

Obsharskaia A.V. The Special Aspects of Japanese Political System Transformation in the Second Half of 1940s. // Scientific Notes of Crimea Federal V. I. Vernadsky University. Philosophy. Political science. Culturology. – 2015. – Vol. 1 (67). – № 4. – P. 151-157.

Japan is the state of strategic significance that seeks leadership in the Pacific Rim (in economic, political and other fields) and is one of the largest world geopolitics players. In modern world its status is quite complex and has been shaping under the influence of different forces for a long period of time. Japanese political system in general and a number of political institutions in particular have also changed from the moment of democratic institutions founding in the end of XIX – beginning of XX centuries till modern time. That also goes for political institutions that had been operating for centuries before that. And political reforms performed in the second half of 1940s, which are described by the author of the article elaborately, played the key role in the shaping of modern political system of Japan.

Key words: political system, Japan, transformation, reforms, demilitarization

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