## Solving the Issues of the Northern Territories

### **Northern Territories Affairs Administration**

- The Northern Territories (the islands of Habomai, Shikotan, Kunashiri and Etorofu) had never been held by foreign countries, and are inherent territories of Japan that continue to be illegally occupied by Russia.
- To solve this issue and to conclude a peace treaty with Russia as soon as possible, Japan has energetically continued negotiations. For supporting the diplomatic negotiation, the Northern Territories Affairs Administration prompts various measures (campaign for the return of the Northern Territories, the four-island non-visa exchange program, assistance for former residents of the islands, etc.).



Location of the four islands

# Campaign for the Return of the Northern Territories



Various activities and events to demand the prompt return of the Northern Territories are held throughout Japan

Gathering signatures to demand the return of the Northern Territories







National rally to demand the return of the Northern Territories held on Northern Territories Day (February 7<sup>th</sup>)

### Visits to the Islands



The four-island non-visa exchange program (Shikotan Island)



Free visits by Japanese citizen who are former residents of the islands and their families, and visits to graves

#### For details

→ The Northern Territories Affairs Administration: http://www8.cao.go.jp/hoppo/3step/04.html

Campaign character of Northern Territories (ERIKA chan)

