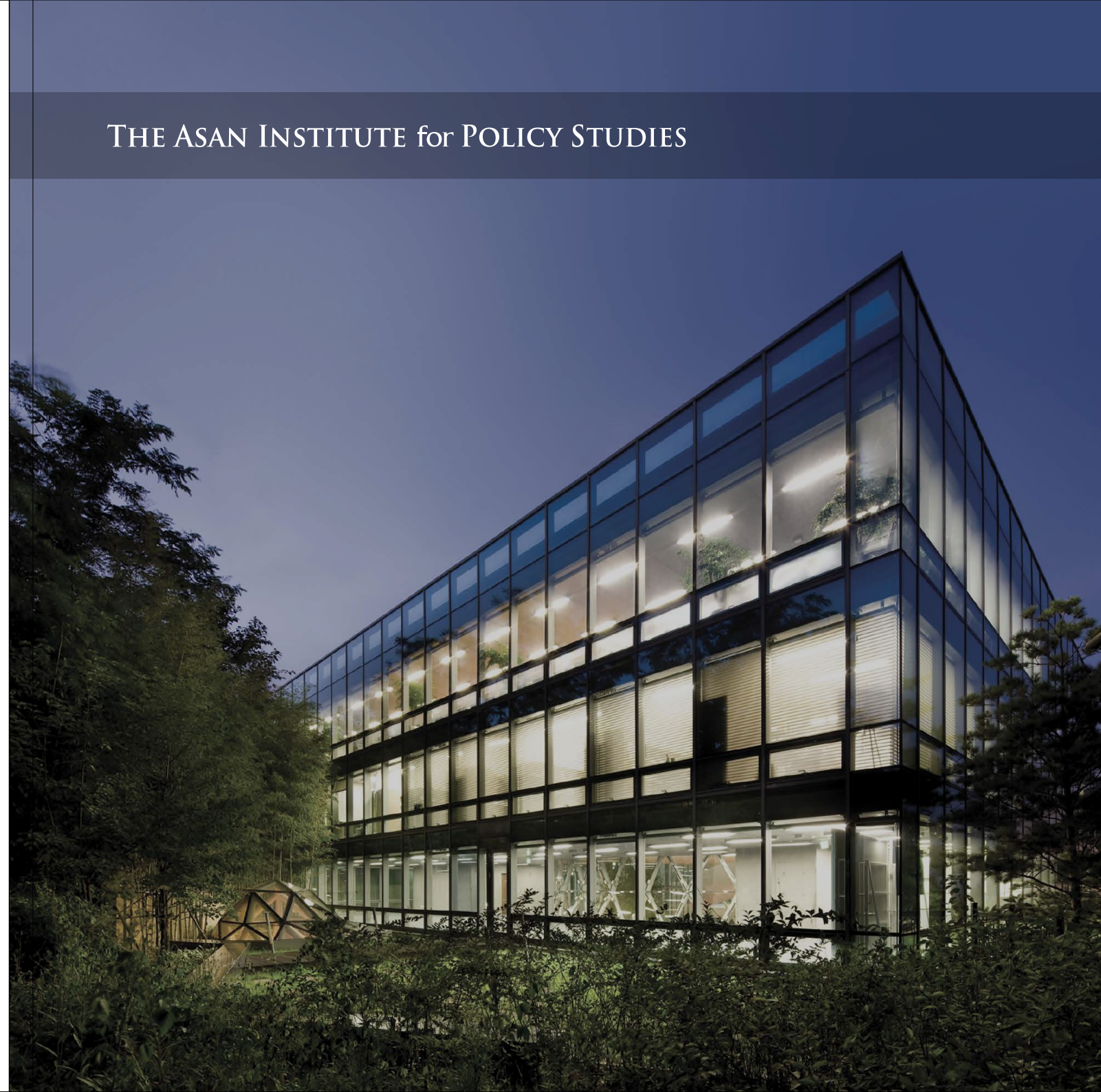




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www.asaninst.org

THE ASAN INSTITUTE for POLICY STUDIES



THE ASAN INSTITUTE for POLICY STUDIES

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I

About the Asan Institute



Mission Statement

As an independent, non-partisan think tank, the Asan Institute for Policy Studies is dedicated to undertaking policy-relevant research to foster domestic, regional, and international environments conducive to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula.

The Asan Institute was established in commemoration of the Founder and Honorary Chairman of Hyundai Group, Chung Ju-yung, who left an indelible mark on South Korea’s modernization and inter-Korean exchanges towards peace.

Named after Chung Ju-yung’s pen name, “Asan,” Dr. MJ Chung founded the Asan Institute on February 11, 2008 to become a world-class think tank that mirrors South Korea’s place on the world stage.

Chronology

Feb. 11, 2008	Founding of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies Dr. Han Sung-Joo inaugurated as the Chairman and President of the Institute
Feb. 11, 2009	Ambassador Song Young-Shik inaugurated as the President of the Institute
Jan. 13, 2010	Opening of the Asan Institute’s new building
Mar. 10, 2010	Dr. Hahm Chaibong inaugurated as the President of the Institute
Jan. 28, 2011	Dr. Lee In-ho inaugurated as the Chairman of the Institute
Feb. 26, 2014	Dr. Hahm Chaibong inaugurated as the Chairman of the Institute
May 15, 2019	Dr. Han Sung-Joo inaugurated as the Chairman of the Institute
Mar. 29, 2022	Ambassador Lee Jun-gyu inaugurated as the Chairman of the Institute Dr. Choi Kang inaugurated as the President of the Institute
Mar. 23, 2023	Dr. Yoon Young-kwan inaugurated as the Chairman of the Institute

II Research

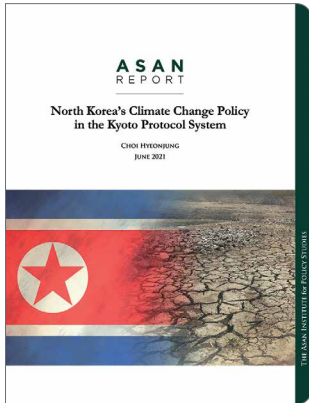
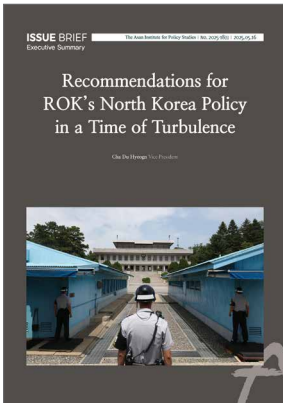
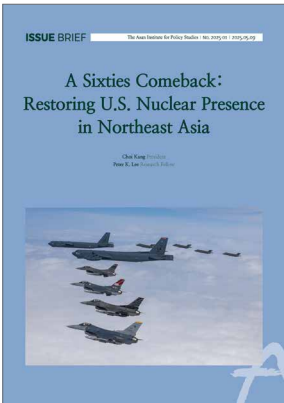


Center for Foreign Policy and National Security

The Center for Foreign Policy and National Security was established to help devise foreign affairs and national security policies that contribute to the stability of Northeast Asia and the promotion of peace on the Korean Peninsula through theoretical considerations and empirical analysis of the ever-changing geopolitical environment internationally.



By holding joint academic conferences with a wide range of domestic and foreign research institutes, while also conducting research projects and releasing publications at the same time, the center plays an important role in contributing to the revitalization of public-private cooperation networks as it heightens the level of social discourse. The main research topics are related to multilateral cooperation and regional security, public diplomacy, and comparative analysis of foreign affairs and national security policies by country.



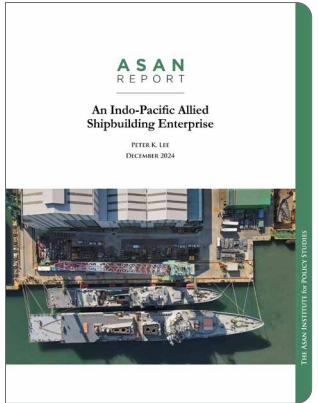
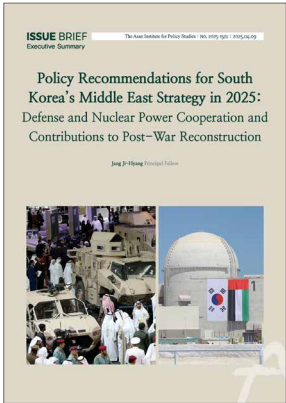
Issue Brief (left)
A Sixties Comeback:
Restoring U.S. Nuclear
Presence in Northeast Asia

Issue Brief (center)
Recommendations for ROK's
North Korea Policy in a Time
of Turbulence

Asan Report (right)
North Korea's Climate
Change Policy in the Kyoto
Protocol System

Center for Regional Studies

The Center for Regional Studies consists of five separate program areas—the United States, China, Japan, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia & Oceania—with the programs all attempting to analyze and understand each region by carrying out research on their relations with Korea. This includes a host of pending responsibilities and issues, notably those concerned with politics, economics, society & culture, and international relations in each specific area. While exploring the direction of foreign policy through detailed investigations into a particular region and its associated countries, the center highlights Korea’s role as a developed and technologically advanced country in the always-changing international community.



Issue Brief (left)
Europe's Shifting Security Landscape and Implications for South Korea

Issue Brief (center)
Policy Recommendations for South Korea's Middle East Strategy in 2025

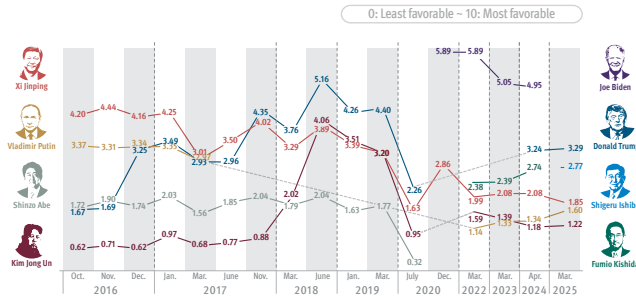
Asan Report (right)
An Indo-Pacific Allied Shipbuilding Enterprise



Public Opinion Studies Team

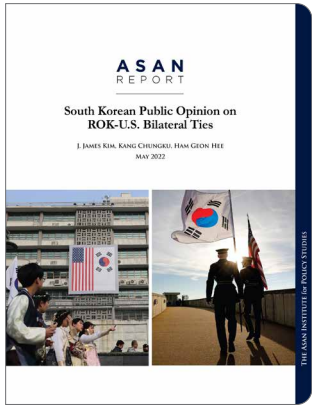
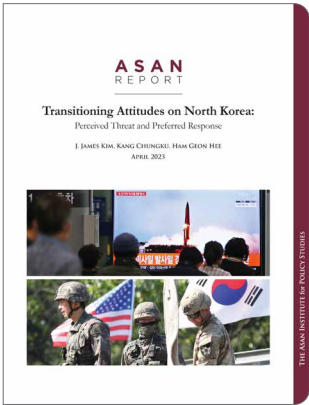
LEADER FAVORABILITY

How would you rate the favorability of the following leaders?



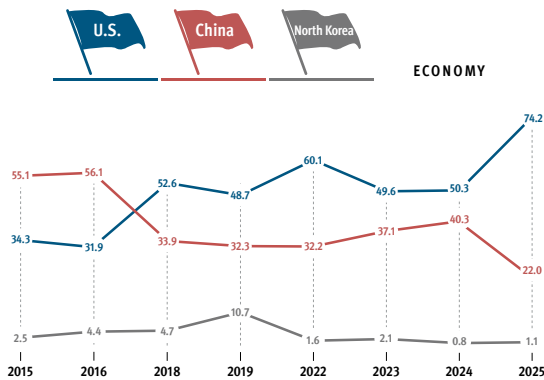
Asan Report (left)
Transitioning Attitudes on
North Korea: Perceived
Threat and Preferred
Response

Asan Report (right)
South Korean Public Opinion
on ROK-U.S. Bilateral Ties



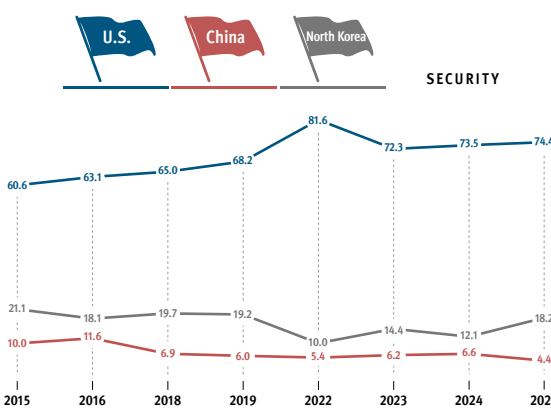
MOST IMPORTANT COUNTRY FOR SOUTH KOREA'S ECONOMY

Which country is most important for South Korea's economy?



MOST IMPORTANT COUNTRY FOR SOUTH KOREA'S SECURITY

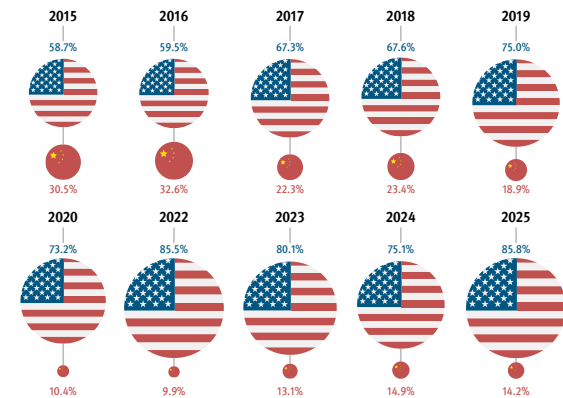
Which country is most important for South Korea's security?



The Public Opinion Studies Team is contributing to the drafting of policies and collecting data on public opinion by analyzing how domestic sentiment is changing through public opinion surveys and statistical analysis. On the other hand, it is also summarizing and evaluating policies using mathematical modelling, such as quantitative analysis and statistical tools, and coming up with future policy alternatives based on these results. What's more is that by disclosing a large amount of qualitative and quantitative data to experts and the public at large, the team is also playing a critical role in encouraging social discourse to derive policy alternatives.

SOUTH KOREA'S FUTURE PARTNER

If the United States and China continue their rivalry, which country should South Korea strengthen ties with?



III

Activities of the Institute



Asan Plenum

The *Asan Plenum*, which discusses pressing issues in the international arena, is the main annual meeting of the Asan Institute.

Foreign affairs and national security experts in South Korea and overseas participate as both the agents and audience of the discussions, with the aim of uncovering worthwhile policy alternatives.



- 2011 “Our Nuclear Future” (June 13 - 15, 2011)
- 2012 “Leadership” (April 25 - 27, 2012)
- 2013 “New World Disorder” (April 30 - May 1, 2013)
- 2014 “Future of History” (April 22 - 23, 2014)
- 2015 “Is the U.S. Back?” (April 28 - 29, 2015)
- 2016 “The New Normal” (April 26 - 27, 2016)
- 2018 “Illiberal International Order” (April 24 - 25, 2018)
- 2019 “Korea’s Choice” (April 23 - 24, 2019)
- 2023 “Alliance of 70 Years and Beyond” (April 25, 2023)
- 2024 “Future of Asia: Prosperity and Security”
(May 14, 2024)
- 2025 “80 Years of Independence and 60 Years of
Korea-Japan Normalization” (April 23, 2025)

Asan Symposium



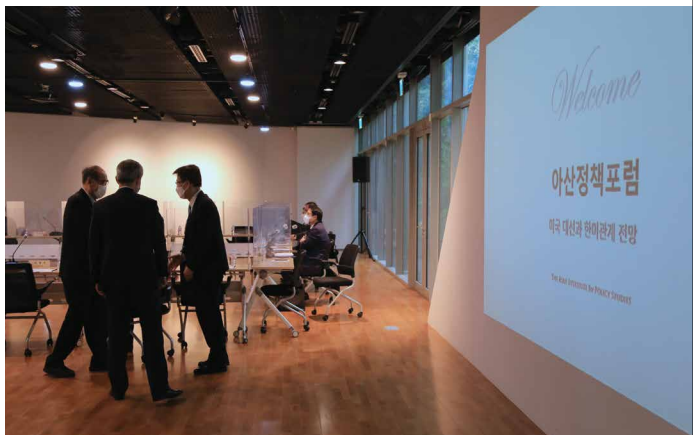
The Asan Institute holds an annual *Asan Symposium* to promote multilateral cooperation for world peace and to propose rational policy alternatives regarding international issues. In light of this, the Asan Symposium invites highly respected scholars and leaders from myriad fields to spur important public discourse on international political issues facing both the Korean Peninsula and the world, while also contributing to the expansion of dynamic international exchanges.



Asan Policy Forum

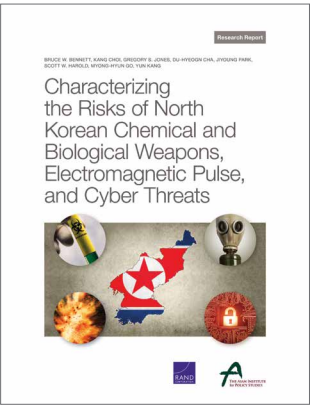
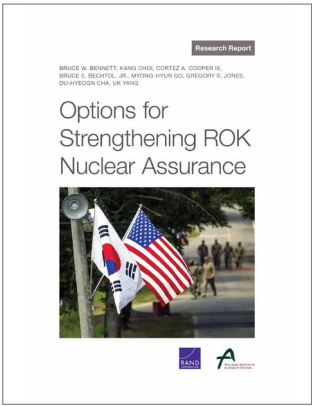


The *Asan Policy Forum* is a monthly meeting of foreign affairs and national security experts to analyze time-sensitive issues. Through expert presentations on urgent issues and subsequent discussions between conservative and progressive panels, policy alternatives that are objective and non-partisan are presented.



Joint Research

The Asan Institute is strengthening the promotion of academic exchanges with the international community by advocating for joint research with leading research institutes and global think tanks in the United States, Japan, and Europe, including the RAND Corporation, Brookings Institution, Chicago Council on Global Affairs (CCGA), and the Université Libre de Bruxelles.



Asan-RAND Joint Report (left)
Options for Strengthening ROK Nuclear Assurance

Asan-Kharon Joint Report (center)
South Korea and the Global Regulatory Landscape

Asan-RAND Joint Report (right)
Characterizing the Risks of North Korean Chemical and Biological Weapons, Electromagnetic Pulse, and Cyber Threats

Asan Roundtable



The Asan Institute regularly invites domestic and foreign scholars and policy experts to the *Asan Roundtable*, a forum for lively, unfettered discussions on topics related to the Korean Peninsula and international matters. The institute also conducts activities to discuss the situation on the Korean Peninsula and imminent diplomatic and security issues with foreign diplomatic missions in Korea.

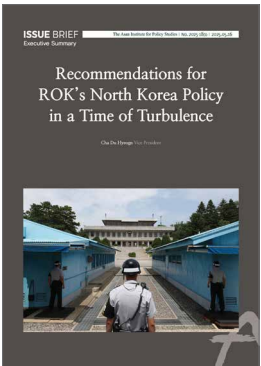
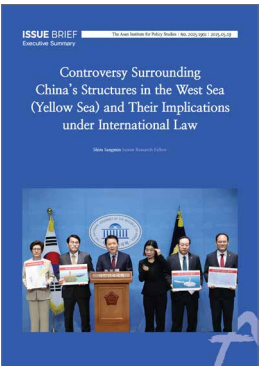
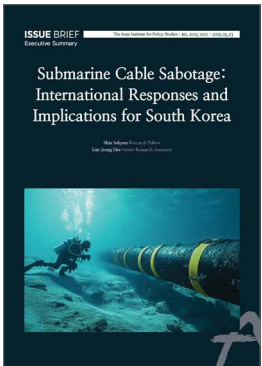
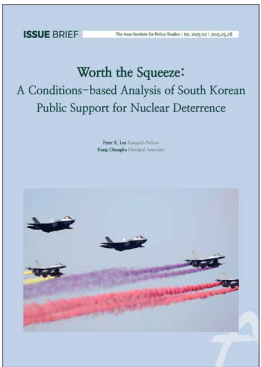
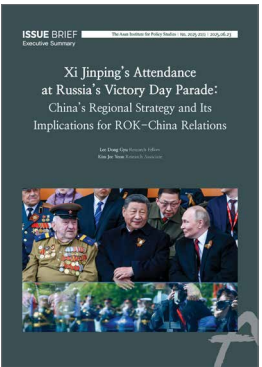
IV

Publications



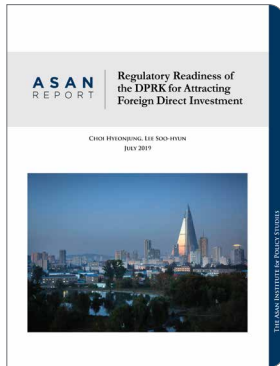
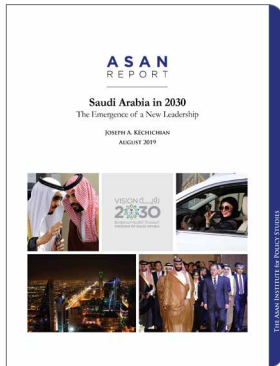
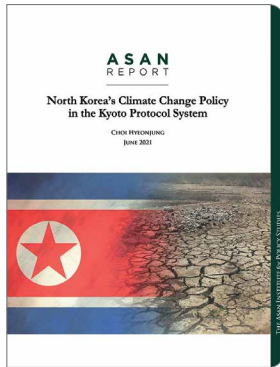
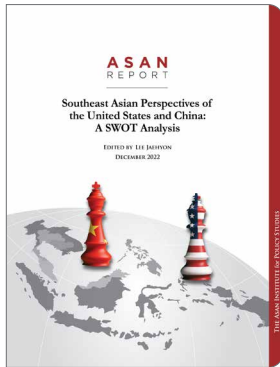
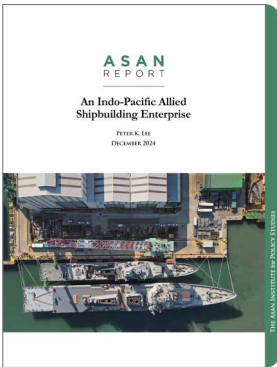
Issue Brief

Featuring noted experts in numerous fields and regions who provide astute insight into international issues, *Issue Brief* is a report that analyzes current domestic and international issues and pending diplomatic concerns in a timely manner in response to the rapidly changing international environment. The report covers topics such as national security, nuclear issues, diplomatic relations, governance, global governance, international law, science & technology, economics, democracy, culture, social issues and energy.



Asan Report

Through the publication of *Asan Report*, the Asan Institute provides extensive information on major international community issues to experts in the field of foreign affairs and national security, policymakers, and the general public. Published in either Korean or English (depending on the topics addressed), *Asan Report* deals with a variety of topics, ranging from national security, diplomatic policies, and regional studies to global governance and public opinion.



The Asan Forum (E-Journal)

The Asan Forum is an online English-language journal that analyzes changes going on within the Asia-Pacific region. The journal’s main task is to highlight trends in major diplomatic issues not only inside but also outside the region. Specifically, by analyzing a situation based on the historical, social, and cultural contexts of each country, The Asan Forum provides a wide array of in-depth conclusions to readers.



May 12, 2025 | Special Forum

Introduction

In conjunction with the publication of Xi Jinping’s Quest for a Sinocentric Asia, 2013-2024, a book drawn from articles posted in The Asan Forum, this Special Forum explores [...]

Editorial Staff



May 12, 2025 | Special Forum

The Collapse of the US-led World Order: China Gains Ground but Not Ready to Replace It

President Trump has upended the US-led post-World War II world order. Beijing watched almost in disbelief as Trump chaotically and with shocking speed withdrew the US from multilateral [...]

Suisheng Zhao

Donald Trump, Global South, Sinocentrism, Tianxia, Xi Jinping



May 12, 2025 | Special Forum

Five Upsurges in the Build-up of Sinocentrism: Connecting Shifts in Chinese Foreign Policy under Mao, Deng, Jiang, Hu, and Xi

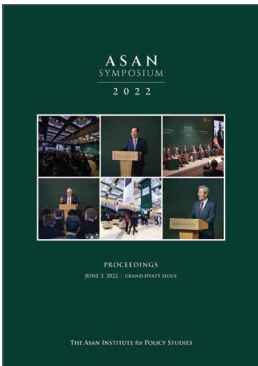
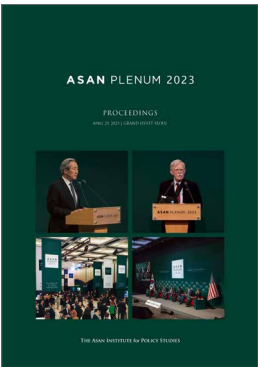
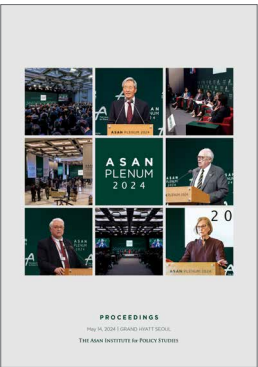
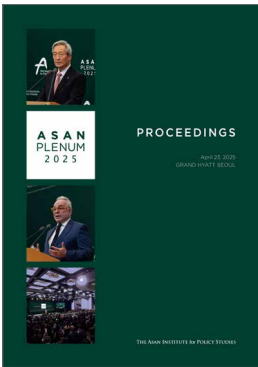
This article focuses on five upsurges in Sinocentrism, the essence of Chinese strategic thinking toward Asia,1 since the founding of the People’s Republic of China. The first in [...]

Gilbert Rozman

Deng Xiaoping, Hu Jintao, Mao Zedong, Sinocentrism, Tianxia, Xi Jinping

Proceedings

Proceedings are published transcripts and summaries produced after conferences where world-class experts discuss policy initiatives and international diplomatic issues. They are provided to government officials, experts in the field, and the general public.



Asan International Security Outlook

Since 2015, the Asan Institute has been publishing an annual report that makes farsighted predictions about potential changes in the international environment vis-à-vis the Korean Peninsula. *Asan International Security Outlook* provides analysis and prospects by issue and region through one keyword selected every year, enhancing experts’ understanding and the general public’s awareness of changes in international matters as well as contributing to the government’s policy-making process.



The Asan Book Series

The Asan Institute publishes and translates books in various fields, ranging from foreign affairs, national security, and international relations to humanities and liberal arts. Edited volumes of conferences and research projects and translated books involving prominent scholars, experts and specialists in each field help broaden and deepen readers’ perspectives in a wide variety of relevant fields.



V

Asan People

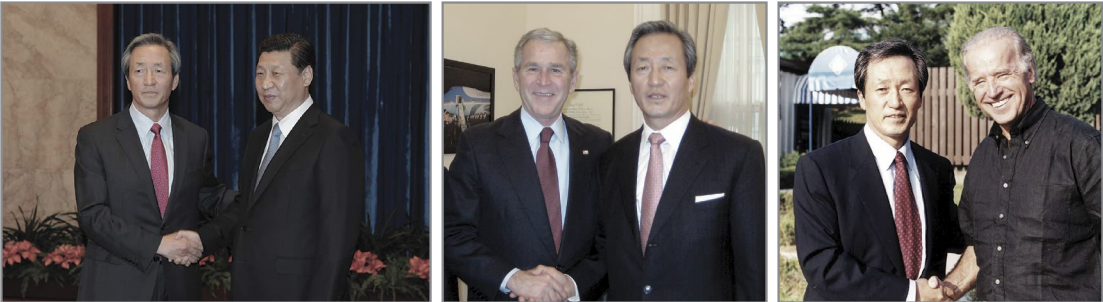


Founder and Honorary Chairman



Chung Mong Joon

Education	B.A. in Economics, Seoul National University M.S. MIT Sloan School of Management Ph.D. in International Relations, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University
Professional Experience	Chairman of the Asan Foundation Honorary Chairman of the Asan Nanum Foundation Honorary Chairman of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies Honorary Chairman of the Ulsan Industrial Education Foundation Vice President of FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) Former Chairman of the Grand National Party Former Lawmaker for 7 terms (13th-19th National Assembly), Republic of Korea Former Co-chairman of the Korean Organizing Committee for the 2002 Korea-Japan FIFA World Cup
Publications	<i>The Promise of Liberal Democracy</i> (Midasbooks Publishers, 2012) <i>The Promise of the Market Economy</i> (Midasbooks Publishers, 2012) <i>The Promise of Fair Society</i> (Midasbooks Publishers, 2012) <i>Conversations with Leaders</i> (Purme Publishers, 2012) <i>My Challenges, My Passions</i> (Gimm-Young Publishers, Inc., 2011) <i>This I Say to Japan</i> (Gimm-Young Publishers, Inc., 2001) <i>The government-business relationship of Japan</i> (The Korea Economic Daily, 1995) <i>Business Ideology</i> (University of Ulsan Press, 1982)



Chairman



Yoon Young-kwan

Education B.A and M.A. in International Relations, Seoul National University
Ph.D. in International Relations, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University

Professional Experience Senior Visiting Scholar, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School
Senior Advisor, The Presidential Committee on Northern Economic Cooperation
Board Member, Korea Peace Foundation
Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Seoul National University
Board Member, UniKorea Foundation
Advisor, International Committee for the Red Cross
Director, Korea Peace Institute
Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of Korea
President, Korea Institute for Future Strategies
Visiting Scholar, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University
Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Seoul National University
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis

President



Choi Kang

Education B.A. in English Language and Literature, Kyung Hee University
M.A. in Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Ph.D. in Political Science, The Ohio State University

Professional Experience Advisory board member at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Dean of Planning and Assessment at the Korean National Diplomatic Academy
President of the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS)
Member of the Standing Committee at the Peaceful Unification Advisory Council
Chairman of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP) Korea
Director General for American Studies at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS)
Professor at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS)
Chief Executive Officer for the Task Force on Current Defense Issues at the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses (KIDA)
Senior Director for Policy Planning and Coordination on the National Security Council Secretariat
Director of International Arms Control Studies at the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses (KIDA)

Expertise ROK-U.S. Alliance, North Korean Military Affairs, Inter-Korean Relations, Crisis Management, Multilateral Security Cooperation

Principal Fellow



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Director, Center for Foreign Policy and National Security
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Ph.D. in Political Science, Yonsei University

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ROK-U.S. Alliance, National Crisis Management



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Expertise

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Weapon System Analysis, Defense Policies

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Research Fellow



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Multilateral cooperation in the Indo-Pacific,
Middle power diplomacy

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	Kim Suhyeon Research Associate	Lee Shin Hyung Research Associate	Lee Taehee Research Associate
	Ok Juyeon Research Associate	Su Bo Bae Research Associate	
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VI

Board of Trustees



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