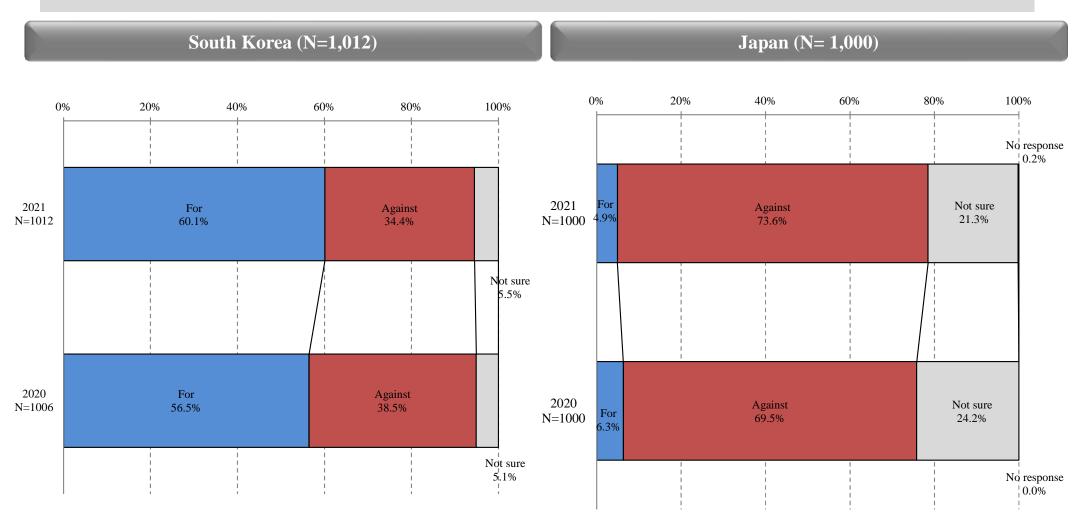
Trust in Kim Jong Un's Commitment towards Denuclearization

Q30. How much trust do you have in Kim Jong Un's commitment towards Denuclearization? [Single response]



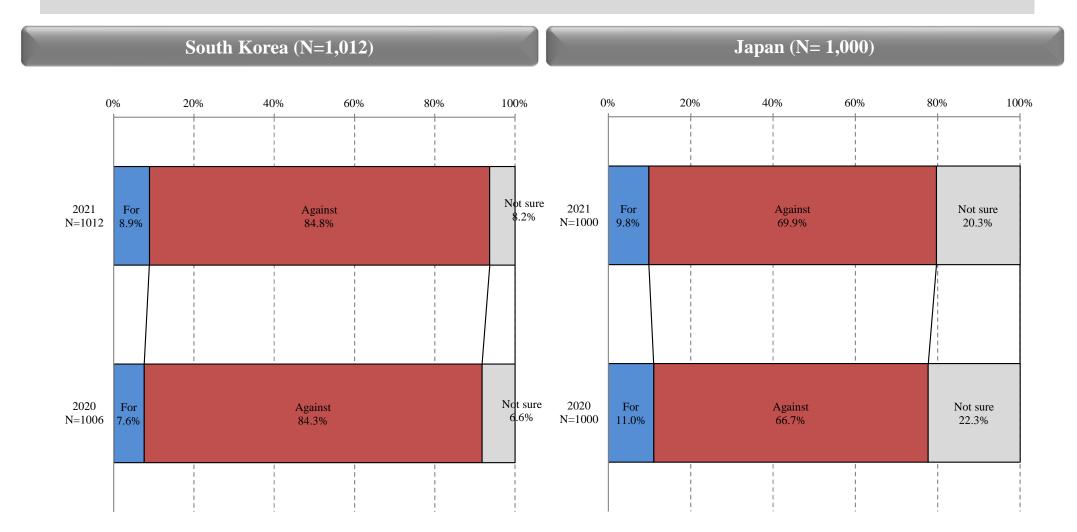
For or Against the Possession of Nuclear Weapons of South Korea in the Case the North Korean Threat Persists

Q31-1. In the case that the North Korea threat persists, what do you think of South Korea possessing nuclear weapons? [Single response]



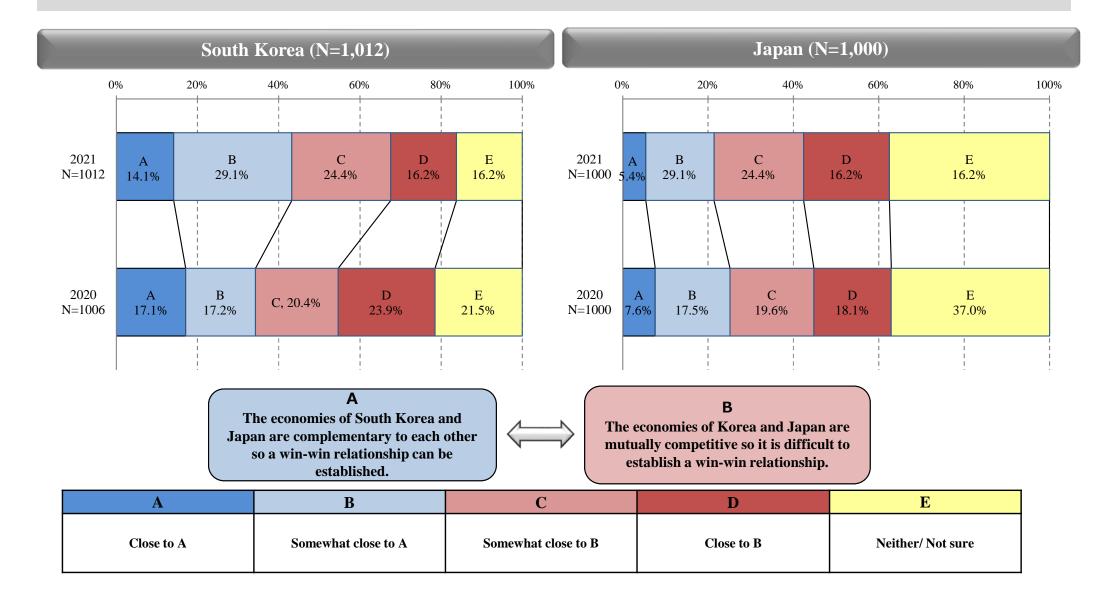
For or Against the Possession of Nuclear Weapons of South Korea in the Case the North Korean Threat Persists

Q31-2. In the case that the North Korea threat persists, what do you think of Japan possessing nuclear weapons? [Single response]



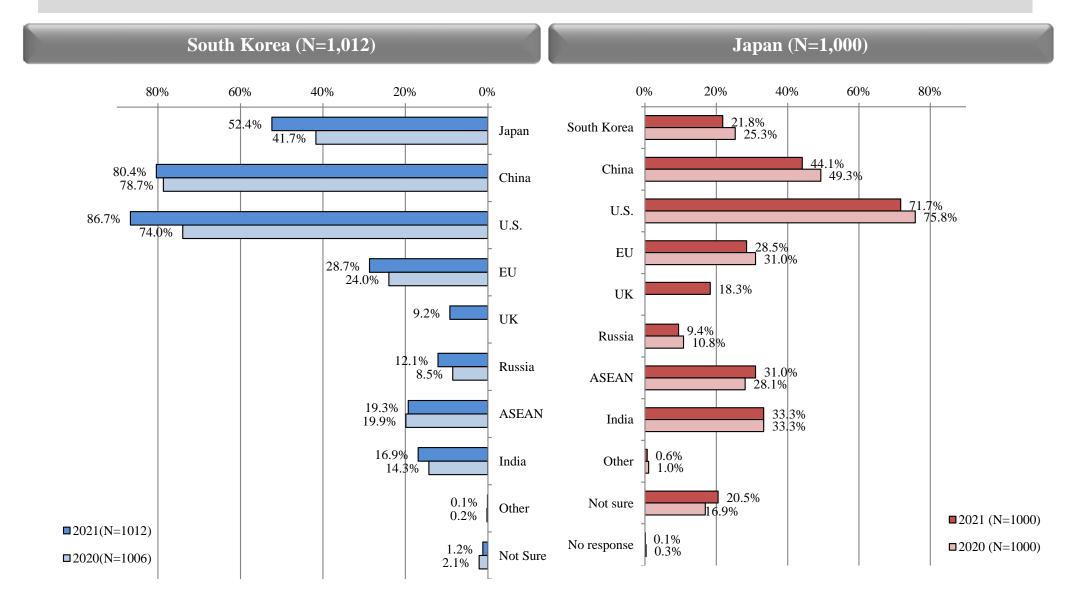
Assessment on Economic Relations Between South Korea and Japan

Q33. Between A and B, which is closer to your opinion on the economic relationship between South Korea and Japan? [Single response]



Economic Important Countries and Regions

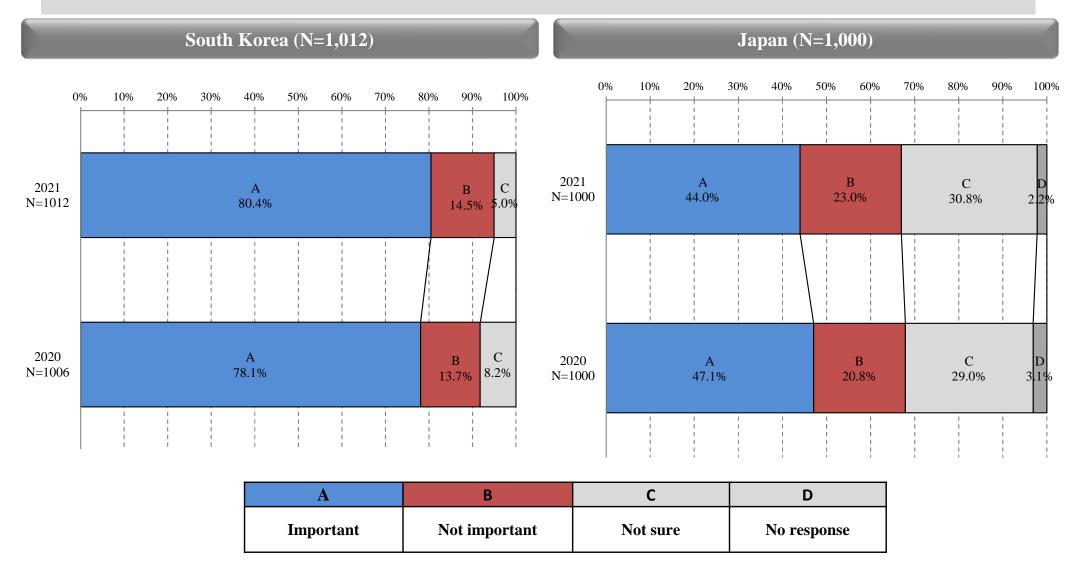
Q34. Which countries or regions do you think economic relations are particularly important to South Korea/ Japan? [Multiple response]



^{*} Choice "UK" was added in the 2021 Survey

The Importance of ROK-Japan Economic Cooperation for the Future of South Korea/Japan

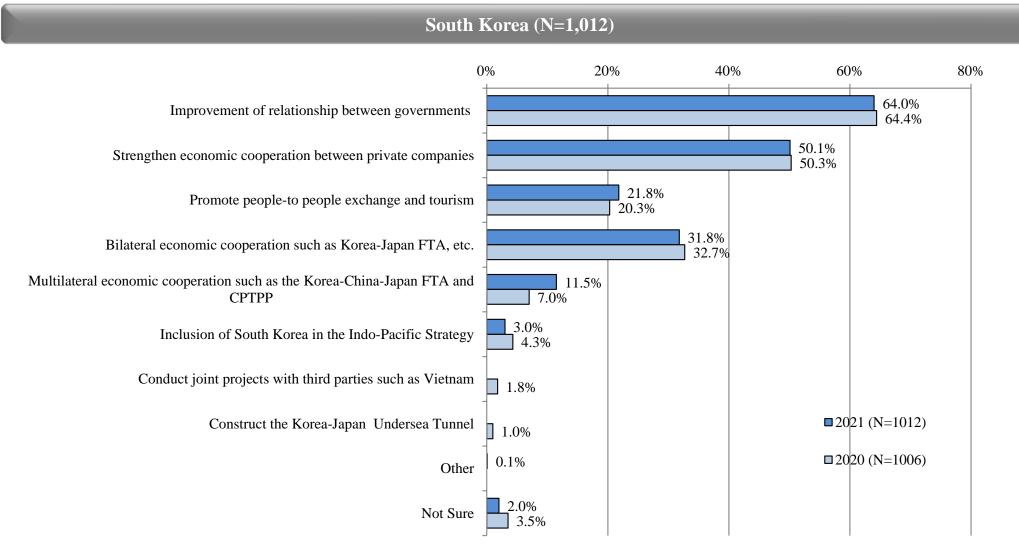
Q35. Do you think economic cooperation between South Korea and Japan is important for your own country's (South Korea/ Japan) future? [Single response]



^{* 2020} opinion poll surveyed the "need." Choices were A. Need B. Do not need C. Not sure.

Necessity for the Development of Economic and Trade Relations between South Korea and Japan

Q36. What do you think is necessary to develop the future economic and trade relationship between South Korea and Japan? [Multiple response: up to 2 responses]

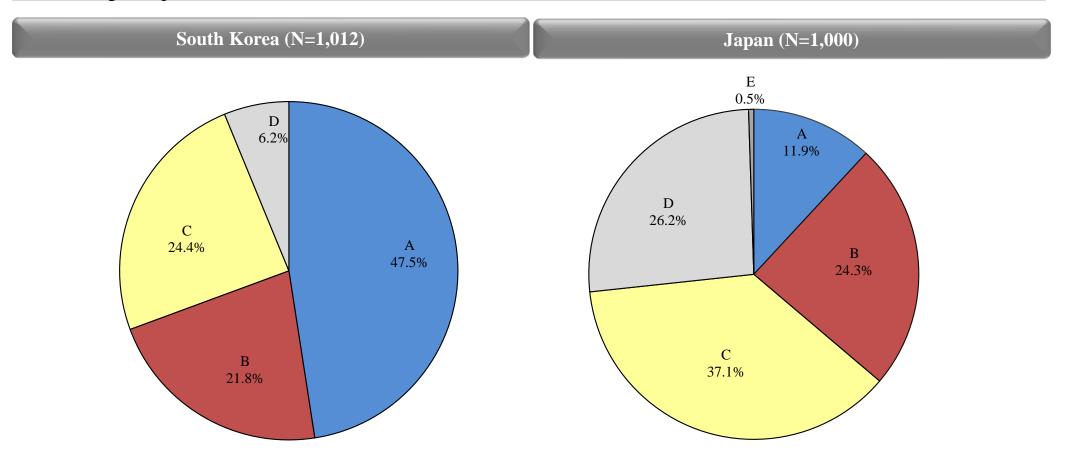


^{*} In the 2021 opinion poll choices "conduct joint projects with third parties such as Vietnam" and "construct the Korea-Japan Undersea Tunnel" was erased and replaced with "other.

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Opinion on Economic Relations Between South Korea and Japan

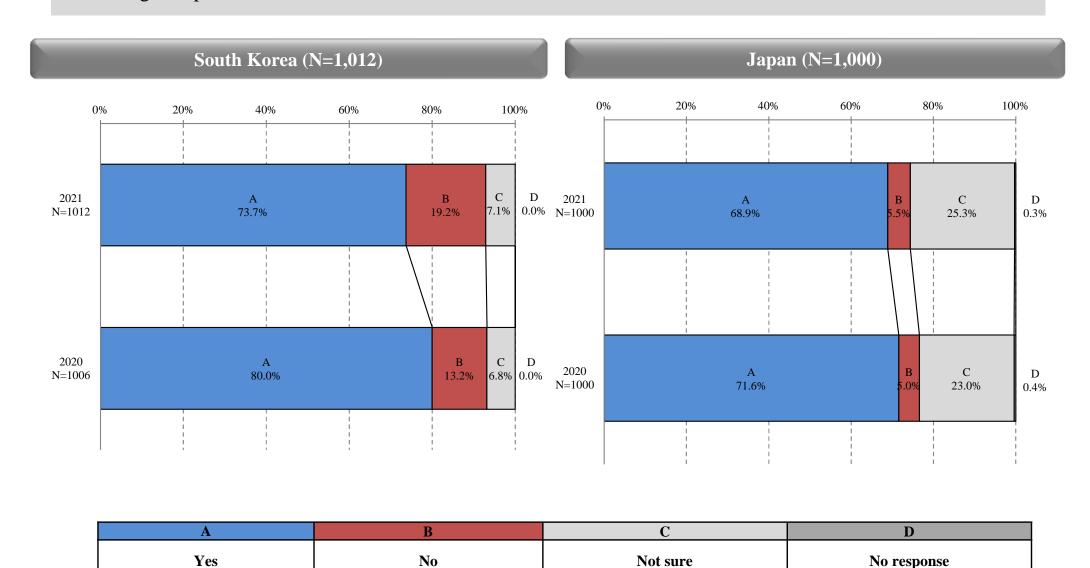
Q37. Since July 2019, the volume of trade between the two countries has decreased due to export disputes and de-Japanization (Koreanization of Japanese imports). What do you think about these governmental actions? [Single response]



A	В	С	D	E
For	Against	Neither	Not sure	No response

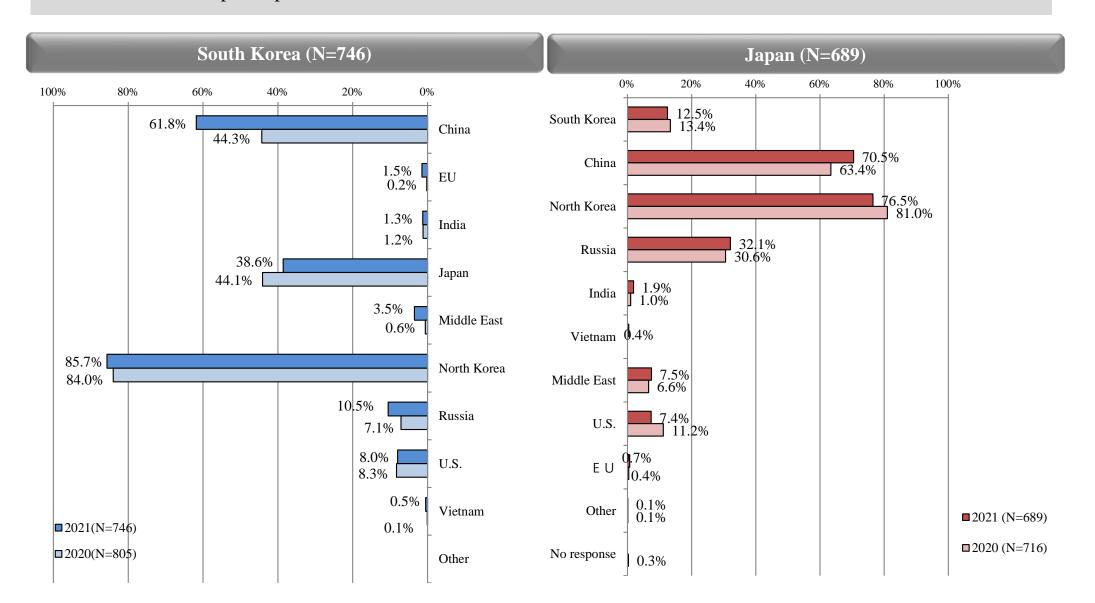
Potential Military Threat

Q38. Do you think there is a country or region that is a military threat to your own country (South Korea/ Japan)? [Single response]

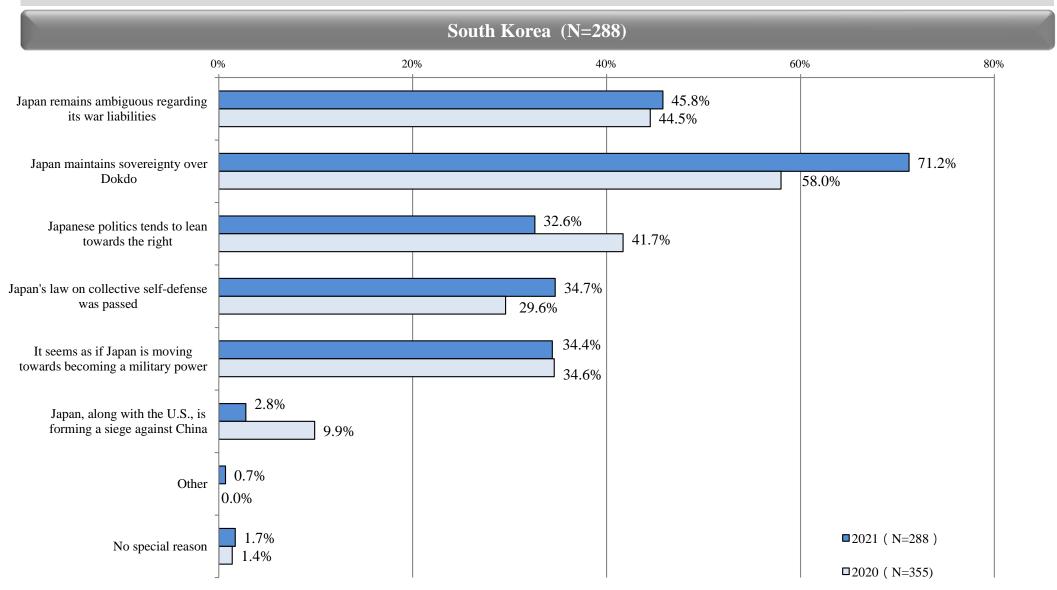


Perceived Military Threat by Country and Region.

Q38-a. Which countries or regions do you perceive as a military threat to your own country (South Korea/Japan)? Please select all. [Multiple response]



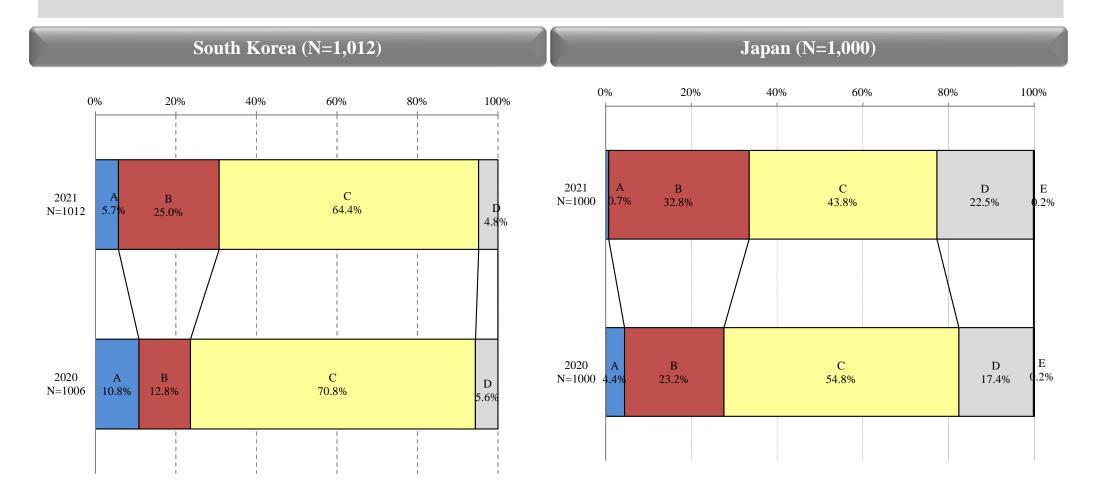
Q38-a-1. (Only for those who answered that Japan was a military threat in Q38-a) Why do you consider Japan a military threat? [Multiple response]



^{*} In the 2021 opinion poll, choice "other" was added.

Reason for the Growing U.S.-China Conflict

Q39. Between the U.S. and China, which side do you think is the cause of the deepening U.S.-China conflict? [Single response]



A	В	С	D
U.S.	China	Both the U.S. and China	Not sure

Enjoyment of the Other Country's (Japan/ South Korea) Culture

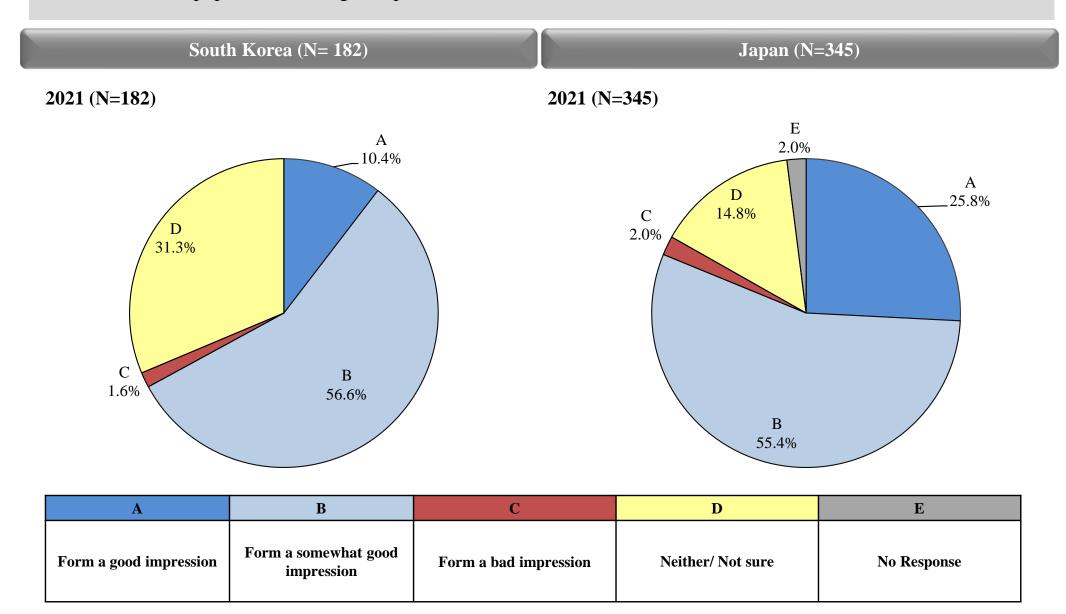
Q40. (South Korea) Do you enjoy Japanese popular culture (novels, manga, animation, movies, J-pop, etc.)? (Japan) Do you enjoy South Korean popular culture (K-pop, dramas, movies, etc.)? [Single response]

South Korea (N= 1,012) Japan (N=1,000) 2021 (N=1000) 2021 (N=1012) A E 2.0% 1.6% 8.0% 7.8% 16.0% 26.5% D D C 54.7% 44.3% 25.7% C 13.3% A В \mathbf{C} D \mathbf{E} Enjoy A lot Somewhat enjoy Do not really enjoy Not interested Not sure

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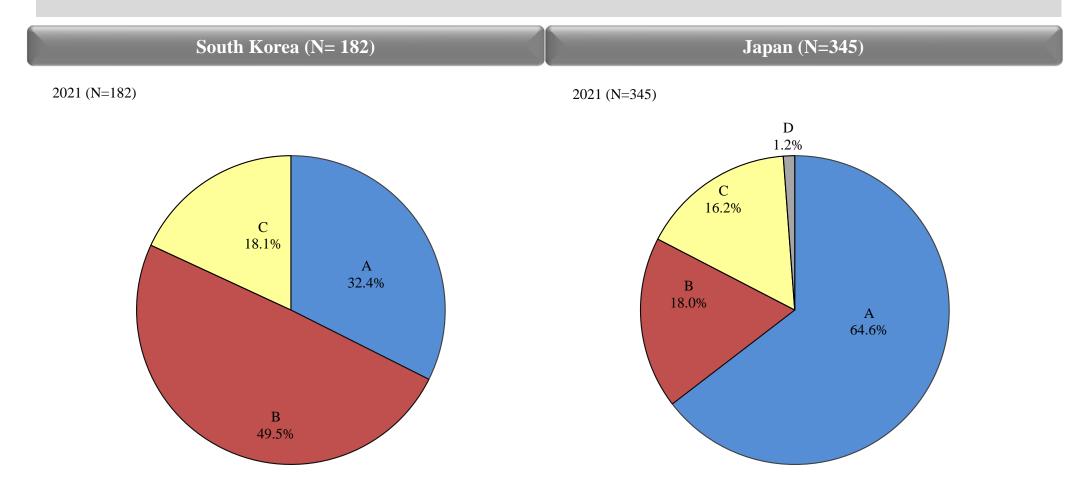
Impression of the other country through popular culture

Q40-a. What impression of the other country (Japan/South Korea) do you get when you enjoy and consume its pop culture? [Single response]



Implications of the worsening ROK-Japan Relations on the Consumption of the Other Country's (Japan/South Korea) pop culture

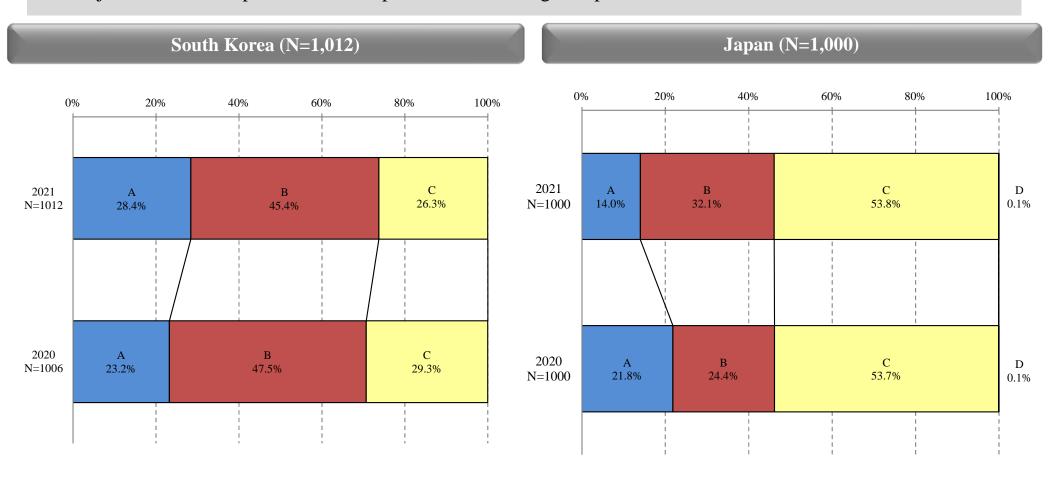
Q40-b. Do worsening ROK-Japan relations affect your consumption of the other country's (Japan/South Korea) pop culture? [Single response]



A	В	С	D
Even if the relationship worsens,	Hesitate to consume the other		
There is no change in the enjoyment of	country's pop culture if relationship	Neither/ Not sure	No response
the other country's pop culture.	worsens.		

Evaluation of the Fairness of Respective Media Reports

Q41. Do you think newspapers, magazines, and broadcasts of your own country (South Korea/ Japan) release objective and fair reports on ROK-Japan relations? [Single response]

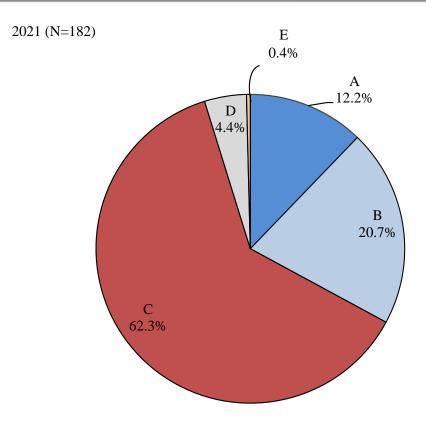


A	В	C
Agree	Disagree	Neither

[Korea Only] Reason for the Unfair Media Reports on Japan

Q41-a. Why do you think South Korea's media report on Japan is not objective and fair? [Single response]

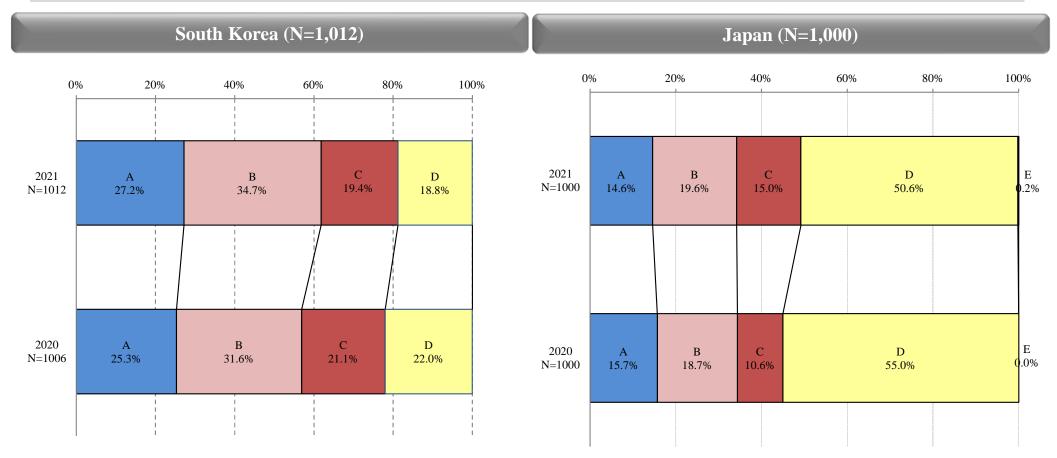
South Korea (N= 182)



A	В	C	D	E
These media outlets lack expert knowledge on Japan	They stimulate anti-Japanese sentiment based on sensationalism	Media outlets are influenced by political situations and positions	Not sure	Other

Public Opinion on the Internet

Q42. There are many negative comments about the other country (Japan/South Korea) on the Internet. Do you believe that these opinions accurately reflect the opinion of the people in your own country (South Korean/ Japan)? [Single response]



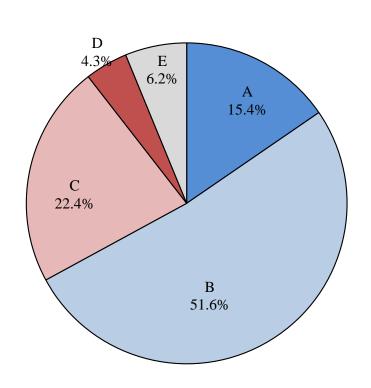
A	В	С	D	E
Properly reflected	Somewhat not properly reflected	Not properly reflected	Neither/ Not sure	No response

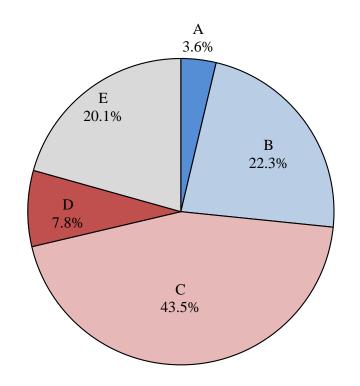
Prospects for the Future of Own Country

Q43. What is your opinion on the future of your own country (South Korea/Japan)? [Single response]



Japan (N =1,000)





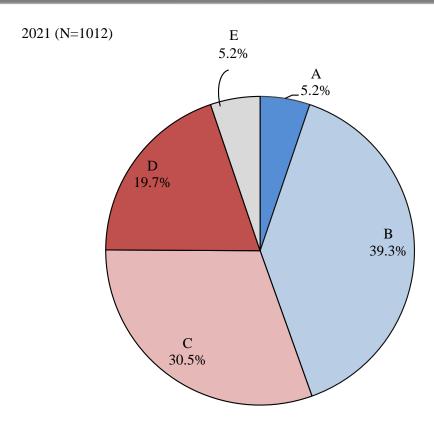
No response ('21): 2.7%

A	В	С	D	E
Optimistic	Somewhat optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Pessimistic	Not sure

Problem Solving Ability of Korean Political Parties

Q44. Do you think South Korean political parties can lead economic growth by solving issues that the country is currently facing? [Single response]

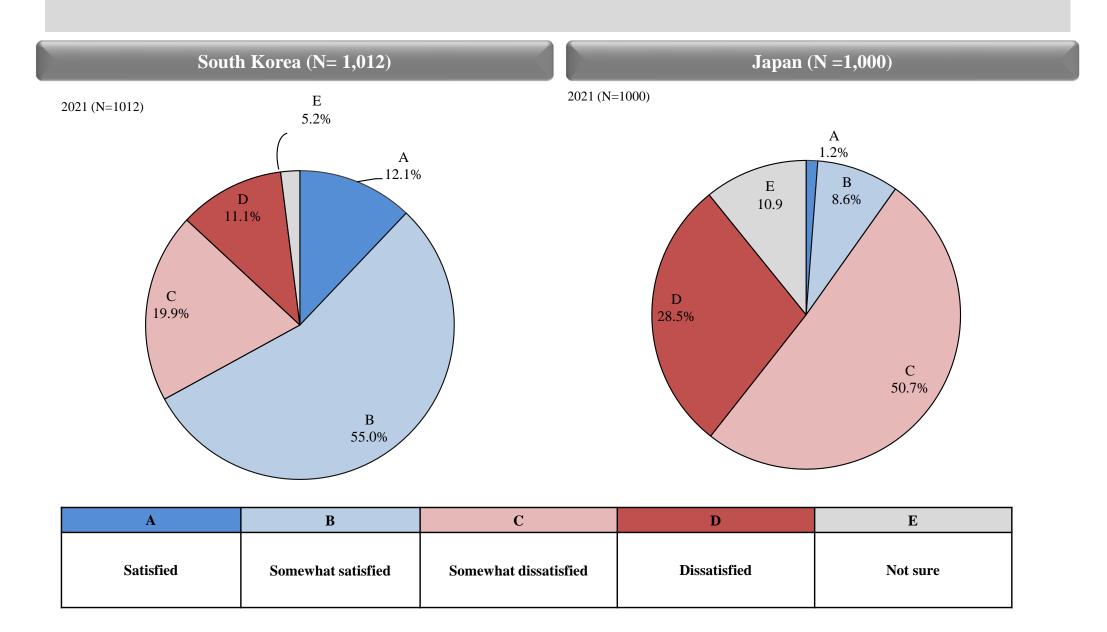
South Korea (N= 1,012)



A	В	C	D	Е.
Agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Disagree	Not sure

Satisfaction with State of Democracy

Q45. How satisfied are you with the current state of democracy of your country (South Korea/ Japan)? [Single response]



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Assessment of the Government's Diplomatic Response to Myanmar

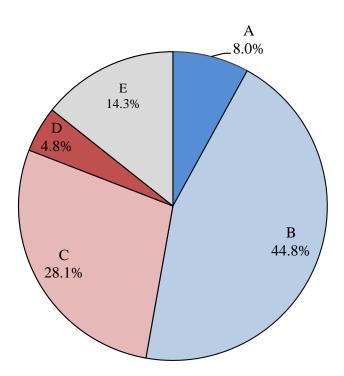
Q46. How do you feel about your own country's (South Korean/Japanese) government's response to the coup in Myanmar and the oppression of democracy? [Single response]

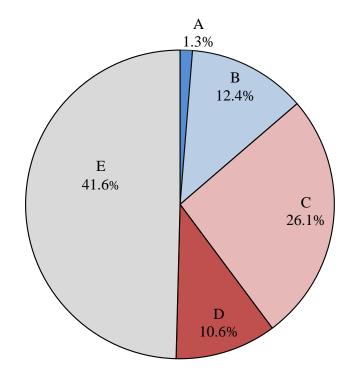
South Korea (N= 1,012)

Japan (N = 1,000)

2021 (N=1012)

2021 (N=1000)

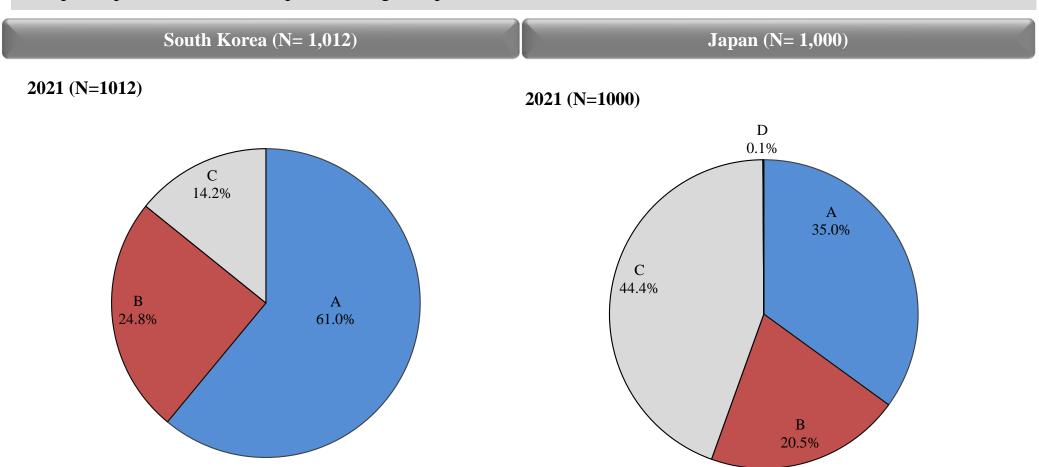




A	В	C	D	E
Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Not sure

The Need for Tough Response on the Suppression of Human Rights in China

Q47. Currently democratic countries including the US are taking strong action against the suppression of human rights in China. Do you think your own country (South Korea/Japan) should also follow this international situation and participate in a hardline response? [Single response]



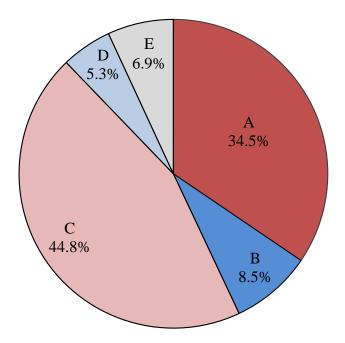
A	В	С
Agree	Disagree	Not sure

71 [Korea Only] Position on the U.S.-China Conflict on Democracy and Human Rights

Q48. How do you view the conflict between the U.S. and China regarding democracy and human rights? [Single response]

South Korea (N= 1,012)

2021 (N=1012)



	A	В	С	D	Е.
- 1	re is an issue with China's political system and otection of human rights	There is an issue with the U.S. democratic system	Both the U.S. and China are utilizing human rights and democracy to pursue national interest	The democracy conflict between the U.S. and China is not very important	Not sure