

“World peace is actually here right now!”

Furukawa Aya

I participated in the ASEACCU student conference that was held in Seoul, Korea. It allowed me to make the nicest friends and to create some unforgettable, precious memories.

People are so sweet, kind, and respectable. I think this is true throughout the world. Confirming this through this conference has made me love this world much more. It comforted me in the context of the current uncomfortable situation in Asia.

We shared opinions about history in Asia, governmental issues, gender issues and the future of peace. This was done enthusiastically, carefully, and respectfully.

The time we spent together with the other students made me think that realizing world peace is not so difficult at all - it's actually here right now!

Actually I am uncomfortable with the relationship between Korea and Japan these days. It's so sad, just so sad. It's too sad to even get angry or critical about. But I can't help viewing the heartless words about that issue on the Internet, because I feel like I should know about it all from many perspectives and am expected to have an opinion about it as someone who is half-Japanese and half-Korean. While I don't know what the right opinion is, I do know I really love people in both countries, where my families were born.

The people I met in Korea were so nice, not only the students, but many people in the town, contrary to what the media is saying. But of course I have known that since I was little^^)

I love the new friends I made in Korea.

My Filipino friends who can't control their non-stop-laughing, my Taiwanese friends who constantly say "언니! (older girl friends)", my caring, kind, sweet, clever and funny Korean friends and my bestie from Japan.

I love them so much, and so, for their sake, I really hope for genuine peace in the Asian area, and for the world where we all live together.

And now, in September, I have promised to meet my Korean friends again next month! Who would have thought that a chance to meet them again would come so soon? God

gave me such beautiful relationships with them even after the conference. The diplomatic situation has been terrible recently, but that's why God gave us the chance now. I am really looking forward to seeing them again.

Thank you for the sweetest memories - we'll see each other again!