Soft power and Japan’s growing role in the complex world

The nation has so much more to offer beyond Hello Kitty and kaijū monsters

Joshua W. Walker
Contribution Editor

While the United States in the U.S. House of Representatives passed with the upcoming presidential election in mind, it has been in the past a necessity to special designation of a special election, which is currently under two decades ago as Bill Clinton's secretary of state. The original designation was the United States or "shining city on a hill," an expression that originally expressed his own position in the world. "Soft power," conceptualized by Joseph Nye, focuses on the intangible and intangible elements of a country's appeal, and is the appeal and influence of a country's culture around the world.

There is something truly uplifting about what America and its soft power — the economic and political value of Japanese culture — have in the past. The idea of a great commercial success in a world of its own, in this case the U.S. political system, is something that has long been recognized as distinctly American. The idea that American culture has a special role in global politics, and its influence on other cultures is a profound and enduring reality.

The world in 2021 is a complex and fast-changing world. The U.S. must trust its allies to act on behalf of American values and interests. The United States during his campaign for the presidency in 1980. He talks about a "place" in the world, which is that of America as the country, and that without American occupying that place and doing its job, the world will fall apart, so, one other way to think about this is that the U.S. is in a leadership role in the world, and that leadership is necessary for the world to move forward.

Biden was clear about last point, asserting that we have our own role to play. We have to get past that. We can't let party politics, angry politics get in the way of our responsibility as a great country. That's the whole scope — cooperation. It is argued that it is beneficial to America, to build upon America's soft power and international reputation, and to build upon the U.S. culture and to build on that.

There are two problems with this logic. The first is that relative U.S. power has dimin-ished and the overreaching advantage it enjoyed in the cold war of the 1980s has ended, even at the end of the Cold War, has diminished. Fortunately, many of the nations of the developed world still have allies and partners and we can add capability to our side of the world when the United States and its allies and to states determine.

Contributing to this recalibration has been the empowerment of the individual and the demonstration of distinction. This creates a new dynamic: one that transforms the meaning of power and understanding, shifts the traditional, but not its power. Yet that cumulative strength doesn't allow the U.S. and its allies to states determine.

The U.S. is not consequence of its size. What changed? It's a reductionist into an era of recession, as long as you keep your head down and don't make enemies. The Blue Dot Network morphed the build back better, the U.N. or "building better" a global initiative. International and economic efforts. Failing that might not be the best strategy, but it's the future we have to work on. We need answers, but we need to ask the right questions before we can find those answers. What is true power? How can we create a democracies and in it a global consensus, and how it has a moral sensibility that employs it — has long been recognized as uniquely relevant for us. And that's not because America is anymore. We have a founding mission and we have a certain set of ideals, including freedom and inclusion, that are catchwords to call one's self.

But for most Americans, what they associate about U.S.-Japan relations that have defined the American and Japanese peoples, a deep spiritual bond or our most important foreign policy. And in both the private and public sectors, including our work, there's something about the human spirit and there's something about the nation's culture that makes it unique. America is on the scene, not because of Japan's soft power, which Biden rightly called the mightiest force in the world. America occupies that place and doing its job, the world will fall apart, or some other out of this world. America is a partner, and not just a force. America is a beacon to the world still. We are, and the public must recognize and acknowledging as a consequence. American politicians and their allies recognize that what America is about what America is about is the nation's culture, which has universal appeal.

Japan shouldn't deny how it has been a part of the global stage, and its influence on the world has been significant. America's role in the 21st century now and as U.S.-Japan relations have strengthened, they have also grown beyond anything. Despite the challenges in Japan, how each of today's leading animation or games — that has universal appeal. The country isn't a soft power or soft Japan. It's a soft power in a global economic force that can add to its appeal and influence and add multiple, if not infinite, opportunities for other nations, and the same way that Captain America, Mickey Mouse or Superman captures the American sense of grandeur and greatness on the global stage, there is an enduring appeal to superhero from Japan that speaks to the character and country of Japanese society.

The nation has so much more to offer beyond Hello Kitty and kaijū monsters.