

THE ASAN INSTITUTE for POLICY STUDIES

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*Note

Surnames appear before given names for individuals from Korea, Japan and China.

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www.asaninst.org
www.asanplenum.org

About the Asan Institute

Mission Statement

The Asan Institute for Policy Studies is an independent, non-partisan think tank with the mandate to undertake policy-relevant research to foster domestic, regional, and international environments conducive to peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, as well as Korean reunification.

Chronology

- Feb. 11, 2008** - Founding of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies
- Dr. Han Sung-Joo inaugurated as the first Chairman and President of the Institute.
- Feb. 11, 2009** - Ambassador Song Young Shik inaugurated as the second President of the Institute.
- Groundbreaking ceremony for the Asan Institute's new offices at 1-176 Shinmunro 2-ga, Jongno-gu, Seoul
- Jan. 13, 2010** - Opening of the new building
- Mar. 10, 2010** - Dr. Hahm Chaibong inaugurated as the third President of the Institute.
- Jan. 28, 2011** - Dr. Lee In-ho inaugurated as the second Chairperson of the Institute.

Founder & Honorary Chairman



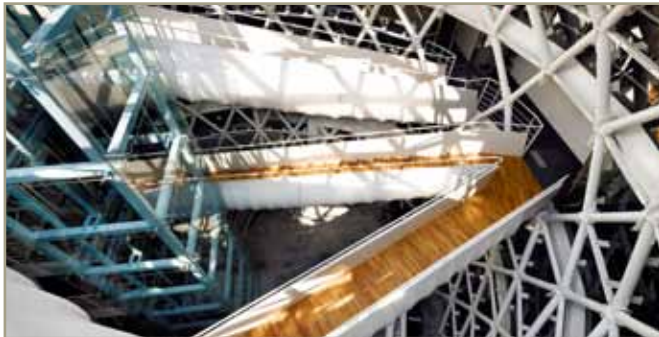
Dr. Chung Mong Joon was recently elected to his seventh-term as a member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea. He is a former Chairman of the Grand National Party, and was also a presidential candidate in 2002.

Dr. Chung is the Chairman of the board of trustees of Ulsan University as well as of the Asan Foundation, the largest philanthropic organization in Korea. In 2011, he launched the Asan Nanum ("sharing") Foundation which seeks to foster entrepreneurship and leadership among young Koreans. He served as Vice President of FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association), the world governing body of football, and as Co-Chairman of the Korean Organizing Committee for the 2002 Korea-Japan FIFA World Cup.

Dr. Chung received his B.A. in economics from Seoul National University, an M.S. from the Sloan School of Management at MIT, and a Ph.D. in international relations from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at the Johns Hopkins University.

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Chairperson



Lee In-ho
Ph.D. in History, Harvard University; Former Korean Ambassador to the Russian Federation

President



Hahm Chaibong
Ph.D. in Political Science, Johns Hopkins University

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Programs & Projects

Foreign Policy Studies Program

The Foreign Policy Studies Program aims to facilitate the high-quality exchange of insights among experts, policymakers and the general public about vital issues in global politics, thus leading to more informed foreign policy decisions. Central to its mission is the production of original, timely, and rigorous research. Such research complements the Program's efforts to cultivate thoughtful conversations about global politics by examining them in a methodical and sustained manner, thus providing a basis for further informed analysis and policymaking.

International Law and Conflict Resolution Program

The International Law and Conflict Resolution Program investigates the fundamental rules and principles of public international law as part of global governance regimes. The Program's primary goal is to analyze and understand how international law and global governance can contribute to the peaceful resolution and management of international conflicts. Through a comprehensive analysis of international legal instruments and benchmark cases before international tribunals, the Program aims to discover new foreign policy options based upon the role of the law.





Middle East & North Africa (MENA) Program

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Program is the first and only research program of its kind among South Korea's independent think tanks. Recognizing the growing importance of the Middle East, North Africa and the Muslim world to the Republic of Korea's long-term interests, the mission of the MENA Program is to provide policymakers, experts and the general public with access to the vital debates regarding democracy, capitalism, and globalization in the region. The MENA Program seeks to draw the attention of the South Korean public to the events taking place throughout the MENA region and their policy implications for the Korean Peninsula. Topics of interest include democratic transitions, oil resource development, social networks and civil society development, the diversification of political Islam, United States policy in the Middle East, the Israel-Palestine conflict, and terrorism.

Governance Studies Program

The Governance Studies Program is motivated by the recognition that fundamental changes in the architecture of global governance are underway in response to the spread of transnational challenges, the rise of new powers, and the mounting influence of non-state actors. Given these trends, East Asian policymakers require rigorous and independent research support on emerging global governance issues. The Governance Studies Program meets these needs by analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of existing multilateral institutions, proposing reforms tailored to new international circumstances, and identifying opportunities for East Asian policymakers to contribute positively to the reform of the global governance system.

Public Opinion Studies Program

The Public Opinion Studies Program is rapidly becoming one of the most trusted sources for information about South Korean public opinion. Leaders and policymakers rely on public opinion surveys to gauge public sentiment regarding specific policy issues. The Program conducts regular polls and utilizes advanced statistical analysis to obtain reliable data about the Korean polity for political leaders and the general public, thereby fostering more informed policy debates and decisions.



Asan Plenum

The Asan Plenum is a yearly gathering of the world's leading think tanks held by the Asan Institute in Seoul, Korea to discuss the pressing challenges facing the world. The Plenum is a multi-day, multi-session conference with each panel organized by an individual think tank. This division of labor capitalizes on each think tank's different strengths in expertise and ensures a diversity of perspectives so as to bring together as wide and deep a knowledge base as possible. By fostering intensive conversations among top experts about major challenges in world politics, the Asan Plenum aims to positively influence the policymaking process and enable the global community to better address those challenges.



Asan Memorial Lecture

The Asan Memorial Lecture is the flagship lecture series of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies. In keeping with its mandate to provide innovative policy solutions and spearhead public discourse on many of the core issues that face the Korean peninsula, the region and the globe, the Asan Institute invites world-renowned leaders from a variety of fields and disciplines to offer their thoughts on pressing matters in global politics.

1. Henry A. Kissinger

“Nuclear North Korea and Northeast Asia” (Mar. 3, 2010)

2. Michael J. Sandel

“Justice: What’s the Right Thing To Do?” (Aug. 19, 2010)

3. Guy Sorman

“Should We Fear China?” (Jan. 20, 2011)

4. Tu Weiming

“Confucian Humanism in the Twenty-First Century:
China’s Quest for a New Cultural Identity” (Feb. 24, 2011)

5. James J. Heckman

“What Tests Miss: Hard Evidence on Soft Skills” (Aug. 8, 2011)

6. Donald Rumsfeld

“Twenty-First Century Challenges in the Pacific and Beyond”
(Oct. 13, 2011)





1-176 Shinmunro 2-Ga, Jongno-Gu, Seoul, 110-062, Korea
Tel: 82-2-730-5842 / Fax: 82-2-730-5876



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