

A Peaceful, Prosperous Korean Peninsula

“우리는 누구도 경험해보지 못한 미래를 만들어 갈 수 있습니다”

“We can carve out a future that no one has ever experienced.”

2018. 9. 18.

대한민국 대통령 문재인



Peace, a New Start

The Washington Post wrote on February 9, 2018, “With artful simplicity and an earnest message, the Opening Ceremonies delivered on its intent to make peace the star Friday night. It was aspirational, dreamy, idyllic... And then the Korean nations upped the peace ante simply by walking into a stadium together for about four minutes.”

Some 50,000 athletes from 92 countries who participated in the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games gave a thumbs up to the excellent facilities, extraordinary operations and extra-attentive services. Importantly, the whole world hailed the formation of a unified inter-Korean team and the message of peace jointly delivered by South and North Korea, which have been confronting each other over the past seven decades.

After the PyeongChang Winter Olympics, a South Korean art troupe visited Pyongyang in April, bringing the two sides one step closer. On April 27, 2018, an inter-Korean summit was held at Panmunjeom’s Peace House on the South’s side of the Demilitarized Zone, and the historic summit signaled to the world a new start for peace on the Korean

Peninsula. The leaders of the two Koreas shook hands across the Military Demarcation Line, and Chairman Kim Jong Un stepped across the MDL to become the first North Korean leader to enter the South’s territory since the division, leaving indelible footprints for peace.

After their meeting in the morning, the two leaders walked along a footbridge that had been extended to reach an MDL signpost. As they conversed, the scene was broadcast live throughout the world. After concluding their afternoon talks, the two leaders read the Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula, which contained their firm commitment to bring a swift end to the Cold War relic of longstanding division and confrontation, to boldly open up a new era of national reconciliation, peace and prosperity, and to improve and cultivate inter-Korean relations in a more active manner.

It was the moment when the two leaders solemnly declared before the 80 million Korean people and the whole world for the first time in history that there would be no more war on the Korean Peninsula and a new era of peace had begun.



Peace, a New Future

The 2018 inter-Korean summit on April 27 was held successfully, and the United States and North Korea were making preparations to hold their first-ever summit in June. Citing the ROK-U.S. joint military exercises, however, the North began to reconsider the meeting, and the United States announced the summit’s cancellation. Under these circumstances, the leaders of South and North Korea sat down together at Tongilgak on the North Korean side of Panmunjeom on May 26, 2018.

Through the address given to explain the outcome of the May 26 inter-Korean summit, President Moon noted, “...I attach a great significance to yesterday’s summit, which was held like a routine meeting between friends... I believe it must be the way the South and the North meet.” Along with other foreign media outlets, *The Wall Street Journal* also spoke highly of President Moon’s efforts as a “peacemaker” on May 22, 2018, and the North Korea-U.S. summit finally took place as planned on June 12 in Singapore.

In September 2018, the leaders of South and North Korea met for the third time and embraced each other like friends. President Moon became the first South Korean president to address 150,000 Pyongyang citizens in person, declaring that “our people must live together.” This scene served as confirmation that the two leaders’ determination for peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula was stronger than ever.

“Our people are outstanding.

Our people are resilient.

Our people love peace.

And our people must live together.

We had lived together for five thousand years but apart for just 70 years. Here, at this place today, I propose we move forward toward the big picture of peace in which the past 70-year-long hostility can be eradicated and we can become one again.”

*Address by President Moon Jae-in
at the May Day Stadium in Pyongyang
on September 19, 2018*



President Moon's North Korea Policy Reconnecting Divided Peninsula

At the third inter-Korean summit, the two leaders agreed in the Pyeongyang Joint Declaration of September 2018 to continue to advance bilateral relations. In particular, the two sides adopted the Agreement on the Implementation of the Historic Panmunjom Declaration in the Military Domain as an extended annex to the Joint Declaration. Through the Agreement, they laid the foundation for a Korean Peninsula free of war by concurring on action plans to prevent any accidental clash and build military trust between the two Koreas. Three rounds of inter-Korean summits have produced immediate and tangible results. As a humanitarian measure, before taking further political and military follow-up measures, both Koreas arranged two rounds of reunions for separated families. The two Koreas removed some of the guard posts within the DMZ and carried out a project to eliminate landmines in the surrounding areas. Roads were built within the DMZ, and the remains of 13 soldiers were excavated and returned home. In November 2018, soldiers from the South and North accidentally

ran into each other at Arrowhead Ridge, site of the last ferocious battle of the Korean War. They lowered their guns and shook hands with each other, enjoying an unexpected encounter. Spring has come to the DMZ for the first time in 65 years since the Armistice Agreement was signed. On a visit to Europe in October 2018, President Moon called for the international community's understanding and support to help achieve denuclearization and a peace settlement on the Korean Peninsula. In his remarks during a Special Mass for Peace on the Korean Peninsula held at the Vatican, President Moon proclaimed to the world, "The declaration to end the war on the Korean Peninsula and the signing of a peace treaty will be akin to dissolving the last remaining Cold War regime on the earth." Two years since his inauguration, President Moon is pushing for a "new Korean Peninsula regime" – one which would dissolve the long-entrenched regime of Cold War conflict, division and dispute and replace it with a new order of peaceful coexistence, cooperation and prosperity.



New Korean Peninsula Regime An Initiative for Next 100 Years

On February 25, 2019, President Moon proclaimed a new Korean Peninsula regime ahead of the centennial of the March First Independence Movement and the establishment of the Provisional Republic of Korea Government. In the speech, President Moon said, "We will take the lead in preparing for a new Korean Peninsula regime – one that is moving from war and confrontation toward peace and harmony and from factionalism and ideology toward economic prosperity." Through the Panmunjom Declaration and the Pyeongyang Joint Declaration of September 2018, South and North Korea took the first step toward establishing permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula by proclaiming an end to hostile actions toward each other. President Moon's new Korean Peninsula regime, which arose from these circumstances, represents a peace-driven economy. It is a virtuous cycle in which peace leads to economic development and economic progress solidifies peace. Moreover, President Moon believes that peace on the Korean Peninsula will be a new growth engine not only for South and North Korea but also for

Northeast Asia, ASEAN and Eurasia. President Moon's new Korean Peninsula regime is not limited to the Peninsula. The initiative is based on a belief that peace on the Korean Peninsula will be able to contribute to building an order of world peace and prosperity. The existing order on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia is closely related to the Cold War structure that was planted in the region at the end of the Second World War. Thus, if the Korean War Armistice Agreement is completely replaced with a peace accord, the last remaining Cold War rivalry in the world will finally collapse and a new peace regime will take root on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia. In this context, President Moon's new Korean Peninsula regime is also linked to a new peace and security order in Northeast Asia. Building upon its achievements and experiences over the past two years, the Moon Jae-in Administration will do everything it can to continue to write a new chapter in the history of peace and cooperation, and coexistence and prosperity.

