

1: The Global Intelligence Files - PRK/NORTH KOREA/ASIA PACIFIC

*Normalization of inter-Korean relations through Korean Peninsula trust process A. The. Overview of Challenges
Stabilization of inter-Korean relations based on trust.*

In order to understand the geopolitical chessboard, it is important to understand different stakeholders and their issues add to the boiling tensions throughout the region. Since the armistice, the creation of the demilitarized zone DMZ has separated the peninsula into two different nations: South Korea Tilelli et al. Besides the two Koreas, there are complex alliances among regional stakeholders. As of the writing of this blog, the world is holding its breath due to daily, sometimes hourly, developments in U. While always fraught, the relationship between the United States and North Korea has been especially complicated since the election of U. Using his unconventional un diplomatic tactics, he has made rude tweets and comments about the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un. Remarkably, however, there also have been positive developments in the U. Recently, there has been preliminary talks among the U. Progress towards the summit was advanced due, in part, to the release of three American hostages from North Korea Holland. Thus, as of yesterday May 17, , plans for the proposed summit, seem to have completely fallen apart. From personal insults and threatening missile tests to diplomatic handshakes and proposed peace summits, diplomatic relations have been a wild ride. Global denuclearization is a critical issue of our time. The dove in the cartoon represents efforts to fend off nuclear destruction. With denuclearization talks between the United States and North Korea, we must know what each party demands. Unfortunately, this is not the working definition that either side, the United States or North Korea, is currently using. The United States, for one, wants North Korea to hand over its nuclear weapons and missile systems and allow international inspectors to check whether denuclearization is being upheld Fifield. However, for North Korea denuclearization means mutual steps to eradicate nuclear weapons and requiring the United States to remove its nuclear umbrella Fifield. This is a danger towards the stakeholders for the United States, as the nuclear umbrella of the U. For example, North Korea will relinquish weapons only if the United States ends its military alliance with South Korea. Unfortunately, the compromise of denuclearization seems far-fetched, especially since both nations have fundamental differences on the definition of what they are trying to achieve. Each side of the conflict has fundamental differences on the definition of denuclearization. For its part, North Korea has declared a halt to nuclear testing but views its nuclear arsenal as an insurance policy for defending peace for future generations Borger. The illustration, by John Knott, depicted the tax burden of maintain armaments to the common man and the difficulties or reaching widely agreed terms for disarmament. His cartoon illustrated the complexities of previous disarmament conferences and exemplified that the only way to solve the problem was with bold action to ensure peace. Both cartoons emphasize the burdens of armaments, the obstacles to global demilitarization, well as the fragility of peace. Works Cited Albert, Eleanor. Diamond, Jeremy and Kevin Liptak. Huang, Jing, and Xiaoting Li. Tilelli, John H, et al. Policy Towards the Korean Peninsula.

2: Academic papers

Inter-Korean relations might be regarded as a gateway to economic development and survival for the devastated North Korean economy under the circumstances of tight economic sanctions by the USA.

Looking Forward to Change in North Korea 2. Geun-hyonomics and Abenomics 3. Shipping Industry in Critical Condition - Society 1. Family Reunion is Not Disposable Card 2. Living as a Migrant in Korea 2. The first portraiture depicts the North as a threat to peace in Northeast Asia, with its nuclear arms program and missile launchings. The second rendering is a nation in dire need of humanitarian assistance to ease its chronic food shortages that began in the s. Although it may seem paradoxical for the world community to provide humanitarian aid to a state under United Nations sanctions, many international organizations are actually engaged in assistance programs. The third profile is a human rights violator. Most recently, the news media focused on a report by the U. Human Rights Council is set to take actions on the report in May so North Korea is set for another round of negative attention. In the meantime, occasional humanitarian events such as the February reunion of separated families seem to blur assessments of North Korea-related developments. Deals on security issues, including the nuclear problem, tend to overshadow the agenda related to humanitarian aid and human rights. And talks on humanitarian issues disappoint those who want to apply pressure on Pyongyang in connection with its nuclear and human rights questions. Under the prevailing international circumstances, in which the Western powers are driving North Korea into a corner taking issue with its widespread violation of human rights, the South Korean government appears to be taking a rather ambiguous stance. It is apparently at a loss whether to apply pressure or pursue dialogue with the North and distance itself from the hardline approach of the international community. The Korean peninsula is in a grave situation. North Korea with its nuclear devices and South Korea joined by U. It is indeed frustrating that, with humanitarian assistance and security issues intermingled, even the doors for indispensable philanthropic aid for North Korean people remain firmly shut. Meanwhile, North Korean authorities are allegedly engaged in indiscriminate assaults and torture of civilian suspects, even disregarding its own legal procedures. This sort of law enforcement and abuse of power will undoubtedly lead the North Korean populace to turn their backs on the ruling elite. What should we do at this critical juncture? First, in order to ameliorate inter-Korean relations, we should try to create momentum for practical dialogue on pending issues. In doing so, let us not commit the fallacy of looking at only one side of the North Korea issue. There is no reason we must keep the doors of dialogue closed due to the various problems surrounding the regime. The long-stalled sixparty talks on the North Korean nuclear question should be resumed, along with the debate on security cooperation in Northeast Asia. I also propose that the South make bold moves to provide humanitarian assistance to North Korea. Unless the two sides start open-hearted dialogue, the Korean nation will have no future. The North will have to change eventually. I call for wide-ranging dialogue and full-scale negotiations to spur change in North Korea. Introducing a comprehensive, step-by-step method for the promotion of inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation, she proposed that the two Koreas open joint offices in Seoul and Pyongyang to translate her vision into action. In a city that symbolizes the success of German unification, the South Korean president detailed her ideas to have Korean reunification yield a windfall for all concerned parties. Dresden, a former East German city which had been demolished by Allied carpet bombing during World War II, has risen to a cultural, educational and economic center of Europe after the reunification of Germany. She could possibly mean that what matters is the true integration of the two Koreas through exchanges and cooperation. Park offered practical activities to promote inter-Korea cooperation: The president did not mention lifting the sanctions that the South imposed against the North on May 24, , in the wake of the torpedo attack on the naval vessel Cheonan which killed 46 of its crew. Yet, her assurance of support from international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Bank for each of the three proposed areas of cooperation and exchanges draws our attention. Sustainability can be guaranteed when the international community becomes

involved in such inter-Korean cooperation projects as infrastructure investments and construction of joint industrial complexes. It is now up to North Korea to respond. The first step should be the opening of joint cooperation offices. The two Koreas could begin constructing a common economic community by laying the groundwork of mutual trust step by step. In defiance of warnings from Korea, the United States, and China late last year not to honor a bastion of historical distortion, Abe visited the Yasukuni Shrine to pay respects to the Japanese war dead, including convicted Class A war criminals from World War II, who are interred there. Perhaps, Abe may have already crossed the Rubicon. However, Japanese politicians are not masking their desire to distance themselves from Murayama and Kono, who held the top two elected posts in Japan. What are they going to review and verify? Why is Japan doing this? Every March we remember our patriots who fought for independence from Japanese colonial rule. Earlier, in an open debate at the U. It should rectify its distorted view of history and make reparations for the victims. Japan has three major foreign policy objectives. First, Japan wants to recover its former northern territories, which are currently controlled by Russia. Second, Japan has not made its voice properly heard in the international community, despite being the second-largest contributor to the annual U. It now wants a permanent seat, alongside Germany, on the U. Third, Tokyo needs to make tangible diplomatic achievements. One way is to normalize relations with Pyongyang, which is ostracized by the international community. Among these policy aims, the Abe administration will probably give priority to improving ties with Pyongyang, a relatively realistic task, to avoid a drop in domestic approval ratings. We arrived in Pyongyang after crossing the border through the truce village of Panmunjom, the first time for South Korean civilians. We were warmly welcomed by North Korean women. One of them even rolled up her skirt and showed us a sword cut on her abdomen. Here is a suggestion: Let former sex slavery victims in both Koreas, who still vividly remember the brutality of Japanese soldiers, gather together. Let them share their sad memories and console each other. Testimonies of victims of the wartime sex slavery served as the framework for the statement issued by then Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono. The Abe government should bear in mind that its denial of the Kono Statement means a rupture in Seoul-Tokyo relations. It was an example of both fusion and competition between the auto and information communication technology ICT industries. One of the glamour stocks in the world these days is Tesla Motors, a U. The surge has occurred despite a battery fire in a Tesla car four months ago. Tesla Motors, established 10 years ago, has yet to produce its first annual profit. Its cumulative sales are a meager 23, units. Nothing better explains the stellar growth than the fact that Tesla is an icon of innovation. Entrenched automakers have had electric cars. But they kept them as minor pieces of their product lineup. They did not want their markets for gasoline- and diesel-powered cars to be disrupted. Hence, they did not attempt to maximize the performance of their electric cars. Tesla, which copied nothing but the exterior of the conventional car, upended their business strategy. Its car has a lithium-ion battery pack that makes its performance comparable to high-end sports cars. It has turned an automobile into a moving ICT machine. Nowadays, electronic parts account for about 40 percent of the cost of an automotive vehicle, twice as much as 10 years ago. Some warn that cars will have an increasing number of glitches as more electronic parts are embedded. But all one needs to do is to look at high-end cars. When it comes to a flagship car priced at more than million won, the value of electronic parts is more than 50 percent of the total cost. They account for 60 percent in the case of a hybrid car and 70 percent of an electric car. Hwang said that automakers have relied on mechanical engineering to improve mileage and speed during the past years and that the next years will be a period of competition with ICT and chemical engineering. Until recently, an automobile has mostly been a means of transportation between cities. But the GSM Association believes that it will soon become a means of convenience for intra-city transportation. When the day comes, it will no longer be a product owned by an individual and kept in a garage when not in use. Instead, it will turn into a driverless ICT device, which, continuously on the move, will get to the nearest client with the help of network communication, map out an optimal route to his destination and transport him. Around the corner is the commercialization of an operating system developed for such a device. Now the question is who dominates the new ecological system of automotive transportation. Among the top contenders are Google and

Amazon. Amazon has promised future deliveries by drones. Both Google and Amazon are attempting to develop a dominant network for the new kind of courier service. Who knows if Samsung and Hyundai will be reduced to the status of supplier to Google or Amazon? Victims may not be such industrial giants alone. Forced out of work could be millions of taxi, bus and truck drivers and couriers. The CES has left much to think about. Domestic news media may have been awed by flexible screens. But experts appeared to have found disturbing implications about Google and Amazon, which, creating their own new ecological systems, are seeking to encroach on the auto markets. A foreign periodical called on its readers to forget about Apple and Facebook, claiming that Google and Amazon are the most formidable business enterprises.

3: BUSINESS IN BRIEF 31/5 - News VietNamNet

On the other hand, South Korea actually accounts non-commercial transactions into the trade statistics too, which exactly indicates its perspective about inter-Korean trade: economic cooperation is "a component of a functional project of expanding interactions 21 and relations" with North Korea "in pursuit of a more peaceful and.

May 26, Leave a comment By J. Among the Democratic big shots attending was Marc R. Stanley, a Texas attorney and founding chairman of the Democratic Jewish Council. We are indebted to Mr. The ambassador could not sing praise for Obama any higher. Ambassador Oren blasted those who have been falsely attacking Obama for partisan advantage. The ambassador told a shocking story of an imagined snub of Netanyahu by Obama which many Israelis believe. Here is what really happened. When Netanyahu was in Washington in March, he and Ambassador Oren and an entourage of experts called on Obama for a business meeting which lasted into the night. At a business meeting, the ambassador related, the visiting head of state is not ceremoniously met under the portico. Reporters are not called out of the press room and there are no photo-ops. They talked with Obama and other officials for several hours and after the president had retired they were given the rare privilege, the ambassador reported, of staying in the White House to finish their work. And a two-state solution depends on the success of the proximity talks that have begun under the aegis of George Mitchell. Most Israelis believe that proximity talks are second best to direct talks between Israel and the Palestinians. As sop to the Israelis, the State Department, in its May 9 announcement of the beginning of the proximity talks said that they would lead to direct talks. Peace between Israel and Palestine will not happen without deep sacrifices by both parties. Not until George Mitchell and his boss, Hillary Clinton, and her boss Barack Obama, are convinced that Mitchell and Netanyahu and Mitchell and Abbas, have solved all the insoluble core issues, borders, Jerusalem and refugees. Mitchell will not be just shuttling between the parties as the New York Times put it. Mitchell will be discussing, arguing, putting forth new ideas and bridging proposals to both parties. The talks will continue into and possibly into Success will help elect Obama to a second term. Palestine Prime Minister Salam Fayyad has already said that he will refrain from announcing a Palestine State in August of next year as he had planned. But Netanyahu has not as yet announced that the ten month freeze will be extended. Anthony quoted Ambassador Oren: His articles appear in the Jewish Times of Southern Florida. May 26, Leave a comment By Donald H. Creatures in the air, on land and in the sea all might have regarded him as nothing more than a tasty lunch. Visitors almost immediately encounter an allosaur. Not that a dip in the sea during prehistoric times would have been any safer for the fragile human. Xiphactinus, also known as the wolf herring, might have been lurking about. The powerful upturned jaws of Xiphactinus were equipped with large fang-like teeth at the front of the mouth. The jaws were very mobile and could be opened wide to take in large size prey as evidenced by the discovery of Xiphactinus fossils with meter-long fish skeletons in their abdominal regions. The jaw and dental features of this fossil fish, together with its deep and forked tail, long body and large pectoral fins suggest that Xiphactinus was an extremely fast and powerful swimmer and an active and efficient predator. The Pterosaur, replicated at the museum with a large fish in his mouth, would not have had difficulty making a meal out of a human child. The creature is shown in conjunction with the sculpture of an Anklyosaur and is within hailing distance of an Albertosaurus and a Lambeosaur. The Anklyosaur was an armored dinosaur, easy to recognize, but difficult for the larger predators to eat. Eyes face forward perhaps for depth perception! Curved teeth lock down on struggling prey. Thick and finely serrated, they pierce flesh and crush bones. Massive jaw and neck let albertosaurus attack with its head. Long, strong legs increase stride length and speed. Reduced foot bones and short claws improve running efficiency. Gentler dinosaurs in its path may feel like lambeosaurs led to slaughter. The museum poses the question that has divided paleontologists for many years. What exactly caused the extinction of the dinosaurs? The narrative favors the theory that a giant asteroid smashed into the earth, with the impact not only killing everything within its vicinity but putting into motion a chain reaction of

volcanic eruptions that could have warmed and poisoned the atmosphere some 65 million years ago. With the extinction of the dinosaurs—oh, see how the mighty have fallen—the museum posits that small mammals related to modern-day opossums came into their own, evolving into many varieties of modern-day mammals. A prehensile tail acts like a fifth leg for grasping branches. And a small body with four legs and five digits enable running, climbing, swimming and digging. San Diego was not the semi-arid landscape it is today. It more resembled a swamp. Boas lurk in the trees waiting for unwary prey. Crocodiles prowl for breakfast. For example, there is the California condor which dropped to a population of 25 or less during the s.

4: Sustainability: UN Commission on Sustainable Development

Nautilus Institute Policy Forum A Multilateral Scenario For Korea; The Role Of The European Union. Markku Heiskanen, Visiting Senior Fellow at the Nordic Institute of Asia Studies, March 25,

Relations soured after an Australian visa was granted to Rebiya Kadeer, the exiled leader of the Muslim Uyghur minority in Xinjiang, and an Australian Rio Tinto mining executive was arrested on allegations of espionage. The Gorgon plant would be "world leading" in terms of carbon capture and storage. I expect China will come out with its position, America will come out with its position and so on. Beijing told the Japanese embassy last Wednesday that it would be difficult to accept the three ships, citing "sensitive issues", the English-language version of the Asahi newspaper quoted unidentified Japanese government sources as saying. The newspaper said Chinese officials did not give specific reasons for denying the port call but expressed displeasure with Tokyo for allowing Ms Kadeer to visit and speak in Japan last month. The Saudi-based Organisation of the Islamic Conference, whose membership includes 57 countries, aims to "observe [at] first hand the conditions of Muslims" in Xinjiang, the conference said on its website. China has been worried that the violence in Xinjiang could overshadow its developing ties with the Islamic world. Although the riots drew a muted response from most Muslim countries, Iran and Turkey criticised China and the crackdown that followed. Chen hoped both countries could make efforts to advance the relations between the two land forces, in a bid to promote the long-term development of military ties and deepen the Sino-Brazilian strategic partnership. Up to 7, items would have no tariffs from next year in the joint market of nearly 2 billion people. Chinese people would be able to enjoy a variety of Southeast Asian fruits and Asean residents could purchase Chinese clothes and electrical appliances at cheaper prices, he said. The "feed over email" FOE system being tested by the U. Berman said the agency that runs Voice of America, a government-funded international broadcasting service, has been running trials of the new software for six months and expects it to be available for widespread use by the end of this year. This growing public-health crisis comes as officials at the centre of another poisoning outbreak in Shaanxi province admitted that a factory that was supposed to have been shut down was still operating. In Hunan, parents from four villages in Wenping township were told by officials on Wednesday that about children who lived near a Jinglian manganese-processing factory were suffering from lead poisoning. But yesterday a Xinhua report said 70 per cent of the 1, children in the four villages were poisoned. But we are just peasants - how can we fight against an armed government? But some experts said the new list would not solve the problem of high medical costs. The list, which will come into effect on September 21, features medicines produced in the laboratory and made naturally from Chinese herbs. In addition, a third group of medicines is being listed for the first time that have been converted from herbal form into tablet form, but no number was given. The drugs make up fewer than one-sixth of the 2, drugs on the current list, which was issued five years ago. Petitioners flock to the capital by the thousands to air complaints after their local governments ignore them. To rectify this, Communist Party legal officials would visit areas with a high number of petitioners who come to Beijing - and accept cases on the spot, Xinhua reported. More than 1, people have been arrested so far since the crackdown began in June. The number of police officers arrested has not been announced, but a source with the Chongqing police said the number was at least in the hundreds. With the fall of former deputy police chief Wen Qiang, the rest of the Chongqing police force has been shrouded in suspicion that it acted as a "protective umbrella" for the rampant gang activity in the southwestern municipality. Xu Zhiyong, co-founder of the Open Constitution Initiative, or Gongmeng, had been out of contact since he was seized from his home by security officials at dawn on July Notice of the arrest was sent to his employer, the Beijing University of Post and Telecommunications, said Teng Biao, another high-profile rights lawyer close to Mr Xu. Mr Teng said the arrest was unwarranted and would set back efforts to bolster the rule of law. Addressing a work conference on voluntary rural pension funds, Mr Wen asked that promised funding from central and local governments be funnelled promptly to realise the goal of covering at least 10

per cent of the million rural population by the end of the year. He urged local governments to explain the pension system in detail to rural residents and win their approval so people could contribute to the collective pension fund. The State Council set up a voluntary pension system in rural areas in March to improve living standards for rural residents, reduce the income gap between urban and rural areas and maintain rural stability. The heavy reliance on the issue and collection of fa piao official receipts issued by the tax bureaus, as evidence of business deals for tax purposes, had made exploitation of fake receipts a peculiar and chronic headache for tax authorities, mainland tax experts said. By the end of this year, China would have a total of 86, km rail lines, second only to the United States, Wang said. But he did not elaborate about the details. As more Chinese are making donations to charity, the use of the money by the government and the NGOs has become a major concern. The Beijing Times said that 35 police officers in the capital had taken part in a competition to determine who will mobilise the most residents. The campaign would focus on settlements of migrant workers, old residential areas, borders between urban and rural areas, public service areas and places known to be centres of crime, it said. Local gross domestic product improved to a 7. The expansion was reflected in increasing transactions in the stock, property and car markets, Han added. Strong opposition from Hong Kong over the environmental impact of the plant, coupled with his own reservations, prompted Guangdong party secretary Wang Yang to announce last month that it would be relocated to Zhanjiang, a relatively undeveloped port city in the west of the province. The loss of the petrochemical project was not the first blow for Nansha. Until investors see which direction it takes, they are likely to hold back. But with the petrochemical plan now out of the window, officials in Guangzhou and Nansha are being forced to come up with a plan B - or perhaps plan D. The agreements covered proposals to increase exchanges in financial development, disease prevention and control, education, environmental protection and intellectual property protection. By promoting collaboration among Hong Kong, Macau and Guangdong, he said the region would hopefully become the most competitive place in the Asia-Pacific area. Vowing to help thousands of victims rebuild homes and return to normal life, Taiwanese Premier Liu Chao-shiuan yesterday approved the three-year special budget. Funding will come from selling government stakes in a local bank and by issuing public bonds. But the figures have yet to include people missing after a mudslide five storeys high levelled Hsiaolin village in Kaohsiung on August 9. For Dr Liu, it dropped from 43 per cent to 13 per cent. The vice-minister of foreign affairs, Andrew Hsia Li-yan, who had rejected overseas aid in the disaster, tendered his resignation on Monday. It would be taken up as part of a cabinet reshuffle early next month, Dr Liu has said. Until a reversal yesterday morning, Chiatung, one of the areas hit hardest by the flooding and mudslides caused by Typhoon Morakot on August 8, turned down the offer of quick-assembly houses that arrived on Tuesday in 14 containers from Guangdong. Township chief Lai Hsien-he said news reports suggested that the prefabricated houses could contain harmful chemicals and residents were afraid of living in such shelters. They intentionally want to hurt and alienate the relationship between people across the strait," said Fan Liqing, a spokeswoman for the office. Ms Fan said the mobile homes were made according to designs by Taiwan and met environmental standards set by the mainland, Taiwan and international organisations. The United States was also sending two heavy-lift military helicopters to help in relief efforts, said Transport Minister Mao Chih-kuo, who is also in charge of the emergency response. The US flights marked the first American military deployment in Taiwan since, when US troops were last based there. But those troops left after Washington switched diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing. The eight were sentenced last Thursday by a court in Machen county, Qinghai, according to a report received yesterday from the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy, a group based in Dharamsala, India, home to the Tibetan government-in-exile. It said the group had been found guilty of inciting the attack, but did not say when the trial was. Scores of residents reportedly took part in the violence, although the amount of damage and the number of arrests remain unclear. Local officials have refused to release information about the incident, and a court clerk reached by telephone said she had no knowledge of the case. She declined to give her name. According to the report, the detained Tibetan citizens were trying to enter Nepal illegally. Basnet informed that the arrestees have been sent to the

Immigration Department in Kathmandu. According to him, the Tibetans said that they had entered Nepali soils to go to India. Exports to China fell It is the first time exports to China surpassed those to the United States. In the January-June period, the trade with China accounted for JETRO also projected a decline of Sino-Japanese trade for the whole year of , the first yearly contraction since Asian financial crisis. After acquisition of all the common shares of Addax, Sinopec will also take over all convertible bonds and equity options held by Addax, after which Addax will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sinopec, said an inner person with Sinopec Group. In a statement, Sinopec said it would maintain the corporate management and all employees of Addax, and only send a few managers and technicians from Sinopec. Total earnings of the company are 3. Trade between China and African countries, however, slumped In the first half year, Chinese enterprises signed China maintains trade with 53 African countries and has been providing zero-tariff treatment for the poorest African developing countries from on. About million U. About 1, Chinese enterprises have been approved or registered to do business in Africa, involving fields like trade, manufacturing, resources development, transportation, agriculture and agricultural products processing, said the ministry. Imports and exports volume for July amounted to billion U. According to a survey conducted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development from February to May among multinational corporations, China was still the most attractive country to foreign capitals. The ministries of education and health issued a notice urging all pupils who had come into close contact with people infected with the flu, officially called A H1N1 , to stay home for at least seven days, Xinhua reported. Just over two weeks ahead of the start of the school year, education authorities in areas under serious threat were given the authority to postpone the start of the term. Pupils who displayed flu symptoms seven days ahead of the term would only be allowed back to school after making a full recovery, Xinhua said. The meetings have suggested a thawing in relations between the isolated state and the US at the same time as Pyongyang has warmed towards Seoul. In the latest conciliatory gesture, North Korea promised the South it would remove cross-border restrictions and temporarily restore an official channel of communications today, officials said. What I believe they want in return is, all right, the US is now ready to talk to us directly. Bayar last week visited the northern province to get introduced with preparation works of the nearing harvesting season that starts from August 25 to October 1. Two years ago, Mongolian agricultural farmers supplied 25 percent of its own domestic needs of wheat, a little progress of the agro industry after the complete collapse of socialist regime, during which Mongolia used to supply percent of its domestic needs of wheat, potatoes and vegetables. Last year, fifty percent of the domestic needs of wheat has been supplied by domestic farmers, while other half is relied on import from foreign country. Standing Committee on Budgets is scheduled to discuss annulment of windfall profits tax law, and changes to corporate income tax law on August 19 while Standing Committee on Nature, Food, and Agriculture and Standing Committee on Economics will discuss changes to law on water and vehicle roads respectfully. The Parliament is also expected to hear a report by the President of Bank of Mongolia central bank L. Purevdorj on economic stimulation plan. GDP in January-June was 1. The Embassy does not accept responsibility for accuracy of quotes or truthfulness of content.

5: Report to Congress on the Military Situation on the Korean Peninsula

The European Union welcomes the historic inter-Korean summit of 13/14 June in Pyongyang and considers it a success in itself that the summit took place. The European Union encourages the Republic of Korea and the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea to continue the process of reconciliation.

He is a fiction, a figment of my imagination, a composite crafted from a quarter century experience interacting with Koreans. Breaking all naming rules, Pak Kim Li is a combination of the three most popular family names in Korea. Erich Weingartner is uniquely qualified to tell this story. He has visited Korea on many occasions since In he arranged the first encounter since the Korean War between church delegations of both sides of Korea in Switzerland. Until he organized three more such inter-Korean non-governmental conferences. From to he headed the Food Aid Liaison Unit of the UN World Food Programme in Pyongyang, traveling by land cruiser throughout all provinces of the DPRK, visiting ports, rail yards, warehouses, nurseries, kindergartens, boarding schools, orphanages, hospitals, factories, farms and many families in their homes, both in rural and urban settings. The lip service to this myth is still paid by virtually all political forces in both Koreas, but the actual policy of both Pyongyang and Seoul nowadays is clearly based on a very different set of assumptions and hopes: But some aspects of the scenario in North Korea escaped her scanner, especially about a prospective fall of communist regime. I have decided to produce this exclusive for the general public. Recently, North Korea announced that they would "fine tune" their missiles with another test. This has left the world scared because of this never ending scene of "I will test, I tested. Introduction As South Korean prepares for the upcoming presidential election, the flurry of candidate platforms and new visions for the future compete for print space with the reality of politics on the Korean Peninsula and the myriad North Korean issues that threaten to steal the spotlight from domestic campaigning. While the elections in the South are scheduled for December 19, , leading candidates are still fighting for party nominations, while others are breaking away from their parties to run independently or form new parties. Over thirty candidates have already pre-registered, and registration remains open until November 26, leaving time for many surprises. Imagine for an instant that international relations were more like the corporate world. On 13 February , after the conclusion of the agreement at the Six Party Talks on the Korean peninsula nuclear issue, an employment vacancy would have been immediately advertised: Key duties of the role include coordinating and managing initiatives and soliciting support from other middle powers. The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate a sense of timing, diplomatic capacity, creativity and credibility; as well as coordination, management and facilitation skills of a high order. Continuing the corollary to the corporate world, is the advertised vacancy appropriate for South Korea? Finally, and most importantly, is South Korea, as a high achieving, ambitious young democracy, even interested in applying? Yet only four months later, Pyongyang signed on to a roadmap that included a return of international inspectors, a full declaration of contested nuclear activities, closing down existing facilities, and ultimately disabling them. American negotiator Christopher Hill predicted this last step could take place as early as the end of the year. What are the North Koreans up to? In April , a distinguished bipartisan working group of U. Donald Gross served as project director. Its isolation from the rest of the world is, to a large extent, self-imposed. Its official ideology, *juche*, which literally means self-reliance, imposes a mentality of self versus all others. However, the seemingly stable situation did not last very long. In early , US president George W. The issues and engagement politics regarding human rights in North Korea constitute hot political debates. There are three key factors to improve human rights status in North Korea: These factors are interrelated and affect each other. The crucial point is to press and induce the North Korean regime to a compromise path. North Korea is an unconventional country if one looks from outside but it is not irrational in that it has pursued its own national interest rather effectively for which security is first and foremost. North Korea and George W. Bush, 2004 Robert M. In the latter case, Bush mobilized the full weight of military force; seemed disdainful of allies, international institutions and multilateral diplomacy; and moved forward

with what his critics deemed reckless abandon. It must balance its security policies toward Washington and Pyongyang, and that dilemma can be resolved only when the North Korean nuclear problem, the most critical and the most difficult hurdle, is resolved. In analyzing critical variables that will determine the success or failure of the six-party talks multilateral approach, this article challenges the central tenet of cooperation theories: At the historic Tokyo-Pyongyang summit in September , both sides acknowledged the need to solve the security issues surrounding the Korean Peninsula through peaceful, multilateral efforts. However, the issue of North Korean abduction of Japanese citizens in earlier decades intensified Japanese sentiment against the North and this issue halted bilateral normalization talks. Japan has participated in six-party talks on the nuclear issue since , but its distinct bilateral interests vis--vis North Korea, South Korea and the United States limit its influence in the multiparty engagement. Northern Limit Line Map 3: Hale Following the recent trends of globalization and regionalization, the idea of Asia has been revived in political, economic, and cultural fields. This essay examines some of the multiple uses of the idea of Asia in modern East Asian and especially Chinese history. It consists of four parts. Part One discusses how the idea of Asia developed from modern European history, especially the nineteenth century European narrative of "World History," and points out how the early modern Japanese "theory of shedding Asia" derived from this narrative. Part Two studies the relationship between the idea of Asia and two forms of Narodism against the background of the Chinese and Russian revolutions. One, exemplified by Russian Narodism, attempted to use Asian particularity to challenge modern capitalism; the other, represented by Sun Yat-sen, attempted to construct a nation-state on the basis of a socialist revolutionary program, and to develop agricultural capitalism under the particular social conditions of Asia. Part Three considers the differences and tensions between the "Great Asianism" of Chinese revolutionaries such as Sun and the Japanese idea of Toyo East Asia , and discusses the need to overcome the categories of nation-state and international relations in order to understand the question of Asia. Part Four discusses the need to go beyond early modern maritime-centered accounts, nationalist frameworks, and Eurocentrism in reexamining the question of Asia through historical research by focusing on the particular legacies of Asia such as the tributary system and the problems of "early modernity. Mitchell writes that The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is antiheroic, antimonumental, a V-shaped gash or scar, a trace of violence suffered not of violence wielded in the service of a glorious cause as in the conventional war memorial. It achieves the universality of the public monument not by rising above its surroundings to transcend the political, but by going beneath the political to the shared sense of a wound that will never heal. Its legibility is not that of narrative: Stone was originally published in during the Korean War and republished in during the Vietnam War It raised questions about the origin of the Korean War, made a case that the United States government manipulated the United Nations, and gave evidence that the U. Forty years later, declassified U. While external reasoning may have lead KCI to test a nuclear device, it is more likely that internal considerations are driving decisions not only on WMD development, but also on the issue of leadership succession in the DPRK. Please click here if you are interested in contributing. Twelve years may be sufficient for a report card. A look at what Kim has done during that time indicates beyond doubt that this policy has been a silver bullet. Kim officially launched the military-first policy on January 1, Its leader, Kim Jong-il, is demonized by the right and -- with the exception of Guevera in and many of his current admirers -- mocked by the left. Kim is declared to be insane, though no one can say what evidence backs this diagnosis up.

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Thus, Republicans approached their repeal-and-replace proposals from the perspective that the tax cuts not only would directly help the rich but also find their way to the lower classes through what is known as the "Trickle-Down Effect." "Trickle-Down Economics" is an economic theory that promises economic growth through the practice of.

You have reached a collection of archived material. If you wish to see the latest content, please visit the current version of the site. For persons with disabilities experiencing difficulties accessing content on archive. This report provides an assessment of the warfighting capability of the Republic of Korea-U. Combined Forces Command when compared to the armed forces of North Korea. It also provides an assessment of the North Korean threat to the Republic of Korea. In defending the ROK, planners are faced with a significant adverse geographical fact: The US has maintained an uninterrupted ground and air force presence on the peninsula since the Korean War ended in Key US capabilities would play essential roles throughout all phases of operations. The US would enhance or provide the following critical capabilities to the combined war effort: US troop levels in the ROK have been maintained at about 37, Other US ground, naval, and air forces in Japan and afloat throughout Northeast Asia also greatly contribute to our deterrent posture. On July 7, , United Nations Security Council Resolution 84 determined that the North Korean armed attack upon the Republic of Korea ROK constituted a breach of the peace and recommended UN member states make military forces and other assistance available to a "unified command" -- the UNC -- under the United States, to repel the North Korean armed aggression and restore international security in the region. Five other nations provided medical support. The Korean Armistice Agreement, which is purely military in character, pertains solely to the belligerents in the Korean conflict. The objective of the Armistice Agreement is to ensure a complete cessation of hostilities in Korea by all armed forces until a final peace settlement is achieved. There have been 11 General Officer level meetings held since Nevertheless the UNC continues to carry out its functions and fulfill its obligations under the mandate of the Armistice Agreement. For the past 47 years, the UNC has been a vital factor in preventing the resumption of hostilities on the Korean Peninsula. Its mission statement is: Some of its key elements are combined defense planning, intelligence integration and sharing, a sophisticated logistical interface, educational exchanges, and defense industry cooperation. The ROK-US security relationship is strong, continues to be viable, and has been the main factor in maintaining the cease-fire on the peninsula for over forty-six years. It has also contributed a great deal to the rapid development of the Republic of Korea and the peace and stability of Northeast Asia. ROK forces are now more capable and willing to assume increasing responsibility for the defense of their country. In addition, ROK defense burdensharing has increased progressively to help defray the cost to the US of maintaining forces on the peninsula. Today, the ROK-US security relationship, based on a strong military posture, deters North Korean aggression and serves as a cornerstone of US presence in this very important region. The US 2nd Infantry Division - has two ground maneuver brigades one heavy and one light , an aviation brigade, and its organic division artillery. Additionally, there is a pre-positioned heavy brigade set of equipment. Army 26, , Air Force 8, , Navy and Marines There were also 9, command-sponsored family members and approximately 3, non-command sponsored family members residing in Korea. The CFC staff aggressively pursues improvements in warfighting capability through a vital combined exercise program, close contact with wartime component commands, and capability enhancements through the appropriate national military command and service component channels. Lessons learned from each theater-level combined exercise are the basis for command-level solutions that are a part of an extensive warfighting issues resolution program. Interoperability, effective command and control systems, critical equipment acquisition, and logistical sustainability are key areas of effort to improve the combined combat force capability. Senior leader involvement in every aspect of readiness ensures shortfalls are continuously highlighted and improvement plans are aggressively tracked. While the historic summit between the North and South leaders holds the

promise of reconciliation and change, no evidence exists of the fundamental precursors for change. There is little or no evidence of economic reform or reform-minded leaders; reduction in military forces; or a lessening of anti-US rhetoric. The DPRK maintains a dogged adherence to a "military first" policy even against the backdrop of a nation facing severe economic and social challenges. The leadership continues to focus on its three fundamental themes—regime survival, reunification, and achieving status as a "great and powerful nation. The North Korean leader relies heavily upon military and security forces to maintain his regime. Kim Jong Il sustains regime support by providing resources to key areas at the expense of lower priority sectors of the economy and society. The result is neglect of entire segments of society selected by geography, age, and political reliability. Meanwhile, his inner circle, insulated from the economic and social trauma impacting the lives of ordinary citizens, remains an exclusive group in which relations by blood or marriage, revolutionary ties, and loyalty are the primary prerequisites for power. Shortages of food, energy, and foreign exchange cripple industry and trade. The regime allows minor some deviations from its centralized policies such as open markets outside government control and limited private agricultural activities. But these are only begrudging adjustments to failure of the central rationing system and, but these are not indicative of reform. Until they initiate the major reforms required to create a healthy economic environment, the North will continue to rely on outside help to avert complete economic collapse -- and remain an aid-based economy. If economic conditions worsen, we must consider that the North Korean economy could break down completely, precipitating social chaos and threatening the existence of the regime itself. We should anticipate a flood of refugees, humanitarian needs, and the potential for chaos, military coup, or the devastation of civil war. We continue to update our contingency plan to deal with these possibilities. However, the massive economic and infrastructure development aid resulting from the June summit diminishes the likelihood of this "implosion" scenario. The "Military First" orientation has always been the heart and soul of the North Korean regime. It provides the only conceivable means by which the regime can survive and achieve its ultimate security through reunification. The military continues to grow in both conventional and asymmetrical forces with increasing emphasis on the latter. The military provides deterrence, defense, and a massive offensive threat, as well as leverage in international negotiations. The North Korean Armed Forces today are the fifth largest in the world. They are supported by an air force of over 1, aircraft and a navy of more than ships. Over 6 million reserves augment the active duty personnel. Seventy percent of their active force, to include , troops, 8, artillery systems, and 2, tanks, is garrisoned within miles of the Demilitarized Zone. Much of this force is protected by underground facilities, including over four thousand underground facilities in the forward area alone. From their current locations these forces can attack with minimal preparations. North Korea fields an artillery force of over 12, self-propelled and towed weapon systems. Without moving any artillery pieces, the North could sustain up to , rounds an hour against Combined Forces Command defenses for several hours. The artillery force includes long-range systems deployed over the past decade. The proximity of these long-range systems to the Demilitarized Zone threatens all of Seoul with devastating attacks. Their ballistic missile inventory now includes over SCUDs of various types. They continue to produce and deploy medium-range No Dongs capable of striking United States bases in Japan. Pyongyang is developing multi-stage missiles with the goal of fielding systems capable of striking the Continental United States. They tested the 2, kilometer range Taepo Dong 1 and continue work on the 5, plus kilometer Taepo Dong 2. In late North Korea agreed to a moratorium on future missile test firings for the duration of discussions with the US to improve bilateral relations. North Korea publicly reaffirmed that moratorium in June The US continues to engage North Korea in talks to resolve the threat of North Korean missiles in the region as well as broader concerns with proliferation of North Korean missiles globally. They consist of over , elite personnel and are significant force multipliers providing the capability to simultaneously attack both our forward and rear forces. North Korea possesses weapons of mass destruction. A large number of North Korean chemical weapons threaten both our military forces and civilian population centers. We assess North Korea is self-sufficient in the production of chemical components for first generation chemical agents. They have produced munitions

stockpiles estimated at up to 5, metric tons of several types of chemical agents, including nerve, choking, blister, and blood. We assess that North Korea has the capability to develop, produce, and weaponize biological warfare agents, to include bacterial spores causing anthrax and smallpox and the bacteria causing the plague and cholera. While North Korea denies possession of nuclear weapons and has frozen its nuclear program at Yongbyon, we remain concerned the North could revive a weapons production program. The Perry process provides a diplomatic roadmap for addressing that threat as well as the missile threat. Infrastructure improvements are ongoing, with rail and highway repairs and construction projects progressing during the past few years. However, electrical power problems and poor equipment continue to hamper major construction and upgrade projects. The major project during the past 18 months has been the Pyongyang-Nampo expressway, which is probably designed to enhance the movement of goods should trade be opened through the port of Nampo. At the same time, it could also be used to transport troops during a defense against an amphibious attack on the West Coast. Rugged terrain; limited east-west routes; numerous bridges, tunnels, and other chokepoints; and inferior road surface types would be limiting factors during combat operations. The summit related promises of massive road, rail, and electrical infrastructure improvements poses an dilemma for the ROK. Pyongyang continues to implement military doctrine that calls for maintaining war reserves for all classes of supply for six months of sustainability for regular forces and three months for reserve units and paramilitary forces. North Korea is expanding its ammunition and equipment storage capacities by building additional hardened and underground facilities and enlarging existing facilities. Major national-level storage installations have been built, and construction of unit-level storage depots continues, especially near the DMZ. Current ammunition stockpiles are estimated at over one million tons. A major military POL war reserve exists, despite the severe shortage of fuel supplies for the civil economy. Substantial food and combat ration war reserves are stockpiled, despite widespread starvation and malnourishment in recent years. North Korea has over 1,000,000 vehicles, 1,000 locomotives, and over 20,000 railcars that are mostly nonmilitary but would be mobilized to support a conflict. Much of this transportation is tied to reserve force units that would provide a substantial part of the logistic support required by military forces and would move personnel, ammunition, and supplies into the ROK during a conflict. Truck transportation units would provide a full range of support. Rail assets would provide heavy-lift capacity to move armor, self-propelled artillery, and resupply from national depots. In the last 12 months, North Korea has worked hard to arrest a decline in readiness and to improve its military capability. Highlighting these enhancements is an ambitious program to improve ground forces capabilities. A key component of this initiative involves the deployment of large numbers of long-range mm multiple rocket launcher systems and mm self-propelled guns to hardened sites located near the Demilitarized Zone. Other force improvements include emplacement of anti-tank barriers in the forward area, establishment of combat positions along major routes between Pyongyang and the Demilitarized Zone, repositioning of key units, beefing up of coastal defense forces in the forward area, construction of missile support facilities, preparations for extended range missile testing, and procurement of fighter aircraft.

SEOUL "Inter-Korean economic cooperation should be extended to joint ventures and equal partnerships" - not just one-off projects, Senior Presidential Secretary for Foreign Affairs and National.

This article compares the economic development experiences of Korea and China by finding similarities as well as differences between the two economies. While the development experiences of Korea and China are similar in that they have adopted government-led, outward-oriented development strategies, they differ in the way that they accumulate capital. Christchurch College of Education Geography, , 88 1: This article outlines some geographic aspects and related issues of the small nation of Timor Leste East Timor , the newest and poorest nation in Asia. Meanwhile, dependency on external aid continues. Asia Pacific Viewpoint, , 43 3: Semi-subsistence sectors predominate throughout Pacific island countries, however, the nature of the social organisation that characterises them remains generally unexamined. It investigates processes of household dynamics that lead to selective upward social mobility and the consequent fragmentation of the generalised peasant household. Better understanding of the basic units, goals and means of achieving them among the traditional, rural or grassroots sectors should aid in the current developmentalist emphasis on informal sector growth. This article analyses the economic structure of island countries examining five case studies, and demonstrates that countries pursuing strategies based on service industries or exports of light manufactures have been more successful in attaining development objectives. This success has been translated into improved welfare for the populations of these countries. In contrast, a promotion of agriculture and remittances has tended to have a negative effect on development and on levels of welfare of the relevant island countries. This paper examines the empirical relationship between financial development and economic growth in nine emerging economies in Southeast Asia. The sample period varies across countries but covers at least 25 years. The main finding is that financial development is important for economic growth and that causality runs from financial structure to economic development, indicating that in developing countries a policy of financial reform is likely to improve economic growth. Assuming the same source of technology diffusion for all ten economies, they conclude that in the long run, East Asia as a whole will have the same growth rate as Japan, but with two mutually exclusive convergence clubs. University of Colorado World Development, , 31 2: Both countries, along with Japan, experienced very rapid growth in both periods, especially Korea, whose growth rates ranked third or fourth in the prewar period. Both domestic and international economic conditions are examined to explain the findings. This article applies a neoclassical production function to explain the relationship between aid and growth in Solomon Islands. Two hypotheses are tested: The results indicate that aid has a significant positive impact on economic growth and domestic resources. Granger causality tests indicate that aid causes growth and growth, in turn, causes aid flows. Thus, the causality proceeds in both directions. This paper explores the relationship between financial sector development and economic growth in the Pacific island countries. The analysis suggests that the poor state of financial sectors has constrained the mobilisation of savings for growth and therefore restricted economic development in the region. Alternative policy options to achieve the desired results are explored. This article measures agricultural productivity growth in China using alternative data sets: For all three data sets, productivity growth was estimated to be strong during the immediate post-reform period from to According to the farm level data, productivity growth then slowed from to On the other hand, the national and provincial aggregate figures showed continued high productivity growth in the s. These findings suggest that aggregate data may blur the true picture with regard to agricultural productivity growth in China. Even if total factor productivity growth is to be reduced, it is expected that the Chinese economy will still manage to grow at a substantial rate over the next decade. This article tests two competing hypotheses, namely those of demand-following and supply-leading, using multivariate VAR models for mainland China over the period Q1 to Q4. Johansen cointegration results indicate that there exists one cointegrating vector among gross domestic

product, financial development and the degree of openness of three variables. The results from Granger causality tests based on multivariate error-correction models suggest independence between financial development and economic growth. This empirical result supports neither the demand-following nor the supply-leading hypothesis for mainland China. It concludes that economic development rates differ among the regions, the differences among the regional economies were more manifest in inter-regional differences in the s, and that although major differences in economic development levels in China remain, the growth of such differences has slowed in recent years. During the fourth quarter of , the Korean economy showed a brisk performance with a widened current account surplus and an acceleration of the upward trend of prices. Real gross domestic product grew by 6. The employment situation worsened somewhat, with the number of unemployed increasing by about 11, from the previous quarter. Growth of both exports and imports accelerated, and the current account registered a surplus of two billion dollars in the fourth quarter. In the financial markets, the call rate fluctuated around the 4. This article discusses these and other economic and financial movements in Korea. This article analyses international influences, as represented by US macroeconomic variables, on economic fluctuations in a small open economy, Malaysia. The results indicate that shocks in US real activity and monetary policy are transmitted to Malaysian real activity. Evidence for the lagged transmission of US inflation to Malaysian inflation is also found. The results highlight the central role played by exchange rates in explaining domestic macroeconomic fluctuations, and, more specifically, point towards contractionary and inflationary currency depreciation shocks. Exchange rate depreciation also leads to monetary expansion. From a policy point of view, these results stress the importance of exchange rate stability for the Malaysian economy. This article investigates the supply-side causes of business cycles in the small open economy of Singapore. The supply shocks examined are oil price, foreign technology, labour supply, productivity and wage shocks. The results suggest that external and domestic technology shocks are responsible for the bulk of short-term output movements, while labour supply shocks are more important in the long run. In contrast, oil price and wage disturbances play negligible roles in macroeconomic fluctuations. These findings support the view that Singapore business cycles are caused by both domestic and international factors. This paper analyses the dynamic interplay between peri-urban vegetable producers and their changing production and marketing environments in Asia, using examples from urban conglomerates in South, Southeast and East Asia. The authors discuss income generation, labour use, management of land and water resources, use of urban and market waste materials and health and food safety aspects. They conclude that peri-urban vegetable production, even though currently economically viable, is unlikely to be able to compete in the long run for scarce land and labour resources, unless alternative production technologies become available and the positive externalities generated by peri-urban agriculture become internalised. This paper assesses attitudes towards risk using data obtained from interviews conducted in households in Indonesian villages. Participants were invited to play investment games in order to identify household risk attitudes. The game result supports the hypothesis of non-decreasing partial relative risk aversion. Using an ordered probit model, the determinants of risk attitude were investigated. The results show that the variable of co-residence is important: Partial relative risk aversion decreases with education and wealth levels. Using the case of rapeseed and its products in China, this paper examines the role of grades and standards in simultaneously determining the life of things as commodities and the position of humans as market participants. The paper then discusses how grades and standards represent the participation of commodity-chain actors in the political processes of creating, legitimising and maintaining social relations between things and people. It argues that commodification may be understood as simultaneous transformations of humans and things in a commodity-chain while reorganising linkages among these actors. This paper analyses three important issues related to the East Asian financial crisis. First, whether capital mobility was increasing in Asia during the s; second, whether there was a sudden increase of capital-market risk in those countries; and finally, whether there was any evidence of contagion in the Asian capital market? Using monthly time-series data, the authors found that capital mobility had been rapidly increasing before the crisis; there was a sudden increase in capital-market risk; and there is

evidence of contagion in the Asian capital market from Thailand to other Asian countries. It posits that variations in liberalisation patterns stem from fundamental differences in the organisational structures of the private sector, the bureaucracy, and the party system. The paper focuses on Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand, which pursued different liberalisation strategies during the 1980s and 1990s and performed differently during the recent financial crisis. The financial crises of the 1990s have sparked interest in identifying channels through which such crises spread from one country to another. The evidence of this paper does not find strong support for contagion. The authors extend their analysis by looking at impulse responses, however, the results still do not find strong support for a contagion case. This boom was fuelled primarily by large-scale capital inflows throughout the early 1990s, a significant proportion of which were intermediated via the domestic banking sector. Motivated by this observation, along with the recognition of the importance of the credit bank lending transmission channel in the crisis-hit Southeast Asian economies, this paper concentrates on the precrisis capital inflow boom to emerging economies. This study examines the relationship between democracy and economic growth, and the priority of government policy. It is found that the relationship depends on many factors, both predictable and unpredictable. In the case of problems with democracy supporting welfare and growth, the solution involves the improvement in the implementation of democracy. The author discusses the cases of Indonesia, as an example of an authoritarian state, and South Korea, as an example of a democracy, in order to consider how the quality of democracy and economic growth might be improved in many Asian countries. University of Pennsylvania Current History, 1997, 106(1), 1-15. This article argues that unfortunately the capacity and political will to implement the right choices may be lacking. The financial turmoil that unexpectedly hit Hong Kong has exacerbated some worrisome trends that have plagued it for more than a decade: Still, social discontent is on the rise, particularly in the middle class. While it is true that stable improvement of inter-Korean relations is a prerequisite for the drive to develop Korea as the hub of Northeast Asia, it is also a fact that economic cooperation in Northeast Asia can facilitate stable inter-Korean economic relations. In this respect, each goal is a necessary condition for the other. First it reviews the comparative advantages of the South Korean economy, and second it deals with a priori conditions of inter-Korean relations. Despite its inspiring title, the message presents no new economic visions or specific economic policies. Its economic policy announcements practically reiterate the messages of previous years, with one distinct difference: Aid programs often involve the transfer of policies and institutions to developing countries, yet borrowed or transplanted institutions may not suit local conditions. Institutional transfer has been a persistent issue in the history of the South Pacific, ever since the King of Tonga borrowed ideas about land tenure from colonial New South Wales. For each transfer examined, it asks when the transfer took place, who was involved, how it took place, and where it came from, and then draws conclusions about its irrationality. Australian Security in the 21st Century. Here the well-known Australian journalist Graeme Dobell argues that Australia should accept its unique role in the Pacific as a great gift, not a burden, and should abandon the defensive posture it has adopted from the day the South Pacific Forum was created. It is time for Australia to lead. National University of Singapore Urban Studies, 1997, 10(2), 1-15. The difficult policies Singapore implemented during the crisis can only be understood in terms of an institutional context. The incorporation of the Riau islands in Indonesia in sub-regional production networks managed by Singapore led to consistent stances taken by regional authorities of the two governments to protect investments, in the midst of inconsistent signals between their national governments.

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Trump's Economic Proposals and How They Might Backfire When presidential candidates are campaigning for office, they will promise everything from free healthcare to free lawn care if that is what is needed to get the votes they need to win.

City University of Hong Kong Email address: Instead of provoking political or even military confrontations with North Korea in the traditional security arena, the engagement policy is believed to allow South Korea to seek possible breakthroughs in the non-traditional security arena. Through analyzing relevant data and political events in the past decade, this article examines the inter-Korean relationship in the non-traditional security arena and argues that the inter-Korean relationship in the non-security arena is still a fragile one, which is highly dependent on mutual political trust volatility and symbolic cooperation projects. The economic and cultural cooperation initiated by South Korea primarily targets to support North Korea in a patronizing manner instead of promoting equal civil cooperation. Regional political powers also could easily affect the inter-Korean cooperation dynamics. In the foreseeable future, improvement in mutual political trust and the promotion of political dialogue between the two Koreas, as well as mindfulness to the regional power shift, still present as the key to a peaceful inter-Korean relationship. North Korea, engagement policy, U. The Park administration intends to present the agreement as the consequence of its sticking to a consistent position that Pyongyang has to respect international standards and norms and abide by its promises, or otherwise pay a penalty for broken promises. Trust is one of the most important components essential to the generation of cooperation among individuals and among nations. It is a form of social capital that helps raise the level of efficiency of transactions in a community. South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se argues that in order to build a more enduring and lasting trust, one party must clearly show the willingness to use robust and credible deterrence against breaches of agreements by the other parties, while leaving open the possibility for constructive cooperation Yun, , p. Chinese experts on the Peninsula affairs perceive the trust-building approach of President Park Geun-hye as an attempt to steer a third path of engaging North Korea that puts an emphasis on economic cooperation, dialogue and exchange along the line of her predecessors Kim Dae-jung and Roh Moo-hyun. Just before and after the election of Park Geun-hye, Pyongyang launched a satellite and conducted a nuclear test, leaving little room for compromise for the Park administration which has been forced to maintain a hawkish line. Mark Suchman considers that trust is built by repeated compliance with norms and established rational expectations for behaviors Suchman, The realist school of international relations scholars perceive the international system as an anarchy without a world government and a global police force. Richard Ned Lebow argues that trust and cooperation are closely connected, though cooperation is still possible without trust; sustained cooperation, however, requires a high level of trust. Treating countries as ends in themselves helps to build trust, and facilitates cooperation, which in turn builds common identities and more trust Lebow, ; Lebow, As observed by Mel Gustov, in authoritarian and democratic states alike, a policy of engagement with adversaries in order to achieve peace and cooperation is often politically risky. Successful constructive engagement, i. According to David Baldwin, U. It is thus a challenge for a South Korean political leader to promote engagement with North Korea, such as convincing the electorate that engagement is the best option available. At this stage, a South Korean leader will find it difficult to convince the domestic public that in inter-Korean relations, carrots are more effective than sticks. However, several studies indicate that most South Koreans are also not inclined to support a policy of total pressure and sanctions against North Korea, especially given the fact that both sides belong to the one Korean ethnicity. Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se is certainly aware of these sentiments when he presents the trustpolitik of the Park Geun-hye administration. He was largely analyzing the relations between the U. Even Chinese leaders in the era of economic reforms and opening to the external world share this perception of conspiracy Cheng, , p. And South Korea is the best candidate for such kind of engagement, the U. It has encountered many difficulties, but its significance is that

Pyongyang has never wanted to abandon the project. Recently the Park Geun-hye administration plans to internationalize the complex by attracting non-South Korean enterprises Stangarone, , and further brands the products of the complex in overseas market¹. FTAs signed with the U. The Republic of Korea was established on August 15, , and Lee Seong-man became its first president. Since then, unification under a victory of its own ideological camp became the central task of both Lee Seong-man and Kim Il-sung. Kim Il-sung advocated a free presidential election on the peninsula without foreign interference, and a federal political system as a transitional mechanism towards a truly unified state Kim, , p. The Park administration took a series of measures consolidating its initiatives in the unification dialogue. As South Korea set ambitious developmental goal for its economy, it naturally downplayed the necessity of confronting North Korea with a hawkish line. On July 4, , a joint declaration was announced after high-level official meetings, it emphasized the pursuit of peaceful unification under no foreign interferences and surpassing ² It is the precursor of the current South Korean Unification Ministry. The civil and political meetings between the North and the South in the early s established two channels for inter-Korean dialogue for the first time. From to , the average annual export growth rate of South Korea reached However, in an official letter sent to the Chun 9 Doo-hwan administration in , the North Korean Prime Minister finally used the official name of South Korea indicating the actual acceptance of the legal status of South Korea. The first democratically elected president Roh Tae-woo, at the end of the Cold War, proposed Nordpolitik Policy, which that South Korea would pursue a normal and friendly relationship with communism countries. The Nordpolitik Policy brought South Korea a diplomatically fruitful era, as it became a member of UN in , established formal diplomatic with the Soviet Union in and China in With a further consolidated political and economic reputation in the international community, South Korea becomes the active party in the inter-Korean relationship. Rejecting the perspective of a zero-sum-game in traditional security environment, engagement in non-traditional security arenas would create more flexibilities, and more importantly economic cooperation, cultural and ideological influences may spill over into the political arena and ameliorate inter-state relationship. Agreeing with the spill-over effect, scholars raise different types of engagement. Son has elucidated three levels of comprehensive engagement: According to the three parameters, a comprehensive engagement process goes through domestic identity shift, status quo between states, and final trans-political-boundary integration. It includes different forms of action, ranging from liberal political dialogue to military deterrence, from cultural communication, humanitarian aid to economic sanction. The two opposite ideologies lead them to drive on divergent developmental paths, the North on nuclear one and the South on economic one. Co-operation and communication between the two ⁵ The former president of South Korea from to The three principles of Sunshine Policy are: Originally, the Sunshine Policy is designed to economically engage North Korea then later ignite political intimacy and nostalgia for a political unification within their ethnicity. This national goal includes two important subordinate political goals: The neo-functionalist metaphor of spill-over was what President Kim and his advisors dreamed of in terms of genuine inter-Korean integration, through the envisioned nexus between the government and civil society, between politics and economy. However, the progress was not smooth in reality, as both empirical and policy evidence have argued above. Sunshine Policy is an initial experiment of functionalism practice in inte-Korean politics. No matter how appealing it appears, Sunshine Policy for the first time encouraged North Korea to promote cooperation with the international community in pursuit of its own interests rather than to compromise its interest. Sunshine Policy earned Kim Dae-jung international reputation and stimulated a ferocious domestic debate over the appropriateness of engagement attitude towards the North. Dancing with Two Major Powers through Engagement: China and the U. For South Korea, U. By , China became the biggest trade partner and the second most popular investment destination of South Korea, now it means an important friendly neighbor instead of an ideological enemy to South Korea, and the latter correspondingly transits to a much more balanced diplomatic stand in the region. Since the Roh Moo-hyun administration, South Korea has re-positioned itself as a balancer among the major powers in Northeast Asia. It did not seek to change the existing power pattern, but pursued its own independence and maximize its

pragmatic interests out of the game. In 1994, Park Geun-hye visited the U.S. Seoul has been working hard to gain stronger political trust from Beijing and finally persuades it to influence North Korea. Hence China would be willing to see South Korea engage North Korea with more initiatives without itself generating any unnecessary high-profile political turbulence⁷. According to the China-North Korea Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in 1961, one party should support the other militarily during a situation of war; the treaty was automatically extended twice in 1981 and 1991, and it would remain valid until 2011. In September 1991, the then U.S. As China engaged itself in economic reforms and opening to the external world since the end of 1978, it also started pursuing an independent foreign policy from 1982. The disintegration of the Communist bloc in 1989 further placed South Korea at an advantageous position relative to North Korea. In 1992, China established diplomatic relations with South Korea, which obviously disappointed Pyongyang. In many other crucial historic moments, China¹⁷ Although China has sometimes been viewed as the most influential ideological partner of North Korea, this ideological alliance might be the exact reason why the two ended up in estrangement. Myers described the North Koreans as a highly homogeneous population indoctrinated by a sacred mission influenced by an anti-Japanese complex, Confucian cultural tradition and the Communist ideology Myers, However, North Korea seems unlikely to give up its only effective bargain chip in its political dialogues with the outside world, as well as in the protection of its ideological tradition. In sum, both the U.S. As South Korea flounders among the big powers frequently, it still has struggled to explore a path of engaging North Korea since the past decade. Incremental Cooperation or Appeasement in the Form of Aid? The only set-back occurred in 1998 when the Cheonan Incident took place. Ministry of Unification, the Republic of Korea, eng. A South-Korean-led official investigation delegation composed of experts from South Korea and Western countries later reported that the warship sank due to a North Korean torpedo attack. South Korea took the 5. The weak foundation of political trust still generates direct and immediate harm to the economic engagement of North Korea, but when political drama calms, it often resumes fast as inter-Korean trade jumped to an even higher level by 2008. This type of quick resumption usually indicates the effort of South Korea taking initiatives to repair the economic relationship, and usually the deal is doubted by critics as South Korea offers preferential conditions to North Korea all the time. The products of GIC amounted to Processing-on-commission used to be a most popular type of trade between two Koreas, as through this mode of cooperation North Korea could provide abundant raw materials and cheap labors, South Korea could provide technologies and facilities. On the other hand, South Korea actually accounts non-commercial transactions into the trade statistics too, which exactly indicates its perspective about inter-Korean trade: To South Korea, this stance involves its ethnic complex with the North and the political calculation of maintaining basic stability on the peninsula. However, economic engagement in this way has been criticized as appeasement in exchange for overvalued political returns. The aid-oriented and project-centered economic engagement has guaranteed the increase in trade volume, yet it always implies the weak foundation of engagement which has neither been comprehensive nor solid enough. Used to be the ancient capital of the Goryeo Kingdom, the city of Gaeseong has a cultural and historical symbolic significance to the Korean Diasporas, building an industrial complex there would definitely expand its symbolic²² influences. The problematic perspective of special economic zones like the GIC and Mt. On the other hand, North Korea unilaterally withdrew all of its 53, workers for the first time in the nine-year history of the GIC Kwak, Mountain Geumgang Tourism Zone: The promotion of this project is advocated by some South Korean celebrities: The first South Korean tourists and reporters made their maiden trip to Mt. Geumgang in Park, 2000, marking the fact that South Korean civilians could enter North Korean territory as a significant symbol of an ameliorating inter-Korean relationship. Both GIC and Mt. Geumgang projects were firstly suggested by influential South Korean celebrities. Neither the governments nor the civil societies have constructed a strong supporting mechanism for promoting engagement.

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He also pointed out that in bilateral relations, they should enhance economic cooperation, and strive to overcome the obstacles for economic and trade exchange due to factors of both economic similarity and governmental management.

So when they do get elected, many of them renege on a great number of their campaign pledges. However, for reasons that experts will be studying for years to come, Donald Trump is not like most politicians. One of his more ridiculous pledges was to enforce a complete and total shutdown of Muslims entering the United States. That pledge has been quietly withdrawn. If it quacks like a Nazi This will mean that even before he begins his presidency, he will likely lose a lot of good will from the many people who voted for him. However, this is not a moment for anyone who opposed Trump to be allowing themselves to enjoy feelings of schadenfreude. That is because Trump will most likely resort to other methods to placate his supporters and the fact of the matter is that Trump is a deal-maker and he will make the kinds of deals that are profitable to him, but not necessarily anyone else. So among the first things that Trump will do as president is to fulfill his pledge to rip up trade deals. The TPP will be the first casualty. After all, NAFTA has been in place for a long time and there will be many vested interests who would be severely opposed to such a move. On the other hand, the TPP, which is still in its embryonic stage, would be much easier to terminate. To complement that decision, Trump will likely push to keep another promise, which he also knows will face little to no opposition from the newly elected Republican Congress - his promise to levy a one-time 10 percent tax on all repatriated corporate profits that are currently being held offshore. That way, he hopes to create thousands of jobs which would have a cumulative effect on the economy. However, repatriation of corporate profits is a temporary fix. The repatriation of corporate profits will come at the expense of other countries around the world and this could particularly hurt Europe. Deutsche Bank barely survived but the Eurozone debt crisis and negative interest rates continue to haunt it and other major European banks. A sudden loss of significant US Dollar reserves, which would likely follow such a generous corporate tax and a Federal Reserve interest rate hike, could very well hurl the entire European continent into yet another banking crisis. Trump might receive less support in fact, he might face fierce resistance but another thing that he might attempt to do is fulfill his pledge to impose a 35 percent tariff on all imports coming from Mexico. What is much less certain, however, is his pledge to impose a 45 percent tariff on all imports coming from China. In fact, as unlikely as the former may be, the latter is even more unlikely. An imposition of even minor tariffs can and do lead to economic retaliations, which if left unchecked, could spiral into a vicious trade war. And a trade war could be devastating. Trump would need to deliver something much bigger to appease the voters and Congress. The easiest target will likely be South Korea. Politically, South Korea would be easy to throw under the bus. Furthermore, South Korea is an American ally in an unfriendly far-away neighborhood, which means that South Korea has little choice but to be more cautious, read, timid in its dealings with the US. For a deal maker like Trump, South Korea is the perfect negotiation partner - one that he can kick around and squeeze for as much concessions as possible. Trump will twist arms and deploy brinkmanship-esque negotiation tactics with regards to military cost-sharing plans and renegotiating the ROK-US Free Trade Agreement. Threatening South Korea by stating that he would be willing to walk away from the alliance would certainly be an effective strategy. It would certainly cause initial resentment among South Koreans, but it probably will not change the fundamentals of the partnership. As a result, unless South Korea balks which is highly unlikely the alliance will not break. So although Trump might still do away with the TPP, he cannot completely abandon trade deals with Asia. So if Trump cannot afford to squeeze East Asia too hard, there are two other related areas that he could exploit. Furthermore, he could put the Environmental Protection Agency on a much shorter leash as it had been under the George W. Bush administration in order to encourage more U. Naturally, however, this would lead to a larger glut of supplies, which in turn would lower oil prices and help the US grow its oil market share. Although some individual oil companies will certainly suffer as a result of sustained low prices, in the larger

scheme of things, this could nominally help the US. However, not everyone would be celebrating this turn of events. Even wealthy countries like Saudi Arabia are struggling as a result of low oil prices and facing ever dwindling foreign-exchange reserves. Things have become more desperate among poorer OPEC member states such as Russia and Venezuela and other smaller Gulf kingdoms, albeit to a lesser extent. Speaking of Syria, one thing that Trump would certainly do to great fanfare is to withdraw US forces from that country. Trump is a deal maker and truth be told, for the US, the Syrian conflict is a moral one. Regardless of how that conflict turns out, the US would not see direct profits from it. However, due to the aforementioned Sunni-Shiite proxy war, that does not mean that a US withdrawal would help to usher in peace in the Middle East. It should be noted, however, that withdrawal from Syria would not mean that Trump would push for a general withdrawal from the Middle East region altogether. Trump has always projected himself as a strong leader to the point of thuggery. A single terrorist attack would likely compel Trump to retaliate disproportionately, which could very well keep the vicious cycle of US involvement in the Middle East ongoing. There is, however, one bright side - if it can be called that. An unintended consequence of growing unease in the Middle East as a result of continued drop in oil prices would likely be that Middle Eastern governments are going to seek assurances that they will not be toppled by their own people. This will also help to raise jobs and help the arms industry be more profitable. In the long-term, however, increased defense spending is unlikely to help the US economy. There is no reason to attack North Korea because there is no way that doing so would profit Trump or the US. In fact, it is entirely possible that Trump might wish to pursue engagement with North Korea because he might want to exploit North Korean natural resources. Whether such an endeavor would be fruitful, however, is another matter entirely. Besides, another reason why there most likely will not be a war with North Korea is that to date, no nation state armed with nuclear weapons has ever been attacked. The future does not look too bright for Donald Trump. If he pushes through the aforementioned pledges, they will certainly benefit the US. At least in the short run as the country will be awash in capital that will provide an economic stimulus but without the Broken Window effect. However, the negative effects that they would have on developing economies in Asia, Africa, and even in Europe could lead to a prolonged worldwide economic recession. This would have a domino effect and the US would not be spared. Unless Trump pursues better policies that would help to promote free trade and cooperative partnerships with other countries around the world, there is a very good chance that Trump would end up being a one-term president.

PROPOSALS FOR ENLARGING INTER-KOREAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS

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