Report on Korean Attitudes toward the U.S.

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AIPS Opinion Survey 2010
Today’s Presentation

1. Inter-Korean Relations

2. General Perceptions Toward the U.S.

3. ROK-U.S. Relations

4. Nuclear North Korea

5. Closing Thoughts & Discussion
Perception of the current state of inter-Korean relations

- Very bad: 69%
- Not very good: 25%
- Good on the whole: 6%
- Very good: 0.2%
Who is responsible for the current tension between the two Koreas?
Who is responsible for the sinking of the *Cheonan*?

- **N.Korea**: 69%
- **Not N.Korea**: 23%
- **Don't know who is culprit**: 8%
Who is responsible for the sinking of the *Cheonan*? - by age group

North Korea  | Not North Korea  | Don't know who is culprit
---|---|---
50s | 72 | 5 | 23
40s | 71 | 9 | 20
30s | 64 | 10 | 26
20s | 62 | 14 | 24
Who is responsible for the sinking of Cheonan? - by education

North Korea | Not North Korea | Don't know who is culprit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North Korea</th>
<th>Not North Korea</th>
<th>Don't know who is culprit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate school or higher</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior college</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than highschool</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Who is responsible for the sinking of the Cheonan?

- by presidential approval rating

- North Korea
- Not North Korea
- Don't know who is culprit

President's doing a good job:
- 77
- 4
- 19

President's doing a poor job:
- 64
- 11
- 25
How likely is a war between the two Koreas?

- Not likely at all: 2%
- Not very likely: 9%
- Moderately likely: 38%
- Very likely: 51%
Why do you think that a war is unlikely?

- The North worries about the US intervention (42%)
- The North fears the defense capability of the South (32%)
- The North avoids a fratricidal war between the Koreas (12%)
- The economy of the North is too weak for waging a war (9%)
- The North cannot count on China's support in the event of a war (4%)
- Other (1%)
Why do you think that a war is likely?

- 43%: Due to the current Lee administration's firm policy towards the North
- 24%: The North needs to maintain its current regime
- 17%: The North wants to reunify by force of arms
- 16%: Due to the diplomatic/economic pressures imposed by the Great Powers like the US
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The U.S. favored by education

Graduate school attendance and above
- Unfavorable: 12
- Neutral: 27
- Favorable: 62

4-year college attendance/withdrawal/graduate
- Unfavorable: 17
- Neutral: 31
- Favorable: 52

Technical college attendance/withdrawal/graduate
- Unfavorable: 16
- Neutral: 32
- Favorable: 52

Lower than high school diploma
- Unfavorable: 15
- Neutral: 27
- Favorable: 58
The U.S. favored by age group

- **60s or over**: 9% Unfavorable, 24% Neutral, 67% Favorable
- **50s**: 15% Unfavorable, 29% Neutral, 57% Favorable
- **40s**: 17% Unfavorable, 29% Neutral, 54% Favorable
- **30s**: 18% Unfavorable, 33% Neutral, 49% Favorable
- **20s**: 18% Unfavorable, 30% Neutral, 52% Favorable

Legend: Unfavorable, Neutral, Favorable
The U.S. favored by ideological stance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favorable</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Unfavorable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To what extent do you agree...

- **The U.S. is an obstacle to reconciliation/cooperation between the North and the South**
  - Do not agree at all: 7
  - Somewhat agree: 50
  - Agree very much: 38
  - Do not agree very much: 5

- **The U.S. was an obstacle to the democratization of the South**
  - Do not agree at all: 8
  - Somewhat agree: 55
  - Agree very much: 33
  - Do not agree very much: 5

- **The U.S. is responsible for Korea’s division**
  - Do not agree at all: 5
  - Somewhat agree: 38
  - Agree very much: 50
  - Do not agree very much: 6
To what extent do you agree...

- South Korea and the U.S. have common interests
  - Do not agree at all: 5
  - Do not agree very much: 35.9
  - Somewhat agree: 53.3
  - Agree very much: 5.8

- South Korea's economic development was possible thanks to U.S. aid
  - Do not agree at all: 2
  - Do not agree very much: 23
  - Somewhat agree: 63
  - Agree very much: 12
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Do you think that South Korea alone can win a war against North Korea?

- Not likely at all: 2%
- Not very likely: 21%
- Likely on the whole: 18%
- Very likely: 59%
Do you think that South Korea alone can win a war against North Korea?

- by education level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Not likely to win alone</th>
<th>Likely to win alone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate school attendance and above</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year college attendance/withdrawal/graduate</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical college attendance/withdrawal/graduate</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower than high school diploma</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you think that South Korea alone can deter North Korea from starting a war?

- Very able: 61%
- Not very able: 22%
- Not able at all: 15%
- Able on the whole: 3%
- Other: 21%
South Korea alone can deter North Korea from starting a war - *by education level*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Not able to deter alone</th>
<th>Able to deter alone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate school attendance and above</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year college attendance/withdrawal/graduate</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical college attendance/withdrawal/graduate</td>
<td>75</td>
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</tr>
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<td>78</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Will China intervene on behalf of North Korea in the event of a war?

- No: 60%
- Yes: 40%
Do you think that the ROK-U.S. alliance will continue to be necessary in the future?

- 73% Very necessary
- 14% Necessary to some degree
- 12% Not very necessary
- 1% Not necessary at all
The continuation of ROK-US alliance
- *by* Do you think that South Korea alone can win a war against North Korea?

- **Not likely to win alone**
  - 11%
  - 89%
- **Likely to win alone**
  - 18%
  - 82%

---

**Not necessary** | **Necessary**
---|---

25
The continuation of ROK-US alliance - by the perceived likelihood of Chinese intervention for North Korea in the event of a war

China is likely to intervene on behalf of N.Korea in the event of a war

- 10%
- 90%

China is not likely to intervene on behalf of N.Korea in the event of a war

- 17%
- 83%

Not necessary

Necessary
The continuation of ROK-US alliance - by the U.S. favorability

- Favorable: 8 not necessary, 92 necessary
- Neutral: 13 not necessary, 87 necessary
- Unfavorable: 28 not necessary, 72 necessary
The continuation of ROK-US alliance
- by How do you feel about North Korea's development of nuclear weapons?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not threatened at all</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very threatened</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat threatened</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very threatened</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not necessary
Necessary
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How do you feel about North Korea's development of nuclear weapons?

- Very threatened: 58%
- Somewhat threatened: 17%
- Not very threatened: 21%
- Not threatened at all: 4%

30
How do you feel about North Korea's development of nuclear weapons - by the perceived likelihood of South Korea's winning a war against North Korea

Likely to win the war alone

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Very threatened</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat threatened</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very threatened</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not threatened at all</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

Not likely to win the war alone

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat threatened</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very threatened</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not threatened at all</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do you feel about North Korea's development of nuclear weapons?

- by the U.S. favorability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Favorable</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Unfavorable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unfavorable</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Very threatened
- Somewhat threatened
- Not very threatened
- Not threatened at all
How do you feel about North Korea's development of nuclear weapons? - by presidential job approval

Approve
- Very threatened: 9
- Somewhat threatened: 5
- Not very threatened: 10
- Not threatened at all: 75

Disapprove
- Very threatened: 14
- Somewhat threatened: 5
- Not very threatened: 20
- Not threatened at all: 61
Who is most responsible for the failure to resolve the North Korean nuclear problem?

- N.Korea: 66%
- S.Korea: 16%
- China: 5%
- US: 12%
- Other: 1%
Who is most responsible for the non-resolution of the North Korean nuclear problem?

- by U.S. favorability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favorable</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Unfavorable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.Korea</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.Korea</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Other China US S.Korea N.Korea
What policy do you think is desirable in dealing with the North Korean nuclear threat?

- Continuous Military pressure: 13%
- Continuous Economic pressure: 36%
- Strengthening economic ties between the South and the North: 42%
- US should guarantee the survival of the N.Korean regime: 9%
What policy do you think is desirable in dealing with the North Korean nuclear threat?

by U.S. favorability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pressure</th>
<th>Cooperatively</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Favorable</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unfavorable</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

pressure cooperatively
Do you think that the US will use nuclear weapons to defend South Korea from North Korea's nuclear attacks?

- Not likely at all: 6%
- Not very likely: 6%
- Likely on the whole: 43%
- Very likely: 45%
Do you think that the U.S. will use nuclear weapons to defend South Korea if the North attacks the South? - by age group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Not likely</th>
<th>Likely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60s or above</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50s</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40s</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30s</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20s</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you think that the U.S. will use nuclear weapons to defend South Korea if the North attacks the South?

- by education

<table>
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Do you think that the U.S. will use nuclear weapons to defend South Korea if the North attacks the South?

- by U.S. favorability

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neutral</th>
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<th>Likely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you think that the U.S. will use nuclear weapons to defend South Korea if the North attacks the South? - by the perceived need for ROK-US alliance

- Alliance is necessary
  - 49
  - 51

- Alliance is not necessary
  - 62
  - 38

Not likely

Likely
South Korea should also develop nuclear weapons

- Wholeheartedly agree: 43%
- Disagree on the whole: 34%
- Agree on the whole: 12%
- Wholeheartedly disagree: 11%
South Korea should also develop nuclear weapons
- by the perceived likelihood of the U.S. use of nuclear weapons in the event of the North's attack

Likely
Wholeheartedly disagree 10
Disagree on the whole 30
Agree on the whole 46
Wholeheartedly agree 15

Not likely
Wholeheartedly disagree 12
Disagree on the whole 38
Agree on the whole 40
Wholeheartedly agree 10
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The End