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|  | **Press Release** | |
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**South Koreans Willing to Pay USD 100 for Reunification**

* From March 29-31, 2014 the Asan Institute for Policy Studies conducted a public opinion survey on attitudes toward Korean reunification.
* As in previous surveys, Korea’s youngest were most pessimistic on reunification.
* A majority (63.5%) favored conditions-based reunification. While 17.0% thought reunification should happen as quickly as possible, 13.4% favored maintaining the status quo. Those in their 20s (21.9%) were the most likely to favor the status quo.
* A plurality (28.5%) expected reunification to be achieved in the next 6 to 10 years. A majority of all age cohorts—except those in their 20s—stated as such. For those in their 20s, a plurality (28.8%) expected reunification to take place in 21 to 50 years.
* While a plurality (32.0%) cited North Korean as being a neighbor, 22.4% identified it as an enemy, and 21.8% cited it as “one of us”. Those in their twenties were equally likely to cite it as a neighbor (26.6%) or an enemy (27.6%), but the least likely of any age cohort to cite North Korea as “one of us” (14.1%).
* With regard to financing reunification, a majority (55.1%) stated that they were willing to pay either nothing (17.4%) or less than $100(37.7%) in additional taxes. This was largely consistent across age cohorts and the political spectrum.
* 53.9% agreed with President Park Geun-Hye’s statement that reunification would be a “bonanza”. There was wide variation by age cohort. While 61.2% of those 60 or older agreed, 39.8% of those in their 20s stated the same. In February, 47.6% agreed that reunification would be a “bonanza”.
* 56.1% stated that reunification would benefit the future economy of Korea. Those in their 20s were ambivalent, with 45.6% stating it would harm the economy, and 51.2% citing it as a benefit.
* The sample size of each survey was 1,000 people over the age of 19. The margin of error was ±3.1% at the 95% confidence level. The survey employed RDD for landline and mobile telephones.

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| **About the Asan Institute for Policy Studies**  The Asan Institute for Policy Studies is an independent think tank that provides innovative policy solutions and spearheads public discourse on the core issues in Korea, East Asia and the world. Our goal is to assist policymakers to make better informed and mutually beneficial policy decisions. The Asan Institute, established in 2008, has successfully hosted a series of international conferences including the Asan Plenum, the Asan China Forum and the Asan Nuclear Forum and published a number of books such as *China’s Foreign Policy, Japan in Crisis*, *The Arab Spring, Escape From Camp 14* and *The Orphan Master’s Son.* The Asan Insitute for Policy Studies ranked 6th in "Top 45 Think Tanks in China, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea" and was the only domestic think tank that was selected in the "Best Think Tank Conference" by Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program at the University of Pennsylvania. |