

SNU IPUS

2025-2026 Annual Report



The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies Seoul National University



서울대학교
통일평화연구원

The Institute for
Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University

IPUS Annual Report 2025-2026

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University

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Greetings



Seoul National University has been working on various levels, including research, education, and policy development to fulfill its social responsibilities as a national university. It also aims to realize the reunification of North and South Korea and world peace. The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, which was established in 2006 as the "Unification Research Center" has served as the centerpiece of SNU's efforts and has evolved over the years. In particular, in 2011, the institute was reorganized and renamed to its current name in recognition of the importance of peace research.

Since the late 2000s, the institute has been conducting the Unification Perception Survey, the North Korean Unification Perception Survey, and the North Korea Social Change Survey, as well as measuring and publishing the Inter-Korean Integration Index every year. This is because we have determined that the most necessary task for research and policy formulation on North Korea and unification is the collection and accumulation of basic data. This data has been utilized in a number of academic studies, and has also contributed to the formation of public opinion in our society and the government's policy toward North Korea.

In addition, since 2010, we have been operating the Peace and Humanities Research Group with the support of the Humanities Korea (HK) project for 10 years to establish peace studies based on the Korean Peninsula issues. Since 2015, we have been laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification by organizing a collaborative network of researchers and research institutes who are interested in unification and peace issues. Through this project, we have accumulated knowledge related to North Korea, unification, peace, security, and human rights every year and have contributed to the cultivation of experts in related fields. In addition, we have established a global network and carried out various cooperative projects for the realization of sustainable peace at the global level.

Education related to North Korea, reunification, and peace are also an important responsibility of the institute. To this end, the institute operates the Unification Academy and the Peace Academy for university students and the general public. Since the institute moved to Siheung Campus in 2020, it has been operating the Citizen Peace School and the Leaders Academy in cooperation with Siheung City. The institute also runs the Unification Studies Forum and the Peace Studies Forum to discuss important and timely topics related to unification and peace. In addition, the institute publishes the SCOPUS-registered English-language journal Asian Journal of Peacebuilding twice a year, and the KCI registered Korean-language journal Journal of Peace and Unification Studies quarterly.

Based on its accumulated experience and competencies on research related to North Korea, Northeast Asia, and the reunification of the two Koreas, the institute is expanding its horizons and scope of activities beyond the Korean Peninsula. The institute is strengthening exchanges and cooperation with overseas research institutions. Through these efforts, the institute aims to become a world-class research center not only in North Korean studies and unification studies, but also in the field of peace studies. We look forward to your encouragement and advice so that the institute can develop into a cradle of wisdom that contributes to the unification of the Korean Peninsula and global peace. Thank you.

IPUS Director **Kim, Bumsoo**

IPUS Annual Report 2025-2026

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University

About IPUS

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서울대학교 통일평화연구원
The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University

Goals

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies (IPUS) at Seoul National University was established with the aim of recognizing 'unification' and 'peace' as the most important tasks of the Korean people and nation. At IPUS, we aim to contribute to society through academic research on the various issues that will need to be solved in the process of realizing unification and peace.

Vision

Establishment of Interdisciplinary Unification Studies

We perform comprehensive, multidisciplinary studies in preparation for unification, using a systematic approach to the integration process between the North and South. We aim to construct an integrated model through an analytical survey of North Korean society and the variations within it.

Establishment of 'Korean Peace Studies'

By establishing Peace and Humanities Studies, we present a new paradigm of Peace Studies, propose peace within the context of unification, and seek the expansion of peace culture at the global level.

Strengthening Next-Generation Unification and Peace Research

We aim to develop various educational series to foster future generations of scholars who can establish a continuous virtuous cycle of research and education that can contribute back to society through the clear communication of research results.

Seoul National University Unification Research on Infrastructure Construction

We aim to organize a 'SNU Unification Research Network' by acting as a focal point for exchanges and cooperation among research institutes related to North Korea and unification within SNU, such as the Unification Medical Center, the Unification Law Center, the Unification Education Research Center, the North Korea Nutrition Policy Support Office, and the North Korea-Overseas Agricultural Research Institute.

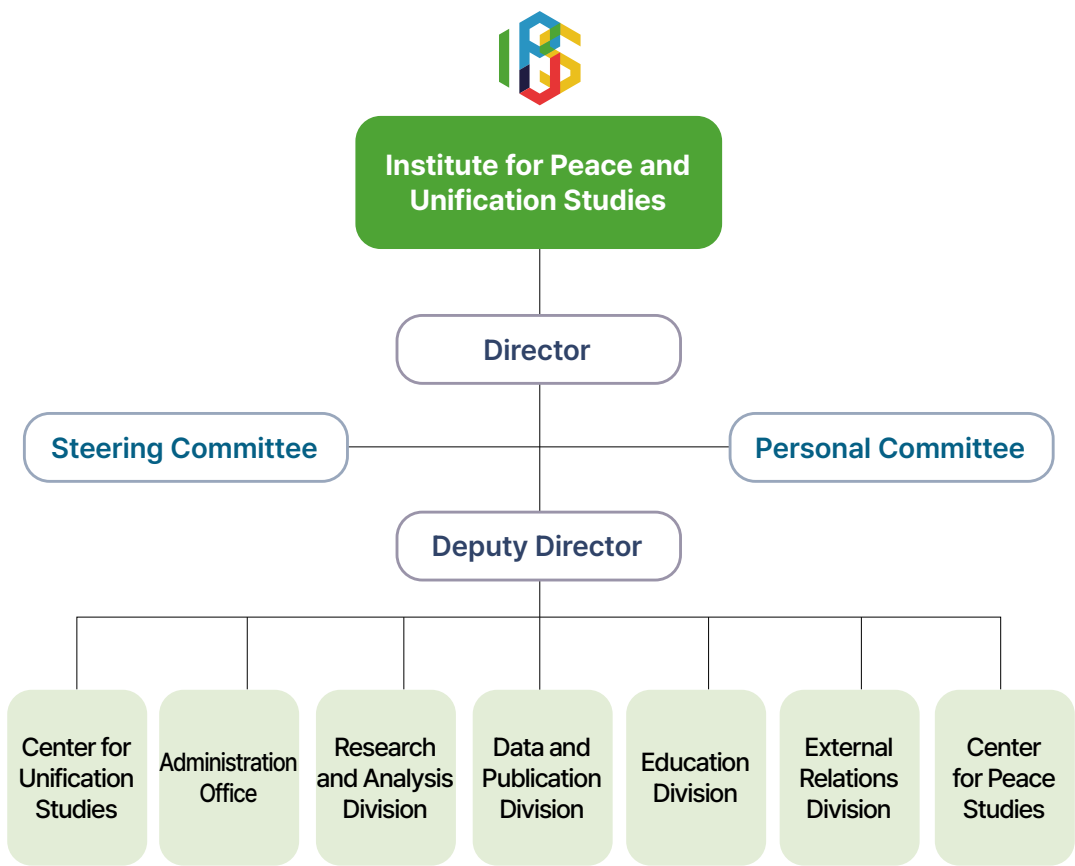
Unification and Peace Studies, Constructing a Global Network

By establishing a bilateral exchange program between the «SNU International Peace Network» and the «Northeast Asia Cooperation Network», we will internationalize unification research and enrich a global network of Peace Studies on the Korean Peninsula.

History

- 2026. 04. ○ 20th Anniversary Academic Conference and Commemorative Ceremony
- 2024. 09. ○ Launched Unification & Security Cluster
- 2024. 09. ○ 'ROK-US Policy Brief' was launched
- 2024. 04. ○ Korean-language journal *Journal of Peace and Unification Studies* is published four times a year
- 2023. 10. ○ Launched the World Korean Advanced Leadership Program for Unification and Peace(WK-ALPUP)
- 2023. 03. ○ Professor Kim Bumsoo took office as the 9th president of IPUS
- 2021. 05. ○ Professor Kim Byung-Yeon took office as the 8th president of IPUS
- 2020. 11. ○ Publishing Knowledge and Critique (IPUS HORIZON)
- 2020. 09. ○ Relaunch of the Unification Policy Forum as the Unification Studies Forum
- 2020. 07. ○ Relocation to the Siheung Campus
- 2019. 12. ○ Launched the SNU OLIVE Initiative for Peace Research
- 2019. 06. ○ Launched the Korean National University Peace Network
- 2018. 03. ○ Professor Leem Kyung-hoon took office as the 7th president of IPUS
- 2016. 05. ○ Professor Chung Geuk Sik took office as the 6th president of IPUS
- 2016. 03. ○ Selected as a Unification Education Leading University
- 2015. 07. ○ Laying the Groundwork for Unification began
- 2014. 06. ○ Unification Research Network was launched
- 2013. 10. ○ The first Peace Academy was launched
- 2013. 05. ○ The first issue of the English journal *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* was published
- 2011. 04. ○ Changed the Institute's name to 'SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies'
- 2010. 12. ○ SNU IPUS selection of HK Peace and Humanities Research Group projects
- 2009. 06. ○ The first issue of the Korean-language journal *Journal of Peace and Unification Studies* was published
- 2008. 08. 22. ○ Changed the Institute's name to 'Unification and Peace Research Center'
- 2007. 05. ○ Unification Perception Survey began
- 2007. 04. ○ The first Unification Academy was launched
- 2006. 04. 12. ○ The SNU Unification Research Center was launched with Prof. Park Myoung-Kyu as chief
- 2003. 10. ○ Unification Research Support Project began
- 2003. 08. ○ SNU Unification Studies Steering Committee was inaugurated
- 2000. 11. ○ The SNU Unification Forum was launched with Prof. Chang Dal-Joong as chairman

Organization



Steering Committee

Position	Dept.	Name	Position	Dept.	Name
Director	Liberal Studies	Kim, Bumsoo	Committee	Environmental Planning	Kim, Boo-Yuel
Deputy Director	Food & Nutrition Science	Yoon, Jihyun		Family Medicine	Park, Sang Min
Head of Center for Unification Studies	Department of Geography	Shin, HaeRan		Child Development & Family Studies	Chin, Meejung
Head of Center for Peace Studies	Center for International Agricultural Development	Park, Mi Sun		Graduate School of International Studies	Lee, Hyuntai
Chief of Publication Division	Department of Political Science and Int. Relations	Kim, Jong-Hak		Department of Political Science and Int. Relations	Cha, Taesuh
Chief of Education Division	Department of Ethics Education, College of Education	Kim, Sangbum			
Chief of External Relations Division	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Park, Yong-Sung			

Personnel Committee

College	Dept.	Name	College	Dept.	Name
College of Liberal Studies	Liberal Studies	Kim, Bumsoo	College of Human Ecology	Food & Nutrition Science	Yoon, Jihyun
Graduate School of Public Administration	Public Administration	Koo, Min Gyo	SNU Law School	Law	Lee, Hyo Won
College of Social Sciences	Anthropology	Chae, Suhong	College of Social Sciences	Social Welfare	Park, Jung Min
Graduate School of International Studies	Japanese Studies	Park, Jeehwan	College of Humanities	Chinese Language and Literature	Kim, Wolhoe
College of Humanities	Department of Korean Language and Literature	Lee, Jinho			

People

Director/ Deputy Director



Kim, Bumsoo

IPUS Director

Professor, College of Liberal Studies

PhD in Political Science from the University of Chicago

Research interests: Political Theory, Democracy, Multiculturalism, Human Rights



Yoon, Jihyun

IPUS Deputy Director

Professor, Dept. of Food & Nutrition Science

PhD in Hospitality and Tourism Management from Purdue University

Research interests: Food and Nutrition Policy and Food Service Management

Head of Center for Unification Studies/ Head of Center for Peace Studies/ Chief of Data and Publication Division/ Chief of Education Division/ Chief of External Relations Division



Shin, HaeRan

Head of Center for Unification Studies

Professor, Dept. of Geography

PhD in Urban Planning and Development from University of Southern California

Research interests: Political Geography, Immigrant Research



Park, MiSun

Head of Center for PeaceStudies

Professor, Graduate School of International Agricultural Technology

Ph.D. in Forest Policy (July, 2009), Georg-August University Göttingen

Research Interest: Forest and Agricultural Policy, Governance, Communication, Eco-innovation, International Cooperation

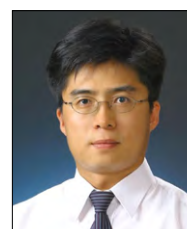


Kim, Jong-Hak

Chief of Data and Publication Division

Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations

Research Interest: Modern Korean political and diplomatic history



Kim, Sangbum

Chief of Education Division

Professor in the Department of Ethics Education

Ph.D. in Ethics Education, Seoul National University

Research Interests: International Ethics and Unification Education



Park, Yong-Sung

Chief of External Relations Division

Professor, Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering

PhD in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Cornell University

Research interests: Coastal Engineering

HK Professor



Lee, Moonyoung

HK Professor

PhD in Philology from Moscow State University

Research interests: Russia, Post Socialism, Literature, Peace and Humanities



Baik, Jiwoon

HK Professor

PhD in Literature from Yonsei University

Research interests: East Asian Literature

People

**Hahn, Monica****HK Professor**

PhD in History from the Catholic University of Korea
Research interests: Modern Korean History, the Korean War, the Border Area

Senior Fellow

**Kim, Young-ho**

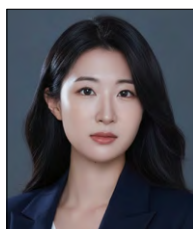
PhD in Economics from the Institute of International Political Economy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences(CASS)
Research interests : Chinese Studies, North Korean Economy, East Asian Economic Cooperation

**Lee, Yoo Chul**

PhD in Politics from the University of Bristol School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies
Research interests : International Political Theory, International Norms and Ethics, Security of Emerging Technologies, Economic Security

**Lee, Jong Jin**

PhD in International Relations from Seoul National University
Research interests: Cyber Security, National Strategy, Artificial Intelligence, Space Security

**Yun, Hee Soo**

Ph.D. in Political Science, Sungkyunkwan University
Research Interests: Authoritarian Regimes, North Korean Security, Artificial Intelligence, and Data Science

Researcher

**Kim, Minji**

MA in Political Science from
Seoul National University

**Shin, Inseok**

MA in North Korean Studies
from Dongguk University

**Kim, Bora**

Syracuse University (PhD
program) Geography

Project Researcher

**Kim, Daehun**

M.A. in Geography, Seoul
National University

**LI, YIZE**

Ph.D. Candidate, Graduate
School of International Studies,
Seoul National University

People

Office of Administration

**Jang,
Mi Sug**Administrative
Director**Lee,
Jeonghee**Administrative
Staff**Kwon,
Seon-hye**Administrative
Staff

Visiting Scholar

**Kim, Philo
[Byung-Ro]**

IPUS

**Kim,
Sung Chull**

IPUS

**Kim,
Wan Ki**

IPUS

**Kim
Jin Hwan**

IPUS

**Baik,
Tae Hyun**

IPUS

**Yang,
Yoon-jung**

IPUS

**Jang,
Young-suk**

IPUS

Advisory Committee

**Daehong, Kim**

KBS announcer

**Jongbeom, Park**

Chairman of Youngsan Group

**Hoseong, Park**

CEO of Northern Trading

**Sangman, Shim**

President of KOTEC India

**Lee Moo-soo**Former Advisory Member,
Peaceful Unification Advisory
Council**Cho Eon-bin**President, Taiwan Chapter of
the Republic of Korea Veterans
Association**Hyuntai, Kim**President and CEO of Benikea
Japan, President and CEO of
Carlton Management**Paula, Park**Former President of World-OKTA
in Washington**Paul Song**Vice President, World Korean
Association
Chairman of the Board,
Federation of Korean
Associations in the Americas**Jeff Jefferson Ahn**

WAVA Corp CEO

**Jeong, Gwang-II**Chairman of the Overseas
Compatriots Steering Committee
of the National Council for
Reconciliation and Cooperation**Hongseon, Cho**President of the Korean
Association of Nigeria

International Networking

| Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) State of Affairs |

No.	Date	Cooperative Agency	Country
24	2025.06.17.	Institute of Korean Studies, Freie Universität Berlin	Germany
23	2024.07.09.	Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University	Japan
22	2023.11.28.	Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Hunan Normal University	China
21	2023.09.27.	Institute for Korean Studies, George Washington University	US
20	2023.03.17.	Center for East Asian Peace and Cooperation Studies, Ritsumeikan University	Japan
19	2019.10.31.	Institute for Security and Development Policy	Sweden
18	2019.10.28.	Institute of Far Eastern Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences	Russia
17	2019.10.16.	Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences of the Central Region	Vietnam
16	2019.10.15.	Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences Institute for Northeast Asian Studies	Vietnam
15	2019.01.10.	Hiroshima Peace Institute, Hiroshima City University	Japan
14	2019.01.09.	Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University	Japan
13	2019.01.05.	Graduate Institute for Taiwan Studies of Xiamen University	China
12	2018.06.07.	Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars	US
11	2017.12.18.	East China Normal University	China
10	2017.01.05.	Free Universität Berlin	Germany
9	2014.12.24.	Yanbian University Korean Peninsula Collaborative Innovation Center	China
8	2014.02.01.	Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University	Japan
7	2012.09.26.	Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University	Japan
6	2012.09.22.	Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Far Eastern Studies	Russia
5	2012.08.15.	Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Oriental Studies	Russia

No.	Date	Cooperative Agency	Country
4	2012.08.13.	Moscow State University, International Center for Korean Studies, Institute of Asian and African Studies	Russia
3	2011.09.15.	Library of Congress	US
2	2007.10.17.	Russian State Social University	Russia
1	2007.09.26.	Hanns Seidel Stiftung	Germany

Domestic cooperation network

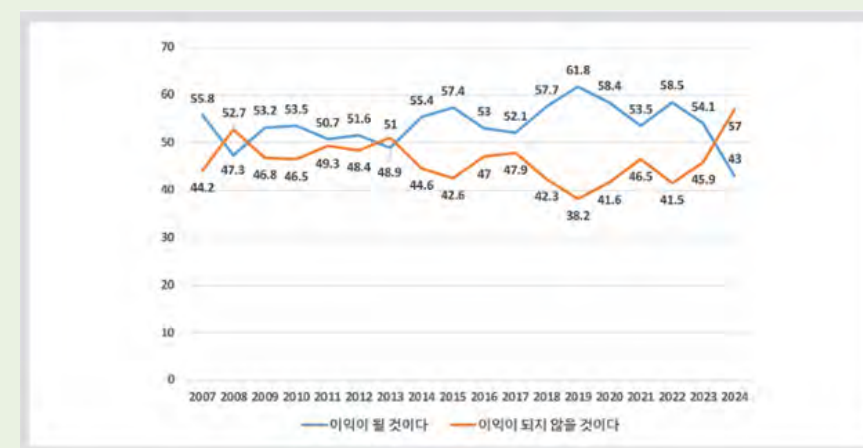
Domestic Cooperation Networks

No.	Date	Cooperative Agency and Main Business
23	2024.04.16.	World Federation of Overseas Korean Traders Associations (OKTA)
22	2023.11.08.	Research Institute for National Security Affairs, Korea National Defense University
21	2023.10.19.	Institute for Northeast Asia Research, Chosun University
20	2023.06.27.	Jeju Unification Education Center, Jeju National University
19	2023.06.26.	The Institute of Peace Studies, Jeju National University
18	2023.06.02.	Jeju Peace Institute (JPI)
17	2023.06.02.	The World Assembly of Korean Associations (WAKA)
16	2022.05.11.	Korea Culture and Tourism Institute (KCTI)
15	2020.10.30.	National Institute for Unification Education
14	2020.10.08.	Korea Legislation Research Institute
13	2019.06.25.	'Korean Peninsula Peace National University Network'
12	2018.06.07.	Gangwon University, Incheon University
11	2018.01.19.	Wonkwang University (The Research Institute of Won-Buddhist Thought)
10	2017.06.20.	Incheon National University Post-Unification Research Institute
9	2017.03.28.	Seoul National University Institute of Humanities Seoul National University Institute for Korean Regional Studies Gaesong Industrial District Foundation
8	2016.10.14.	National Museum of Korean Contemporary History
7	2016.02.04.	Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs
6	2013.02.04.	Esquire Academic and Cultural Foundation Korea Social Science Data Archive (KOSSDA) – renewed contract
5	2012.02.22.	Korean Academic Information
4	2012.11.06.	SNU Department of Economics World-class Research-Oriented University Focus Group
3	2011.07.04.	Yonsei University Institute of Korean Studies
2	2008.02.04.	Esquire Academic and Cultural Foundation Korea Social Science Data Archive (KOSSDA)
1	2007.12.03.	Korea Institute of National Unification (KINU)

IPUS in the Press

"80 Years After Liberation and Division, Perceived Need for Unification Plummets... 77% Now Say, "It Is Not in My Interest""

(Hankook Ilbo, August 17, 2025)



[By Yoon Hyun-jong]

This slogan appeared at an event commemorating the first anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Korea in 1949, according to the National Archives of Korea. It reflected a national conviction that, just as Korea had freed itself from Japanese colonial rule and established a sovereign state, it should also overcome the division of the peninsula and reclaim the "lost northern territory."

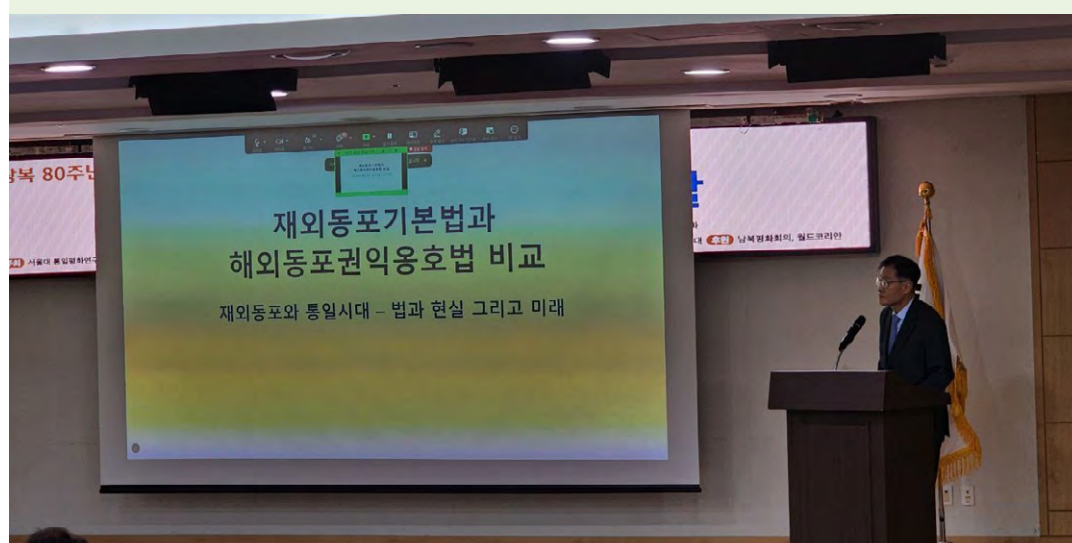
From the late 1960s to the early 1970s, nine out of ten South Koreans believed that unification was "absolutely necessary." Today, however, public sentiment is moving in the opposite direction. This year marks exactly 80 years since the division of the Korean Peninsula following its occupation by the United States and the Soviet Union immediately after Korea's liberation on August 15, 1945. Yet the notion that "unification is a shared national conviction" is gradually fading from the minds of South Koreans.

Original article: <https://v.daum.net/v/20250817070127179>

IPUS in the Press

"Overseas Koreans Should Serve as a Bridge to Restore Severed Inter-Korean Relations"

(OhmyNews, August 25, 2025)

**[By Yoon Jong-eun]**

Need to Move Beyond the "Two Hostile States" Relationship and Establish "Two States Coexisting Peacefully"

To mark the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, a policy seminar was held to explore ways to provide institutional support for peace-building activities undertaken by overseas Koreans. The seminar, titled "Peace on the Korean Peninsula and the Role of Overseas Koreans," took place at 10:00 a.m. on August 25 in Conference Room 2 of the National Assembly Members' Office Building. It was jointly organized by National Assembly members Kim Young-bae, Lee Jae-kang, and Lee Ki-heon, along with the incorporated association Peace and AOK Korea. The event was hosted by the Seoul National University Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, the Overseas Koreans Committee of the Kim Dae-jung Foundation, the Association of Overseas Korean Newspaper, Broadcasting and Media Professionals, the Overseas Koreans Steering Committee of the Korean Council for Reconciliation and Cooperation, Overseas Candlelight Action, the Path of Peace, the National Association of Korean Americans, and the Korean American Solidarity for Hope. It was also supported by the Inter-Korean Peace Conference and World Korean.

Original article: https://www.ohmynews.com/NWS_Web/View/at_pg.aspx?CNTN_CD=A0003159360

41.1% of South Koreans Say Unification Is Necessary, Up from the Previous Year: "Effect of the Change to the Lee Administration"

(The Chosun Ilbo, September 30, 2025)

**[By Kim Do-yeon]**

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University, headed by Director Kim Bumsoo, announced on September 30 that public support for the need for Korean unification had increased, attributing the rise to the effect of the change in government under the Lee Jae-myung administration.

The institute released the findings of its 2025 Unification Perception Survey, which was conducted through face-to-face interviews with 1,200 adult men and women between July and August.

According to the survey, 41.1 percent of respondents said that unification was necessary, an increase of 4.2 percentage points from 36.9 percent the previous year. In contrast, 30.4 percent said that unification was unnecessary, down 4.6 percentage points from 35.0 percent the previous year.

The institute explained that "expectations for the Lee Jae-myung administration, which emphasizes improving inter-Korean relations and promoting peaceful coexistence, together with the effect of the transition to a progressive government, appear to have influenced the results."

Original article:

https://www.chosun.com/national/national_general/2025/09/30/AKHK6ZFYAFCZVDTEOLUJ6JC2QA/?utm_source=naver&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=naver-news

IPUS in the Press

SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies to Hold Joint Seminar on “Exploring Peaceful Coexistence on the Korean Peninsula” on December 8

(JoongAng Ilbo, December 5, 2025)



[By Kim Na-hye, Intern Reporter]

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University, headed by Director Kim Bumsoo, will organize a seminar jointly hosted by the Korean Political Science Association and the Ministry of Unification on Monday, December 8, 2025, in the Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Council Conference Room. The seminar will be held under the theme, “Beyond North Korea’s ‘Two Hostile States’ Relationship: Exploring Peaceful Coexistence on the Korean Peninsula.” The joint seminar will begin with opening remarks by Professor Kim Beom-soo, who serves as both Director of the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University and President of the Korean Political Science Association, followed by welcoming remarks from Minister of Unification Chung Dong-young.

Original article: <https://www.joongang.co.kr/article/253877https://www.yna.co.kr/view/AKR20250221122600054?input=1195m>

“The UNC Previously Took the Lead in Promoting the ‘Peaceful Use of the DMZ’... Its Interpretation of the Armistice Agreement Has Also Changed”

(News1, January 23, 2026)



[By Lim Yeo-ik]

Tensions have emerged between the government and the United Nations Command (UNC) after the UNC expressed reservations about the government and ruling party's current initiative to establish a legal framework for the peaceful use of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). Against this backdrop, experts have argued that the government should actively draw on a historical precedent in which the UNC itself proposed transforming the DMZ into a zone of peace between North and South Korea. Contrary to concerns that plans for the use of the DMZ could potentially violate the Korean Armistice Agreement, some observers maintain that such plans could be fully implemented within the framework of the agreement, provided that the government and the UNC reach a flexible understanding.

Original article: <https://v.daum.net/v/20260123175303300>

Foreign·Domestic Exchanges



SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies Signs an MOU with the Institute of Korean Studies at Freie Universität Berlin (2025.06.17.)



Joint SNU–University of Washington Forum on the Future of ROK–U.S. Relations (2025.10.22.)



Vice President of Hunan Normal University Visits Seoul National University (2025.09.19.)



Presentation by the President of the Taiwanese Political Science Association (2025.12.05.)

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Academic Conferences

- Domestic Conferences
- International Conferences

Domestic Conference

Topic	Date
[100th Domestic Academic Conference] The 19th Anniversary Conference of the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies: South Korea's Nuclear Armament Options and Public Opinion in the Trump 2.0 Era	April 10, 2025 09:30~17:00
[Joint Academic Conference with the Korean Political Science Association] 80 Years Since Liberation: Challenges and Responses in Korean Politics	August 21–August 23, 2025
[2025 Inter-Korean Cultural Exchange Education Program] "Together Again!" Regional Forums and Outreach Lectures on Inter-Korean Cultural Exchange I	August 27, 2025 14:00~16:00
[101st Domestic Academic Conference] 2025 Unification Perception Survey—The Launch of the Lee Jae-myung Administration and the New Cold War Crisis: Expectations and Prospects for North Korea Policy	October 1, 2025 14:00~18:00
[Joint Academic Conference of the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and the Korean Political Science Association] ROK–U.S. Relations at a Crossroads: Exploring the Future of the Alliance in an Era of U.S. Unilateralism	October 20, 2025 14:00~18:00
[Joint Seminar of the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, the Ministry of Unification, and the Korean Political Science Association] Beyond North Korea's "Two Hostile States" Policy: Exploring Peaceful Coexistence on the Korean Peninsula	December 8, 2025 13:00~18:00
["Connecting Inter-Korean Cultural Exchange" Cultural Event] One Arirang, Beyond Boundaries	December 11, 2025 14:00~16:00
[Academic Conference Supported by the Ministry of Unification] The Legal Framework Governing the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and Its Peaceful Use	January 23, 2026 14:00~17:40
[102nd Domestic Academic Conference] 20th Anniversary Academic Conference and Commemorative Ceremony of the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies	April 16, 2026 13:40~21:00

Academic Conferences

Center for Unification Studies

Center for Peace Studies

Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification

Education and Outreach

Publication

◆ [100th Domestic Academic Conference]

The 19th Anniversary Conference of the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies: South Korea's Nuclear Armament Options and Public Opinion in the Trump 2.0 Era

- Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025, 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
- Location: Room 204, Building 220, Gwanak Campus, Seoul National University
- Topic: South Korea's Independent Nuclear Armament Options and Public Opinion in the Trump 2.0 Era

To commemorate its 19th anniversary, the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University, headed by Director Kim Beom-soo, held an academic conference on Thursday, April 10, at Seoul National University's Gwanak Campus under the theme, "South Korea's Independent Nuclear Armament Options and Public Opinion in the Trump 2.0 Era."

The conference began with opening remarks by Kim Beom-soo, Director of the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, followed by congratulatory remarks from Chung Seong-chang, Director of the Center for Korean Peninsula Strategy at the Sejong Institute.

The 19th anniversary conference was organized to examine South Korea's nuclear armament options and related public opinion from multiple perspectives amid a changing security environment in which alliance-based deterrence could weaken following the beginning of President Trump's second term.



◆ [Joint Academic Conference with the Korean Political Science Association]

80 Years Since Liberation: Challenges and Responses in Korean Politics

- Date: Thursday, August 21–Saturday, August 23, 2025
 - Location: College of Humanities, Social Sciences and Business Administration, Daeyeon Campus, Pukyong National University; and Park Hyatt Busan
 - Topic: 80 Years Since Liberation: Challenges and Responses in Korean Politics
- Co-hosted by: Korean Political Science Association; Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University; National University Network for Peace on the Korean Peninsula; Pukyong National University; and others



◆ [2025 Inter-Korean Cultural Exchange Education Program]

“Together Again!” Regional Forums and Outreach Lectures on Inter-Korean Cultural Exchange I

- Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- Location: Room 204, Building 220, Gwanak Campus, Seoul National University
- Topic: Is the Resumption of Inter-Korean Cultural and Artistic Exchange Possible?
- Panelists: Park Gye-ri, Professor, National Institute for Unification Education, Ministry of Unification; Kim Kyung-soon, Secretary-General, Association of North-South Korean Historians; Kim Sung-soo, Professor, University College, Sungkyunkwan University; Ahn Chang-mo, Professor, Department of Architecture, Kyonggi University; and Han Mo-nikka, Professor, Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University

◆ [101st Domestic Academic Conference]

2025 Unification Perception Survey—The Launch of the Lee Jae-myung Administration and the New Cold War Crisis: Expectations and Prospects for North Korea Policy

- Date: Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
- Location: Samick Hall, Asia Center (Building 101), Seoul National University

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University, headed by Director Kim Beom-soo, held an academic conference on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, under the theme “The Launch of the Lee Jae-myung Administration and the New Cold War Crisis: Expectations and Prospects for North Korea Policy,” and presented the findings of the 2025 Unification Perception Survey. Conducted annually since 2007, the survey has examined changes in public perceptions and attitudes toward unification, North Korea, government policy toward North Korea, neighboring countries, and North Korean defectors over the past 19 years. It has gained broad recognition for its credibility and reliability.

다시 또 같이!
남북 문화교류 지역순회 포럼 및 찾아가는 특강

참가신청
본 포럼 및 찾아가는 특강은 대면 형식으로 진행됩니다. 참석을 희망하시는 분은 각 포럼 QR코드 또는 구글폼 링크를 통해 사전신청 해주시기 바랍니다.

**제1차 지역순회 포럼 및 찾아가는 특강
남북 문화예술 교류 재개 가능한가?**
• 일시: 2025년 8월 27일 수요일 14:00 – 16:00
• 장소: 서울대학교 220동 204호
• 패널: 박계리(통일부 국립중앙교육원 교수), 김경순(신북역사학회 학제학역사 사무국장), 김창수(성균관대 학부대학 대우교수), 안창모(경기대 건축학과 교수), 한모니카(서울대 통일평화연구원 조교수)
* 링크 주소: <https://forms.gle/44k8NYTWSVXezuQ7>

**제2차 지역순회 포럼 및 찾아가는 특강
남북 문화, 영화로 말한다**
• 일시: 2025년 9월 12일 금요일 14:00 – 16:00

**제3차 지역순회 포럼 및 찾아가는 특강
관광으로 보는 북한 개황과 국제화**
• 일시: 2025년 10월 17일 금요일 14:00 – 16:00

**제4차 지역순회 포럼 및 찾아가는 특강
음악으로 보는 남북 북: 한류와 조류의 경합**
• 일시: 2025년 11월 21일 금요일 14:00 – 16:00

**제5차 지역순회 포럼 및 찾아가는 특강
글로벌 시대, 남북 체육교류의 현황과 미래**
• 일시: 2025년 12월 4일 목요일 14:00 – 16:00

주최: 서울대학교 통일평화연구원, 한국문화재단, KPSA, 한국문화재단, 한국문화재단, 한국문화재단, 한국문화재단



2025 통일의식조사
**이재명 정부 출범과
신냉전 위기:
대북정책 기대와 전망**
2025년 10월 1일(수) 14:00-18:00
서울대학교 아시아연구소(101동) 삼익홀

제1부 기초토론	제2부 심화토론	제3부 종합토론
14:00-15:30	15:45-16:50	16:50-17:50
발표1 총담판서 발표2 북한판서 발표3 대북정책판서 발표4 북한이탈주민판서 발표5 주변국판서 토론 김재현 (서울대 통일평화연구원 교수), 박인주 (서울대 통일평화연구원 조교수)	발표1 통일학연구소 제1차 대북정책연구회 발표2 남북한 북한사 주석과 전망 토론 정지현 (서울대 통일평화연구원 교수), 정성철 (서울대 통일평화연구원 조교수)	토론 정지현 (서울대 통일평화연구원 교수), 정성철 (서울대 통일평화연구원 조교수) 발표1 김재현 (서울대 통일평화연구원 교수), 박인주 (서울대 통일평화연구원 조교수)

*1차 문의사항은 담당자 yoochoo.lee@snu.ac.kr에게 연락 바랍니다.

사전참가 신청



◆ [Joint Academic Conference of the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and the Korean Political Science Association]

ROK-U.S. Relations at a Crossroads: Exploring the Future of ROK-U.S. Relations in an Era of American Unilateralism

- Date: Monday, October 20, 2025, 2:00–6:00 p.m.
- Location: Garnet Suite, 37th Floor, Lotte Hotel Seoul
- Hosted by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University; Korean Political Science Association



◆ [Joint Seminar of the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, the Ministry of Unification, and the Korean Political Science Association]

Beyond North Korea's "Two Hostile States" Policy: Exploring Peaceful Coexistence on the Korean Peninsula

- Date: Monday, December 8, 2025, 1:00–6:00 p.m.
- Location: Council Chamber, Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Topic: Beyond North Korea's "Two Hostile States" Policy: Exploring Peaceful Coexistence on the Korean Peninsula
- Hosted by: Korean Political Science Association and Ministry of Unification
- Organized by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University

동일부-한국정치학회 공동세미나
북한의 적대적
두 국가관계를 넘어
**한반도
평화공존
모색**

2025. 12. 8. (월) 13:00~18:00 / 대한상공회의소 의원회의실

시간	내용	비고
13:00 ~ 13:30	등록	
13:30 ~ 13:50	개회식: 개회사: 김병수(한국정치학회 회장) 환영사: 정동영(국무총리)	
14:00 ~ 14:45	[Session 01] 한국의 통일여론 변화와 평화공존 제도화 방안 최대적 두 국가관계 실현 이후 통일여론의 변화와 시사점 이해관계론자 통일평화연구소 통일 통일론의 재구성: 통일과, 평화, 무관심의 세력적 지형 김정민(국립중앙도서관)	[사회] 박종규 (연세대)
14:45 ~ 15:00	통일 원론에 공존을 통한 한반도 평화공존 제도화 방안 박종규(연세대학교)	
15:00 ~ 15:15	토론: 장승익(국립외교원), 장성일(연세대), 이현실(국립외교원)	
15:15 ~ 16:00	휴식 (Coffee break)	
16:00 ~ 17:45	[Session 02] 한반도 평화공존을 위한 정치적 대결 방안 모색 국내외 이념적 양극화 보수화가 한반도 평화 담론에 미치는 영향 - 우명환(연세대) 한반도 평화공존을 위한 정치적 대결과 지속가능한 협력 추진 방안 - 김성기(국가안전보장연구소) 한반도 평화체제를 위한 제도적 준비와 국제협력 방안 - 서민재(중앙연구원) 토론: 김동수(국립외교원), 최재익(서울국제통상대학원), 박지영(연세대)	[사회] 김필수 (한국정치학회), 서민재
17:45 ~ 18:00	폐회식	

사전등록신청
바로가기

공동주최: 통일부, 한국정치학회 KPSA, 주한미군, 주한미군문화재단, 주한미군문화재단



◆ [“Connecting Inter-Korean Cultural Exchange” Cultural Event]

One Arirang, Beyond Boundaries

- Date: Thursday, December 11, 2025, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- Location: Insul Jejung Plaza, B1, Daehan Outpatient Center, Seoul National University Hospital
- Topic: One Arirang, Beyond Boundaries
- Program:
 - Part 1: Busking performance by current students and graduates of the Department of Korean Music, Seoul National University
 - Part 2 (Main Performance): Collaborative performance by gayageum musician Park Soon-ah and current students and graduates of the Department of Korean Music, Seoul National University



◆ [Academic Conference Supported by the Ministry of Unification]

The Legal Framework Governing the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and Its Peaceful Use

- Date: Friday, January 23, 2026, 2:00–5:40 p.m.
- Location: Conference Room 4, National Assembly Members' Office Building
- Topic: The Legal Framework Governing the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and Its Peaceful Use
- Hosted by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University; Office of National Assembly Member Lee Jae-kang
- Supported by: Ministry of Unification

시간	주제	강사
14:00-14:10	개회식	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)
14:10-14:50	발표1 비무장지대 관련 법 체계	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)
14:50-15:50	발표2 비무장지대(DMZ) 출입 관리	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)
15:50-16:10	발표3 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)
16:10-17:40	발표4 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)
발표5 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)	
15:50-16:10	중식	
16:10-17:40	발표6 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)
발표7 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)	
발표8 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)	
발표9 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)	
발표10 DMZ의 평화적 이용의 법적 조건의 검토	김정수 (서울대 통일평화연구원장)	

※ 기타 문의사항은 담당자 kjk3@snu.ac.kr 로 연락 바랍니다.



◆ [102nd Domestic Academic Conference]

20th Anniversary Academic Conference and Commemorative Ceremony of the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies

- Date: Thursday, April 16, 2026, 1:40–9:00 p.m.
- Location: Mugunghwa Hall, Samsung Convention Center, Hoam Faculty House, Seoul National University

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University, headed by Director Kim Beom-soo, held its 20th Anniversary Academic Conference and Commemorative Ceremony on Thursday, April 16, beginning at 1:40 p.m. at Mugunghwa Hall in the Hoam Faculty House, Seoul National University.

The event commemorated the Institute's 20th anniversary and its leading role in research on peace and unification on the Korean Peninsula since its establishment in 2006. It was also organized to explore the future of peace and South Korea's diplomatic and security strategies amid the rapidly changing geopolitical environment.

20th 서울대학교 통일·평화연구원 창립 20주년 기념 학술대회 및 기념식

일시 2026년 4월 16일(목) 오후 1시 40분~ 장소 서울대학교 호암교수회관 무궁화홀

학술대회

13:00-13:40	개회식
13:40-14:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
14:00-14:40	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
14:40-15:40	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
15:40-16:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
16:00-17:40	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
17:40-18:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
18:00-19:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
19:00-21:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)

기념식 행사

17:40-18:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
18:00-19:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)
19:00-21:00	주최자 인사말 (서울대학교 통일·평화연구원)



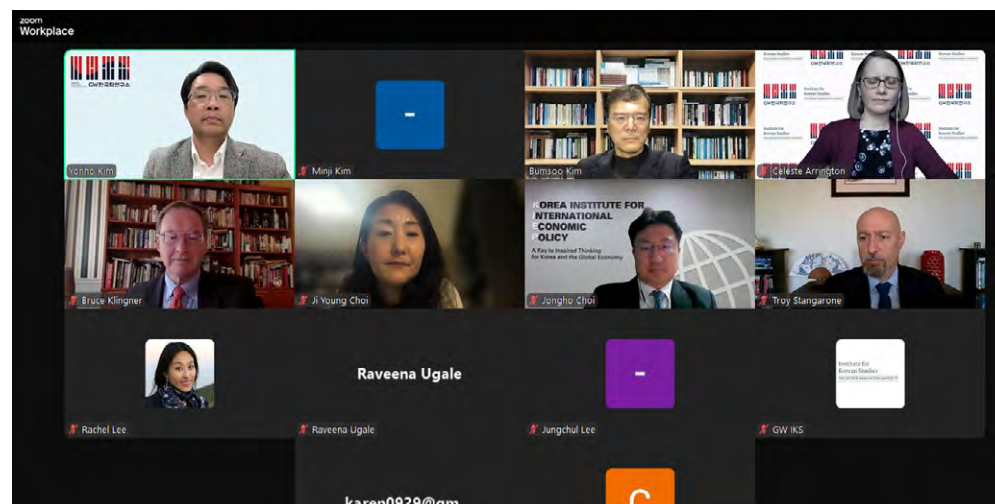
International Conference

Topic	Date
[IPUS-GWIKS Joint Webinar] North Korea Economic Forum: The Trump 2.0 Administration and the North Korean Economy	Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 10:00~11:30 PM (KST)
[IPUS-RECNA Joint Seminar] Nuclear Risks and Emerging (In)security: Insights from the Korean Peninsula and Japan	Tuesday, September 16~17, 2025, at 09:00-18:00 (KST)
[Joint Academic Conference Co-hosted by the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and Hunan Normal University] Current Status and Challenges of Korea-China Exchanges in a Period of Transition	Friday, September 19, 2025: 9:30~16:40
[IPUS-RECNA Joint Seminar] Security Shifts and Comprehensive Strategy: A Study on perspective from the Emerging Technologies	Tuesday, October 21~22, 2025, at 09:00~18:00 (KST)
[Joint Academic Conference Co-hosted by the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle] The 12th Korean Peninsula Forum	Wednesday, October 22, 2025 17:30~19:00
[Organized by the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and the Institute of International and Area Studies at East China Normal University] The 2nd Chang'an Forum	Thursday, January 29-Friday, January 30, 2026
[IPUS-RECNA-INSS Joint Seminar] The Risk of Emerging Technologies and Nuclear Use in Security Issues: Insights from the Korean Peninsula and Japanologies	February 24~25, 2026
[IPUS-GWIKS Joint Webinar] North Korea Economic Forum- Assessing North Korea's '20×10 Regional Development Policy': Political Recalibration and Economic Feasibility	Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 10:00-11:30 PM (KST)

◆ [IPUS-GWIKS Joint Webinar]

North Korea Economic Forum: The Trump 2.0 Administration and the North Korean Economy

- Dates: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 10:00-11:30 PM (KST)
- Venue: ZOOM Webinar- Organized by the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies(IPUS) at Seoul National University and Institute for Korean Studies at the George Washington University

Institute for
Korean Studies

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



◆ Event Schedule

Time	Content
	Welcoming Remarks
9:00 AM - 9:05 AM	Celeste Arrington (Director, GW Institute for Korean Studies) Bumsu Kim (Director, Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University)
	Panel Discussion
9:05 A.M. - 10:05 A.M.	<u>Moderator:</u> Yonho Kim (Associate Director, GW Institute for Korean Studies) <u>Speakers:</u> - o Ji-Young Choi (Research Fellow, Korea Institute for National Unification) <i>North Korea's Strengthening of the State Distribution System and Market Fluctuations</i> - o Jangho Choi (Head of International Cooperation, Korean Unification Team, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy) <i>North Korea's Economy from 2020 to 2024: Insights from Trade Statistics and Satellite Data Analysis</i> - o Bruce Klingner (Senior Research Fellow for Northeast Asia, The Heritage Foundation) <i>Prospects For New Sanctions Monitoring Under the Trump Administration/Trump's Likely Approach to North Korea from an Economic Perspective</i> - o Troy Stangarone (Director, Hyundai Motor-Korea Foundation Center for Korean History and Public Policy, Wilson Center) <i>The Impact of the Ukraine War's End on North Korea's Economy and U.S. Engagement</i>
10:05 A.M. - 10:15 A.M.	Roundtable Discussion (10 min)
10:15 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	Q&A (15 min)

◆ [IPUS-RECNA Joint Seminar]

Nuclear Risks and Emerging (In)security: Insights from the Korean Peninsula and Japan**September 16 (Tue.) DAY 1**

- Opening (9:55-10:00)
- Welcome Remarks: Fumihiko Yoshida (RECNA)
- Theme: Nuclear catastrophe revisited: Insights from Nagasaki, Chornobyl and Fukushima through medical and societal lenses

Part 1

10:00-13:05

What happened in Nagasaki, Chornobyl and Fukushima

Byungdug Jun Overview of A-bombing effects in Nagasaki	35 minutes
Masahiro Nakashima Overview of a-bomb survivor health study: 35 minutes	35 minutes
Break	15 minutes
Noboru Takamura Risk communication after a nuclear disaster	35 minutes
Mark Zheleznyak Environmental monitoring after nuclear disasters	35 minutes
Discussion	30 minutes

(Lunch and Small Excursion: 115 minutes)

Part 2

15:00-17:45

Medical preparedness for a nuclear catastrophe in Eastern Asia

Minsu Cho Medical preparedness for a nuclear disaster in Korea	35 minutes
Li-Fan Lin Medical preparedness for a nuclear disaster in Taiwan	35 minutes
Break	15 minutes
Shunichi Yamashita Nuclear emergency medical preparedness in Japan – Lessons learned from Fukushima	35 minutes
Joo Jeong (Discussant)	15 minutes
Discussion	30 minutes

September 17 (Wed.) DAY 2

- Opening (9:55-10:00)
- Welcome Remarks: Fumihiko Yoshida (RECNA)
- Theme: Korean Peninsula and Japan in an emerging security landscape: Strategic policy responses

Part 1

Moderator: Kazuko Hikawa (RECNA) 10:00-13:00

The rise of emerging technologies and national security

Jong Jin Lee Cyber-AI Threats: The Emerging Security Nexus	30 minutes
Jaroslav Krasny Biosecurity in East Asia: National Approaches, Strategic Ambiguity, and the Role of the Biological Weapons Convention	30 minutes
Heigo Sato: Emerging technology and security (TBC):	30 minutes
Wilfred Wan : Discussant:	15 minutes
Break	15 minutes
Discussion	65 minutes

(Lunch and Small Excursion: 115 minutes)

Part 2

Moderator: Kimiaki Kawai (RECNA) 15:00-16:45

The political and socioeconomic impacts of limited nuclear war

Kimiaki Kawai Effects of Limited Nuclear War in Northeast Asia: Insights from RECNA's Research Project and Ways Forward	25 minutes
Sebastian Brixey-Williams Effects of limited nuclear war in South Asia	25 minutes
Discussion	55 minutes
Break	15 minutes

Part 3

Fumihiko Yoshida (Moderator) 17:00-18:10

Future prospects

Discussion on the Way forward	60 minutes
Concluding remarks: Bumsoo Kim (IPUS)	
Concluding remarks: Fumihiko Yoshida (RECNA)	



◆ [Joint Academic Conference Co-hosted by the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and Hunan Normal University]

Current Status and Challenges of Korea–China Exchanges in a Period of Transition

- Date: Friday, September 19, 2025
- Location: Camellia Room, Hoam Faculty House, Seoul National University
- Topic: Current Status and Challenges of Korea–China Exchanges in a Period of Transition
- Hosted by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University; Hunan Normal University, China



SNU-HNU 공동 학술회의 전환기 한중 교류의 현황과 과제																
일시	2025년 9월 19일(금) 9:30~16:40															
장소	서울대학교 호암교수회관 동백룸															
주최	 서울대학교 동양문화연구원 서울대 평화·통일학 협동과정  연세대학교															
등록 및 개최식 <table> <tr> <td>9:15 ~ 9:30</td><td>등록</td></tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4">9:30 ~ 10:00</td><td>개회식</td></tr> <tr> <td>사 회 윤지현 (통일평화연구원 부원장)</td></tr> <tr> <td>개회사 김병수 (통일평화연구원 원장)</td></tr> <tr> <td>축 사 채미화 (호남사범대 동북아연구소 소장)</td></tr> </table>		9:15 ~ 9:30	등록	9:30 ~ 10:00	개회식	사 회 윤지현 (통일평화연구원 부원장)	개회사 김병수 (통일평화연구원 원장)	축 사 채미화 (호남사범대 동북아연구소 소장)								
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세션1 급변하는 동북아 정세와 한중관계 10:00~11:40 <table> <tr> <td>사 회</td><td>김병수 (서울대)</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>발표1</td><td>한국 사회의 중국에 대한 인식 문제와 그 심층적인 원인 분석</td><td>채미화 (호남사범대)</td></tr> <tr> <td>발표2</td><td>중국 청년 학생들의 대한(對韓)인식 동태 분석</td><td>양안 (호남사범대)</td></tr> <tr> <td>발표3</td><td>한중 청년세대와 협동(協同) 문제</td><td>하남석 (서울시립대)</td></tr> <tr> <td>토 론</td><td>발표자 상호 토론 및 참석자 전원 토론</td><td></td></tr> </table>		사 회	김병수 (서울대)		발표1	한국 사회의 중국에 대한 인식 문제와 그 심층적인 원인 분석	채미화 (호남사범대)	발표2	중국 청년 학생들의 대한(對韓)인식 동태 분석	양안 (호남사범대)	발표3	한중 청년세대와 협동(協同) 문제	하남석 (서울시립대)	토 론	발표자 상호 토론 및 참석자 전원 토론	
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토 론	발표자 상호 토론 및 참석자 전원 토론															
세션2 한중의 기원 및 현황과 과제 13:00~14:40 <table> <tr> <td>사 회</td><td>김병로 (서울대)</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>발표1</td><td>전후 미국의 대한(對韓) 문화전략 연구</td><td>소화봉 (호남사범대)</td></tr> <tr> <td>발표2</td><td>한류 30년의 대한(對韓) 그 특징</td><td>한예민 (호남사범대)</td></tr> <tr> <td>발표3</td><td>한류의 역동성과 미래</td><td>홍성석 (서울대)</td></tr> <tr> <td>토 론</td><td>발표자 상호 토론 및 참석자 전원 토론</td><td></td></tr> </table> 휴식 (14:40 ~ 15:00)		사 회	김병로 (서울대)		발표1	전후 미국의 대한(對韓) 문화전략 연구	소화봉 (호남사범대)	발표2	한류 30년의 대한(對韓) 그 특징	한예민 (호남사범대)	발표3	한류의 역동성과 미래	홍성석 (서울대)	토 론	발표자 상호 토론 및 참석자 전원 토론	
사 회	김병로 (서울대)															
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발표2	한류 30년의 대한(對韓) 그 특징	한예민 (호남사범대)														
발표3	한류의 역동성과 미래	홍성석 (서울대)														
토 론	발표자 상호 토론 및 참석자 전원 토론															
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발표3	최근 북한 문화 정책에 관한 고찰	모리 도오미미 (세종대)														
토 론	발표자 상호 토론 및 참석자 전원 토론															

◆ [IPUS-RECNA Joint Seminar]

Security Shifts and Comprehensive Strategy: A Study on perspective from the Emerging Technologies

- Date: Tuesday, October 21-22, 2025, at 09:00-18:00 (KST)
- Location: Seminar Room at RECNA, Nagasaki University- Organized by the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies(IPUS) at Seoul National University and the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition(RECNA), Nagasaki University
- Presenters: Dr. YOON Junghyun(Institute for National Security Strategy)
- The Rise of AI-Enabled Strategic Non-Nuclear Weapons: Implications for Stability on the Korean Peninsula
- Professor YOO Jiyeon(Sangmyung University)
- Generative AI Threats in the Non-Nuclear Cyber AI Nexus: A Technology Policy Perspective on International Security Risks
- Language: English

◆ [Joint Academic Conference Co-hosted by the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle]

The 12th Korean Peninsula Forum

- Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 5:30–7:00 p.m.
- Location: Kane Hall 210, followed by a reception in Kane Hall 225
- Topic: Republic of Korea–U.S. Relations at a Crossroads: Change and Continuity under the Trump Administration
- Hosted by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University; Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle



◆ [Organized by the SNU Institute for Peace and Unification Studies and the Institute of International and Area Studies at East China Normal University]

The 2nd Chang'an Forum

- Date: Thursday, January 29–Friday, January 30, 2026
- Location: Magnolia Hall, Hoam Faculty House, Seoul National University; Room 509, College of Humanities, Social Sciences and Business Administration, Pukyong National University
- Topic: Peace and Prosperity in East Asia and Korea–China–Japan Cooperation
- Organized by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University; Institute of International and Area Studies, East China Normal University
- Co-hosted by: Institute for Global and Area Studies, Pukyong National University
- Supported by: Beijing Chenxing Education Foundation

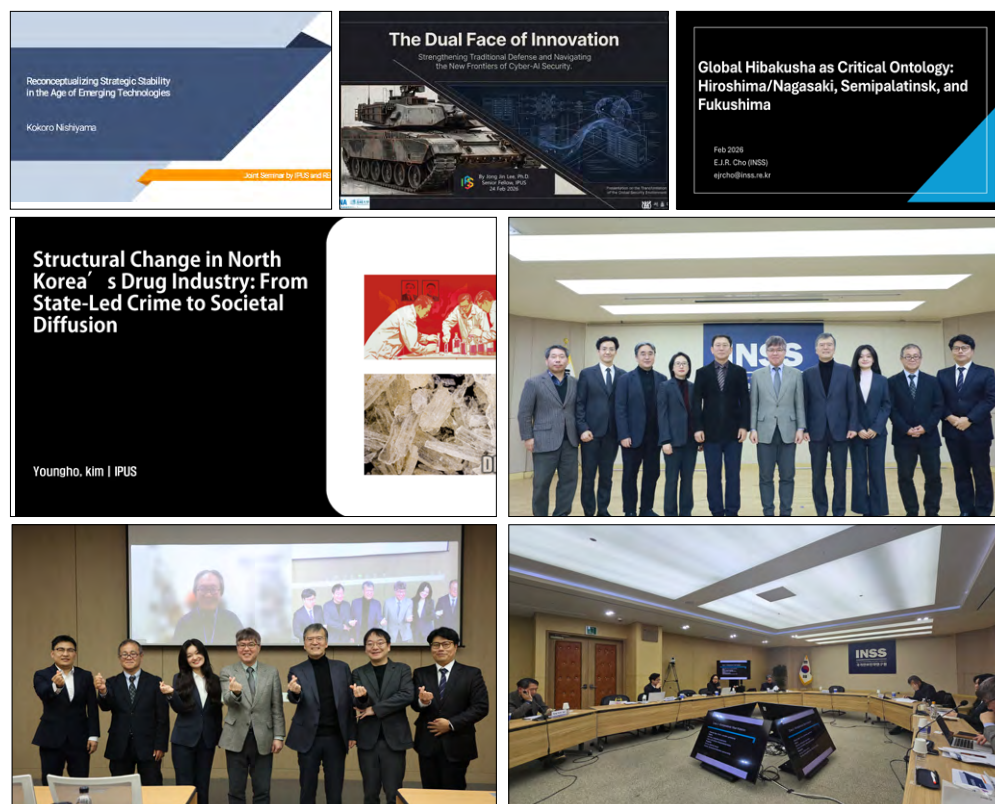


1월 29일(목)	
09:30-09:50	등록
09:50-10:00	개회식
10:00-10:30	제1세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
10:30-11:00	제2세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
11:00-11:30	제3세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
11:30-12:00	제4세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
12:00-12:30	제5세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
12:30-13:00	제6세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
13:00-13:30	제7세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
13:30-14:00	제8세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
14:00-14:30	제9세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
14:30-15:00	제10세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
15:00-15:30	제11세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
15:30-16:00	제12세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
16:00-16:30	제13세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
16:30-17:00	제14세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
17:00-17:30	제15세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력
17:30-18:00	제16세션: 동아시아 평화와 번영 및 한중일 협력

◆ [IPUS-RECNA-INSS Joint Seminar]

The Risk of Emerging Technologies and Nuclear Use in Security Issues: Insights from the Korean Peninsula and Japan

- Date: February 24-25, 2026
- Location: Conference Room #204 at Building #220, Seoul National University Gwanak Campus, Seoul Main Conference Room, 12 floor, INSS (120, Eonju-ro, Gangnam-gu), Seoul
- Organized by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University (IPUS) Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)
- In collaboration with: Institute for National Security Strategy (INSS)



◆ [IPUS-GWIKS Joint Webinar]

North Korea Economic Forum- Assessing North Korea's '20×10 Regional Development Policy': Political Recalibration and Economic Feasibility

- Title: Assessing North Korea's '20×10 Regional Development Policy': Political Recalibration and Economic Feasibility
- Dates: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 10:00-11:30 PM (KST)
- Venue: ZOOM Webinar
- Organized by the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies(IPUS) at Seoul National University and Institute for Korean Studies at the George Washington University



Institute for Korean Studies THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	
The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies Seoul National University	
◆ Event Schedule	
Time	Content
Welcoming Remarks	
9:00 AM	Celeste Arlington (Director, GW Institute for Korean Studies)
9:05 AM	Bumsoo Kim (Director, Institute for Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University)
Panel Discussion	
Moderator: Yonho Kim (Associate Director, GW Institute for Korean Studies)	
Speakers:	
9:05 A.M.	I. Political Logic and Governance Reconfiguration
-	○ Ken Gause (Analyst and Senior Advisor, Institute of Defense Analyses)
-	○ Hoeye Kang (Freie Universität Berlin)
10:05 A.M.	II. Economic Sustainability and Industrial Structure
-	○ Billiana Ragone (Research Associate, SNU North)
-	○ Ji-Young Choi (Senior Research Fellow, Korea Institute for National Unification)
10:05 A.M. - 10:15 A.M.	Roundtable Discussion (10 min)
10:15 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	Q&A (15 min)

Center for Unification Studies

- Unification Studies Forum
- Unification Studies Seminar

The IPUS at SNU regularly organizes the "IPUS Unification Studies Forum," which invites domestic and international scholars, experts, and government officials to hear and discuss opinions on the Korean Peninsula, Northeast Asia, North Korea and unification-related issues, as well as various international issues. It is the successor to the "Unification Policy Forum," which was launched in 2006 to expand the base of unification studies, and was relaunched under its current name in 2021 to encompass a wide range of topics related to unification studies and peace studies as well as policy. The Unification Studies Forum aims to contribute to building an academic foundation for the unification of the Korean Peninsula and human peace by presenting new perspectives and exploring alternatives from an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective on current issues and problems of North Korea, unification, and international affairs. **In 2025, a total of seven Unification Studies Fora were held.**

Unification Studies Forum

◆ [106th Unification Studies Forum]

North Korea's Science and Technology Policy and Regional Innovation System

- Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 15:00 – 17:00 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: North Korea's Science and Technology Policy and Regional Innovation System

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 106th Unification Studies Forum on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, under the theme of "North Korea's Science and Technology Policy and Regional Innovation System," inviting Dr. Kang Hojye, a senior lecturer at the Free University of Berlin. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 106th edition. The forum was moderated by Dr. Kim Philo, an associate professor at IPUS at SNU, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Dr. Kang Hojye explained North Korea's science and technology policy and regional innovation system, focusing on Kim Jong-un's 20×10 policy. Announcing the "20×10 policy," Kim Jong-un promoted a regional economic development project to build "modernized factories" in 20 cities and counties every year for 10 years. As North Korea's first named regional development policy, it aims for a comprehensive transformation of the local economy beyond simply modernizing a few factories. Kim Jong-un first mentioned this policy in his speech at the Supreme People's Assembly in January 2024, emphasizing not only factory modernization but also the transformation of the local economy at the city and county levels. North Korea's administrative divisions are divided into provinces (13), cities/counties (about 200), and ri (about 4,000), and the 20×10 policy aims for nationwide change, not limited to Pyongyang or major regions. To achieve this, North Korea is mobilizing party resources and military forces, and systematically pursuing the project by establishing a new organization for "regional industrial construction guidance".

The foundation of the 20×10 policy lies in the regional economic development strategy presented at the 8th Party Congress in 2021. Kimhwa County (Kangwon Province) was selected as its first test case because the area was extremely underdeveloped. Kimhwa County suffered severe damage from floods in 2020 and is a mountainous area with almost no industrial infrastructure. Instead of just repairing the flood damage, North Korea revamped the local economy by completely rebuilding over 100 houses and factories. The newly built factories included food, clothing, daily necessities, and paper factories, among which the paper factory stemmed from the need for educational development. The Kimhwa County case demonstrated a model where raw materials and labor are self-sufficient at the local level, while the central government provides technical support. This model became an important reference point for North Korea's efforts to spread the Kimhwa County case nationwide in 2023.

Kim Jong-un is taking direct responsibility and pushing the project forward for the success of the 20×10 policy. This is an unprecedented case where the North Korean leader has explicitly stated direct responsibility for a specific project. Furthermore, a large-scale deployment of military forces and party resources is underway to solve the shortage of resources and manpower. Munitions factories and military technologies are being applied to manufacture necessary machinery and develop appropriate technologies for the field. In other words, a spin-off of science and technology from the military sector to the civilian sector is occurring.

The 20×10 policy aims for local-centered economic development and presents a new approach combining the establishment of a self-sufficient economic system and a technical support model. Through this policy, North Korea seeks to achieve nationwide balanced economic development and revitalize the local economy, and the success of this policy is expected to play an important role in North Korea's long-term economic strategy and the establishment of a regional innovation system. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Kang emphasized that we should not overlook the fact that North Korea is striving and contemplating to become an innovation-friendly country by combining scientific and technological innovation with regional development.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Kang, Hojye (Senior Lecturer, Free University of Berlin)
- Moderator: Kim, Philo (Professor, IPUS at SNU)

제106차 통일학포럼
<수정주의 국가 북한 시리즈 - 8>
**북한의
과학기술정책과
지역혁신체제**
일시
2024년 12월 4일 수요일 오후 3시
장소
온라인 화상회의 (Zoom)
연사
강호제 (배울린자유대학교 한국학과 Senior Lecturer)
사회
김병로 (서울대 통일평화연구원 부교수)
참가신청
이번 포럼은 Zoom으로 진행됩니다.
참가를 희망하시는 분께서는 우측 QR코드 또는 아래 구글폼 링크를 통해
2024년 12월 3일 화요일 오후 6시까지 사전신청 해주시기 바랍니다.
문의사항은 담당자 kwondh52@snu.ac.kr 에게 연락 바랍니다.



◆ [107th Unification Studies Forum]

South Korea's Military Options and Great Power Diplomacy in the Event of a Taiwan Contingency

- Date: Friday, April 11, 2025, 14:00 – 15:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: South Korea's Military Options and Great Power Diplomacy in the Event of a Taiwan Contingency

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 107th Unification Studies Forum on Friday, April 11, 2025, under the theme of "South Korea's Military Options and Great Power Diplomacy in the Event of a Taiwan Contingency," inviting Professor Kim, Inwook from the Department of Political Science and Diplomacy at Sungkyunkwan University. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 107th edition. The forum was moderated by Chun Hae Sung, a visiting researcher at IPUS at SNU (former Vice Minister of Unification), who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Kim, Inwook focused his presentation on the military options and diplomatic strategic space that South Korea would face in a hypothetical Taiwan contingency. First, he pointed out four common limitations in discussions regarding South Korea's response to a Taiwan contingency. First, the discourse remains in a "reactive" mindset, mostly limited to responding to U.S. requests; second, it relies on a "static" premise that a chosen policy is fixed; third, it takes a "partial" approach that only assumes very limited options; and fourth, a "US-centric" perspective dominates, excluding the China variable and thinking only around the United States. Prof. Kim sought to present an analytical framework to overcome these tendencies and secure South Korea's strategic autonomy and room for negotiation. Based on this critical awareness, Prof. Kim categorized South Korea's available military options into four groups—"status quo, rear support, forward basing, and direct participation"—and sequentially explained the significance and diplomatic repercussions of each. Prior to this, he also traced the shifting flow of South Korea's foreign policy. He pointed out that although South Korea had respected the "One China" principle since establishing diplomatic relations with China in 1992, a shift in its stance began when the "Taiwan Strait" was mentioned in the joint statement of the 2021 ROK-U.S. summit, and the Taiwan issue started to be addressed as a matter of "international" dimensions, as seen in President Yoon Suk-yeol's Reuters interview in 2023.

Prof. Kim emphasized that while the Taiwan issue might not be a direct core interest of South Korea, South Korea inevitably finds itself under substantial influence caught between the U.S. demand for military contributions and the possibility of retaliation from China. He interpreted this in light of the dilemma of "entrapment" and "abandonment," the core of traditional alliance theory, and observed that South Korea needs to actively utilize diplomatic means such as "conditional participation" and

"prior coordination" to find a balance between the two.

Prof. Kim then explained the first option, "Status Quo," as an approach that limits the role of the ROK-U.S. alliance to deterring North Korea and disallows the use of South Korean territory or the dispatch of U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) assets to other theaters. Sub-types could include being a bystander (complete non-intervention), a neutral response such as humanitarian aid, or participation in non-lethal material support and sanctions, which is a method to minimize the possibility of conflict with China while reducing the security burden on the Korean Peninsula. However, he pointed out that risks such as U.S. dissatisfaction and pressure, uncertainties regarding USFK operations, and China's gray-zone responses also exist.

The second option, "Rear Support," implies a limited form of support, such as material supply, maintenance and medical care utilizing USFK bases, and serving as a staging/transit base. This approach lowers the level of military intervention while partially accommodating the demands of both the U.S. and China to find a balance, and he noted that diplomatic coordination between South Korea and the U.S. on the condition of escalation management is necessary.

The third option, "Forward Basing," refers to the direct use of USFK bases such as Osan and Gunsan as bases for military operations against China, and Prof. Kim evaluated this as a dangerous option that could draw the Korean Peninsula into China's preemptive strike range and even provoke linked provocations from North Korea. In this case, he emphasized the need to demand that the U.S. provide a strong deterrent against escalation, while sending a strong message to China that an attack on South Korean territory could lead to direct participation in the war.

Regarding the fourth and most high-intensity option, "Direct Participation," this refers to cases involving escorting U.S. naval and air assets, operations in the West Sea, and dispatching troops to the Taiwan theater. He analyzed that while this option could earn high trust and technological rewards from the U.S. as an ally, it entails massive risks such as a head-on collision with China, the possibility of nuclear escalation, and linked actions by North Korea, although he viewed the feasibility of direct participation as low.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Kim clarified that his study was analyzed centering on a full-scale war scenario, stating, "I do not judge the likelihood of a Taiwan war to be high". Nevertheless, he emphasized that "because the repercussions could be massive, it is right to prepare in advance even if the likelihood is low". He explained that this approach is "the same logic as countries preparing response plans even though the likelihood of nuclear war is low". He further added that "South Korea's various levels of military intervention and the diplomatic issues that can be negotiated with the U.S. and China in this process can serve as an analytical framework not only for South Korea but also for Asia-Pacific countries in similar situations". Lastly, he concluded his lecture by emphasizing that the four roles and diplomatic countermeasures for each military option presented today are "not a final list but a primary arrangement, and contents that can be adjusted or shifted depending on the actual policy situation," highlighting that they are "subjects of continuous discussion".

▶ Program

- Presenter: Kim, Inwook (Professor, Sungkyunkwan University)
- Moderator: Chun, Hae Sung (Visiting Researcher, IPUS at SNU and Former Vice Minister of Unification)



◆ [108th Unification Studies Forum]

Japan-North Korea Relations and North Korea's Tourism Policy

- Date: Monday, May 12, 2025, 15:00 – 16:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Japan-North Korea Relations and North Korea's Tourism Policy

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 108th Unification Studies Forum on Monday, May 12, 2025, under the theme of "Japan-North Korea Relations and North Korea's Tourism Policy," inviting Professor Isozaki, Atsuhito from Keio University. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 108th edition. The forum was moderated by Lee, Jung-Chul, Head of the Center for Unification Studies and Professor of the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Seoul National University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Isozaki, Atsuhito first pointed out the absence of diplomatic relations between North Korea and Japan and its background, summarizing major attempts to normalize bilateral relations according to historical flow. He explained the major turning points in Japan-North Korea relations, focusing on the attempts to approach each other in the mid-1950s amid the detente atmosphere following Stalin's death, expectations for negotiations after the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan following the US-China detente in the 1970s, the three-party joint declaration and the initiation of diplomatic negotiations in the early 1990s, and Prime Minister Koizumi's visit to Pyongyang and the "Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration" in 2002. In particular, he evaluated the 2002 incident, where Chairman of the National Defence Commission Kim Jong-il officially admitted to the abduction of Japanese citizens and allowed the return of some victims, as an important turning point in the diplomatic history between Japan and North Korea.

Prof. Isozaki emphasized the impact the abduction issue later had on public opinion in Japan, and explained in detail the process by which Japan's policy toward North Korea gradually hardened. He mentioned the 2014 Stockholm Agreement, the condolence message sent by Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong-un to Prime Minister Kishida in 2023, and the series of statements by Vice Department Director Kim Yo-jong in 2024, revealing that the possibility of potential contact between Japan and North Korea existed until recently. However, he analyzed that substantive progress could not be achieved due to the deepening of mutual distrust, the firmness of conservative public opinion in Japan, and changes in North Korea's strategic environment.

In the second half of the presentation, he focused on North Korea's tourism policy. Prof. Isozaki introduced the process in which the tourism industry began to emerge strategically under the Kim Jong-un regime, and major tourism development projects such as the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort, the

Wonsan-Kalma Coastal Tourist Area, and the Samjiyon area have been consecutively promoted since 2018. In particular, he viewed that the fact that Chairman Kim Jong-un provided on-site guidance to the Yangdok Hot Spring Tourist Area more than seven times over a year and a half reflects the intention to simultaneously seek outward message transmission and regime propaganda through tourism. Emphasizing that the tourism industry is not simply a means of earning foreign currency for North Korea but that "propaganda is the essence and earning foreign currency is secondary," he pointed out that North Korea is constructing multi-layered messages targeting the international community and domestic residents through its tourism policy.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Isozaki emphasized that North Korea's tourism industry is highly likely to continue to be utilized as an important strategic means for domestic and foreign propaganda in the future, highlighting the need for continuous observation and analysis in this context.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Isozaki, Atsuhito (Professor, Keio University)
- Moderator: Lee, Jung-Chul (Head of the Center for Unification Studies and Professor of Political Science and International Relations, SNU)



◆ [109th Unification Studies Forum]

Between the Russo-Ukrainian War End-of-War Negotiations and the Korean War Armistice Negotiations

- Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 14:00 – 15:40 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Between the Russo-Ukrainian War End-of-War Negotiations and the Korean War Armistice Negotiations

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 109th Unification Studies Forum on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, under the theme of "Between the Russo-Ukrainian War End-of-War Negotiations and the Korean War Armistice Negotiations," inviting Professor Jeh, Sung-Hoon from the Department of Russian at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies and Dr. Kim, GyuBeom, a visiting research fellow at the Sejong Institute. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 109th edition. The forum was moderated by Lee, Yoochul, a senior researcher at IPUS at SNU, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Jeh, Sung-Hoon began his presentation by explaining the possibility of end-of-war negotiations for the Russo-Ukrainian war and its obstacles. He observed that the Istanbul negotiation draft in March 2022 drew attention as an early achievement containing Ukraine's neutralization and a security guarantor model, but the negotiation phase changed abruptly due to the Bucha massacre that occurred in April of the same year and the withdrawal of Russian troops from Kyiv. Since then, Ukraine secured room for a counterattack and gained confidence, and the expansion of Western military and financial support acted as a factor driving the pursuit of military victory over diplomacy. Russia also solidified its direction to attempt a status quo change through the continuation of the war amidst international isolation, and he evaluated that the negotiation structure, especially with the possession of nuclear weapons, operates differently from the past Cold War era.

Prof. Jeh emphasized that the "legally binding security guarantees" clause, which became a core issue in the negotiations, was practically difficult to execute. Ukraine wanted a structure in which major countries such as the U.S., the U.K., and France would automatically intervene in the event of an outbreak of war, but this required a promise at the level of a military alliance, which was an incompatible demand with the neutral state model. He diagnosed that currently, both sides adhere to a strategy of extracting more favorable conditions through victory on the battlefield rather than negotiations, and under this perception, the likelihood of short-term negotiations is low.

Following this, Dr. Kim, GyuBeom presented the armistice negotiations during the Korean War as a historical case and comparatively analyzed its similarities and differences with the current Russo-Ukrainian war. He mentioned that the Korean War armistice negotiations, which began in June 1951, lasted for more than two years until July 1953, and that the stalemate on the frontlines and the intervention of the Chinese Communist forces became the turning points that initiated the negotiations in earnest. He explained that

complex agenda items such as the establishment of the military demarcation line, the repatriation of prisoners of war, and the formation of an armistice monitoring body were discussed during the negotiation process, and the armistice was concluded amidst a "parallel structure of attrition warfare and negotiations" where fierce battles and negotiations occurred simultaneously.

Dr. Kim presented various domestic and international political factors together as the background for the armistice settlement. In the U.S., the political burden of the Truman administration and the will to end the war after Eisenhower's election coincided, and on the Soviet side, the policy stance on the Korean Peninsula changed due to the emergence of the Khrushchev regime after Stalin's death in March 1953. In particular, China also showed a stance of securing a certain degree of autonomy in the reorganization of the postwar international order, and he viewed that these complex conditions formed the environment for the armistice settlement. Regarding the possibility of ending the Russo-Ukrainian war, Dr. Kim stated, "It is not a turning point right now," and emphasized that the current situation is different from the armistice transition phase in 1951. He pointed out that currently, it is a situation where it is difficult for both Russia and Ukraine to admit military defeat or choose political concessions, and external great powers such as China and the U.S. are also not playing a distinct role as negotiation facilitators. In particular, he emphasized that the foundation for forming an international and domestic compromise, as in the case of the Korean War, is weak, as Russia is seeking a fixation of the status quo instead of negotiations, and Ukraine is also seeking to secure leadership through the battlefield with Western support. He concluded his presentation by emphasizing that for the armistice negotiations to succeed, a broader diplomatic coordination and vision for how to construct the postwar order are needed, not simply the will of the belligerent parties.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Jeh, Sung-Hoon (Professor, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies),
Kim, GyuBeom (Visiting Research Fellow, Sejong Institute)
- Moderator: Lee, Yoochul (Senior Researcher, IPUS at SNU)



◆ [110th Unification Studies Forum]

Re-examining the North Korean Nuclear Issue Amid Complex International Dynamics

- **Date:** Tuesday, July 22, 2025, 14:00 – 16:00 (KST)
- **Venue:** Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- **Topic:** Re-examining the North Korean Nuclear Issue Amid Complex International Dynamics

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 110th Unification Studies Forum on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, under the theme of "Re-examining the North Korean Nuclear Issue Amid Complex International Dynamics," inviting Professor Ku, Yangmo from the Department of Political Science at Norwich University. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 110th edition. The forum was moderated by Lee, Kyungsuk, an assistant professor of Political Science and Diplomacy at Incheon National University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Ku, Yangmo diagnosed that the North Korean nuclear issue is no longer confined merely to the Korean Peninsula, but has reached a solidified crisis within the massive geopolitical structure of the "New Cold War," while proposing realistic solutions and specific policy directions to unravel this challenge. According to Prof. Ku, while the past Cold War was a bipolar system between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, the New Cold War is a multipolar system where the U.S., China, and Russia compete, and ideologically, it has shifted from a capitalism versus communism confrontation to a democracy versus authoritarianism dynamic. The most significant difference is that, economically, unlike the complete separation of the past, deep interdependent relationships are intertwined amidst political conflicts. The military and technological sectors have also shifted from direct "confrontation" to fierce "competition," and culturally, exchanges continue rather than being severed, giving it a complexity fundamentally different from the past. This New Cold War structure has materialized into four core phenomena around the Korean Peninsula. First is the intensification of U.S.-China strategic competition; second and third have appeared as clear bloc confrontations within Northeast Asia. On one hand, trilateral security cooperation among South Korea, the U.S., and Japan has been unprecedentedly strengthened with the improvement of ROK-Japan relations as a stepping stone, and on the other hand, solidarity among North Korea, China, and Russia has also solidified triggered by the Ukraine War. Fourth is the change in alliance policies and the increase in unpredictability expected if a hypothetical Trump 2.0 administration emerges. These four variables interact complexly, making the "security dilemma" surrounding the Korean Peninsula the basic background for all discussions regarding the North Korean nuclear issue.

Prof. Ku analyzed that the impact of these changes in the international situation on the North Korean nuclear issue varies depending on the "evolution of the New Cold War." In the Initiation Phase (2008-2009) of the New Cold War, North Korea walked its own path despite international sanctions and threats. Pushing ahead with the 6th nuclear test and ICBM development in 2017 despite strong sanctions joined even by China and Russia and the threat of a U.S. preemptive strike is an example of this. However, entering the Consolidation Phase (2020-present) where the New Cold War structure has solidified, the situation has fundamentally changed. As the North Korea-China-Russia bloc strengthened, North Korea secured strategic space to avoid international pressure. This significantly weakened the effectiveness of international sanctions, which were the strongest deterrent against the North Korean nuclear issue in the past. Such an external environment further reinforced North Korea's internal perceptions. Prof. Ku analyzed that North Korea, observing the cases of Libya and Ukraine which had given up nuclear weapons, solidified its perception that "nuclear weapons are the only 'powerful gospel' guaranteeing regime survival." For this

reason, the possibility of North Korea's voluntary Complete, Verifiable, and Irreversible Denuclearization (CVID) is slim, and the North Korea-U.S. dialogue has fallen into a complete deadlock, especially since the breakdown of the 2019 Stockholm talks. In particular, Russian support provides North Korea with economic breathing room, halving the effect of international sanctions and reducing North Korea's need to come to the negotiation table.

Two main variables were cited as capable of shaking this deadlock. The first is the "end of the Russia-Ukraine war." If the war ends, North Korea's strategic value would plummet, potentially creating an incentive for it to engage in dialogue with the U.S. The second is the "policy of the next U.S. administration." For example, if a Trump 2.0 administration takes office, unpredictable variables such as a concentrated pressure on China and changes in alliance policies could arise, completely changing the current structure. As a solution to overcome this difficult crisis, Prof. Ku suggested pursuing a long-term and consistent North Korea engagement policy called "prudent engagement." This is a mid-to-long-term strategy that leads North Korea to the dialogue table by cooperating closely with neighboring countries based on a consistent stance, rather than being tied to short-term results. He added that even if complete denuclearization is the ultimate goal, rather than insisting on it from the entrance of negotiations, wisdom to proceed step-by-step through a "small deal" is needed. Above all, he emphasized that overcoming the "South-South conflict," where North Korea policy completely reverses whenever the administration changes, is essential to enable meaningful policy implementation.

In conclusion, the lecture clarified that the North Korean nuclear issue has entered a new phase called the "New Cold War," which can no longer be solved by past methods. Therefore, it suggested that a new diplomatic approach based on consistency and patience, namely "prudent engagement," is desperately needed to resolve it. As a specific national strategy, Prof. Ku emphasized that South Korea should expand its global influence within the framework of the U.S.-led order. At the same time, he argued that the solution for this new era is to expand South Korea's role in various fields such as economy, military, and culture through a balanced strategic diplomacy that does not completely turn China and Russia into enemies.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Ku, Yangmo (Professor, Norwich University)
- Moderator: Lee, Kyungsuk (Assistant Professor, Incheon National University)



◆ [111th Unification Studies Forum]

The Trump Administration's Foreign and Security Strategy

- Date: Monday, October 20, 2025, 14:00 – 15:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: The Trump Administration's Foreign and Security Strategy

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 111th Unification Studies Forum on Monday, October 20, 2025, under the theme of "The Trump Administration's Foreign and Security Strategy," inviting Choi, Jinwook, former President of the Korea Institute for National Unification. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 111th edition. The forum was moderated by Kim, Inwook, an associate professor at the Department of Political Science and Diplomacy at Sungkyunkwan University.

During this forum, Dr. Choi, Jinwook stated in his lecture that "U.S. diplomacy can be divided into pre-Trump and post-Trump eras," structurally overviewing the flow of U.S. diplomacy since the Cold War. He diagnosed that the Trump administration's foreign and security policy tends to be dismissed simply as Trump's personal inclination or unpredictability. However, he analyzed this phenomenon as a solidified strategic flow within four distinct theoretical backgrounds: 'realism,' 'geopolitics,' 'republicanism,' and the 'MAGA movement,' and presented the challenges this poses for South Korean diplomacy.

According to Dr. Choi, the background of the emergence of Trump's policies lies in the severe reality facing the United States. Unlike its hegemonic status during the Cold War, the U.S. currently bears a massive government debt of \$37 trillion and an annual interest burden comparable to its defense spending. In particular, economically, it faces a situation where China is catching up to 70% of the U.S. GDP, and domestically, unlike its unified appearance in the past, it is experiencing severe internal strife due to wealth polarization, drugs, and illegal immigration. He analyzed that this debate over the 'decline of the United States' is the core background for understanding Trump's policies.

This perception of crisis in the U.S. materialized into the recognition that pre-Trump foreign strategies had failed. First is the limitation of the 'liberal hegemony' strategy pursued after the victory in the Cold War. Second and third appeared as failures of specific policies based on this strategy. On one hand, NATO's eastward expansion provoked Russia, providing an excuse for the Ukraine war, and on the other hand, attempts to democratize the Third World faced the backlash of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Fourth is the most decisive failure: its policy toward China. The attempt to incorporate China into the liberal order to democratize it completely failed and instead resulted in nurturing a powerful competitor. These four failures acted in combination, serving as the basic background for the emergence of Trump's new foreign policy.

Dr. Choi analyzed that these changes in the international situation became the first theoretical background of Trump's policies. In the 'realism' stage, which is the first foundation of Trump's grand strategy, the U.S. faced the international politics dominated by the 'logic of power'. Unlike the optimism of past liberalism, it criticized that the U.S. had dispersed its power by overly intervening in unnecessary overseas commitments. The excessive intervention in the 2010s rather led to the failure to contain its core competitor, China, as an example. However, entering the stage of 'geopolitical' perception where Trump's policies were fully consolidated, the situation has fundamentally changed. This perspective, represented by 'America First,' defines the victory in the Cold War not as a 'victory of ideas' but as a 'victory of geography'. He analyzed that this solidified the perception that America's past success was not due to the superiority of its ideology, but thanks to its 'blessed geography' surrounded by oceans.

This perception of the external environment further reinforced America's internal policies. Dr. Choi viewed that the U.S. brought about its own decline through unnecessary overseas intervention, having fallen into the arrogance of a 'victory of ideas,' and analyzed that it solidified the perception that "even allies are entities that exploit U.S. resources". For this reason, Trump's policies supported these realistic and geopolitical perceptions with domestic political ideology. The ideology of 'republicanism' served as the basis for prioritizing the rule of law over simple majority rule, justifying actions such as the withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement. In particular, the 'MAGA movement,' a social movement driving all of this, demanded anti-immigration policies, protectionism, traditional values, and minimization of foreign intervention, becoming the core driving force of Trump's policies. Specifically, the issue of 30 million illegal immigrants was defined as a security threat, making the construction of a border wall a key policy.

Two main variables were cited in evaluating these policies. The first is the "collapse of alliance relations". Trump's policies severely weakened traditional U.S. leadership by withdrawing from international organizations and downplaying alliances. The second is the "failure of core objectives". The strategy to contain China instead rallied BRICS and pushed India toward Russia, leading to the unintended result of opening up strategic space for China. Such difficult crises demand a long-term and consistent response from South Korean diplomacy. Dr. Choi suggested that South Korea should break away from the ambiguous stance of 'balanced diplomacy' between the U.S. and China. The U.S. will likely demand the 'strategic flexibility' of USFK in the event of a Taiwan contingency, and has even shown intentions to make South Korea a permanent base for containing China through remarks about 'ownership of USFK bases'. He added that even if the alliance with the U.S. is important, rather than blindly complying with it, wisdom is needed to secure national interests step-by-step by utilizing South Korea's 'leverage'.

In conclusion, the lecture clarified that Trump's foreign policy is no longer the liberal hegemonic approach of the past, but a complex strategy that emerged in a new phase of crisis faced by the United States. Therefore, it suggested that a new diplomatic approach, not an emotional or disconnected one—namely, the 'utilization of leverage'—is desperately needed to respond to it. As

a specific national strategy, Dr. Choi emphasized that South Korea must clearly recognize that the U.S. also needs South Korea's bases and shipbuilding capabilities. At the same time, he argued that rather than responding emotionally between China and the U.S., a balanced strategic diplomacy that delicately utilizes this leverage to steer the ROK-U.S. alliance in a direction favorable to South Korea is the solution for this new era.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Choi, Jinwook (Former President, Korea Institute for National Unification)
- Moderator: Kim, Inwook (Associate Professor, Sungkyunkwan University)

◆ [112th Unification Studies Forum]

5 Years After the 8th Party Congress of North Korea: Evaluation and Prospects of Economic Policies

- Date: Monday, November 24, 2025, 14:00 – 15:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: 5 Years After the 8th Party Congress of North Korea: Evaluation and Prospects of Economic Policies

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 112th Unification Studies Forum on Monday, November 24, 2025, under the theme of "5 Years After the 8th Party Congress of North Korea: Evaluation and Prospects of Economic Policies," inviting Choi, Eunju, a research fellow at the Sejong Institute. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 112th edition. The forum was moderated by Lim, Kang-taek, Executive Director of the Korean Peninsula Economic Cooperation Foundation, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Research Fellow Choi, Eunju first pointed out the significance of the 8th Party Congress in 2021, explaining that North Korea, unlike in previous periods, shifted away from presenting performance-oriented quantitative goals and adjusted its planning system in a direction that emphasizes realism and feasibility. She evaluated that this change was a choice to respond to complex crisis situations such as prolonged sanctions, COVID-19 lockdowns, and the erosion of its economic foundation.

Following this, Dr. Choi defined the core of the economic policies promoted by North Korea over the past five years as a strategy of "maintenance and reinforcement". The normalization of basic industries such as metal and chemical, the expansion of the foundation for agriculture and light industry, and the restoration of production infrastructure such as energy, machinery, railways, and logistics were all interpreted as a trend to re-establish the production capacity itself. In addition, in the economic management system, she explained that internal management readjustments were made, such as strengthening the functions of the Cabinet, refining planning procedures, suppressing unit specialization and institutional self-centeredness, and securing control based on laws and institutions. She viewed this as an adjustment process to increase the efficiency and consistency of economic management, evaluating that North Korea is operating various mechanisms in parallel to stabilize its policy execution system.

Dr. Choi also presented North Korea's long-term development strategy as a significant change. Putting forward the "theory of comprehensive development," the Kim Jong-un regime set the resolution of disparities between regions, classes, and industries as the goal of national development, and strengthened development policies at the city and county levels to materialize this. She added that the "10-Year Strategy for Rural Development" and the "20×10 Regional Development Policy" serve as policy tools supporting these long-term goals, and changes such as the modernization of local industries and the improvement of rural residential environments are becoming visible in some areas.

Furthermore, based on observations of border areas, Dr. Choi revealed that North Korea's internal construction projects have continued to a certain extent during and after the COVID-19 period, and housing construction and infrastructure improvements in some cities are steadily taking place. Increases in vehicles,



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트럼프 정부의 외교안보전략

일시
2025년 10월 20일 월요일 14시

장소
온라인 화상 회의 

발표
최진욱 (전(前) 통일연구원장)

사회
김인욱 (성균관대학교 정치외교학과 부교수)



최진욱
전(前) 통일연구원장

| 참가신청 |

이번 포럼은  으로 진행됩니다.
참가를 희망하시는 분들께는 오후 QR코드 또는 구글폼 링크를 통해
2025년 10월 20일 (월) 오전 11시까지 사전 신청해주시기 바랍니다.

 사전신청 QR코드

문의사항은 담당자 wildgosh@snu.ac.kr 로 연락 바랍니다.



expansion of logistics movement, and changes in systems related to private vehicles were also analyzed as indirect signals indicating that internal activities of the North Korean economy are gradually resuming.

Meanwhile, in recent economic trends, the rise in exchange rates and rice prices was presented as the most notable change. Dr. Choi explained that it is highly likely that this price instability is not a short-term phenomenon, but the result of various factors acting in combination, such as increased demand for foreign currency due to border reopening, expansion of construction in local areas and Pyongyang, and strengthening of the state commercial network. She evaluated that these structural risk factors could become the biggest constraints on economic stability in the future.

In terms of the external economy, she explained that while North Korea-China trade has not reached pre-COVID levels, it is showing a trend of recovery, and the pace of increase has been observed to accelerate this year. The North Korea-Russia relationship was also analyzed as showing signs of expanding practical economic cooperation, such as food and energy procurement, dispatch of labor, and railway and road cooperation, in addition to the military sector.

In her concluding remarks, Research Fellow Choi forecasted that at the 9th Party Congress in 2026, North Korea is highly likely to positively summarize the achievements of the past five years and present a new five-year plan that includes the expansion of the machinery industry, continuous construction in local areas and Pyongyang, and the strengthening of health and educational infrastructure, based on the achievements of basic industries. However, she evaluated that how structural conditions such as price stability, securing financial capacity, and changes in the external environment are managed will be the key variable for these goals to be realized.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Choi, Eunju (Research Fellow, Sejong Institute)
- Moderator: Lim, Kang-taek (Executive Director, Korean Peninsula Economic Cooperation Foundation)



◆ [113th Unification Studies Forum]

35 Years of North Korea and Unification Studies: Retrospect and Prospects

- Date: Monday, December 15, 2025, 16:00 – 18:00 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM), Hoam Faculty House
- Topic: 35 Years of North Korea and Unification Studies: Retrospect and Prospects

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 113th Unification Studies Forum on Monday, December 15, 2025, under the theme of “35 Years of North Korea and Unification Studies: Retrospect and Prospects,” inviting Kim, Philo, a former professor at IPUS at SNU. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 113th edition. The forum was moderated by Kim, Sung-chul, a former HK professor at IPUS at SNU. This forum was planned as a commemorative event ahead of Prof. Kim, Philo's retirement, looking back on his academic achievements and reflecting on the future tasks of North Korea, unification, and peace studies.

The forum was conducted in a hybrid format combining in-person and online attendance, with researchers, students, and experts in related fields participating both online and offline. Following the lecture, a Q&A session with in-person attendees was held, while questions from online participants were also received and discussed in real-time, enabling broad academic communication beyond spatial constraints.

During his lecture, based on his personal research experience, Prof. Kim systematically summarized his academic trajectory, which spanned from North Korea studies in the 1990s to unification studies in the 2000s, and peace studies in the 2010s. In particular, starting from structural analysis during the Cold War era, he introduced research achievements accumulated through post-Cold War changes in the North Korean regime, experiences of inter-Korean exchange, field research, and international academic exchanges. He emphasized that North Korea studies has expanded beyond simple regime analysis into a comprehensive approach encompassing society, economy, culture, and ideology.

The lecture presented specific cases such as North Korea's regional self-reliance system, class changes following marketization, the religiousization of its ideological system, and recent issues regarding the shortage of human capacity and the need for educational reform. Furthermore, drawing on experiences gained from inter-Korean and international academic exchanges, he suggested the importance of supporting North Korea's internationalization and human capacity building as the direction for future North Korea policy.

Moreover, Prof. Kim explained that in the process of expanding unification studies into peace studies, he has proposed conceptual frameworks such as soft and complex unification models,

a Korean Peninsula Union, a concept for an open unified state, and "Peace originating from the Korean Peninsula," moving beyond the traditional concept of unification centered on a single state. He highlighted the need for a complex peace approach that balances security, diplomacy, and the economy, stating that the unification issue must also be approached from a positive-sum perspective rather than a zero-sum one.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Kim presented key future tasks, including the two-state theory raised amidst the New Cold War order, the scientification of North Korea studies and the utilization of AI, the cultivation of next-generation researchers, and the resolution of ideological conflicts and national integration within South Korean society. He concluded the lecture by emphasizing that peace is not only about resolving external conflicts but also a process of lowering boundaries within our society and individuals. The 113th Unification Studies Forum served as a meaningful occasion to go beyond one researcher's academic journey and reflect on the future direction of North Korea, unification, and peace studies.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Kim, Philo (Professor, IPUS at SNU)
- Moderator: Kim, Sung-chul (Former HK Professor, IPUS at SNU)



◆ [114th Unification Studies Forum]

Exploring Pathways for Co-growth on the Korean Peninsula in the Post-Inter-Korean Relations Era

- Date: Friday, April 3, 2026, 16:00 – 17:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Exploring Pathways for Co-growth on the Korean Peninsula in the Post-Inter-Korean Relations Era

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 114th Unification Studies Forum on Friday, April 3, 2026, under the theme of "Exploring Pathways for Co-growth on the Korean Peninsula in the Post-Inter-Korean Relations Era," inviting Hwang, Jin-Tae, an assistant professor of the Department of North Korean Studies at Dongguk University. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 114th edition. The forum was moderated by Shin, HaeRan, Head of the Center for Unification Studies and Professor of the Department of Geography at Seoul National University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

Prof. Hwang, Jin-Tae began his presentation by diagnosing that inter-Korean relations have recently undergone structural changes following the declaration of "two hostile states," and that the existing approach premised on peace and cooperation is facing fundamental limits. He explained the need to understand the current situation not simply as a matter of policy failure, but as a result of changes in the structural conditions surrounding inter-Korean relations themselves.

Amid this critical awareness, Prof. Hwang proposed a critical re-examination of the existing "peace economy" discourse. He evaluated that while the peace economy has been based on the functionalist premise that political and military tensions can be alleviated through economic cooperation, in reality, it has revealed structural vulnerabilities where the virtuous cycle fails to operate when cooperation is suspended. In particular, he pointed out that cases such as the Kaesong Industrial Complex and Mt. Kumgang tourism demonstrate that the sustainability of cooperation heavily depends on political conditions.

As an alternative, he presented the concept of "co-growth on the Korean Peninsula". Prof. Hwang defined co-growth not merely as the expansion of inter-Korean exchange or an increase in economic performance, but as a development strategy formed through interactions across various spatial scales beyond a state-centric dichotomous approach. This stems from a critical awareness that existing inter-Korean relations have overly relied on state-to-state relations.

To materialize this concept, Prof. Hwang proposed a phased and multi-layered approach. First, the border area of South Korea was established as the "pre-stage" of co-growth, as a space where policy intervention is possible without external constraints. Prof. Hwang pointed out that the underdevelopment of the border area is not merely an internal regional problem but a structurally formed result within the division system, emphasizing the need for a paradigm shift and policy re-illumination of this area. In particular, citing that the younger generation's declining awareness of

unification is also related to regional imbalances, he suggested that the development of border areas can be linked to the restoration of awareness of unification.

Next, the border areas of North Korea, China, and Russia were presented as an "intermediate stage" capable of detour and indirect connections in situations where direct inter-Korean cooperation is difficult. Given that North Korea is showing a strategic shift to relatively utilize the North Korea-China-Russia borders instead of blocking inter-Korean relations, he analyzed that this region has the potential to function as a new growth engine in the future.

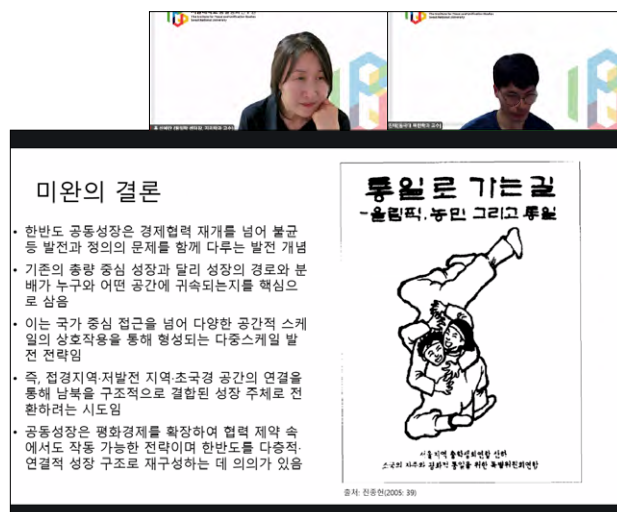
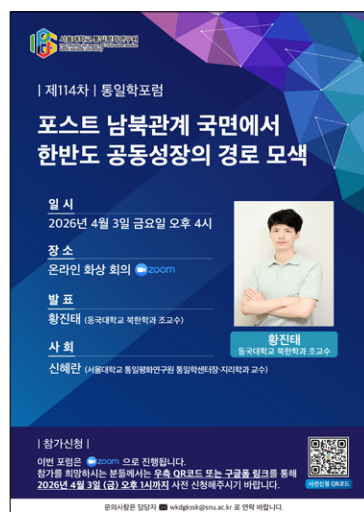
Lastly, North Korea's underdeveloped regions were explained as a "long-term stage" space where cooperation expansion is possible upon the improvement of inter-Korean relations. Prof. Hwang noted that North Korea has recently emphasized the issue of resolving unbalanced regional development as a policy through the "20×10 Regional Development Policy," and suggested the need to explore the possibilities of inter-Korean cooperation at the local level in the future.

He also emphasized that co-growth is not simply an economic cooperation strategy but a development concept that simultaneously addresses regional imbalances and issues of social legitimacy. In the sense that resolving structural problems within South Korean society can serve as a starting point for co-growth before the advancement of inter-Korean relations, it was presented as a concept demanding a different approach from existing unification and North Korea policies.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Hwang evaluated that while co-growth on the Korean Peninsula is still an early-stage concept, it is an important attempt that requires a new policy imagination amidst the changed inter-Korean relations. He forecast that rather than simply replacing the existing peace economy, co-growth, as a concept that expands and reconstructs it, could become an important direction for future discussions on Korean Peninsula policy.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Hwang, Jin-Tae (Assistant Professor, Dongguk University)
- Moderator: Shin, HaeRan (Head of the Center for Unification Studies and Professor of Geography, SNU)



◆ [115th Unification Studies Forum]

The 9th Party Congress and the Future of North Korea

- Date: Friday, April 24, 2026, 14:00 – 15:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: The 9th Party Congress and the Future of North Korea

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 115th Unification Studies Forum on Friday, April 24, 2026, under the theme of "The 9th Party Congress and the Future of North Korea," inviting Assistant Professor Kang, Hyesuk from the Department of Moral Education at Chonju National University of Education. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 115th edition. The forum was moderated by Kim, Yong Kyun, an associate professor of the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Seoul National University.

Prof. Kang, Hyesuk first defined the overall tone of the 9th Party Congress as "optimism and confidence," explaining that North Korea is breaking away from the defensive and crisis-responsive posture of the 8th Party Congress and presenting a more offensive national development plan. She evaluated that if the 8th Party Congress was closer to a resolution to break through the worst crisis with self-reliance, the 9th Party Congress has a strong nature of trying to institutionalize the future development direction amidst confidence in its changed national status.

Following this, Prof. Kang analyzed the change in the nature of North Korean power through the changes in the stage composition and political symbols of the Party Congress. She explained that while the 6th Party Congress was a space that directly revealed Kim Il-sung's personal charisma, the 7th Party Congress emphasized the succession of the revolution and bloodline through the portraits of Kim Il-sung and Kim Jong-il. On the other hand, after the 8th Party Congress, the leaders' portraits disappeared, and the party organization and institutional authority were highlighted. At the 9th Party Congress, through a central single podium and horizontal seating arrangement, the basis of authority was shown to be shifting to institutions and administrative leadership.

Prof. Kang presented the major changes of the 9th Party Congress in three dimensions: ideology and vision, organization and leadership, and foreign and South Korea strategy. First, in the dimension of ideology and vision, the "theory of comprehensive socialist development" emerged as a core concept. She explained that this concept is a frame of national strategy aiming for simultaneous and balanced development in all sectors and regions, and rather than a short-term tactic, it has the nature of a structural shift to secure regime survival and ruling legitimacy.

In terms of organization and leadership, she viewed that political institutionalization and the strengthening of personal dictatorship appeared simultaneously. Prof. Kang explained that through the extension of the preparation period for the Party Congress, the expansion of sectoral consultations, and the refinement of deliberation procedures, North Korea is strengthening the proceduralism and predictability of policy-making. At the same time, she analyzed that the visibility of the succession plan and the emphasis on the monolithic leadership system show that the Suryong (Supreme Leader) system and power concentration based on bloodline are still strongly operating.

In foreign and South Korea strategy, the "expansive internal balancing strategy" and the "two hostile states theory" were presented as core changes. Prof. Kang explained that North Korea is continuing its internal

balancing strategy to directly offset threats centering on nuclear forces, while simultaneously trying to secure diplomatic leverage through the North Korea-China-Russia trilateral solidarity. She evaluated that this shows foreign strategy is transitioning away from securing security through relationship improvement, toward a direction combining its own arms buildup with diplomatic solidarity.

Particularly regarding its strategy toward South Korea, Prof. Kang paid attention to the weakening of the "fatherland unification" discourse and the definition of inter-Korean relations as two hostile states. She explained that this change is not simply a rhetorical adjustment but a structural change connected to North Korea's nuclear strategy, military strategy, and domestic governing strategy. In addition, she pointed out that the combination of border fortification, the display of strike capabilities against the South, and the heightening of military tension is increasing the possibility of accidental clashes.

In the economic sector, she explained that North Korea has moved beyond the stage of crisis response and maintenance/reinforcement, emphasizing the consolidation of stability and qualitative development. Prof. Kang analyzed that while North Korea maintains traditional key industries such as metal, chemical, and power, it is presenting future industries such as AI, space, aviation, and new energy as new growth engines. Furthermore, she observed a plan to parallel managed self-reliance and limited opening through fostering the tourism industry, selectively activating trade with China and Russia, and regional development policies.

In her concluding remarks, Prof. Kang forecasted North Korea's future path in three ways. First is the possibility of tension on the Korean Peninsula becoming a constant through the realization of military threats against the South. Second is the possibility that the North Korea-China-Russia solidarity deepens beyond the military and economy to the realm of social control and regime management. Third is the possibility of a prolonged dual structure where party-centered institutionalization and Suryong-style power concentration are paralleled. She evaluated that these changes raise policy tasks for South Korea, such as strengthening the execution of extended deterrence, crisis management to prevent accidental clashes, and strategic communication with the international community.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Kang, Hyesuk (Assistant Professor, Chinju National University of Education)
- Moderator: Kim, Yong Kyun (Associate Professor, SNU)



◆ [116th Unification Studies Forum]

North Korea's Perception and Strategy of Post-Unipolarity: Focusing on the Gaza War and the Iran War

- Date: Friday, May 22, 2026, 16:00 – 17:30 (KST)

- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)

- Topic: North Korea's Perception and Strategy of Post-Unipolarity: Focusing on the Gaza War and the Iran War

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 116th Unification Studies Forum on Friday, May 22, 2026, under the grand theme of "Issues in North Korean Studies in Transition," with the specific topic of "North Korea's Perception and Strategy of Post-Unipolarity: Focusing on the Gaza War and the Iran War," inviting Park, Ah-reum, a research professor at the Institute of North Korean Studies at Dongguk University. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 116th edition. The forum was moderated by Kim, GyuBeom, a research fellow at the Institute for National Security Strategy (INSS).

During this forum, Prof. Park, Ah-reum analyzed how North Korea views the changing international order, focusing on its perceptions of the recent Gaza War and the Iran War. In particular, she paid attention to the fact that North Korea produced less coverage of the Iran War than expected, examining whether this was simple indifference or a change in attitude based on strategic judgment. First, the presentation reviewed the relationship between North Korea and Iran, which has continued since the Cold War. Prof. Park explained that North Korea initially perceived Iran as a country close to the U.S., but since the 1970s, it came to evaluate it as a country aiming for independence, triggered by Iran's nationalization of oil, its anti-Israel stance, and its improved relations with non-aligned countries. Following the Iranian Revolution in 1979, North Korea came to recognize Iran as a country with which it could share an anti-American and anti-imperialist line.

Following this, Prof. Park compared the patterns of North Korea's reporting on the Gaza War and the Iran War. North Korea strongly criticized the U.S. and Israel regarding the Gaza War, actively reporting on the causes and damage of the war. On the other hand, regarding the Iran War, although there were consistent reports related to Iran before the war, the number of reports significantly decreased after the actual outbreak of the war. Prof. Park explained that this difference could serve as a clue demonstrating how North Korea views international affairs and the changes in its foreign strategy.

Prof. Park also presented North Korea's common perception of the two wars. North Korea views the instability in the Middle East as linked to the U.S.-led hegemonic order and criticizes the UN and the West for applying double standards to Middle Eastern issues. Furthermore, she explained that North Korea interprets these international conflicts as a process in which the U.S.-centric unipolar order weakens and a multipolar world order is formed.

Finally, Prof. Park emphasized that North Korea's multipolar discourse did not suddenly emerge recently, but has been a continuous flow in its external perception since the 1990s. North Korea views the U.S.-centric world order as temporary and unstable, and is trying to newly establish its strategic position amidst the trend of multipolarization. In particular, she analyzed that North Korea is showing a strategy to strengthen its role and status in the changing international order based on its position as a nuclear-armed state.

Following the presentation, a Q&A session was held covering topics such as the relationship between North Korea's perception of the New Cold War and its multipolar discourse, the differences in multipolarization as articulated by North Korea, China, and Russia, and the significance of the Third World and the Global South in North Korea's foreign strategy. Participants discussed these issues, centering on the point that North Korea's perception of the Middle East situation goes beyond a simple anti-American discourse, serving as an important case that shows how North Korea is establishing its position in the changing international order.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Park, Ah-reum (Research Professor, Institute of North Korean Studies at Dongguk University)
- Moderator: Kim, GyuBeom (Research Fellow, INSS)

서울대학교 통일평화연구원
The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University

2026학년도 1학기 통일학 포럼
전환기 북한학 연구의 쟁점

참가신청
이번 포럼은 zoom으로 진행됩니다.
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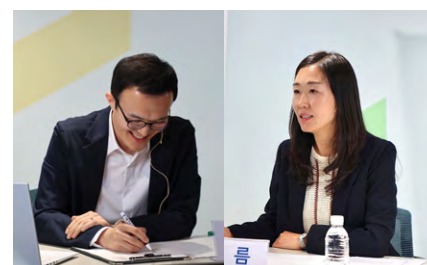
제116차 통일학포럼
북한의 탈단국 인식과 전략: 기자전쟁과 이란전쟁을 중심으로
일시: 2026년 5월 22일 금요일 오후 4시
발표: 박아름 (동국대 북한학연구소 연구교수)
사회: 김규범 (국가안전기획연구소 부연구위원)

제117차 통일학포럼
분단 체제 속 탈북민 정책 활동과 북한 재원
일시: 2026년 6월 26일 금요일 오후 3시
발표: 신혜원 (서울대 인류학과 단국대학교 연구교수)
사회: 권혁민 (강원대 문화인류학과 교수)

제114차 통일학포럼
포스트 남북관계 국면에서 한반도 공동성원의 역할 모색
일시: 2026년 4월 3일 금요일 오후 4시
발표: 황진태 (동국대 북한학과 조교수)
사회: 신혜원 (서울대 통일평화연구원 통일학센터장/지리학과 교수)

제115차 통일학포럼
제9차 담화와의 북한인 미래
일시: 2026년 4월 24일 금요일 오후 2시
발표: 김재현 (전주교과도 도립대학교 교수)
사회: 김재현 (서울대 정치외교학부 부교수)

문의하실 사항이 있으시다면 담당자 메일: wdgissk@snu.ac.kr 로 연락하여 주시기 바랍니다.



◆ [117th Unification Studies Forum]

North Korean Defectors' Creative Activities and the Representation of North Korea in the Division System

- Date: Friday, June 26, 2026, 15:00 – 16:30 (KST)

- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)

- Topic: North Korean Defectors' Creative Activities and the Representation of North Korea in the Division System

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 117th Unification Studies Forum on Friday, June 26, 2026, under the theme of "North Korean Defectors' Creative Activities and the Representation of North Korea in the Division System," inviting Dr. Shin, Hae-eun, a postdoctoral researcher at the BK21 Education Research Group in the Department of Anthropology at Seoul National University. The Unification Studies Forum is an expansion and reorganization of the Unification Policy Forum, which was held 75 times between 2006 and 2020, and is now in its 117th edition. The forum was moderated by Kwon, Hyuk-hee, a professor in the Department of Cultural Anthropology at Kangwon National University.

During this forum, Dr. Shin analyzed how North Korea is represented in the creative activities of North Korean defectors, focusing on the activities of North Korean defector artists and creators working in South Korean society. In particular, she examined how the North Korea represented by North Korean defector artists relates to South Korea's division system, and how the creative principles and aesthetic characteristics of North Korean art are maintained and transformed within the new socio-political context after migration. First, she examined the position of North Korean defectors within the division system of South Korean society. Dr. Shin explained that the Cold War ideology, which perceives North Korea as the main enemy, and the nationalist discourse, which views South and North Korea as a single nation, simultaneously exist in South Korean society. At the intersection of these two discourses, North Korean defectors are positioned as 'the same nation' yet simultaneously as 'the other from an enemy state'. In other words, defectors become subjects of both inclusion and exclusion, placed under the condition of having to constantly prove that they are safe members within South Korean society.

Dr. Shin went on to explain that this positionality has a significant impact on North Korean defectors' creative activities and the representation of North Korea. North Korean defector creators operate within the political landscape of South Korean society, and in particular, they often structurally align with the conservative camp. The conservative camp perceives North Korea as a hostile entity threatening national security and signifies defectors as beings who testify to the problems and human rights abuses of the North Korean regime. On the other hand, because the progressive camp has a strong tendency to understand North Korea as a partner for dialogue and cooperation, the voices of defectors are sometimes accepted as uncomfortable presences that remind them of the negative

aspects of the North Korean regime. These political conditions also affect the foundation of North Korean defector creators' activities. According to the presentation, many defector creators begin their activities as writers through financial support from conservative organizations. While such support serves as an important opportunity for defector creators lacking connections and foundations in South Korean society, it also acts as a constraint requiring them to represent North Korea as a more oppressive and tragic space.

In this process, defector creators constantly negotiate among their memories and identities, livelihood, and artistic desires. Dr. Shin emphasized that to the defector creators, North Korea is not simply a space of oppression and deficiency. While North Korea is a space of political violence and economic hardship, it is simultaneously a place where memories of childhood and senses of family, friends, and hometown remain. Therefore, the demand for defector creators to represent North Korea solely with negative images leads not simply to an issue of creative direction, but to the question of how to handle their own lives, memories, and identities. The audience's method of interpretation is also an important subject of analysis. Dr. Shin explained that when a defector artist's work is presented along with the information that they are an artist from North Korea, South Korean audiences often interpret it as an image of North Korean residents' suffering, concentration camps, or human rights abuses. However, the artist's actual intention might be based on entirely different personal memories or aesthetic experiences. As such, a gap occurs in defector creative activities among the North Korea the artist intends to represent, the North Korea expected by supporting organizations, and the North Korea interpreted by South Korean audiences.

Through the case of defector YouTubers, Dr. Shin explained that the Cold War ideology of South Korean society also operates within the consumption methods of popular culture. When a defector YouTuber portrays North Korea in a developed or positive manner, some viewers stigmatize them as 'commies' or 'spies'. Conversely, when North Korea is depicted as a more backward and inferior space than South Korea, the defector YouTuber is more easily accepted as a safe, includable member of South Korean society. Therefore, defector YouTubers empirically grasp this Cold War grammar and strategically construct the image of North Korea they wish to convey within it.

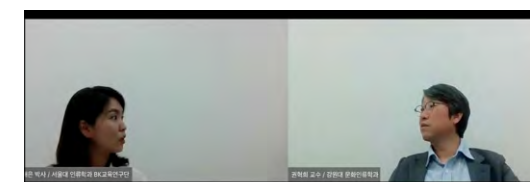
Finally, through the case of defector performing arts troupes, she examined how the creative principles and aesthetic senses of North Korean art are sustained and transformed post-migration. The repertoire of defector performing arts troupes consists of North Korean works and fusion works. North Korean works are performed by reenacting North Korean songs, folk dances, and modern dances, while fusion works are created by combining North Korean dances and songs with South Korean popular songs, trot, and broadcast choreography. Dr. Shin explained that these fusion works are not created simply for commercial needs or audience interest. Rather than showing unfamiliar North Korean art as it is to South Korean audiences, defector performing arts troupes seek to reduce the emotional distance to North Korea by combining familiar music and forms. This is also connected to the goal of conveying to the audience the possibility that South and North Korea can live together. Dr. Shin observed that this creative method structurally resembles the creative principles of North

Korean art. North Korean art takes ideology, people-mindedness, popular appeal, and hybridity as its important principles. After migrating to South Korean society, the ideology of the North Korean regime can no longer be maintained as is, but a new purpose emerges: to convey national sentiment and the possibility of inter-Korean coexistence to South Korean audiences. Furthermore, finding a form that suits the audience's sentiments and aesthetics, and actively combining familiar music and dance, can be understood as a process in which people-mindedness, popular appeal, and hybridity are sustained in a transformed form.

In conclusion, it was emphasized that defectors' creative activities cannot be seen merely as art representing North Korea or a means of economic adaptation after migration. Defectors' creative activities are cultural practices taking place within the division system and Cold War ideology of South Korean society, while simultaneously being a process where artistic principles and aesthetic senses formed in North Korea are sustained and reconstructed within a new socio-political context. This forum provided an opportunity to reflect on the duality of the Cold War sensibilities and nationalist discourse remaining in South Korean society through defector art, and to understand the issue of North Korean representation more comprehensively.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Shin, Hae-eun (Postdoctoral Researcher, BK21 Education Research Group, Dept. of Anthropology, SNU)
- Moderator: Kwon, Hyuk-hee (Professor, Kangwon National University)



Unification Studies Seminar

The IPUS at SNU holds “Unification Studies Seminar” by inviting scholars and experts from home and abroad to build the academic foundation of unification studies and expand its horizons.

제86차 통일학 세미나 – 북한 연구의 새로운 방법론과 과제

- 일시: 2025년 12월 9일(화) 14시~16시
- 장소: 관악캠퍼스 220동 315호 *비공개
- 사회: 한모니까(통일평화연구원)

- 발표1: 최지영(통일연구원) <텍스트 마이닝 방법론을 활용한 북한경제 연구: 동향과 과제>
- 발표2: 정은미(통일연구원) <코로나 19 팬데믹 이후 북한 사회 연구방법의 대안적 모색: 유연기구 자료의 활용>
- 발표3: 이시호(명지대) <위성자료-인공지능-인터뷰 혼합 연구 기반 북한지역 연구 방법론 분석>
- 발표4: 김다울(대외경제정책연구원) <위성자료를 활용한 북한 연구 현황과 과제>



서울대학교 통일평화연구원
The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University




86th Unification Studies Seminar

- Date and Time: Tuesday, December 9, 2025, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- Moderator: Hahn, Monica, Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
- Presenters: Choi Ji-young, Korea Institute for National Unification; Jung Eun-mee, Korea Institute for National Unification; Lee Si-hyo, Myongji University and Kim Da-wool, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy
- Venue: Room 315, Building 220, Gwanak Campus (Closed Seminar)

트럼프 라운드, 세계는 어디로 가나?: 신한반도 구상과 한반도 안보 레짐

일시 : 2026년 1월 26일(월)
장소 : 서울대학교 아시아연구소 240호
주최 : 서울대학교 통일평화연구원, 서울대학교 협동과정 평화통일학

세션 1 (11:00-13:00) 트럼프 라운드, 어디로 가나?
라운드테이블
이은정 배움원자유대학교 교수
김연호 조지워싱턴대학교 한국학센터 부원장
사자호 나카모 리츠메이칸대학교 교수

세션 2 (14:00-16:00) 신한반도 구상?
발표
김기식 국회사태연구원 원장 “신한반도 구상의 진해와 조건”
최종건 연세대학교 교수 “글로벌 환경과 한반도의 미래”
토론
김상기 통일부 장관정책보좌관
조성민 상원대학교 교수

세션 3 (16:10-18:10) 조선노동당 9차 당대회와 한반도 안보 레짐
발표
안경호 국방대학교 교수 “조선노동당 9차 당대회와 남북관계 전망”
김민욱 상원대학교 교수 “비핵화와 군비통제: 새로운 안보 레짐의 모색”
토론
한모니까 서울대 통일평화연구원 교수
강혜석 서울대 한국정치연구소 연구원
최창호 대외경제정책연구원 원장




[87th Unification Studies Seminar]

The Trump Round: Where Is the World Headed? — A New Vision for the Korean Peninsula and the Korean Peninsula Security Regime

- Date: January 26, 2026 (Monday), 11:00–18:10
- Location: Room 240, Asia Center, Seoul National University
- Topic: The Trump Round: Where Is the World Headed?
— A New Vision for the Korean Peninsula and the Korean Peninsula Security Regime
- Organized by: Institute for Peace and Unification Studies (IPUS), Seoul National University; Interdisciplinary Program in Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University



Center for Peace Studies

- Peace Studies Forum
- Peace Studies Seminar

The IPUS at SNU regularly organizes the IPUS Peace Studies Forum, which invites distinguished researchers and speakers who are active in the peace agenda in civil society, public and private sectors to present and discuss various topics related to peace studies. The Peace Studies Forum embraces a diverse spectrum of peace theory, practice, and policy, and aims to broaden the horizons of peace studies by discussing global and Asian peace studies, and East-West peace studies. **In 2025, a total of eight Peace Studies Fora were held.**

Peace Studies Forum

◆ [29th Peace Studies Forum]

The History of the DMZ: The Korean Armistice Regime and the Demilitarized Zone

- Date: Thursday, January 9, 2025, 16:00 – 17:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: The History of the DMZ: The Korean Armistice Regime and the Demilitarized Zone

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 29th Peace Studies Forum on Thursday, January 9, 2025, under the theme of "The History of the DMZ: The Korean Armistice Regime and the Demilitarized Zone," inviting Prof. Hahn, Monica, a Humanities Korea (HK) professor at IPUS at SNU. The forum was chaired by Jeong, Hanbeom, a professor in the Department of Security Policy at National Defense University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Hahn, Monica sought to examine when, why, and how the DMZ, as a core element of the armistice regime, was conceived and formed from a historical perspective. At the beginning of the lecture, Prof. Hahn focused on the general perception and experiences of the DMZ. Noting that "the DMZ is imprinted in the minds of many as the boundary of the North-South division and the front line, and is also a space remembered through the hardships and heroic tales of military service," she simultaneously explained that it is "a place where a high level of military tension exists, to the extent that the BBC reported it as one of the most heavily fortified areas in the world."

However, she stated that the DMZ is not merely a military space, but also "a treasure trove of ecosystems where internationally endangered and rare species inhabit, and a space spotlighted as a symbol of peace," using this duality of the DMZ and how it was formed as the starting point of her inquiry. Prof. Hahn raised the critical awareness that "this demilitarized zone is not simply a given outcome of the Armistice Agreement, but a complex space created by the accumulation of international conceptions, institutional negotiations, and policy practices."

Prof. Hahn went on to point out that even the exact location and existence of the DMZ space are unclear to the general public, and in particular, "since access by civilians is strictly restricted inside the actual DMZ, research itself is very difficult." Due to this, she emphasized the problem that "while research on border cities and counties is active, there is a tendency to consider this directly as DMZ research," diagnosing that "superficial or inaccurate information is being circulated."

Following this, the lecture earnestly moved on to the historical origins of the DMZ concept. Prof. Hahn revealed, "Many people look for the beginning of the demilitarized zone in the 1953 Armistice Agreement, but in fact, in October 1950, shortly after the Chinese military's participation in the war, the British Foreign Office first conceived a proposal to establish a demilitarized zone on the Korean

Peninsula." She explained, "The background of this proposal by British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin was driven by a situational judgment concerned about the risk of the Korean War expanding to the entire Northeast Asia, and the demilitarized zone he proposed was a completely different form where the North Korean government and the disarmed North Korean military would take charge of temporary administration along the Korea-Manchuria border."

This British proposal was delivered to the U.S., the UN, China, and North Korea, but General MacArthur at the time strongly opposed it, saying, "Handing over even a part of the North Korean territory would be the greatest defeat suffered by the free world," and the South Korean Ambassador to the U.S., Chang Myon, also did not accept it, calling it "a proposal that sacrifices the territory and interests of the South Korean government." Prof. Hahn added that although this proposal was not adopted, it served as an opportunity for the concept of establishing a demilitarized zone on the Korean Peninsula to gradually spread internationally.

After the armistice talks began in earnest in July 1951, negotiations on the location, scope, and management entity of the DMZ materialized. The North Korean and Chinese side proposed setting a DMZ 10km back from each side based on the 38th parallel and "restoring civil administration to the pre-Korean War state," but the UN Command side argued for a 20-mile (about 32km) wide demilitarized zone located further north. Eventually, "reflecting military realities, a 4km-wide demilitarized zone was established by retreating 2km from each side centered on the line of contact at the time of signing the Armistice Agreement."

According to Article 1, Paragraph 1 of the Armistice Agreement, the demilitarized zone is established by demarcating the Military Demarcation Line and both sides withdrawing 2km each, which is supposed to function as a buffer zone to prevent the recurrence of hostilities. Furthermore, she explained that Article 13 of the Armistice Agreement specifies the withdrawal of military assets within 72 hours and the removal of hazards (mines, barbed wire, etc.) for 45 days, and for this, a procedure is in place where the commanders of both sides report and the Military Armistice Commission supervises it.

Prof. Hahn introduced that "on November 3, 1953, at the 86th Secretariat Meeting of the Military Armistice Commission, the UN Command and the North Korean and Chinese side mutually notified each other that the installation of Military Demarcation Line markers had been completed," noting that the current Military Demarcation Line is "a 'continuum of points' composed of 1,292 markers." Along with this, she also dealt with concrete implementation cases such as violation investigation activities of the Joint Observer Teams (JOT) to implement the Armistice Agreement and maintenance procedures near Panmunjom.

Towards the end of the lecture, Prof. Hahn mentioned that the substantial militarization of the DMZ had progressed since the 1960s, pointing out that "despite being set as a demilitarized zone under the Armistice Agreement, the DMZ has practically become a militarized zone." She added, "From the early 1970s, proposals to turn the DMZ into a peace zone began to emerge from the two Koreas

and the international community." Finally, Prof. Hahn concluded that "the DMZ is not a unilinear result, but a complex construct where the aftermath of the Korean War, the signing of the Armistice Agreement, subsequent military and political conflicts, ecological changes, and peace discourses are accumulated," and summarized that "as a space to stop the war, maintain the armistice, and experiment with peace, there is a need to re-examine the historical layers of the DMZ."

▶ Program

- Presenter: Hahn, Monica (Humanities Korea Professor, IPUS at SNU)
- Moderator: Jeong, Hanbeom (Professor, Department of Security Policy at National Defense University)

2024년 2학기 평화학포럼

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제29차 평화학포럼
DMZ의 역사: 한반도 정전체제와 비무장지대
일시: 2024년 11월 9일 목요일 16:00-17:30
발표: 한모니까 (서울대학교 통일평화연구원 HK교수)
좌장: 정한범 (국방대학교 교수)

제27차 평화학포럼
유엔과 북한인권
일시: 2024년 11월 21일 목요일 17:00-18:30
발표: 박태웅 (미국 하와이대학교 로스쿨 교수)
좌장: 조정현 (한국외국어대학교 로스쿨 교수)

제28차 평화학포럼
한미원조: 중국인들의 한국전쟁
일시: 2024년 12월 12일 목요일 16:00-17:30
발표: 박지은 (서울대학교 통일평화연구원 HK교수)
좌장: 박원갑 (상동대학교 중국어학과 교수)

문의사항 사항이 있으시다면 담당자 메일: junhyo@snu.ac.kr 로 연락하여 주시기 바랍니다.



◆ [30th Peace Studies Forum]

Everyday Violence and Peace: Applying the Micro-discourse of Peace to the Korean Peninsula

- Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2025, 16:00 – 17:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Everyday Violence and Peace: Applying the Micro-discourse of Peace to the Korean Peninsula

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 30th Peace Studies Forum on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, under the grand theme of "Peace, on Its Diversity," with the specific topic of "Everyday Violence and Peace: Applying the Micro-discourse of Peace to the Korean Peninsula," inviting Heo, Ji Young, a research professor at the Gangwon Institute of Unification Studies at Kangwon National University. The forum was chaired by Mun, Inchul, a research fellow of the Current Issues Research Team at the Seoul Institute, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Heo, Ji Young dealt in depth with the implications for Korean society and discussions on peace on the Korean Peninsula, focusing on the concepts of "everyday peace" and "everyday violence," which are drawing attention as new approaches to peace studies. Prof. Heo pointed out that the existing "liberal peace" discourse uniformly transplanted Western-centric political and economic models to conflict zones, explaining that such an approach caused severe side effects such as the recurrence of civil wars, return to authoritarianism, and massacres. She then introduced the concept of "post-liberal peace," emphasizing the importance of "local ownership" and "hybrid peace" based on regional history, culture, and society.

Amid this critical awareness, Prof. Heo introduced the concept of "everyday peace". This stems from the "survival strategies" chosen by ordinary people in post-conflict societies to avoid danger and conflict, such as avoidance, maintaining ambiguity, ritualized politeness, telling, and blame deferring. However, Prof. Heo explained that this strategy goes beyond simple response mechanisms, expanding into a concept with a public nature to weaken the conflict culture of society and ultimately build peace. In particular, she paid attention to the fact that subjects who were previously perceived as victims of conflict, such as women and youth, began to be recognized as actors building peace with subjectivity. Arguing that this ultimately reveals the "relational nature" of peace, which means that "peace starts from consideration for other human beings," she emphasized the sociality, reciprocity, and solidarity of peace through concepts such as "last peace" and "first peace".

Next, Prof. Heo introduced the concept of "everyday violence," explaining that this concept, developed primarily by gender researchers, constitutes an axis of peace studies. Everyday violence is violence repeatedly inflicted upon individuals and groups not only physically but also structurally, culturally, and unconsciously. As a result, victims have the characteristic of not clearly recognizing

or accepting it as normal even while suffering physical and mental pain. Therefore, she explained that this concept makes even subtle violence recognized as obvious violence, and operates as a necessary concept in building a society where diverse groups coexist.

Specifically, Prof. Heo explained that such violence appears in various forms such as "exclusion and discrimination," and "rejection and ostracism". For example, subtle discrimination, insults, and ghosting against specific groups harm a sense of social belonging, and if such everyday violence continues, it becomes entrenched in society. Prof. Heo pointed out that multicultural members in Korean society, such as North Korean defectors, return migrants, and marriage immigrants, can become victims of such everyday violence. She pointed out the phenomenon of Korea's "banal racism," or new racism, emphasizing that this should be recognized as "structural violence" rather than simply a cultural difference.

Finally, Prof. Heo pointed out that everyday violence among heterogeneous members could emerge as a realistic problem after unification or in a situation of free travel between North and South Korea, emphasizing the importance of an individual's "peaceful mindset" and "behavioral patterns" to overcome this. She concluded her lecture by suggesting that an integrated approach linking micro-level practices with macro-level peacebuilding is necessary to resolve various elements of conflict within Korean society through the perspective of everyday peace.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Heo, Ji Young (Research Professor, Gangwon Institute of Unification Studies, Kangwon National University)
- Moderator: Mun, Inchul (Research Fellow, Current Issues Research Team, Seoul Institute)



◆ [31st Peace Studies Forum]

Making Cracks in the Cold War Confrontation Through 'Collaborative Oral History'

- Date: Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 16:00 – 17:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Making Cracks in the Cold War Confrontation Through 'Collaborative Oral History'

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 31st Peace Studies Forum on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, under the grand theme of "Peace, on Its Diversity," with the specific topic of "Making Cracks in the Cold War Confrontation Through 'Collaborative Oral History,'" inviting Joe, Ildong, an associate professor in the Anthropology Major at the Graduate School of Korean Studies, Academy of Korean Studies. The forum was chaired by Choi, Eun Young, an assistant professor of the Department of North Korean Studies at Ewha Womans University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Joe, Ildong focused on the concept and practice of "Collaborative Oral Life History" and presented the possibility of creating cracks in the structures of post-colonialism and the Cold War through the oral life histories of the Korean diaspora. The "History of the Lives of Multicultural Koreans" project, conducted from 2012 to 2020, was a collaborative oral history experiment that invited 6 to 8 elderly ethnic Koreans from diverse socio-cultural backgrounds to spend two days and one night together sharing their life stories.

Unlike conventional methods that collect the life history of a single individual, this oral history method emphasized the process of co-creating life histories within collective interactions through a "dialogue" format where participants listened, questioned, and responded to each other's lives. In this process, equality and communality were formed within ritualistic time and space, operating as an arena that momentarily broke away from the existing social order to create new human relationships and senses.

Prof. Joe paid particular attention to the oral histories of returnee Korean diasporas—such as Korean-Chinese (Joseonjok), Koryo-saram, Zainichi Koreans, Sakhalin Koreans, and North Korean defectors. They are beings formed as a result of the structural violence of (post-)colonialism and the Cold War, and are still considered "marginalized people" or "others" within South Korean society. The individuals who participated in the oral histories explained their identities starting from their family histories and colonial experiences, thereby revealing the presentness and continuity of the post-colonial Cold War.

As a particularly impressive case, he introduced the interaction between Park Sun-i, a bereaved family member of a civilian massacre victim, and Lee Won-sook, the daughter of an officer from the Manchukuo Imperial Army who was pointed out as a perpetrator, who met at an oral history gathering in 2013. Through an unexpected family history connection, the two showed an attitude of trying to understand each other's lives rather than showing anger and distance, which demonstrated the

possibility of human empathy transcending ideology, nationality, and regime.

Finally, Prof. Joe emphasized that although this experience of collaborative oral history might not directly lead to reconciliation and healing, it lays the foundation to explore the possibility of dialogue beyond the dichotomous perception of victim and perpetrator. Furthermore, he presented the possibility of forming and spreading a new peace discourse based on diversity and mutual understanding by revealing the internal "differences" that had been obscured by the single national narrative.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Joe, Ildong (Associate Professor, Academy of Korean Studies)
- Moderator: Choi, Eun Young (Assistant Professor, Ewha Womans University)

2025년도 1학기 평화학포럼
평화, 그 다양성에 대하여

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제31차 평화학포럼	제32차 평화학포럼	제33차 평화학포럼	제30차 평화학포럼
“협력적구술사”를 통해 냉전 대립에 균열 만들기	기후위기의 시대, ‘비인간적’의 증언이라는 문제	정동의 포획과 탈주: 군대 예능과 양심적 병역거부가 재현하는 몸들	일상적 폭력과 평화: 미시적 평화담론의 한반도 적용
일시: 2025년 6월 24일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 조일동 (한국학중앙연구원 한국학대학원 인류학전공 부교수) 좌장: 최은영 (이화여자대학교 북한학과 조교수)	일시: 2025년 7월 29일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 전의령 (전북대학교 고고문화인문학과 부교수) 좌장: 이승철 (서울대학교 인류학과 부교수)	일시: 2025년 8월 26일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 황인택 (가톨릭대학교 국제학부 강사) 좌장: 김연희 (서강대학교 로울라국제대학 강사)	일시: 2025년 5월 20일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 하지영 (강원대학교 통일평화연구원 연구교수) 좌장: 문인철 (서울연구원 원안연구팀 연구위원)

문의하실 사항이 있으시다면 담당자 메일 ■ junhjo@snu.ac.kr로 연락하여 주시기 바랍니다.



◆ [32nd Peace Studies Forum]

The Issue of 'Coexistence with Non-humans' in the Era of Climate Crisis

- Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025, 16:00 – 17:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: The Issue of 'Coexistence with Non-humans' in the Era of Climate Crisis

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 32nd Peace Studies Forum on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, under the grand theme of "Peace, on Its Diversity," with the specific topic of "The Issue of 'Coexistence with Non-humans' in the Era of Climate Crisis," inviting Jun, EuyRyung, an associate professor of the Department of Archaeology and Cultural Anthropology at Jeonbuk National University. The forum was chaired by Lee, Seung Cheol, an associate professor of the Department of Anthropology at Seoul National University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Jun, EuyRyung argued that while the topic of "coexistence with non-humans" is widely discussed today, we must reflect on the complexity and dilemmas hidden behind it. Through the lecture, she analyzed the limitations of the "Anthropocene" discourse, another name for the climate crisis, and the "post-anthropocentrism" discourse that seeks to overcome it. First, Prof. Jun pointed out that the Anthropocene discourse tends to "emphasize the responsibility for a ruined Earth as belonging to humanity as a whole". By positing humanity as a single trans-historical and trans-class entity, this discourse "eliminates the differences and alterity within humans, as well as the issues of history and power that constitute them". The actual root cause of the climate crisis is "fossil capital" developed in 18th-century Britain, which was driven by the process of "capitalists seeking to increase profits by better controlling labor". Ultimately, Prof. Jun pointed out the contradiction of the Anthropocene discourse: hiding behind the universal name of "humanity," it obscures the specific history and unequal attribution of responsibility that caused the climate crisis. According to the data presented in the lecture, a significant portion of historically accumulated carbon dioxide emissions is concentrated in a few wealthy countries such as the U.S. (24%), and even today, the inequality of responsibility is clear, as the top 10% wealthiest people worldwide account for about 52% of total carbon emissions.

Next, Prof. Jun presented the dilemma of "post-anthropocentrism". This thought provided insights to move beyond anthropocentrism by viewing non-humans as active agents who "coproduce" the world alongside humans. However, she explained that when this discourse focuses on "human-non-human entanglement," it may fall into a dilemma where it becomes difficult to identify the cracks such as inequality, exploitation, and contradictions within human society, which could be the root causes of the climate crisis. Furthermore, she mentioned that the slogan of "coexistence with non-humans" also distinguishes between "good non-humans" like polar bears and "bad non-humans" like mosquitoes,

thereby already selecting and hierarchizing non-humans according to human needs.

In conclusion, Prof. Jun argued that we must seek a "critical shift" that overcomes the limitations of the Anthropocene and post-anthropocentrism discourses. Quoting Slavoj Žižek, she emphasized that "the key to the ecological crisis does not exist within ecology itself". She also noted that, as seen in the Trump administration's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, its reentry, and the possibility of re-withdrawal, we must face the fact that responding to the climate crisis is not an ethical issue for all humanity but an issue of responsibility of specific countries and political systems. Therefore, she stressed that the true solution must be found not merely in resetting the relationship between humans and nature, but in fundamentally reflecting upon and transforming the unequal and exploitative political and economic relations within human society, which are both the cause and the constituent of the climate crisis itself.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Jun, EuyRyung (Associate Professor, Dept. of Archaeology and Cultural Anthropology at Jeonbuk National University)
- Moderator: Lee, Seung Cheol (Associate Professor, Dept. of Anthropology at SNU)

서울대학교 통일평화연구원
The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University

2025년도 1학기 평화학포럼
평화, 그 다양성에 대하여

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사전 신청하여 주시기 바랍니다.

제32차 평화학포럼
기후위기의 시대, '비인간'과의 공존이라는 문제
일시: 2025년 7월 29일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30
발표: 전의령 (전북대학교 고고문화인류학과 부교수)
좌장: 이승철 (서울대학교 인류학과 부교수)

제30차 평화학포럼
일상적 폭력과 평화: 미시적 평화담론의 한반도 적용
일시: 2025년 5월 20일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30
발표: 하지영 (강원대학교 통일평화연구원 연구교수)
좌장: 문인철 (서울연구원 한민구립 연구위원)

제31차 평화학포럼
'협력적기술사'를 통해 냉전 대립에 균열 만들기
일시: 2025년 6월 24일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30
발표: 조윤희 (한국학중앙연구원 한국학대학원 인류학전공 부교수)
좌장: 최은영 (이화여자대학교 북한학과 조교수)

제33차 평화학포럼
정통의 포획과 탈주: 군대 예능과 양심적 병역거부가 재현하는 모습
일시: 2025년 8월 26일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30
발표: 황인덕 (가톨릭대학교 국제학부 강사)
좌장: 김연희 (서강대학교 로열라국대학 강사)

문의하실 사항이 있으시면 담당자 메일 wkdgkssk@snu.ac.kr로 연락하여 주시기 바랍니다.



◆ [33rd Peace Studies Forum]

Capture and Flight of Affect: Bodies Represented in Military Entertainment and Conscientious Objection

- Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025, 16:00 – 17:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Capture and Flight of Affect: Bodies Represented in Military Entertainment and Conscientious Objection

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 33rd Peace Studies Forum on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, under the grand theme of "Peace, on Its Diversity," with the specific topic of "Capture and Flight of Affect: Bodies Represented in Military Entertainment and Conscientious Objection," inviting Hwang, Ihntaek, an instructor at the School of International Studies at the Catholic University of Korea. The forum was chaired by Kim, Yeonhee, an instructor at the Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS) at Sogang University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Dr. Hwang began his presentation by emphasizing the importance of Critical Military Studies (CMS). He pointed out that military studies in traditional international politics mainly focus on macroscopic dimensions such as war, military power, and troop management, while the physical experiences or everyday sensations of individual soldiers are excluded from analysis. In other words, even in "serious studies" dealing with peace and war in international politics, the most intimate and undeniable pain and physical experiences felt by individuals fail to receive attention. Critical Military Studies aims to capture these personal and microscopic bodily experiences and "affects," thereby revealing how the state, the military, and the structure of international politics shape and control the sensations and behaviors of individuals and society.

Dr. Hwang compared Fake Men and Baekseo as examples of analyzing affect. First, he distinguished the concept of affect from emotion, defining it as "the 'potential of the body' that is revealed when paying attention to the body's experience".

Fake Men is a YouTube entertainment program that shows a process where various participants, from ordinary people to celebrities, endure extreme physical pain while experiencing special forces training. Dr. Hwang explained that by presenting the body as a self-developmental and heroic model, this program reinforces militarized masculinity and competitive self-management discourses in South Korean society. In other words, through the "overcoming" of physical pain, affect is "captured," and consequently, militaristic values and social norms are strengthened.

On the other hand, Baekseo is a film produced by a conscientious objector that shows the "body" shaking amidst imprisonment and social pressure. This film operates in a way that "flights" the affect that the militaristic narrative attempts to capture. By showing the bodily experience of upholding one's beliefs despite fear and anxiety, it creates a crack in the existing militaristic affect and masculinity discourse, allowing the audience to imagine new possibilities for life and relationships.

Dr. Hwang then emphasized the concept of affective politics. Affective politics goes beyond simply feeling or expressing emotions; it is an analytical framework that examines how affects are formed and transformed within social and political contexts, and how new social possibilities are opened through this. Through this, one can understand the impact of militarism on individuals and society in South Korea, as well as the potential for resistance and flight.

Finally, Dr. Hwang argued that affective politics can also be applied to peace policies and social interventions. Citing examples from Nordic countries, he explained that rather than simple treaty conclusions or state-level policies, long-term peacebuilding efforts are underway through on-site dialogues, community participation, and conflict transformation activities centered on women and youth. From the perspective of affective politics, physical and emotional encounters and empathetic experiences between people become the foundation of the peacebuilding process, and he concluded his presentation by noting that even if immediate results do not appear, the possibility of long-term peace can be opened through small changes in everyday life.

▶ Program

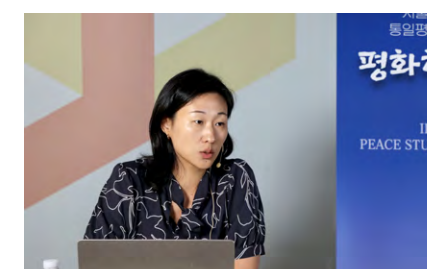
- Presenter: Hwang, Ihntaek (Instructor, Catholic University of Korea)
- Moderator: Kim, Yeonhee (Instructor, GSIS at Sogang University)

2025년도 1학기 평화학포럼
평화, 그 다양성에 대하여

참가신청
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제 33차 평화학포럼	제 32차 평화학포럼	제 31차 평화학포럼	제 30차 평화학포럼
정동의 포획과 탈주: 군대 예능과 양심적 병역거부가 재현하는 몸들	기후위기 시대, '비안락의 공존'이라는 문제	'협력적 구술사'를 통해 냉전 대립에 군열 만들기	일상적 폭력과 평화: 미시적 평화담론의 한반도 적용
일시: 2025년 8월 26일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 황인택 (가톨릭대학교 국제학부 강사) 좌장: 김연희 (서강대학교 통일연구센터 연구원)	일시: 2025년 7월 29일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 조의명 (전북대학교 고고문화인문학부 교수) 좌장: 이승철 (서울대학교 인문학부 교수)	일시: 2025년 6월 24일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 조의명 (한국학중앙연구원 한국학대학원 인류학전공 부교수) 좌장: 최은영 (이화여자대학교 북한학과 조교수)	일시: 2025년 5월 20일 화요일 16:00 - 17:30 발표: 최민정 (강원대학교 통일정책연구소 연구교수) 좌장: 문인철 (서울연구원 평화연구팀 연구위원)

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◆ [34th Peace Studies Forum]

Nutritional Problems Left by the Arduous March

- Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025, 17:00 – 18:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Nutritional Problems Left by the Arduous March

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 34th Peace Studies Forum on Thursday, November 6, 2025, under the grand theme of "The Lives of North Korean Residents and Humanitarian Peace: Focusing on Food, Nutrition, and Health," with the specific topic of "Nutritional Problems Left by the Arduous March," inviting Prof. Lee, Soo Kyung from the Department of Food and Nutrition at Inha University. The forum was moderated by Yoon, Jihyun, Deputy Director of IPUS at SNU and Professor of the Department of Food and Nutrition, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

Prof. Lee, Soo Kyung first emphasized that good nutritional status is the basic foundation of health, and malnutrition is a public health issue directly linked not only to growth but also to survival. In particular, she explained that both food intake and physical condition, which are key indicators, must be considered together to evaluate nutritional status.

Following this, Prof. Lee presented North Korea's nutritional status through various international organization data. Since the 1990s, North Korea has been continuously classified as a country with severe malnutrition, and official statistics have been absent since the COVID-19 pandemic. According to data from the WFP and FAO, North Korea's food insecurity deepened as of 2020. It is estimated that about half of the total population falls short of the minimum energy requirement, and the gap between Pyongyang and the provinces remains large, with clear inequality between urban and rural areas.

Regarding the core of the lecture, "Nutritional Problems Left by the Arduous March," Prof. Lee first defined the period of the Arduous March as the starting point for understanding North Korea's nutritional problems. At that time, when the food supply system collapsed due to the fall of the socialist bloc and natural disasters, 62.3% of children under the age of 5 suffered from chronic malnutrition (stunting) and 15.6% from acute malnutrition (wasting), respectively. At that time, North Korea recorded the highest level of child malnutrition in the world. She pointed out that the problems left by the Arduous March are not merely a past event, but a "generational health issue" that affects the health structure of North Korean society today.

Subsequently, applying the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHaD) theory, which states that early life nutritional experiences affect health in adulthood, Prof. Lee, Soo Kyung emphasized that malnutrition experiences in early life, such as the fetal or infant stages, act as a structural factor increasing the risk of obesity and chronic diseases in adulthood. Based on her own research targeting North Korean defector children, she explained that while these children experienced rapid physical growth and weight gain after settling in South Korea, they also showed a tendency for a higher risk of obesity. This suggests the possibility that the generation of the Arduous

March, who have now become adults, will have a long-term impact on the disease structure of North Korean society.

Therefore, she argued that the health problems of this generation could act as a new burden on North Korea's healthcare system, and nutrition management and chronic disease prevention will become core tasks for North Korean society in the future. She also pointed out that the main cause of death for North Korean residents has already shifted to non-communicable diseases (NCDs), emphasizing the need to understand nutritional problems not simply as an issue of food shortage but as an issue of accumulated health risks.

Finally, Prof. Lee also mentioned changes in North Korea's health policies and the possibility of future cooperation. In its recent national report for achieving the SDGs, North Korea presented the goal of 'ending all forms of malnutrition' by 2030, and is seeking to advance its healthcare through cooperation with Russia, Vietnam, and others. She evaluated that North Korea values knowledge-based cooperation and human exchange over simple aid, and suggested the need for practical cooperation models that share experiences in maternal and child health, such as South Korea's school meals and the NutriPlus program.

In her concluding remarks, Prof. Lee, Soo Kyung emphasized that the nutritional problems of the Arduous March generation are a task directly linked to the sustainability of peace on the Korean Peninsula beyond humanitarian assistance. She concluded her presentation by adding that continuous interest and research on North Korea's nutritional problems could become an important foundation for inter-Korean humanitarian cooperation and peacebuilding.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Lee, Soo Kyung (Professor, Dept. of Food and Nutrition at Inha University)
- Moderator: Yoon, Jihyun (Deputy Director of IPUS at SNU and Professor of the Dept. of Food and Nutrition, SNU)



◆ [35th Peace Studies Forum]

Current Status of North Korea's Agriculture and Food

- Date: Thursday, December 4, 2025, 17:00 – 18:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Current Status of North Korea's Agriculture and Food

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 35th Peace Studies Forum on Thursday, December 4, 2025, under the grand theme of "The Lives of North Korean Residents and Humanitarian Peace: Focusing on Food, Nutrition, and Health," with the specific topic of "Current Status of North Korea's Agriculture and Food," inviting Professor Kim, Do Soon from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Bioresources at Seoul National University. The forum was moderated by Im, Jeongbin, a professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development at Seoul National University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

During this forum, Prof. Kim, Do Soon began his presentation by explaining that he would comprehensively examine the agricultural environment, production structure, and vulnerabilities to understand North Korea's agriculture and food issues. He pointed out that although North Korea already utilizes most of its available arable land for cultivation, crop productivity remains below expectations due to structural constraints such as topography, climate, and soil.

While North Korea's agricultural land is larger than South Korea's, the actual farming conditions are poor due to a lot of mountainous terrain and a high proportion of dry fields. With a low average temperature, the cultivation period is short, and it has less precipitation than South Korea, causing repeated problems such as delayed sowing or difficulties in securing early growth, especially during spring droughts. He also presented that major indicators such as soil organic matter, available phosphorus, and exchangeable cations are generally low, acting as a major cause for the declining crop productivity.

Prof. Kim explained that these environmental constraints are also clearly reflected in actual production. North Korea's productivity for food crops is only about 53% of South Korea's, and for vegetables, fruits, and livestock products, it is only at the 15% level, indicating a very serious state of vulnerability in its agricultural foundation. He evaluated that after the production base collapsed following the "Arduous March" and massive floods in the mid-to-late 1990s, the recovery of productivity has not been achieved due to the accumulation of soil degradation, loss of farmland, and lack of irrigation facilities. He added the analysis that the long-term decline in productivity has become entrenched as the supply of pesticides and fertilizers has become unstable due to sanctions and resource shortages.

Prof. Kim, Do Soon emphasized that in order to overcome these structural vulnerabilities, comprehensive efforts to revamp the cultivation foundation, such as improving agricultural infrastructure, restoring soil fertility, and expanding irrigation facilities, are necessary. He concluded

his presentation by suggesting the need to explore the practical possibilities and directions for inter-Korean agricultural cooperation from a long-term perspective.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Kim, Do Soon (Professor, Dept. of Agriculture, Forestry and Bioresources at SNU)
- Moderator: Im, Jeongbin (Professor, Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development at SNU)



◆ [36th Peace Studies Forum]

What South Korea's Suicide Problem Tells Us About the Division and Peace of the Korean Peninsula

- Date: Thursday, December 18, 2025, 17:00 – 18:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: What South Korea's Suicide Problem Tells Us About the Division and Peace of the Korean Peninsula

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 36th Peace Studies Forum on Thursday, December 18, 2025, under the grand theme of "The Lives of North Korean Residents and Humanitarian Peace: Focusing on Food, Nutrition, and Health," with the specific topic of "What South Korea's Suicide Problem Tells Us About the Division and Peace of the Korean Peninsula," inviting Lee, Yo-han, Director of the Korean Peninsula Institute for Health and Social Affairs at Korea University (and Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine at the College of Medicine). The forum was chaired by Noh, Jin-Won, a professor in the Department of Health Administration at Yonsei University, who opened the forum with a welcome speech.

Based on his long-standing experience in suicide research and North Korean health research, Director Lee, Yo-han unraveled his critical awareness in an 'essay-style lecture' format that combined statistical facts with interpretation.

First, through the long-term trend of South Korea's suicide rate, Dr. Lee emphasized that suicide is a social phenomenon beyond individual choices. South Korea's suicide rate has surged since the early 1990s, and a rapid rise in suicide rates, centering on middle-aged men, was repeatedly observed particularly during economic crisis phases such as the IMF foreign exchange crisis, the 2003 credit card crisis, and the 2008-2009 global financial crisis. Although the suicide rate temporarily decreased in the 2010s, this was explained as the result of a combination of institutional factors such as the enactment of the Suicide Prevention Act, pension and welfare policies, and the management of suicide means. However, around 2015, a re-escalation in the suicide rate among adolescents and those in their 20s and 30s (especially women) became prominent, and it was presented as an important warning that South Korea's young female suicide rate is at the highest level in the world according to comparative statistics.

In the cause analysis, he also emphasized that suicide cannot be solely explained by "mental illness". Based on a comprehensive data analysis of suicide deaths from 2013 to 2020, Dr. Lee pointed out that groups with a combination of not only a history of mental illness but also economic difficulties (debt, financial hardship, etc.) and social factors are extensive, and that there are quite a few cases where suicide is committed solely due to economic problems even without clear signs of mental illness. At the same time, he presented an analysis that for recent youth, depression, loneliness, and social isolation operate more directly and strongly as factors reinforcing suicidal ideation than in previous generations, and the importance of happiness (subjective well-being) as a protective factor to buffer this has grown.

As an interpretative framework for this phenomenon, Dr. Lee invoked the perspective of Émile Durkheim. Suicide cannot be reduced merely to individual vulnerability, but is a social pathology arising from the weakening of social integration (the collapse of solidarity, relationships, and

trust). Furthermore, he emphasized that the weakening of communal connections lies behind the background where money is felt as "almost the only safety net" in South Korean society, citing the dichotomous thinking (distinguishing friend and foe), stigma and hatred, and the persistence of collective trauma created by the division system as one of its roots. He raised a critical awareness of the paradoxical situation where division has penetrated the ways of everyday relationships and weakened the links of social solidarity, resulting in a continuation where peace on the Korean Peninsula is discussed while "peace within ourselves" is exhausted.

Lastly, connecting Johan Galtung's concept of positive peace, Dr. Lee emphasized that the tasks of suicide prevention and peace cannot be separated. In addition to interventions for high-risk groups, universal interventions (strengthening social support, buffering debt and crisis, mitigating discrimination and stigma, supporting resilience, etc.) are necessary, which led to his suggestion that this could be a peace policy that restores social integration at the same time as being a welfare and health policy. He also concluded his presentation with a message that, rather than demanding grand reconciliation all at once, practicing and accumulating "small peace" starting from close everyday relationships will serve as a foundation enabling a larger peace discourse.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Lee, Yo-han (Director of the Korean Peninsula Institute for Health and Social Affairs and Professor of the Dept. of Preventive Medicine, Korea University)
- Moderator: Noh, Jin-Won (Professor, Dept. of Health Administration at Yonsei University)



◆ [37th Peace Studies Forum]

Asking War About Peace: The Humanities of War and Peace

- Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 17:00 – 18:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Asking War About Peace: The Humanities of War and Peace

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 37th Peace Studies Forum on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, under the grand theme of "War and Peace," with the specific topic of "Asking War About Peace: The Humanities of War and Peace," inviting Lee, Chansoo, an instructor of the Peace Studies Major in the Department of Religious Studies at the Graduate School of the Catholic University of Korea. The forum was chaired by Kang, Hyukmin, an assistant professor of the Department of Asian Studies at the College of International Studies at Kyung Hee University, and was held via an online video conference (ZOOM).

Based on his academic critical awareness extending from religious studies to peace studies, Dr. Lee, Chansoo delivered a humanities-based lecture reflecting on the issues of war and violence not limited to political and diplomatic events but at the levels of humans, groups, language, religion, and the state. He divided the causes of war into surface-level and deep-level causes, explaining that visible causes such as struggles for political power, territorial disputes, economic interests, and diplomatic failures, as well as complex factors like clashes of religious and cultural beliefs, ideological conflicts, group identity and the dehumanization of others, historical trauma, and social inequality all operate in combination. In particular, he explained that war cannot be reduced to a single event or justification, but occurs when long-standing hostility, structural violence, and cultural attitudes justifying violence are intertwined.

Following this, Dr. Lee examined how the justifications and actual motives of war diverge, citing examples such as World War I, the Russo-Ukrainian War, the conflict between the US/Israel and Iran, and Japan's invasion of Joseon in the 20th century. He analyzed that while justifications such as security, alliances, resources, and regime defense are presented on the surface of war, beneath them lie imperialist expansion, nationalist tensions, imperial nostalgia, clashes of identity, and the externalization of internal instability. Through these cases, Dr. Lee emphasized that to understand the roots of war, one must look beyond the legal and external criteria of 'who attacked first' and simultaneously examine the deep historical and cultural conditions that make war possible.

One of the core concepts of the lecture was 'egocentrism'. Dr. Lee explained that at the root of war and conflict lies the tendency to interpret the world centering on oneself and one's group. Individual egocentrism expands into group identity, and the modern nation-state can operate by distinguishing between 'us' and 'them,' 'comrades' and 'enemies,' and excluding outsiders. In particular, he explained this boundary-setting using the metaphor of 'dotted lines' and 'solid lines,' noting that when boundaries remain as dotted lines that can be crossed, communication and adjustment are possible, but when they solidify like solid lines, differences easily turn into confrontations and others into enemies. Dr. Lee pointed out that the anti-communism and anti-imperialism on the Korean Peninsula,

as well as the hostility between the North and South, have also been sustained within this egocentric interpretation and the solidification of boundaries.

Furthermore, Dr. Lee emphasized that the word 'peace' itself can also operate egocentrically. While peace seems to be a universally positive value, in reality, each actor can present order and stability favorable to themselves under the name of 'peace'. He explained this as 'egocentric pacifism,' observing that the peace of the strong can be understood as the stability of the existing order, while the peace of the weak can be understood as the elimination of inequality. Just as the same event is called Liberation Day in South Korea, Fatherland Liberation Day in North Korea, and the End of the War Memorial Day in Japan, and the Korean War is called the Fatherland Liberation War in North Korea and the War to Resist US Aggression and Aid Korea in China, the language understanding war and peace varies depending on the subject's position and memories. Dr. Lee explained that when these differences are repeated and accumulated, conflicts seep into ways of thinking, language, institutions, and everyday relationships, potentially leading to the 'culturalization of conflict'.

Finally, Dr. Lee summarized the possibility of peace with the concepts of 'a thread of peace' and 'violence reduction'. He stated that because the instability of the ego, the limitations of language, the immorality of groups, and fundamental negativity are intertwined to create conflict, peace is never a state that can simply be completed or guaranteed. Therefore, he suggested that peace should not be understood as a state where violence has completely disappeared, but rather as a process of reducing the physical, structural, and cultural violence operating in reality, namely 'violence reduction'. Dr. Lee proposed that deepening self-awareness, humility in language, openness to the perspectives of others, and structural intervention by civil society and religion are necessary for this, concluding his presentation with the message that an attitude of 'peace pluralism'—understanding and coordinating peace not as a single fixed concept but as plural 'peaces'—is important.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Lee, Chansoo (Instructor, Catholic University of Korea)
- Moderator: Kang, Hyukmin (Assistant Professor, Kyung Hee University)



◆ [38th Peace Studies Forum]

The Iran War and Middle East Security (Instability)

- Date: Thursday, May 21, 2026 17:00 – 18:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: The Iran War and Middle East Security (Instability)

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 38th Peace Studies Forum on Thursday, May 21, 2026, under the grand theme of "War and Peace," with the specific topic of "The Iran War and Middle East Security (Instability)," inviting Han, Saerom, an assistant professor of the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Sookmyung Women's University. The forum was chaired by Hwang, Ihntaek, a researcher at the Tampere Peace Research Institute.

This forum was an opportunity to examine the recent military conflicts between the U.S., Israel, and Iran surrounding the Iran War and the resulting instability of the Middle East security order from the perspective of international politics. Prof. Han, Saerom looked into the main developments of the war, the background of the U.S. attack on Iran, and the response of the Iranian regime, explaining them through the analytical framework of 'Ontological Security'.

First, Prof. Han traced the process of escalating military tensions between Iran, Israel, and the U.S. since 2023. In particular, she explained that after the simultaneous airstrikes by the U.S. and Israeli allied forces on Iran's major military and nuclear facilities on February 28, 2026, the security anxiety in the Middle East deepened, followed by Iran's declaration of a blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, ceasefire negotiations between the U.S. and Iran, and sporadic military clashes.

Following this, Prof. Han pointed out that it is difficult to view the U.S. attack on Iran merely as an issue of strategic calculation or balance of power. While the U.S. presented the elimination of Iran's missile forces and nuclear weapons development capabilities, the blocking of support for proxy forces, and the weakening of naval power as its attack targets, the justifications presented before and during the war have shifted to protecting Iranian protesters, inducing nuclear negotiations, removing imminent threats, and the possibility of regime change. In response, Prof. Han emphasized the need to pay attention to why the U.S. was able to choose military intervention in the Middle East yet again.

To explain this, the concept of 'Ontological Security' was presented, which is the perspective that a state seeks not only physical survival but also the continuity and stability of its self-identity. According to Prof. Han, American exceptionalism and a 'victory discourse' have repeatedly operated in U.S. foreign policy, which became an important background making military intervention in the Middle East imagined as a "manageable and winnable war". Furthermore, in U.S. diplomatic discourse, Iran has long been represented as an irrational and dangerous 'other,' and this otherization of Iran has contributed to positioning the U.S. itself as a responsible guardian of the international order and a moral actor.

Next, Prof. Han also analyzed the Iranian regime's hardline response from the perspective of ontological security. Following the U.S. and Israeli airstrikes, Iran showed a more hardline response

than expected, attacking the Israeli mainland, U.S. military bases within GCC countries, and core economic infrastructure, and declaring a blockade of the Strait of Hormuz. Prof. Han explained that this should not be simply attributed to the influence of hardliners within Iran, but should be viewed in connection with the 'identity of resistance' formed since the Islamic Revolution in 1979. The Iranian regime has maintained its system identity through anti-imperialist, anti-colonial, Shiite ideology, and the 'Axis of Resistance' discourse, and external military attacks could rather serve as an opportunity to strengthen this resistance discourse.

Finally, Prof. Han pointed out that military intervention by the U.S. and Israel could paradoxically lead to the consolidation of internal political elites in Iran and the strengthening of the resistance discourse, rather than weakening or overthrowing the Iranian regime. In particular, she analyzed that while social challenges to the system have continued within Iran—such as the 2009 Green Movement, the 2017–18 Dey protests, the 2019 protests, and the 2022 "Woman, Life, Freedom" movement—external military intervention could have the effect of delaying the possibility of such internal changes.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Han, Saerom (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science and International Relations at Sookmyung Women's University)
- Moderator: Hwang, Ihntaek (Researcher, Tampere Peace Research Institute)

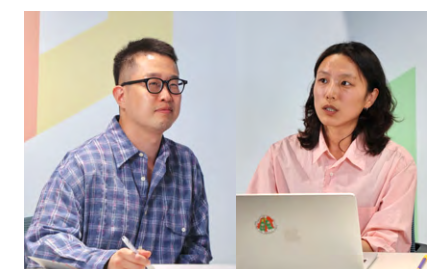
서울대학교 통일평화연구원
The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies
Seoul National University

2026년도 1학기 평화학포럼
전쟁과 평화

참가신청
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제38차 평화학포럼 이란전쟁과 중동 안보(불안) 일시: 2026년 5월 21일 목요일 오후 5시 - 6시 30분 발표: 한세롬 (숙명여자대학교 정치외교학과 조교수) 사회: 황인택 (핀란드 Tampere Peace Research Institute 연구원)	
제39차 평화학포럼 '인간통제'라는 픽션: 2026년 이란-이스라엘 전쟁과 자율살상무기 국제규제의 공백 일시: 2026년 6월 10일 수요일 오후 5시 - 6시 30분 발표: 문아람 (사단법인 피스모드 대표) 사회: 정용택 (경희대학교 비교문화연구소 HK연구교수)	
제40차 평화학포럼 중동 평화는 요원한가? 이란의 위기와 시민사회의 목소리 일시: 2026년 6월 24일 수요일 오후 5시 - 6시 30분 발표: 구기원 (서울대학교 아시아연구소 HK교수) 사회: 박지은 (서울대학교 통일평화연구원 HK교수)	
제37차 평화학포럼 전쟁에게 평화를 묻다: 전쟁과 평화의 인문학 일시: 2026년 4월 29일 수요일 오후 5시 - 6시 30분 발표: 이찬수 (가톨릭대학교 대학원 종교학과 평화학전공 강사) 사회: 강희연 (경희대학교 국제대학 아시아학과 조교수)	

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◆ [39th Peace Studies Forum]

The Fiction of 'Human Control': The 2026 Invasion of Iran and the Void in International Norms on Lethal Autonomous Weapons

- Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 17:00 – 18:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: The Fiction of 'Human Control': The 2026 Invasion of Iran and the Void in International Norms on Lethal Autonomous Weapons

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 39th Peace Studies Forum on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, under the theme of "The Fiction of 'Human Control': The 2026 Invasion of Iran and the Void in International Norms on Lethal Autonomous Weapons," inviting Moon, A-Young, Representative of PEACEMOMO. The forum was chaired by Jeong, Yongtaek, an HK research professor at the Institute of Comparative Cultural Studies at Kyung Hee University.

During this forum, Representative Moon, A-Young examined the issue of artificial intelligence-based weapons systems and human control, focusing on the bombing of the Shajareh Tayyebah elementary school that occurred during the U.S. and Israeli invasion of Iran in 2026. She presented the incident not merely as a matter of technical error, but as a case that raises a fundamental question about whether human control is actually operating during the deployment of autonomous weapons systems. In particular, through issues of data management and verification failures, as well as decision-making structures, she pointed out that the concept of 'human control' can in reality remain merely a formal mechanism.

Following this, she explained the structure and operating mechanism of the Maven Smart System, an AI-based military platform. Representative Moon explained that this system integrates various data such as satellites, drones, and signal intelligence to support target identification and strike decisions, greatly improving military efficiency. However, she emphasized that as the target selection and strike process becomes compressed, the time for sufficient review and deliberation decreases, and in the event of an error, the locus of responsibility can become unclear. Furthermore, she raised the possibility that the Shajareh Tayyebah elementary school bombing incident was also the result of a combination of data update failures and human verification failures rather than an error in the AI itself, interpreting this as a problem of an 'Accountability Gap'.

The discussion then moved on to the international norms surrounding Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS). Representative Moon introduced the negotiation process underway in the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) of the UN Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), and explained the difference between the concept of 'Meaningful Human Control' and the recently discussed concept of 'Context Appropriate Human Judgment and Control'. In addition, she evaluated that the debate between comprehensive ban and regulation-centered approaches, the problem of defining lethal autonomous weapons systems, and the issue of military diversion of civilian

technology are key issues in current discussions on international norms. In particular, she forecast that due to the consensus principle, negotiations have been in a prolonged deadlock, and the 2026 CCW Review Conference could become an important turning point.

Representative Moon also reviewed South Korea's policy and legislative trends. She explained that while South Korea takes a stance supporting the formation of norms regarding the military use of AI on the international stage, domestically, it is pursuing the expansion of AI use in the military sector through security exception clauses in the Framework Act on Artificial Intelligence and defense AI-related bills. Raising concerns that the military sector could be placed in a blind spot of regulation and democratic control in this process, she emphasized the need for broader social discussions and civilian control mechanisms regarding AI-based weapons systems.

Finally, Representative Moon, A-Young argued that attention should be paid to a new power structure where the military, technology, politics, and capital combine. She pointed out that the military use of artificial intelligence is not simply an issue of technological development but a matter directly linked to democracy, international norms, and human rights, and that institutional mechanisms to control and reflect on this are not sufficiently prepared compared to the speed of technological development. The presentation concluded with her suggestion that public forums in which civil society, academia, and policymakers participate together regarding the issue of lethal autonomous weapons systems and AI militarization should be expanded.

▶ Program

- Presenter: Moon, A-Young (Representative, PEACEMOMO)
- Moderator: Jeong, Yongtaek (HK Research Professor, Institute of Comparative Cultural Studies at Kyung Hee University)



◆ [40th Peace Studies Forum]

Is Middle East Peace a Distant Dream?: Iran's Crisis and the Voice of Civil Society

- Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2026, 17:00 – 18:30 (KST)
- Venue: Online Video Conference (ZOOM)
- Topic: Is Middle East Peace a Distant Dream?: Iran's Crisis and the Voice of Civil Society

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS at SNU) hosted the 40th Peace Studies Forum on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, under the theme of "Is Middle East Peace a Distant Dream?: Iran's Crisis and the Voice of Civil Society," inviting Koo, Gi Yeon, an HK professor at the Seoul National University Asia Center. The forum was chaired by Baik, Jiwoon, an HK professor at IPUS at SNU.

During this forum, Prof. Koo examined the recent war situation surrounding Iran not merely as an international political conflict, but from the perspective of the crisis within Iranian society and the voice of civil society. She analyzed the current conditions and limits of Middle East peace by focusing on the development of the war between Iran and the U.S./Israel, the Iranian political structure and the role of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), and the historical flow of Iranian civil society. In particular, she emphasized that when war and ceasefire negotiations are treated merely as matters of inter-state agreements, the experiences and demands of citizens living within them can be obscured. First, Prof. Koo explained the military and economic crisis Iran experienced following the war in June 2025. The Israeli 'Rising Lion' operation and the U.S. bombing of nuclear facilities in June 2025, along with the subsequent ceasefire, temporarily halted the war but left a severe economic shock on Iranian society. The depreciation of the rial, the restoration of sanctions, inflation, and soaring prices of food and medicine directly pressured citizens' lives, spreading the perception that the regime's diplomatic and nuclear lines had led to the ruin of people's livelihoods. Prof. Koo explained that this economic crisis led to strikes by Tehran bazaar merchants and nationwide protests in late 2025.

Next, she pointed out the changes in Iran's internal power structure after the second war in February 2026. The death of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and the succession of Mojtaba Khamenei were events that revealed the instability of the Iranian political system. However, rather than an immediate regime collapse, the military-led governance structure centered on the IRGC was strengthened. Prof. Koo analyzed that the IRGC is not a simple military organization but a core power institution deeply involved in politics, the economy, and security, and noted the possibility that the Iranian system will be reorganized around the IRGC after the war. She also explained that the conflicts between Iran and the surrounding Middle East region unfold within a structure where sectarian, security, energy, and international political issues are complexly intertwined. Iran has expanded its regional influence through the so-called 'Shiite Crescent Belt' connecting Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon, and its 'Axis of Resistance' strategy, which has deepened structural distrust with Sunni Gulf monarchies and Israel. As the possibility of a blockade of the Strait of Hormuz and attacks on the Gulf region was highlighted during the 2026 war process, the instability of the Middle East was revealed as a problem directly connected to the energy security of East Asia, including South Korea.

In the latter half of the presentation, the history and present of Iranian civil society were addressed. Prof. Koo described Iranian civil society as one that has accumulated experiences of bottom-up political mobilization since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. The 1999 Tehran University protests, the 2009 Green Movement, the 2017–2018 economic protests, the 2022 'Woman, Life, Freedom' protests, and the 2025–2026 nationwide protests were presented not as disconnected events, but as a continuous flow in which the subjects and demands of civil movements have gradually expanded. The demands for reform centered on students and the middle class expanded to include the working class, women, Generation Z, merchants, and all classes, and

the content of the demands deepened into electoral legitimacy, economic issues, physical self-determination, and criticism of the ideological foundations of the system.

Prof. Koo also noted that it is necessary to pay attention to the complex sentiments within Iranian civil society. In the phase of war, anti-American/anti-Israel sentiments and anti-regime sentiments coexist among Iranian citizens, and external attacks paradoxically trigger nationalistic cohesion. However, this does not translate into support for the Islamic regime. The presenter explained that civil society's resistance discourse, asserting "We are different from the regime," continues, and internal public opinion is being conveyed to the outside through Persian social media and diaspora networks. Iranian society is showing a divided public opinion landscape where support for the regime, demands for reform within the regime, and demands for fundamental change coexist, and she analyzed that the survival of the regime depends not on the absence of opposition but on the capacity to manage opposition.

Finally, Prof. Koo emphasized that the sustainability of Middle East peace does not depend simply on whether a ceasefire or a memorandum of understanding is signed. A ceasefire may be a suspension of an unresolved state rather than the end of a war, and various variables such as the nuclear issue, the Lebanon front, the strategies of Israel and the U.S., and the crisis of legitimacy within Iran still remain. The presenter pointed out that Iran's real crisis lies not only in external bombings but in the regime's legitimacy crisis, social disconnection, economic collapse, and the frustration of civil society. Therefore, she suggested that when discussing Middle East peace, one must look not only at inter-state negotiations but also at the dynamics within Iranian society and the voices of citizens. This forum was an opportunity to rethink the war and peace issues in the Middle East through the experiences and demands of civil society living within it, rather than just the macroscopic structure of international politics. Prof. Koo concluded her presentation by emphasizing that the question "Is Middle East peace a distant dream?" must ultimately lead to the question, "Peace for whom, whose peace?"

► Program

- Presenter: Koo, Gi Yeon (HK Professor, Seoul National University Asia Center)
- Moderator: Baik, Jiwoon (HK Professor, IPUS at SNU)



Peace Studies Seminar

The IPUS at SNU holds the "Peace Studies Seminar" to expand the horizons of peace humanities research and revitalize the education-research linkage system. The seminars are designed to invite domestic and international scholars who have been leading peace studies to share their experiences and achievements directly with the public.



The 61st IPUS Peace Studies Seminar

- Date: Friday, May 16, 2025, 7:00–8:30 p.m.
- Location: Youngone Hall, SNU Asia Center (Building 110, Room 210)
- Speaker: Young-jun Choi, Former Vice Minister of Unification
- Topic: The Background and Causes of the Division of the Korean Peninsula and Their Implications



The 62nd IPUS Peace Studies Seminar – Co-hosted with the International Relations Study Group

- Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026, 3:00 p.m.–
- Location: Room 308, Woosuk Economic Building (Building 222), Gwanak Campus, Seoul National University
- Topic: Transformation of the International Order and National Strategy

Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification

- Participating Agencies and Specific Projects
- Academic Conference on Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification

Seoul National University Initiative for Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification

Since 2015, Seoul National University has implemented the Initiative for Laying the Groundwork for Unification to strengthen its comprehensive and systematic capacity to address unification, one of the major concerns of the government and society, and thereby contribute to resolving this important national task.

In 2021, the initiative was renamed the Initiative for Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification and expanded to encompass a broader range of issues, including peace, human rights, and security. To ensure the continuity of its research programs, multi-year projects were selected in 2022 and 2023. Beginning in 2024, project-based programs were newly introduced to support research in the areas of expanding knowledge in preparation for unification, fostering human resources and providing unification education, building global networks, and promoting multilateral cooperation.



Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification

2025 Participating SNU Institutions and Specific Projects

Project Agency	Director	Name
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	Kim, Yong Il	Analysis of North Korea's Disaster Resilience Using Satellite Imagery: Focusing on Flood Damage
Institute of Construction and Environmental Engineering	Park, Yong-Sung	Coastal Erosion Analysis on North Korea's East Coast Using Satellite Imagery
Center for Educational Research	Mo, Kyung-Hwan	Reconstructing Peace Education for Civic Education: From Unification Discourse to Social Conflict Resolution
Graduate School of International Studies	Han, Jeong-Hoon	The EU's Security Policy under the Second von der Leyen Commission and Prospects for Peace on the Korean Peninsula
Graduate School of International Studies	Lee, Hyun-Tae	Analyzing the Impact of Strengthened North Korea–Russia Relations on North Korea–China Economic Cooperation
Institute of Green Bio Science & Technology	Ji, Seong-Tae	Implications of Agricultural Organization Development in Transition Economies for North Korea's Rural Reform
Research Institute of Agriculture and Life Sciences	Ahn, Dong-Hwan	Spatial Structure and Regional Economy of Rural Areas in North Korea
Research Institute of Agriculture and Life Sciences	Lim, Jeong-Bin	Future Agro-Ecological Zoning and Potential Agricultural Productivity of the Korean Peninsula Using FAO-GAEZ Data
Research Institute of Agriculture and Life Sciences	Kim, Kwang-Soo	Forecasting Suitable Areas for Corn and Alfalfa Cultivation to Support Sustainable Agriculture in North Korea
Center for Future Warfare Studies	Kim, Sang-Bae	North Korea's Cyber-Nuclear-AI Capabilities for Peacebuilding on the Korean Peninsula
Graduate School of Public Health	Yoo, Seung-Hyun	Public Health Challenges in North Korea from a Health Promotion Perspective
College of Education	Shin, Yoon-Jeong	Development of Intergroup Dialogue Programs for Youth and Effectiveness Assessment Using Multi-Modal Data
Asia Center	Kim, Tae-Kyun	Perceptions of North Korean Human Rights among African and Global South Nations
Research Institute of Energy and Resources	Park, Hyung-Dong	Utilization of Thermal Energy on the Korean Peninsula
College of Humanities	Kwon, Oh-Young	Discovery of Dangun's Tomb and the Shift in North Korea's Unification Policy
College of Humanities	Bang, Min-Ho	Literary Creation Workshop with Writers and the Public from Both Koreas
School of Dentistry	Myung, Hoon	The Role of Dental Services in the Social Integration of North Korean Defectors: Building an Academic Basis through Understanding Perceptions and Support Gaps between Defectors and South Korean Dental Professionals
School of Dentistry	Lee, Seung-Pyo	AI-Based Oral Health Improvement Project for North Korean Defectors: e-Um Health+
Center for Unification Medicine	Park, Sang-Min	Establishing a Foundation for Revising the Unification Medicine Textbook through Analysis of Recent Public Health Data in North Korea
Center for Unification Medicine	Moon, Jin-Soo	Development of a Smart Health Center Model for Monitoring Climate Change and Health Impacts in North and South Korea (Year 3)
The Korea Institute of Public Affairs	Park, Soon-Ae	Study on North Korea's Sustainable Development
Center for Constitutional and Unification Law	Lee, Hyo-Won	Normative Study on Statehood in South and North Korea through Constitutional System and Revisions
Institute of Environmental Planning	Jang, Soo-Eun	Estimating Traffic Volume on Major Roads in North Korea Using Satellite Imagery
Institute of Environmental Planning	Yoon, Soon-Jin	Household Energy Consumption and Renewable Energy Potential in North Korea: Focus on the Distribution of Home Appliances and Solar Panels
Institute of Environmental Planning	Lim, Justin Heejun	Thermal Comfort Analysis and Climate Adaptation Strategies for Urban Spaces in North Korea

Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification

2026 Participating SNU Institutions and Specific Projects

Project Agency	Director	Name
College of Nursing	Jeong, Hyeong-Gu	Development and Evaluation of an AI-Based Personalized Chatbot System to Support the Mental Health of North Korean Defectors
College of Engineering	Kwon, Young-Sang	An Empirical Study on the Correlation between Gramsci's Theory of Hegemony and North Korean Urban Landscapes Using Digital Twin Technology: Focusing on 3D Spatial Analysis of Pyongyang and the Development of a Virtual Reality (VR) Experience Platform
College of Engineering	Kim, Yong Il	Analyzing Urban Transformation in North Korea Using Time-Series Satellite Imagery: Focusing on Spatial Expansion, Functional Reorganization, and Thermal Environment Change
Graduate School of International Studies	Lee, Hyun-Tae	Reconfiguring the Regional Economy of the Russian Far East and the Northern Korean Peninsula: Structural Implications of Deepening North Korea–China–Russia Cooperation
Institute for Korean Regional Studies	Park, Su-Jin	Developing Textbooks for Korean Peninsula Studies: Building an Educational Platform for an Integrated Understanding of the Korean Peninsula's Nature, Society, History, and Future—Beyond the Dichotomy
Institute of Green Bio Science & Technology	Ji, Seong-Tae	A Study on Support Models for North Korea's Rice Industry through International Development Cooperation
Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology	Lim, Jeong-Bin	Developing a Forecasting Model for Changes in Agricultural Production in South and North Korea Due to Climate Change and Analyzing Its Economic Effects
Agricultural Life Science Research Institute	Kim, Kwang-Soo	Forecasting Suitable Areas for Rice and Wheat Cultivation to Secure Food Security in North Korea
Center for Future Warfare Studies	Kim, Sang-Bae	The South–North Korea AI-Security Nexus and Korean Peninsula Geopolitics for Peacebuilding on the Korean Peninsula
Graduate School of Public Health	Yoo, Seung-Hyun	A Multifaceted Analysis of Health Promotion Content in North Korean Everyday-Life Videos: An Integrated Review of Content and Context
Institute of North Korean and Foreign Agriculture	Ahn, Dong-Hwan	A Study on North Korea's Balanced Regional Development Policy and Changes in the Spatial Structure of Rural Areas
College of Social Sciences	Ahn, Doo-Hwan	War and Peace in History
College of Social Sciences	Shin, Hae-Ran	The Everyday Construction of Regional Peace in East Asia: Technology-Mediated Migrants' Sense of Borders
College of Social Sciences	Lee, Jung-Hwan	The Collapse of the Rules-Based International Order and the Future of the Peace Regime on the Korean Peninsula
College of Social Sciences	Kim, Jong-Hak	Multilateral Cooperation on Ecology, Environment, and Health and Trust-Building Mechanisms between South and North Korea
Institute for Social Development Studies	Lim, Dong-Kyun	An Age of Isolation, Social Conditions for Peaceful Unification: Korean Youth's Social Relationships and Perceptions of Unification's Future
College of Human Ecology	Jin, Mee-Jeong	Thirty Years of North Korean Defector History: Similarities and Differences between the Middle-Aged First Generation and the Youth 1.5/Second Generation
College of Human Ecology	Park, Ju-Yeon	Integrating and Standardizing Clothing-Related Terminology in South and North Korea: Applications for Resettlement Support and School Education
College of Humanities	Bang, Min-Ho	2026 Literary Creation Workshop Beyond Borders: A Meeting of Writers and Citizens from South and North Korea (2nd Session)
Graduate School of Dentistry	Lim, Jeong-Jun	Developing Inclusive Dental Clinical Guidelines for North Korean Defectors and Social Minorities
Center for Unification Medicine	Park, Sang-Min	A Monthly Analysis of Trends in North Korean Healthcare and Korean Peninsula Health Security
Center for Unification Medicine	Moon, Jin-Soo	Operating Specialized Training to Raise Awareness of Unification Medicine and Korean Peninsula Health Security
Center for Constitutional and Unification Law	Lee, Hyo-Won	Reorganizing the Legal Systems of South and North Korea and Exploring Ways to Secure Normative Authority
Institute of Environmental Planning	Jang, Soo-Eun	Identifying Traffic Demand Characteristics of Hub Cities in North Korea's Road Network Using Satellite Imagery
Institute of Environmental Planning	Yoon, Soon-Jin	North Korea's Educational Informatization and Modernization and School Energy Conditions: Educational Experiences and the Right to Learn at Senior Middle Schools

Academic
Conferences

Center
for Unification Studie

Center for
Peace Studies

Laying the Groundwork for
Peace and Unification

Education and
Outreach

Publication

Joint Academic Conference of the Initiative for Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification

The Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University, directed by Kim Beom-soo, held the 11th Joint Academic Conference of the Initiative for Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification on March 13, 2026.

Through the Initiative for Laying the Groundwork for Peace and Unification, the Institute has established a platform that brings together diverse academic disciplines to participate in research on unification and peace. Over the 11 years since the initiative was launched in 2015, the Institute has worked to strengthen the foundations of unification studies and peace studies and to contribute to addressing the national tasks of peace and unification on the Korean Peninsula.

A total of 25 project teams participated in the 2025 initiative and presented the results of their research conducted over the preceding year at the joint academic conference.

The conference began with an opening ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2026, on the fifth floor of the Global Education Center for Engineers (Building 38) at Seoul National University's Gwanak Campus. The morning sessions were held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by the afternoon sessions from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Research findings from all 25 participating teams were presented.



IPUS Annual Report 2025-2026

Education and Outreach

- National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula
- 24th Unification Academy
- 13th Peace Academy
- 3rd World Korean Advanced Leadership Program for Unification and Peace
- 5th Siheung Citizen Peace School
- 5th Siheung Leaders' Academy

National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula

To fulfill its social responsibilities as a national university, Seoul National University has established the <National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> with eight regional-based national universities (Kangwon National University, Pusan National University, Jeonbuk National University, Chungnam National University, Jeju National University, Chonnam National University, Kyungpook National University, and Gyeongsang National University) to conduct education and research projects in preparation for an era of peace on the Korean Peninsula. The IPUS at SNU is participating in the <National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> on behalf of Seoul National University and is leading joint research and education projects to realize peace on the Korean Peninsula and revitalize inter-Korean exchange and cooperation. The <National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> plans to continue the "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on the Korean Peninsula," the "Joint Education Center for Unification and Peace," and the "Council for Network Building and Sustainable Development" as subprojects.

| Purpose |

- To share the unification and peace education and research that national universities have been doing for peace on the Korean Peninsula and explore ways to cooperate with them.
- To propose feasible inter-Korean exchange and cooperation projects for lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula, through which national and public universities can contribute to government policies and actively communicate with civil society and the international community.

| Detailed Projects |

1. Joint Research on setting "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the Korean Peninsula"

- The Joint research team held expert meetings with UN ESCAP, UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey(MICS), and the High Level Political Forum(HLPF) under UN ECOSOC.
- 2019: Created templates for Peace (Goal 16) and Partnership (Goal 17) of the SDGs.
- 2020: Selected healthcare, education, and forest greening as specific areas of the SDGs for research, conducting the research.
- 2021: Conducted research centered on poverty, gender, economic growth, and inequality among the SDGs goals.
- 2022: Conducted research on the remaining goals of the SDGs, focusing on poverty, water, infrastructure, cities, inequalities, climate and environment, analyzing all of the SDGs goals and completing the template.

2. Joint Research on the "Politics of Conflict Resolution for Realizing Peace"

- Explored practical ways to resolve various conflicts faced by Korean society internally and externally, such as ideological conflicts, distributional conflicts, cultural conflicts, trade disputes, and arms-race.

3. Joint Research on the "Peace and Democracy"

- Conducted macro-level research on the relationship between regimes and peace, noting that despite the global spread of democracy, social conflicts are increasing both internationally and domestically.

4. Establishment and Operation of the Joint Education Center for Unification and Peace

- Each university operated its own program by organizing lecturers in various field such as engineering, civil engineering, education, science, and nutrition, as well as social science fields such as political science, economics, and geography.

5. Operation of a Council for Network Establishment and Sustainable Development

- Designed and operated research and forum projects while overseeing all network projects.

| History |

Date	Contents
2023.11.17.	Joint Conference of KAURINU: Current Status and Challenges of University's Education and Research on Korean Unification and Peace in the New Cold War Era
2023.08.16.-19.	Held 2023 National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula Summer Camp
2022.11.20.-21.	Held Jeju Peace Trip at Pusan National University
2022.10.04.	Held the 10th Peace Academy at Seoul National University
2022.08.26.	<National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> Summer Conference of the Korean Political Science Association:"Peace and Democracy"(Roundtable)
2022.08.17.-19.	Held the 3rd East Sea Peace School
2022.05.06.-12.04.	Held the Honam Region Peace and Unification Academy at Jeonbuk National University
2022.04.05.	Held the 21st Unification Academy at Seoul National University
2022.02.18.	<National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> Joint Conference:"Democracy and Peace on the Korean Peninsula"
2021.10.05.	Held the 9th Peace Academy at Seoul National University
2021.08.25.-27.	Held the 2nd East Sea Peace School
2021.04.06.	Held the 20th Unification Academy at Seoul National University
2021.02.03.	<National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> Annual General Meeting and Academic Conference:"Education and Research for Lasting Peace on the Korean Peninsula"
2020.10.06.	Held the 8th Peace Academy at Seoul National University
2020.07.14.	Jeju National University's Participation in the <National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula>
2020.05.30.	<National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> Academic Conference: "SDGs Indicators and Development Strategies for the Korean Peninsula"

Date	Contents
2020.02.13.	Held Annual General Meeting of <National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> Council
2020.02.13.	<National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> Academic Conference: "Setting SDGs Indicators for the Korean Peninsula and the Challenges of Inter-Korean Cooperation"
2020.02.04.	Discussed cooperation with UNICEF MICS, UN HLPF, and the Permanent Mission of Korea to the United Nations
Date	Contents
2020.01.19.	Discussed North Korea's SDGs progress and cooperation with UN ESCAP
2019.10.01.	Held the 7th Peace Academy at Seoul National University
2019.09.30.	Held the Peace Academy at Jeonbuk National University
2019.09.26.	Held the Peace Academy at Pusan National University
2019.06.25.	Held the inaugural conference of the <National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula>: "Exploring the Direction of National Universities Contribution to Peace on Korean Peninsula"
2019.06.01.	Launched <National University Network for Peace in Korean Peninsula> project
2019.05.24.	Operational Meeting held

24th Unification Academy

The **IPUS Unification Academy**, which began in 2007 and is celebrating its 24th session this year, is an educational program designed to share research findings on North Korea and unification with the public, and to boost policy and academic interest and understanding of North Korea and unification among undergraduate students, graduate students, and general citizens.

The 24th Unification Academy, held as a seven-week program from April 7 to May 26, 2026, engaged participants with a diverse array of topics. The curriculum covered not only pressing current affairs—such as the prospects for inter-Korean relations, Middle Eastern geopolitics surrounding the US-Iran war, and the deployment of North Korean troops to Russia—but also cultural and social themes, including understanding North Korean society through literature and the realities of the North Korean defectors community.

a total of 72 participants enrolled in this academy, with 34 successfully completing the program. The cohort demonstrated a well-balanced distribution between students and the general public, comprising undergraduates (21%), graduate students (33%), and general citizens (46%).

Among the students, social sciences was the most common major at 44%, followed by science and engineering (21%), humanities and other fields (13%), and peace and unification studies (10%). For the general citizens, professionals accounted for 30% of the occupations, with the remainder consisting of general corporate workers and freelancers.

In terms of age distribution, participants in their 20s formed the largest group at 39%, followed by those in their 50s and above (24%), 40s (22%), and 30s (15%)."

Program

Lecture 1. The Lee Jae-myung Administration's Vision for Peaceful Coexistence on the Korean Peninsula and the Resetting of Inter-Korean Relations Changsu, Kim (Democratic Party of Korea)

Lecture 2. The Future of South Korea's Foreign Policy in a Post-Unipolar World Taesuh, Cha (Seoul National University)

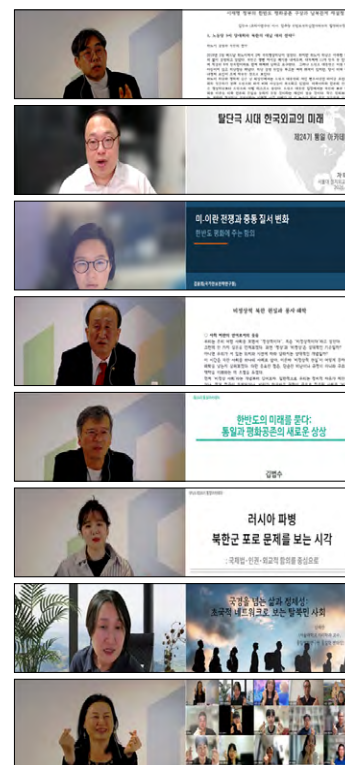
Lecture 3. The US-Iran War and Changes in the Middle East Order: Strategic Implications for Peace on the Korean Peninsula Yoonhee, Kim (Institute for National Security Strategy)

Lecture 4. Reality and Laughter in North Korean Literature: Understanding North Korean Society Through Realism and Humor Myeonghak, Do (Novelist)

Lecture 5. Exploring the Future of the Korean Peninsula: New Visions for Unification and Peaceful Coexistence Bumsoo, Kim (Director, IPUS at SNU)

Lecture 6. Perspectives on the Issue of North Korean POWs Deployed to Russia Taewon, Kim (Korea Institute for National Unification)

Lecture 7. Lives and Identities Across Borders: Exploring the North Korean Defectors Community Through Transnational Networks Hyeran, Shin (Seoul National University)



13th Peace Academy

The **IPUS Peace Academy**, which first launched in 2013 and is now in its **13th year**, is an educational program. It aims to share research findings in peace humanities with the public and facilitate communication among students, the general public, and field activists.

The **13th Peace Academy**, held as a seven-week program from October 21 to December 2, 2025, engaged participants with a diverse array of topics under the theme, **'The Era of War: Transformative Imagination for Peace.'** The curriculum covered pressing geopolitical issues such as the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on the Korean Peninsula, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the ROK-U.S. alliance during the second Trump administration. It also explored broader themes, including memories of violence and the future of peace commemoration, as well as transitions to prepare for the climate crisis era.

Selected through a dedicated screening process, a total of 72 participants enrolled in this academy, with 52 successfully completing the program. The cohort demonstrated a well-balanced distribution between students and the general public, comprising undergraduates (21%), graduate students (35%), and general citizens (44%). Among the students, social sciences was the most common major at 65%, followed by science and engineering

(15%), humanities (10%), and other fields (10%). For the general citizens, professionals accounted for 34% of the occupations, religious and civic organization members for 22%, and others for 44%.

In terms of age distribution, participants in their 20s and those in their 50s and above formed the largest groups, each accounting for 36%, followed by those in their 40s (15.3%) and 30s (12.5%).



Program

- Lecture 1.** Interconnected Crises: From the War in Ukraine to the Nuclear Issue on the Korean Peninsula Seung-wook, Baek (Chung-Ang University)
- Lecture 2.** The Two-State Solution for Israel and Palestine and Middle East Peace Mi-Jeong, Hong (Dankook University)
- Lecture 3.** The Geopolitics of Peace on the Korean Peninsula: Trumpism and the ROK-U.S. Alliance Sung-ho, Shin (GSIS at SNU)
- Lecture 4.** '101 Ways 'The Dead Save the Living': The Future of Memories of Violence and Peace Commemoration Dongki, Lee (Kangwon National University)
- Lecture 5.** Green Transition: The Path to Global Peace Demanded by the Climate Crisis Era Sunjin, Yun (Seoul National University)
- Lecture 6.** The Peace Initiative of Bandung and the Global South Jiwoon, Baik (IPUS at SNU)
- Lecture 7.** Transformative Thinking for Peace on the Korean Peninsula Bumsoo, Kim (Director, IPUS at SNU)

3rd World Korean Advanced Leadership Program for Unification and Peace

<World Korean Advanced Leadership Program for Unification and Peace> (WK-ALPUP) is an educational program for Koreans around the world to foster domestic and international talents with Korean identity and global leadership. Launched in 2023, the program operates in a hybrid format, blending in-person and online lectures to accommodate overseas Koreans. Participants have included key figures from the global Korean diaspora interested in Korean peninsula unification and world peace, as well as South Korean leaders residing domestically who can foster communication within the global Korean community and contribute to the spread of the Korean Wave.

The third term, which began in 2025, consisted of 30 lectures covering topics such as inter-Korean relations during a period of great transformation, peace in Northeast Asia and inter-Korean relations, national identity and global citizenship, and culture, arts, and overseas Koreans. All participants attended and engaged in lectures and networking sessions while staying at the Hoam Faculty House on Seoul National University's Gwanak Campus during two intensive in-person sessions: the first from September 26-29, 2025, and the second from February 7-10, 2026. The third term of the program concluded with a graduation ceremony held at the Marronnier Hall of the Hoam Faculty House on February 10, 2026 (Tuesday), the final day of the second intensive in-person session.

Out of 39 participants, 39 successfully met the program's completion requirements, including an attendance rate of over 80%, and received completion certificates in the name of the President of Seoul National University. The third term garnered significant positive feedback, with over 90% of participants expressing satisfaction with both the intensive in-person and online lectures. The graduation ceremony also included a presentation of development funds from the second-term alumni association.



Siheung Academy

In 2020, in compliance with the relocation of the Siheung campus, the IPUS at SNU launched the <Siheung Academy> in cooperation with the city of Siheung. The <Siheung Academy> aims to: 1) contribute to the formation of a healthy and future-oriented peace sensitivity and unification consciousness among Siheung citizens by utilizing the institute's accumulated experience and network in unification and peace education; 2) establish a virtuous cycle of knowledge and daily life, research and practice, through direct communication between the university and the citizens of the local government; and 3) realize win-win cooperation with the university's public service and the local government. The <Siheung Academy> consists of the Siheung Citizens' Peace School (1st semester) for general citizens and the Siheung Leaders' Academy (2nd semester) for local leaders.

The 5th Siheung Citizens' Peace School: My Life, My Book—Stories from Distinguished Speakers

Held over seven weeks from April to May 2025 under the theme "My Life, My Book—Stories from Distinguished Speakers," the 5th Siheung Citizens' Peace School offered public lectures tailored to a general audience. Prominent figures from various fields in Korea—including poet Jeong Ho-seung, Purme Foundation President Baek Kyung-hak, and Uijeongbu District Court Presiding Judge Lim Tae-hyeok—introduced the books that had the greatest influence on their lives.

By engaging with classic works on peace through the speakers' personal experiences, the program sought to provide Siheung citizens with an opportunity to understand the seemingly abstract value of peace in a more concrete and accessible way.



The 5th Siheung Leaders Academy: Trump 2.0 and the Great Transformation of the Global Order

Held from October to November 2025 under the theme "Trump 2.0 and the Great Transformation of the Global Order," the 5th Siheung Leaders Academy provided an opportunity to examine the rapid changes in the international order brought about by Donald Trump's return to power and the war in Ukraine.

Leading experts from various fields—including Park Hyun-do, Professor at the Institute for Euro-MENA Studies at Sogang University; Chun Chaesung, Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Seoul National University; and Kim Jong-dae, former member of the National Assembly—delivered in-depth lectures on such topics as the Iran-Israel conflict, changes in U.S. politics and global hegemony, and the evolving paradigm of warfare.



Publication

- Unification Studies Series
- Asian Journal of Peacebuilding
- Journal of Peace and Unification Studies
- IPUS HORIZON
- ROK-US POLICY BRIEF

Unification Studies Series

The research published at IPUS is composed of 3 parts, the 'Unification Studies General Collection,' the 'New Research in Unification Studies' and the 'Unification Research Series.' There have been 33 editions of the 'Unification Studies General Collection,' 7 editions of the 'New Research in Unification Studies,' and 66 editions of the 'Unification Research Series.'

- Unification Studies General Collection** A series of general works that cross disciplinary boundaries and set a research agenda for unification studies.
- New Research in Unification Studies** A series of interdisciplinary works on the issues to be considered in the reunification process and North Korea studies.
- Unification Research Series** Research series on the results of annual surveys conducted by the IPUS, such as the Unification Perception Survey, the Inter-Korean Integration Index, and the North Korean Unification Perception Survey and issues related to unification and North Korea.

«Unification Studies Series» 2007–2025 Publication List

<Unification Studies General Collection>	
•	『The Formation of North Korean System and the International Politics of the Korean Peninsula』 (Kim Se Kyun and 7 others, Seoul National University Press, 2007).
•	『North Korean Industrial Development and Inter-Korean Cooperation Plan』 (Park Sam Ock and 3 others, Seoul National University Press, 2007).
•	『North Korean Defector Families' Adjustment and Psychological Integration』 (Lee Soon-Hyung and 3 others, Seoul National University Press, 2007).
•	『A Comparative Study on the Environmental Policies of North and South Korea 1』 (Youn Yeo-Chang and 6 others, Seoul National University Press, 2008).
•	『A Comparative Study on the Environmental Policies of North and South Korea 2』 (Kim Jung-Wook and 6 others, Seoul National University Press, 2008).
•	『Inter-Korean Integration Index, 1989 - 2007』 (Park Myoung-Kyu, Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Jeong Eun-Mi, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2009).
•	『Child Nutrition in a Unified Korea』 (Lee Yeon-Sook and 3 others, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2010).
•	『Confrontation Between North Korea and the United States/ Confrontation in the Post-Cold War』 (Chang Dal-joong and 2 others, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2011).
•	『Networks in World Politics』 (Kim Sangbae, Ha Young-Sun, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2011).
•	『The Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League and the Korean Democratic Women's Alliance』 (Lee On-Juk, & Lee In-Jeong, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2010).
•	『Unification Broadcasting in a Multi-Platform, Multi-Channel Era』

(Yoon Seok-Min and 4 others, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2011).

- 『Looking at 20 Years of German Unification Through Basic Data』
(Lim Hong Bae, Song Tae-Soo, Chung Byung Kee, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2011).
- 『Work Relations and Communication of North Korean Defectors』
(Lee Soon-Hyung, Kim Chang Dae, Jin MiJung, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2011).
- 『Research on North Korea's North Korean Language Dictionary』
(Kwon Youngil, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2012).
- 『Inter-Korean Relations Through Judicial Precedents』
(Lee Hyo Won, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2012).
- 『The Market and Government in the North Korean Economy』
(Yang Moon-Soo & Kim Byung-Yeon, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2012).
- 『Unification Agricultural Growth Report』
(Choi Jeong-nam, Kim Wan-Bae, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2012).
- 『The Structure and Kinetics of Inter-Korean Exchange Cooperation and Governance』
(Jung Keun-Sik, Jeong Eun-Mi, Kang Dong Wan, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2012).
- 『German Unification & Women』
(Han Jeong-suk, Hong Chan-suk, Lee Jae-won, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2012).
- 『North Korean Society and Refracted Modernity: Population, Nation, and the Lives of Inhabitants』
(Park Kyung-suk, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2013).
- 『North Korean Defector Youths and South Korean Youths' Morals, Legal Consciousness and Ideas of Authority』
(Lee Sun-hyeong, Kim Chang-dae, Jin Mi-jeong, 2014).
- 『Uniformization of North and South Korean Vocabulary』 (Kwon Jae-il, 2014).
- 『Views on Unification in the Young Generations of North and South Korea』
(Kang Won-taek, Lee Jae-chol, Cho Jin-man, Han Jeong-taek, Kim Sae-mi, 2015).
- 『Religious Experiences of North Korean Defectors』 (Lee Sun-hyeong, Choi Yeon-sil, Jin Mi-jeong, 2015).
- 『Economic Adaptation of Female North Korean Defectors』 (Jeong Jin-hwa, Son Sang-hui, 2015).
- 『Sports and Leisure in North Korea』 (Na Yeong-il, Heon Ju, Ahn Ji-ho, Shin Young-jin, Jin Hyeon-ju, Seong Je-hun, 2016).
- 『Chinese Trade and Investment in North Korea/ Survey of Local Businesses in Dandong』
(Kim Beong-Yeon, Jeong Seung-ho, 2015).
- 『Diseases and Disease Control in North Korea』
(Kim Seok-ju, Lee Wang-jae, Park Sang-min, Lee Hye-won, Choi Hui-ran, 2015).
- 『Analysis of North Korean Mathematics Research』 (Kim Do-han, Shin Jeong-sun, 2016).
- 『Historical Sociology of Korean War Photographs』 (Jeong Geun-shik, Kang Seong-hyun, 2016).
- 『Unification Medicine: North and South Korean Medical Cooperation and Integration』
(Shin Hee-young, Lee Hye-won, Ahn Kyungsoo, Ahn Hyung-soon, Lim Ah-young, Jeon Ji-eun, Choi So-young, 2017).
- 『The Revisionist State North Korea』 (Lee Jung-Chul, Ahn Kyung-mo, Jang Chul-woon, Choi Yong-hwan, Lee Jongmin, Jung Eun-mi, Jeon Young-sun, Kang Hye-seok, Kang Ho-je, Parkyoungsa, 2024)
- 『Eighty Years after Liberation: The Formation and Transformation of State and National Identities in Korea』 (Kim Bumsoo, Jeon Jae Ho, Hyun Jaehwan, Chung Youngchul, Kang Hyesuk, Park Myung Lim, Kim Philo, Hahn Monica, Kim Sung Kyung, Kim Yae Rim, 2025)
- 『Introduction to Health and Unification Studies 2.0』 (Moon Jin Soo, Park Sang Min, Jeon Ji Eun, Yu Chan, Kim Ju Won, 2026)

<New Research in Unification Studies>

- 『Socio-economic Changes in North Korea: The Rise of the Informal Sector and the Change of Hierarchy』
(Lee Seung-hoon, Hong Doo-seung, Seoul National University Press, 2007).
- 『Post-Unification Literature Education』 (Kim Dae-haeng, Seoul National University Press, 2008).
- 『Analysis of Drought Characteristics in North Korea and Preparation of Drought Maps』
(Choi Jin-young, Seoul National University Press, 2008).
- 『North Korea's Transitional System and Social Policy Challenges』
(Lim Hyeon-jin, Jeong Young-chol, Seoul National University Press, 2008).
- 『Disintegration and Reconstruction of North Korean Defector Families』
(Lee Soon-hyung, Kim Chang-dae, Jin Mi-jeong, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2009).
- 『Going Back Down the Blocked Road: An Analysis of Inter-Korean Networks』
(Hahn Shin-gap, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2013).
- 『National Unification and Conflict in Multicultural Society』
(Choi Yoon-young, Seoul National University Publishing and Cultural Center, 2016).

<Unification Research Series>

- 『The North Korean Diaspora』
(Park Myoung-Kyu, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Su Am, Song Young Hoon, Yang Un Chol, 2011).
- 『The Process of Establishing a Succession Regime for North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un』
(Park MyoungKyu, Chun Hyun Jin and 4 others, 2011).
- 『2011 Unification Perception Survey』
(Park Myoung-Kyu, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kang Won-Taek, Jeong Eun-Mi, Lee Sang Shin, Park Jeong Ran, 2011).
- 『2012 Unification Perception Survey』 (Park Myoung-Kyu, Kang Won-Taek, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Song Young Hoon, Lee Soo Jeong, Jang Yong Suk, 2012).
- 『Internationalization of North Korea 2017』
(Park Myoung-Kyu, Chun Chaesung, Kim Byung-Yeon, Jang Yong Suk, Song Young Hoon, 2013).
- 『Changes in the Inter-Korean Integration Index 2008-2013』
(Park Myoung-Kyu, Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Jeong Eun-Mi, 2013).
- 『2013 Unification Perceptions Survey』
(Park Myoung-Kyu, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Song, Young Hoon, Jang Yong Suk, Jeong Eun-Mi, 2013).
- 『North Korean Residents' Unification Perceptions 2008 - 2013: Asking North Korean Defectors』
(Song Young Hoon, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Park Myoung-Kyu, 2014).
- 『Social Fluctuations in North Korea 2012-2013: Marketization, Income Differentiation, and Inequality』
(Park Myoung-Kyu, Jang Yong Suk, Jeong Eun-Mi, Song Young Hoon, 2014).
- 『2014 Unification Perception Survey』 (Park Myoung-Kyu, Kang Won-Taek, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Byoungjo, Song Young Hoon, Jang Yong Suk, Jeong Eun-Mi, 2014).
- 『North Koreans' Unification Perception Survey 2014』
(Jeong Eun-Mi, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Park MyoungKyu, Song Young Hoon, 2015).
- 『North Korea Social Changes 2014_Marketization, Inequality, and Economic Reform』
(Jang Yong Suk, Jeong Eun-Mi, Park Myoung-Kyu, 2015).

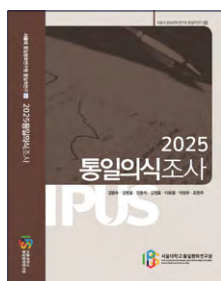
- 『2015 Unification Perception Survey』 (Park Myoung-Kyu, Jeong Eun-Mi, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Jang Yong Suk, Choi Gyubin, Kim Byoungjo, Kang Won-Taek, Hwang Jung-Mi, 2016).
- 『Planning of Spatial Peace and the Unification Project on the Korean Peninsula』 (Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Byung-Yeon, Park Myoung-Kyu et.al, 2015).
- 『North Koreans' Unification Perception Survey 2015』 (Jeong Eun-Mi, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Park MyoungKyu, Choi Gyubin, 2016).
- 『North Korean Human Rights: Crafting a More Effective Framework』 (Suh Bo-hyuk, 2016).
- 『The Cultural Politics of War Memory and Memorial』 (Jung Keun-Sik, 2016).
- 『North Korea Social Changes 2015: Marketization, Informatization, and Social Differentiation』 (Jang Yong Suk, Jeong Eun-Mi, Park Myoung-Kyu, Kim Kyung Min, 2016).
- 『2016 Inter-Korean Integration Index』 (Jung Keun-Sik, Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Jeong Eun-Mi, Jang Yong Suk, Lee Jongmin, Kim Kyung Min, Ahn So Yeon, 2016).
- 『2016 Unification Perception Survey』 (Jung Keun-Sik, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Jang Yong Suk, Chung DongJoon, Choi Gyubin, Kim Byoungjo, Song Young Hoon, Hwang Jung-Mi, Hwang Chang Hyun, 2017).
- 『North Korea Residents' Unification Perceptions 2016』 (Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Chung, Dong-Joon, Jung Keun-Sik, Chun Kyung Hyo, Choi Gyubin, Hwang Chang Hyun, 2017).
- 『Social Fluctuations in North Korea 2016_Marketization, Informatization, Social Differentiation』 (Jang Yong Suk, Jeong Eun-Mi, Kim Kyung Min, 2017).
- 『Discussion of Unification and Peace Policy in Transition: Young People Ask and the Elders Answer』 (Jeong Se-hyun, Yoon Youngkwan, Song Min Sun, Hong Seok-Hyun, Kim Tae-young, 2017).
- 『Social Fluctuations in North Korea 2016_Marketization, Informatization, Social Differentiation』 (Jang Yong Suk, Jeong Eun-Mi, Kim Kyung Min, 2017).
- 『2016 Unification Perception Survey』 (in English) (Jung Keun-Sik, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Jang Yong Suk, Chung Dong-Joon, Choi Gyubin, Kim Byongjo, Song Young Hoon, Hwang Jung-Mi, Hwang Chang Hyun, 2017).
- 『Images of North Korea in China』 (Park Myoung-Kyu, Paek Ji Un, Lee Jeong Hun, Joo Yun Jeong, Kim Ran, Kim Seong Un, Lee Seong Hyun, Park Seon Young, 2017).
- 『2017 Inter-Korean Integration Index』 (Jo Dong-Joon, Kim Byung-Yeon, Chun Ja Hyun, Kim Hak-Jae, Ahn Soyeon, Lee Jongmin, Kim Kyung Min, 2017).
- 『2017 Unification Perception Survey』 (Jung Keun-Sik, Kim Sun, Moon In-Chul, Song Young Hoon, Chung Dong-Joon, Jo Dong-Joon, Chun Ja Hyun, Hwang Jung-Mi, Kim Hee-Jung, Lee Jeong Oak, Lim Soo Jin, 2017).
- 『North Korean Residents' Unification Perceptions 2017』 (Chung Dong-Joon, Jung Keun-Sik, Jo Dong-Joon, Suh Bo-hyuk, Chun Kyung Hyo, Moon In-Chul, Lee Jeong Oak, 2017).
- 『Social Fluctuations in North Korea 2017』 (Jung Keun-Sik, Jo Seong Eun, Chun Ja Hyun, Hwang Jung-Mi, Cho Yongshin, 2017).
- 『2018 Inter-Korean Integration Index』 (Chun Kyung Hyo, Jo Dong-Joon, Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Hak-Jae, Ahn Soyeon, Lee Jongmin, Cho Yongshin, 2019).
- 『2018 Unification Perception Survey』 (Chung Dong-Joon, Kim Sun, Kim Hee-Jung, Na Yong Woo, Moon InChul, Song Young Hoon, Choi Gyubin, Leem Kyung Hoon, Lee Jeong Oak, 2019).
- 『North Korean Residents' Unification Perceptions 2018』 (Chung Dong-Joon, Chun Kyung Hyo, Moon InChul, Eom Hyun Suk, Jo Dong-Joon, Leem Kyung Hoon, Lee Jeong Oak, 2019).
- 『Social Fluctuations in North Korea 2018』

(Chun Kyung Hyo, Kim Il Han, Jo Seong Eun, Choi Kyung Hee, Leem Kyung Hoon, Cho Yongshin, 2019).

- 『Unification Perception Survey 2019』 (Kim Hak-Jae, Kang Chae Yeon, Kim Bumsoo, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Hee Jung, Lee Sung Woo, Choi Gyubin, Leem Kyung Hoon, Cho Yongshin, 2020).
- 『The North Korean People's Unification Perception Survey 2019』 (Kim Hak-Jae, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Moon In Chul, Eom Hyun Suk, Jo Dong-Joon, Chun Kyung Hyo, Leem Kyung Hoon, Cho Yongshin, 2020).
- 『Inter-Korean Integration Index 2019』 (An Dong Hwan, Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Hak-Jae, Chun Kyung Hyo, Lee Jongmin, Jo Yong Shin, Hwang Chang Hyun, 2020).
- 『Unification Perception Survey 2020』 (Kim Bumsoo, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Hak-Jae, Kim Hee Jung, Park Won-ho, Lee Jongmin, Choi Gyubin, Leem Kyung Hoon, Choi Hyun Jung, 2021).
- 『The North Korean Unification Perception Survey 2020』 (Kim Hak-Jae, Eom Hyun Suk, Moon In Chul, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Chun Kyung Hyo, Jo Dong-Joon, Leem Kyung Hoon, Choi Hyun Jung, 2021).
- 『North Korean Social Change: Marketization, Informatization, Social Fragmentation, and Social Security 2020』 (Kim Hak-Jae, Jeong Eun Mi, Lee Jongmin, Park Sang Min, Lee Hye-won, Kim Yoo Yeon. Choi Eun Jeong, Leem Kyung Hoon, Choi Hyun Jung, 2021).
- 『Inter-Korean Integration Index 2020』 (Kim Bumsoo, Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Hak-Jae, Lee Kyungsoo, Cho Yongshin, Kim Yoo Yeon, Choi Hyun Jung, 2021).
- 『Inter-Korean Integration Index 2021』 (Kim Bumsoo, Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Hak-Jae, Lee Kyungsoo, Cho Yongshin, Kim Minji, Kwon Ji Ae, 2021).
- 『Unification Perception Survey 2021』 (Kim Bumsoo, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim HakJae, Lee Sung Woo, Choi Eunyoung, Hwang Suhwan, Choi Hyun Jung, 2022).
- 『North Korean Social Change 2012-2020』 (Kim Yoo Yeon, Park Sang Min, Lee Hye-won, Song Wonjun, Lee Jongmin, Jeong Eun Mi, Lee Jung-Chul, 2022).
- 『10 years of Kim Jong-un's rule, the North Korean Unification Perception Survey』 (Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Hak-Jae, Song Wonjun, Choi Eunyoung, Lee Jung-Chul, 2022).
- 『Unification Perception Survey 2022』 (Kim Bumsoo, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Sung-Hee, Kim Hak-Jae, Lee Sung Woo, Choi Eunyoung, Hwang Suhwan, Kim Minji, 2022).
- 『Inter-Korean Integration Index 2022』 (Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Hak-Jae, Cho Yongshin, Shin Inseok, Kwon Ji Ae, 2023).
- 『Unification Perception Survey 2023』 (Kim Bumsoo, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Seong-Hee, Kim Hak-Jae, Lee Sung Woo, Cho Yongshin, Cho Hyun Joo, Kim Minji, 2023).
- 『Inter-Korean Integration Index 2023』 (Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Kim Byung-Yeon, Kim Hak-Jae, Cho Yongshin, Shin Inseok, Kwon Ji Ae, 2024).
- 『Unification Perception Survey 2024』 (Kim Bumsoo, Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Chang Yong Seok, Choi Eun Young, Hwang Soohwan, Lee Sung Woo, Kim Taek Bin, Kim Minji, 2024).
- 『Inter-Korean Integration Index 2024』 (Kim Philo [Byoung-Ro], Cho Yongshin, Shin Inseok, Kwon Ji Ae, 2024).
- 『Inter-Korean Integration Index 2025』 (Kim Byung-ro, Kim Young-ho, Lee Yu-cheol, and Shin In-seok, 2025)
- 『Unification Perception Survey 2025』 (Kim Beom-soo, Kim Byung-ro, Jang Yong-seok, Kim Young-ho, Lee Yu-cheol, Lee Sung-woo, and Cho Hyun-joo, 2025)
- 『The Korean Peninsula: Unification and the Peaceful Imagination』 (Kim Philo, Lee Chang-Hyun, Cho Kiyeon, Choi Gyubin, Lim Sujin, Yoon Hyungi, Song Hyunjin, Sung Sangmi, Kim Yuyeon, Lee Myung-Shin, Kim Heejung, 2026)

[Unification Research Series 64]: Unification Perception Survey 2025

(Kim Bum-soo, Kim Byung-ro, Chang Yong-seok, Kim Young-ho, Lee Yoo-cheol, Lee Sung-woo, and Cho Hyun-joo, 2025)

Introduction**Part I. Basic Analysis**

- Chapter 1. Perceptions of Unification
- Chapter 2. Perceptions of North Korea
- Chapter 3. Perceptions of Policy toward North Korea
- Chapter 4. Perceptions of North Korean Defectors
- Chapter 5. Perceptions of Relations with Neighboring Countries

Part II. In-Depth Analysis

- Chapter 6. Perceptions of Unification and North Korea and Voting Choices in the 21st Presidential Election
- Chapter 7. Trends and Prospects in Public Perceptions of Nuclear Issues in South and North Korea
- Conclusion
- Appendix

This volume examines and analyzes public perceptions and attitudes toward unification, North Korea, and inter-Korean relations in 2025.

[Unification Research Series 65]: Inter-Korean Integration Index 2025

(Kim Byung-ro, Kim Young-ho, Lee Yoo-cheol, and Shin In-seok, 2025)

Introduction**Chapter 1. Structural Integration Index**

- Economy
- Politics
- Society and Culture

Chapter 2. Perception-Based Integration Index

- Composition of the Index
- Index by Area
- Overall Assessment

Chapter 3. Inter-Korean Integration Index, 2010–2024

The Inter-Korean Integration Index quantitatively assesses and measures the degree of integration between South and North Korea. By establishing a systematic analytical model, the volume seeks to make unification a more concrete and predictable policy objective. It consists of three main components: the Structural Integration Index, the Perception-Based Integration Index, and the comprehensive Inter-Korean Integration Index.

International Academic Journal:
Asian Journal of Peacebuilding (AJP)

IPUS launched Asia's first international journal specializing in Peace Studies, the AJP, in May 2013. The AJP, which is issued twice a year in May and November, communicates the academic possibilities of 'Peace Studies from the Korean Peninsula' sent in by researchers with Asia and the world, while collecting meaningful results from world peace studies.

The AJP is undoubtedly the first specialized international academic journal on Peace Studies in Asia. The AJP has been faithfully fulfilling its role in improving the quality of research and academic activities of the IPUS based on incorporating significant achievements in global peace studies, while simultaneously disseminating the awareness of Peace Humanities Studies globally. The AJP has invited Nobel Peace Prize laureate José Ramos-Horta, former President of Timor-Leste, and former Chairmen of peace-related international associations such as ISA and IPRA (Harvey Starr, Ethel Solingen and T.V. Paul) as editorial board members to encourage the submission of outstanding papers, demonstrating its ability to attract exceptional papers, including those by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and former President of Timor-Leste, José Ramos-Horta. The AJP has been recognized as international and professional not only in the screening process but also in the production process of accepted papers. Currently, AJP is indexed in KCI (Korean Citation Index) and SCOPUS.

Asian Journal
of Peacebuilding

● Vol.13 No. 1 (2025.05)



Special Issue_ Revisiting the North Korean Nuclear Crisis: Strategic Responses from Countries on the Korean Peninsula

Special Issue Editor: Jeheung Ryu

Rethinking Nuclear Deterrence in a Shifting Global Order: Theoretical, Empirical, and Policy Perspectives
Jeheung Ryu

The Bargaining Theory of War and North Korea: Why the Peninsula is More Stable than the Conventional Wisdom Suggests
Yuji Idomoto and David Kang

The Commitment Costs of Extended Deterrence and US Public Support for South Korea's Nuclear Development: Survey Experiments from South Carolina
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Special Announcement

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Korean Academic Journal:
Journal of Peace and Unification Studies

IPUS published the Korean academic journal *'the Journal of Peace and Unification Studies'* twice a year since June 2009, and has increased its publication to four times a year since April 2024. The *'Journal of Peace and Unification Studies'* aims to deepen and diversify research on the keywords "peace" and "unification," which are essential for shaping the future vision of the Korean Peninsula, and to promote scholarly communication. To achieve these goals, the *'Journal of Peace and Unification Studies'* rigorously selects and publishes pure academic papers that cover the following areas: 1) research on the regional situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula and various aspects of North Korea, theories and methodologies of unification studies, and 2) key themes of peace, including the overall violence and dispeace structures surrounding humanity, nature, and society, as well as environmental issues, ecology, and various crises and conflicts caused by globalization. In particular, based on the multidisciplinary nature of Unification Studies and Peace Studies, the *'Journal of Peace and Unification Studies'* aspires to position itself as a comprehensive academic journal that encompasses the fields of humanities and social sciences. It also aims to cover practical and policy-oriented approaches to unification and peace by actively engaging in discussions on civilizational values and their feasibility. The *'Journal of Peace and Unification Studies'* is currently indexed in the KCI (Korea Citation Index).

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Kim, Hyoju • A Path Analysis of Factors Affecting the Happiness of North Korean Defectors: Focusing on the Mediating Effect of Social Class Perception

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Book Review

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IPUS HORIZON

The IPUS HORIZON is a place for research in various disciplines to be examined anew from the perspective of peace studies and to provide in-depth discussions on ongoing peace issues not only on the Korean peninsula but also on a global scale. It seeks to explore knowledge about the peace agenda in the human, social, national, and environmental fields and contribute to providing a discourse for building and practicing peace based on reflections on the conflicts and crises facing humanity today.



No.	Publication Date	Author	Title
No.21	2025.04.25.	Shin, HaeRan (Director of Education, IPUS at SNU; Professor, Dept. of Geography at SNU)	Alternative Schools for North Korean Defector Youth: Beginnings and Changes
No.22	2025.05.29.	Lee, Hyang Kue (Principal, London New Malden Korean School)	Post-Division Experiments and Coexistence Beyond the Korean Peninsula: A Case Study of the Experience in New Malden, UK
No.23	2025.09.02.	Heo, Ji Young (Research Professor, Gangwon Institute of Unification Studies at Kangwon National University)	The Other Within Us: Everyday Violence Experienced by North Korean Defectors and Their Capacity to Overcome It
No.24	2025.09.08.	Joe, Ildong (Associate Professor, Anthropology Major at the Graduate School of Korean Studies, Academy of Korean Studies)	Making Cracks in Hatred and Confrontation Through 'Collaborative Oral History'
No.25	2025.10.29.	Jun, EuyRyung (Steering Committee Member of the Women's Studies Institute; Associate Professor, Dept. of Archaeology and Cultural Anthropology at Jeonbuk National University)	The Issue of 'Coexistence with Non-humans' in the Era of Climate Crisis
No.26	2025.11.28.	Hwang, Ihntaek (Instructor, Korea National University of Arts)	Why It Is Okay to Be Honest About What the Body Feels
No.27	2026.06.23.	Kang, Hyukmin (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Asian Studies at the College of International Studies at Kyung Hee University)	South Korean Defense Industry, Is It Okay as It Is?

ROK-US POLICY BRIEF

The ROK-U.S. Policy Brief is a joint publication of the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies at Seoul National University (IPUS) and the George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies (GWIKS). It analyzes current policy issues concerning Korea within regional and global contexts. Amid rapidly changing international relations, the views of both Korean and international experts—particularly those of U.S. specialists from the Republic of Korea's principal alliance partner—have become increasingly important to discussions of peace on the Korean Peninsula. As part of their institutional cooperation, IPUS and GWIKS have jointly published articles addressing major issues related to the Korean Peninsula since the second half of 2024.



No.	Publication Date	Author	Title
2025-May. ISSUE 9	2025.05	Tami Overby (Sr Counselor DGA Group)	"A New Era for Trade: Political Turmoil, Tariffs, and a Changing U.S.-South Korea Relationship"
2025-June. ISSUE 10	2025.06.	Ankit Panda (Stanton Senior Fellow Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)	The Strategic Implications of Recent Iran Developments: Recommendations for the Korean Peninsula
2025-July. ISSUE 11	2025.07.	Patrick M. Cronin (Asia-Pacific Security Chair National Security and Defense Foreign Policy)	"North Korean Diplomacy: Stability, Realism, and Strategic Clarity"
2025-Aug. ISSUE 12	2025.08.	Derek Grossman (Adjunct Senior Fellow Center for a New American Security, CNAS)	The Devil is in the Details: U.S. and ROK Seek Alliance Modernization, But How?
2025-Sep. ISSUE 13	2025.09.	Troy Stangarone (Non-Resident Fellow Carnegie Mellon Institute for Strategy and Technology)	A Geostrategic Shift: Trilateral Convergence of China, Russia, and North Korea on the Korean Peninsula
2025-Oct. ISSUE 14	2025.10.	Henry Haggard (Non-Resident Fellow Baker Institute Center for Energy Studies)	Trump's Policies in Conflict: Immigration, Investment, and Tariffs
2025-Nov. ISSUE 15	2025.11.	Wang Hwi Lee (Professor, Ajou University)	US-ROK Relations after the Gyeongju Summit
2025-Dec. ISSUE 16	2025.12.	Bong-geun Jun (President Korea Nuclear Policy Society)	Three Major Controversies Over South Korea's Nuclear-Powered Submarine Plan
2026-Jan. ISSUE 17	2026.01.	Ankit Panda (Stanton Senior Fellow Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)	The Future of U.S.-South Korea Nuclear Cooperation: Finding Policy Direction in a Tempestuous Time
2026-Feb. ISSUE 18	2026.02.	Henry Haggard (Non-Resident Fellow Baker Institute Center for Energy Studies)	The Coupang Conundrum: From Bilateral Irritant to Transpacific Exemplar
2026-Mar. ISSUE 19	2026.03.	Kayla Orta (Non-Resident Scholar, GW Institute for Korean Studies (GWIKS); Non-Resident Fellow Indo-Pacific Security Initiative, Atlantic Council)	Iran's Asymmetric Drone Warfare: Critical Lessons for the U.S.-ROK Alliance

No.	Publication Date	Author	Title
2026-Apr. ISSUE 20	2026.04.	Tom Ramage (Fellow & Economic Policy Analyst Korea Economic Institute of America, KEI)	Energy Shock and Economic Resilience: South Korea and the Iran War
2026-May. ISSUE 21	2026.05.	Lami Kim (Korea Chair in Advanced Technologies National Security and Defense the International Institute for Strategic Studies, IISS)	Autonomy or Military Readiness?: The Trade-offs of Wartime OPCON Transfer
2026-June. ISSUE 22	2026.06.	Andrew Yeo (Senior Fellow – Foreign Policy, Center for Asia Policy Studies, SK-Korea Foundation Chair in Korea Studies)	The Xi-Kim Summit and The Shifting Geopolitics of Northeast Asia



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통일평화연구원
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