

The ASEACCU 2018 in Hiroshima

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I participated in the ASEACCU 2018 held from August 21 to 26. The theme was “Catholic Education and Peace Initiatives”. Half of the students came from several foreign countries.

Through this conference, I gained new ideas about the theme from various viewpoints I had never thought of before. This precious experience was thanks to all of students who attended. I learned and experienced lots of things during those six wonderful days.

What do you think “peace” is? It’s not an easy question, but it’s a serious one, I believe. It’s important for us to each define what peace means to us. My definition is different from yours, of course, because you are not me. In addition, most Japanese tend to think about peace only in terms of Japanese history.

That is why the day will never come when there are no more wars in the world. All Japanese should learn about the history of other countries before talking about peace.

On August 22, I went to the Peace Memorial Park and looked at lots of pictures and monuments about the atomic bomb. I’ll never forget the misery depicted in some of the photos. I was terribly shocked and lost for words.

This experience changed me; it helped me to gain new perspectives. I’d like to thank everyone involved, and I’m proud of having attended as one of the representatives of Nanzan University.