

This paper deals with causes and implications of territorial disputes between Japan and its neighbouring countries, i.e. People Republic of China, Chinese Republic on Taiwan, Republic of Korea and Russian federation.

It outlines historical ground for Japanese position in the region of East Asia, historical origins of the territorial disputes as well as contemporary situation among the parties concerned. The author reveals the economical, political and strategical importance of the contentions and focuses on resulting reasons of (un)solvability of the disputes and its impact on the region and mutual cooperation of participants mentioned above.

The role of the territorial disputes is also judged from the perspectives of development of the position of Japan in East Asia and ensuing impact on its politics towards its neighbours.

As a conclusion the paper brings enumeration of so far executed solutions to the conflicts as well as several other resources to solve the disputes in order to maintain peace and stability in the area of East Asia. As an important factor and possibility, the role of involvement in common institutions of regional and global importance is highlighted.