

English Abstracts

Articles

Controversies on the Effectiveness of Decapitation Operations and Their Implications to Korean Military Strategy

Changboo Kang

The Implications of the Korean Armed Forces by the Analysis of the Israeli Military System: Focused on the Recruitment and Training of Military Personnel

Jae Gyun Kim and Dong Woo Yang

Suggestions for Improving Science Diplomacy Based on Analysis of Government-Funded Research Institutes' Activities in the Field of Climate Technologies

Taekun Kim and Kye Young Lee

A Study on North Korea's Change of English Notation of "(Con)federation"

So Hye Park

North Korea's Growing Threat of SLBM as a Game Changer and South Korea's Comprehensive Counter-Measures: What to Change and How to Offset It

Kil Joo Ban

Awareness of North Korea's Tourism Industry Under the Kim Jong-Un Period Based on Studies

Hae Jung Lee and Seong Hyeon Kang

Where is NAPCI?: The Challenges and Limitations of the (Neo-)Functionalist Approach for Multilateral Cooperation in Northeast Asia

Eunmi Choi

Controversies on the Effectiveness of Decapitation Operations and Their Implications to Korean Military Strategies

Changboo Kang

The decapitation strategy, aimed at removing the leadership of a hostile government or militant group to affect the system it influences, has been a cornerstone of United States' strategies of counterinsurgency and counterterrorism since the beginning of the 'war on terror'. United States conducted decapitation operations even in regular warfare, as we could witness in the opening phase of the Iraq War in 2003. In Korea, a more serious interest in decapitation operations belatedly got into its stride in 2017 when the first comment from the Minister of Defense on the formation of a 'decapitation unit' was made. However, the existing understanding in Korea of decapitation operations remains rudimentary at best since, unlike United States, the initial attention to 'decapitation' in 2017 could not be successful in leading a deeper discussion on the subject.

In order to deepen our knowledge of decapitation operations, this article first examines the theoretical foundations of such operations, and then reviews the ongoing debates abroad on the overall effectiveness and the possibility of successful implementation of decapitation operations. Consequently, this article draws some implications from the debates to suggest reconsideration of existing approaches in Korea to decapitation operations. It underlines a critical necessity for breaking away from an existing rudimentary understanding of decapitation operations and for cultivating a more earnest discussion of the effectiveness and the possibility of successful implementation of such operations in Korea.

Keywords: Decapitation Strategy, Decapitation Operations, Targeted Killing, Counterinsurgency, Counterterrorism, Effectiveness.

The Implications of the Korean Armed Forces by the Analysis of the Israeli Military System: Focused on the Recruitment and Training of Military Personnel

Jae Gyun Kim and Dong Woo Yang

This study focused on re-examining the recruitment and training system of the Korean Armed Forces by analyzing the characteristics of the Israeli military organization, one of the world's leading ventures and military powerhouses, and exemplary cases of military manpower management. In addition, it aims to help improve the national defense capability by supplementing the flaws and weaknesses of the military system of the Republic of Korea, and to contribute to the development of military power centered on the "quality of power". Based on the commonalities between Israel and the Republic of Korea (military, economy, and transportation), this paper introduces the Israeli military organization, manpower management system (conscription system, training system, reserve military system), and the training process for officers. Among them, it suggests the direction and method to take a leap forward as an advanced force through the establishment of a fair and efficient system for the development of society and the military by extracting the parts applicable to the Korean military manpower management system.

Keywords: Israel Defence Forces, Drafting Process, Military Organization, Special Organizations, Caracal Battalion, Bedouin Battalion, Haredi Battalion

Suggestions for Improving Science Diplomacy Based on Analysis of Government-Funded Research Institutes' Activities in the Field of Climate Technologies

Taekun Kim and Kye Young Lee

This paper discusses science diplomacy played by Korea's government-funded research institutes (GFRI) in the field of climate technologies, and finds problems and suggestions for improvement. Reviewing the three science diplomacy dimensions identified by the Royal Society and AAAS in 2010, bilateral and multi-lateral technology transfer cooperation or national and institutional cooperation-based research activities should be categorized as "Diplomacy for Science", UNFCCC and IPCC-related activities as "Science in Diplomacy," and the recent case of inter-Korean cooperation on forest protection as "Science for Diplomacy." Problems and improvement factors were summarized in organization, system and strategies, based on the results of expert interviews and focus group discussions. Major problems included the lack of expertise of the civil servants due to frequent replacements, the lack of inter-Ministerial cooperation, the poor usage of existing diplomatic channels, short-term based implementation, and the inconsistencies between policies and research goals. The AHP methodology suggested improving agenda development processes, activating Joint Committee Meetings and securing expertise through the utilization of GFRI experts as primary ways to improve Korea's internal processes of science diplomacy. The results of this paper can be used in developing the practical application methods for the efficient and effective science diplomacy of Korea.

Keywords: Science Diplomacy, Climate Change, Climate Technology, International Cooperation, Focus Group Discussion

A Study on North Korea's Change of the English Notation of "(Con)federation"

So Hye Park

The federal system, North Korea's (re)unification plan, has changed its meaning over time. North Korea, which proposed a "loose" confederation system in the post-Cold War era, suggested at the 2000 inter-Korean summit that "low-level federation" had something in common with South Korea's official unification plan, Korean commonwealth. North Korea said that "loose confederation" and "low-level federation" have the same meaning, but the English notation of the system changes from "confederation" to "federation." As a result of looking at the concept of "(con)federation" and "(re)unification" of North Korea, what North Korea labeled as "confederation" before the 1990s was aimed at "unification of the system", and marking it as "federation" from the 2000s was "reunification of the people" to emphasize the cohesion. This interpretation can be said to be in line with the context where the English notation of (re)unification in North Korea changes from unification to reunification.

Keywords: Federation, Low-level Federation, Reunification, Unification, Confederation

North Korea's Growing Threat of SLBM as a Game Changer and South Korea's Comprehensive Counter-Measures: What to Change and How to Offset It

Kil Joo Ban

As North Korea exploded a joint liaison office with South Korea, located in the Kaesong Industrial Complex on 16 June 2020, a phase of the conflict is rapidly rising on the Korean Peninsula. In the wake of this provocation, Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) is expected to become the next provocative option taken by Pyongyang. An option of SLBM should not be dealt with as a “next” card, but as a “progressive” card because Pyongyang has included SLBM capability to its nuclear program and striven to develop it for a long time. Projecting a card of SLBM, North Korea can not only avoid a red line set by the U.S. but compel the U.S. to meet its demands, which is characterized as a gray zone strategy. To top it off, Pyongyang can also take an option of SLBM projection to seize the initiative of military preponderance on the Korean Peninsula while threatening South Korea. Firing the Pukguksong-1 (KN-11) and 3 (KN-26) successfully and vowing to develop submarines, which can launch SLBMs, North Korea has been at the forefront of SLBM capability. What matters is that the SLBM capability as a game changer draws out a wide array of implications simply beyond another weapon system. Pyongyang can change five games in favor of its intentions: domestic politics game, international politics game, strategic game, nuclear blackmail game and conventional military game. This destructive change of the games allows external actors to pay tremendous attention to the process of the North's SLBM development as well as its end state. South Korea needs to take comprehensive counter-measures to offset its growing SLBM threat while classifying detailed measures into five areas: operations and systemic infrastructure, force planning, military cooperation, regional diplomacy and comprehensive deterrence strategy.

Keywords: Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile(SLBM), Game Changer, Gray Zone Provocation, North Korea Nuclear Program, Underwater Kill Chain

Awareness of North Korea's Tourism Industry Under the Kim Jong-Un Period Based on Studies

Hae Jung Lee and Seong Hyeon Kang

This study analyzes North Korean literature based on research questions on how North Korea's perception of the tourism industry changed during the Kim Jong-un era. According to an analysis of tourism awareness, North Korea is pursuing a somewhat active and advanced level of partially open tourism policies. The reason for the somewhat "active" analysis is that it recognizes tourism as a major source of foreign currency acquisition and emphasizes it. However, it was judged to be 'somewhat' active' as related research has not yet taken up a large portion of the overall economy-related research, the absence of the Framework Act on Tourism, and the comprehensive tourism development master plan. The reason for the analysis as an advanced level of "partial opening" is that the tourism development zone should be separated from the domestic region, and no official policy of allowing and fostering tourism-related self-employed businesses can be found. However, it was analyzed that the 'advanced level' was partially opened as 18 relevant economic development zones were designated, saying that only tourism development zones were guaranteed preferential treatment and favorable tourism environment. The study provides implications for analyzing the perception and demand of North Korea's tourism industry during the Kim Jong-un era to look into future conditions for promoting inter-Korean tourism cooperation.

Keywords: North Korean Literature, Kim Jong-un Era, Recognition of Tourism Industry, Tourism Development Zone

Where is NAPCI?:

The Challenges and Limitations of the (Neo-)Functionalist Approach for Multilateral Cooperation in Northeast Asia

Eunmi Choi

The Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (hereafter, NAPCI) was established as a multilateral cooperation initiative and one of the foreign policies of the Park Geun-hye administration. The Moon Jae-in administration announced that NAPCI would continue as the Northeast Asia plus Community of Responsibility, which is the newest initiative of multilateral cooperation. However, it hasn't led to developmental changes itself and the main contents and ideas have changed, so it is difficult to say if NAPCI still exists under the new name. Some experts have stated that NAPCI is a failed policy, and the main reasons were the loss of momentum due to the impeachment of the President Park Geun-hye, lack of concrete plans and poor performance, unrealistic goals for resolving the North Korean nuclear issue, and difficulties in implementing the plans due to changes in the international environment. However, I emphasize NAPCI did not fail, but disappear, and the reason can be found in the limitations of the (neo-)functionalist approaches of the initiative itself. The prerequisite of the approach, such as the ideological orientation and the values and cultural similarity of the participating countries for multilateral cooperation were difficult to accomplished in Northeast Asia. Besides, there was a lack of mechanisms and direction in linking the soft security issues to hard security issues. Rather, political conflicts can affect the cooperation in non-political issues. Also, it was difficult to predict the spill-over effect through functional cooperation in the presence of political friction. Thus, NAPCI could not overcome the limits of the (neo-)functionalist approaches and repeat historic experiences without achieving the ultimate goal of political cooperation through non-political cooperation, despite much support and various achievements.

Keywords: Multilateral Cooperation, Regional Cooperation, NAPCI, (Neo-)Functionalism, Park Geun-Hye Administration