I. About the Asan Institute
About the Asan Institute

Mission Statement
The Asan Institute for Policy Studies is an independent, non-partisan think tank with the mandate to undertake policy-relevant research to foster domestic, regional, and international environments that are conducive to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and Korean reunification.

Chronology
2008. 2. 11 Founding of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies
Dr. Han Sung-Joo inaugurated as the first Chairman and President of the Institute.

2009. 2. 11 Ambassador Song Young-Shik inaugurated as the second President of the Institute.
Groundbreaking ceremony for the Institute’s new building at 11 Gyeonghuigung 1ga-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul

2010. 1. 13 Opening of the new building

2010. 3. 10 Dr. Hahm Chaibong inaugurated as the third President of the Institute.

2011. 1. 28 Dr. Lee In-ho inaugurated as the second Chairperson of the Institute.

2012. 8. 27 Founding of the Asan Academy

2013. 7. 17 Launch of The Asan Forum: An Online Journal

Dr. Chung Mong Joon is the founder and honorary chairman of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies. He is also the chairman of the board of trustees of the Asan Foundation, the largest philanthropic organization in Korea, and the honorary chairman of Ulsan University. In 2011, he launched the Asan Nanum (“sharing”) Foundation which seeks to foster entrepreneurship among young Koreans. Dr. Chung served seven-terms in the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea. He was chairman of the Grand National Party (Ruling Party) from 2009-2010, and was a presidential candidate in 2002. He served as vice president of FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association), and as co-chairman of the Korean Organizing Committee for the 2002 Korea-Japan FIFA World Cup. Dr. Chung received his B.A. in economics from Seoul National University, an M.S. from the Sloan School of Management at MIT, and a Ph.D. in international relations from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at the Johns Hopkins University.
President’s Message

The year 2014 marked a turning point in the Asan Institute for Policy Studies’ development. The Institute’s first five years consisted of rapid expansion in staff, research programs, and global influence. This year has been one of consolidation and deepening of the Asan Institute’s core research focuses, as reflected in the pooling and coordination of the Institute’s research programs under five overarching research centers.

The Asan Institute in 2014 directed an unprecedented degree of attention in its research on North Korea, on issues ranging from political economy, North Korean contingencies from the perspective of the business community, traditional security concerns, and nuclear technology and policy. Several possible avenues for improving inter-Korean relations were explored by the Asan Institute throughout the year. The UN Commission of Inquiry Report on Human Rights in the DPRK released in February was supplemented by Asan experts with a further report examining the conditions of North Koreans in nuclear facilities and overseas.

The Institute has continued to focus on the key issues pertaining to foreign policy and national security, regional studies, global governance, Korean studies, and to conduct rigorous quantitative research and public opinion polling to keep government officials, academics, and the general public informed. Several policy experts and academics were hosted by the Institute throughout the year, particularly from China and Japan, to seek policy solutions aimed towards securing a more trusting, peaceful, and prosperous Northeast Asia.

In 2014, the Asan Institute welcomed Amb. Chun Yungwoo, former National Security Advisor and Ambassador to the United Kingdom, as a Senior Advisor; Dr. Choi Hyeonjung to lead the Global Governance Center’s Climate Change and Sustainable Development Program; and Mr. Ahn Sung Kyoo, a thirty-year veteran of the JoongAng Ilbo, to be Chief Editor of the newly established Editorial Department.

The success of the Asan Institute is set to continue in 2015 with the release of several new initiatives, including the launch of a print journal in Korean produced by Asan Institute experts, and a report at the beginning of the year on the outlook for the Korean Peninsula in 2015.

Hahn Chaibong
Ph.D. in Political Science, Johns Hopkins University
**Board of Trustees**

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II. Centers and Research
The Center for Foreign Policy and National Security integrates insights among policymakers, analysts, and the public on vital diplomatic and security affairs. The Center’s research encompasses multilateral and regional security cooperation, public diplomacy, and foreign and security policies of various stakeholders. The Center is committed to undertaking original, timely, and rigorous research as well as collaborating in joint projects and conferences with major universities and think tanks around the world. These efforts deepen public understanding of global issues and promote effective government policies toward realizing peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

The Center for Global Governance offers policy recommendations for establishing new and effective governance that is fit for responding aptly to the changes of the 21st century and the daily evolving dynamics of international relations and politics. To that end, the Center strives to go beyond traditional ways of thinking that focus on state actors and national security and recommends policies that account for nontraditional security factors such as human security.

The Center for Public Opinion and Quantitative Research performs the most advanced analysis of South Korean public opinion in the country. In the age of information overload, accurate and timely analysis of this data is crucial in providing feedback both to policymakers and to the public to create a more informed dialogue. Using its robust public opinion surveys, the Center investigates attitudes toward Korea’s foreign policy as well as its changing social dynamics. Its findings are cited in both academic papers and in media around the world, helping to create a more complete picture of South Korea, its people, its politics, and its policies.

The Center for Regional Studies provides a platform for in-depth policy analysis and debate on Korea’s place in the world today. Comprised of four leading research programs covering America, China, the Middle East and North Africa, and Southeast Asia and Oceania, the Center examines the political, economic, strategic, and cultural dynamics that are shaping Korea’s relations with key interlocutors. The Center brings a strong multidisciplinary approach to its regional mandate by incorporating expertise in political economy, security studies, and international relations.

The Center for Korean Studies takes an interdisciplinary approach to Korean studies by integrating social-scientific methods of research with a focus on the humanities. To understand the social circumstances of Korea and contribute to societal betterment, it addresses fundamental issues such as the role of Korean studies in a globalized context and how it may be further developed. The center’s core mission is to raise the profile of Korean studies in international society.
The Foreign Policy Program in 2014 continued to facilitate the exchange of insights and analyses among experts, policymakers, and the general public, and the production of research on key foreign policy issues affecting the Korean Peninsula and the region.

The program hosted several roundtables in 2014 and engaged in candid conversations about the security environment in the region. Most notably, these events invited members from the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the US Embassy, the German Embassy, the British Embassy, and the Political-Directors of the Visegrád Group, of which the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, and Hungary are members. Topics of discussions included the changing security environment in the region as well as South Korea’s relationships with China, Japan, Europe, the United States, and North Korea.

Building from the success of last year’s strategic consulting project with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the program continued its year-long project on South Korea’s official development assistance (ODA) policy. The project aimed to identify South Korea’s ODA decision-making process, engage with ODA policymakers, and foster discussions on an issue that is becoming increasingly important as South Korea continues to play an important role in the international community.
The Security Policy Program in 2014 focused on making provisions for sudden changes in North Korea. It did so by analyzing various North Korean regime collapse scenarios through pol-mil games and gathering experts to discuss security implications for the Korean Peninsula and across the region.


From July 21-24, the program co-hosted the “6th ROK-US Strategic Dialogue” and the “US-ROK-Japan Strategic Dialogue,” with Pacific Forum CSIS in Maui, Hawaii. This event was sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) and was held to enhance understanding of South Korea’s foreign policies, to identify issues that the US alliance network faces today, and to seek ways to increase cooperation within the alliance network.
Another roundtable titled, “Responding to Instability in North Korea-Diplomacy, Security, and Humanitarian Objectives of the ROK, the US, and China” invited Dr. James J. Przystup and Dr. Philip C. Saunders of the Institute for National Security Strategy (INSS) at the National Defense University. The participants addressed the current state of the North Korean regime, the possibility of regime collapse in the near future, and the potential impact that this could have on regional actors.

The Security Policy Program also continued to undertake joint projects with government branches, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Unification, and the National Defense Committee of the National Assembly. Its publications included three *Issue Briefs*, which respectively addressed the ROK-US summit meeting, missile defense, and OPCON transfer.
Global Governance Program Highlights in 2014

The Global Governance Program analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of existing multilateral institutions, proposes reforms tailored to new international circumstances, and identifies opportunities for policymakers to contribute positively to the reform of the global governance system.

In 2014, the program continued its research and activities on the issues of how middle power countries can work to advance global governance. As a result of the year’s work, Dr. Mo Jongryn, program chair and Senior Research Fellow at the Asan Institute, published *MIKTA, Middle Powers, and New Dynamics of Global Governance*. This book was the product of a series of papers commissioned for the conference “Strengthening Global Governance through Middle Power Leadership,” held in 2013. The conference, and subsequently the book, pointed to areas and gaps in global governance regimes that can benefit from middle power leadership. The book also contributed to a better understanding overall of middle powers and their role in the world.

The Global Governance Program this year also continued to organize and host meetings of the *Asan Growth Leadership Forum*. The forum, which is a non-partisan research group of economists and practitioners committed to promoting Korea’s economic growth, evaluates the growth potential of the Korean economy and produces concrete pro-growth policy alternatives. In January 2015, the program will hold a conference titled “South Korea’s Role as a Middle Power: Evaluating South Korea’s Contributions to the Global Agenda.” The conference will feature speakers such as Scott Snyder from the Council on Foreign Relations, Shin Dong-ik from the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Toby Dalton from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
The release of the United Nations Commission of Inquiry (COI) report on human rights in the DPRK and the efforts by the international community to address the North Korean situation raised hopes for dealing with this enduring problem. The International Law and Conflict Resolution (ILCR) program spent the better part of the year working on the issue of North Korean human rights, and in June hosted a roundtable with the Honorable Michael Kirby, the chair of the Commission of Inquiry. The program also hosted roundtables with Robert King, the United States Special Envoy for North Korean Human Rights Issues, and Tom Malinowski, Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor in the US State Department.

In November, the ILCR Program and the Risk, Information, and Social Policy Program produced a report titled, “Beyond the UN COI Report on Human Rights in DPRK.” The two authors of the report, Dr. Shin Chang-Hoon and Dr. Go Myong-hyun, traveled to Washington, DC and New York later that month to give a series of presentations on their findings.

Earlier in the year, Dr. Shin also made a trip to Washington, DC to give testimony before the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and Inter-

national Organizations on North Korean human rights. Dr. Shin’s testimony before the Subcommittee was subsequently published as an Issue Brief titled “Human Rights Abuses in North Korea’s Nuclear Program.”

Continuing its research activities related to North Korea, the program hosted a Dosirak Lecture with Dr. John Park, adjunct lecture at the Harvard Kennedy School, on the topic of “Targeted Sanctions and the Counterproliferation Puzzle: The Case of North Korea.” An Issue Brief titled “International Law Response to North Korea’s Unmanned Drones” written by Dr. Shin was also published earlier in the year.
The Nuclear Policy and Technology Program began the year by co-organizing a conference with the Carnegie Endowment in Washington, DC. The event, titled “What Will 2014 Bring for North Korea’s Nuclear Program?” was well-attended by nuclear experts and scholars focusing on the Northeast Asian region.

Later in the spring, the program led the Asan Institute in planning to co-host the Nuclear Knowledge Summit (NKS) in cooperation with the Clingendael Netherlands Institute of International Relations and the Fissile Materials Working Group (FMWG). The NKS was held in The Hague from March 21st to 22nd and was one of the official side events of the 2014 Nuclear Security Summit. The purpose of the NKS was to support the nuclear security summit process by facilitating the exchange of information and knowledge among nuclear experts from around the world. Under the overarching theme of “Towards Sustainable Nuclear Security,” Gary Samore, former White House Coordinator for WMD and Arms Control, Robert Gallucci, former president of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and Han Sung-Joo, former Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea, were among the 200 leading nuclear security experts and NGO leaders present to discuss the future of the international nuclear security regime.

Following the summit, the program released a report produced through a collaborative effort with the Partnership for Global Security and The Stanley Foundation, titled “Preventing Weak Links in Nuclear Security: A Strategy for Soft and Hard Governance.” In October, in conjunction with these two organizations and as part of a three-year project, the program also co-sponsored a conference for the Nuclear Security Governance Experts Group (NSGEG) in Vienna, Austria. The year wrapped up with Dr. Shin Chang-Hoon attending several overseas conferences including CSCAP’s Nuclear Energy Experts Group meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.
The Science and Technology Policy Program began the year with a workshop on chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) disasters held in Washington, DC. The event was co-organized with the American Association on the Advancement of Science as part of the program’s Science, Technology, and Security Series. The workshop was the second event of the series, following the initial workshop in 2013 on Space and International Security.

At the 2014 workshop, several well-known experts, including Craig Vanderwagen, former Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the US Department of Health and Human Services, Richard Cupitt, US UNSCR 1540 Coordinator at the US State Department, and Ken Buesseler, Senior Scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, presented papers on the role that science and technology play in preventing and remediating CBRN disasters. The research papers from these two workshops were published in two Asan Reports, titled “Space Technology Development: Effects on National Security and International Stability” and “Science and Technology to Prevent and Respond to CBRN Disasters: ROK and US Perspectives.”

In July, the Science and Technology Policy Program hosted the Asan Energy Workshop in conjunction with the Climate Change and Sustainable Development Program and the American Politics and Policy Program, in which energy experts analyzed prospects for energy cooperation in the region. An Issue Brief titled “Towards a Framework for Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia: Challenges and Opportunities” was published as a result of this event.

Dr. Park Jiyoung, the program chair, also used her expertise to participate in a collaborative, interdisciplinary research project on global governance and nontraditional security. The outcome of this project is a co-authored textbook to be published in 2015 under the Global Governance Center. For this book, Dr. Park wrote a chapter on energy security issues and another chapter on new technologies that may pose future security threats.
The Climate Change and Sustainable Development Program’s activities focused primarily on issues related to climate change risks on the Korean Peninsula and the comparatively different environmental and sustainable development policies of the two Koreas, in which their distinctly different approaches towards diplomacy and international cooperation were addressed. In that vein, the program published two Issue Briefs titled “Extreme Weather and North Korea’s Socioeconomic Risks in 2014” and the “Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) and Green Diplomacy: The Paradox in Korea’s Climate Policies.”

In another Issue Brief, titled “Political Discrepancy in Climate Change Issues in the United States,” the program reviewed the disparate politico-economic interests, and different perceptions of climate change pursued by other countries, like the United States. The brief asserts that climate change often goes beyond science and is a politically polarizing issue.

The program also co-hosted with other Asan research programs the Asan Energy Workshop in the summer. Collaboration on this project resulted in publication of an Issue Brief titled “Toward a Framework for Energy Cooperation in Northeast Asia.” Additionally, the program participated in an interdisciplinary research project whose findings will result in the publication of a textbook on nontraditional security issues in 2015. Dr. Choi Hyeonjung, the program’s lead research fellow, wrote a chapter for this book analyzing climate change issues from a national security perspective.

Nontraditional security remains a relatively marginal branch of studies in Korea, despite its importance. With the goal of building a firm foundation for research on nontraditional security topics, the program carried out exchanges with other institutions around the world, including Sweden’s Stockholm Environment Institute and Institute for Security & Development Policy, the German Development Institute, Belgium’s Center for European Policy Studies and Global Governance Institute, and Singapore’s Center for Non-Traditional Security Studies of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies.
The Public Opinion Studies Program, under the leadership of Dr. Kim Jiyoon, continued to produce the best analysis of South Korean public opinion in the country in 2014. Through its written reports, timely Issue Briefs, and media interviews, members of the program helped to establish the global narrative on Korea using informed analysis of data.

Much of 2014 focused on assessing the public’s attitudes towards countries active in the region, including the United States, China, Japan, and North Korea. The extensive polling conducted by the program on issues related to these relationships was used to create four reports investigating the most important aspects of each bilateral relationship. These reports covered not only the immediate issues within each relationship, but also how the Korean public perceived the future of those relationships. This is all vital information for policymakers focusing on the region.

Analysis from the program’s experts appeared in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, the Financial Times, on the BBC, and in every major Korean language outlet in the country. Its reports and data were likewise cited as journalists sought to add a quantitative angle to their reporting. Public opinion data was largely missing from the coverage of Korea before the Public Opinion Studies Program filled this gap. This has made the program’s work indispensable to analysts and observers of the region.

In 2015, the program will pursue unique projects on a range of issues all aimed at increasing the understanding of the Korean public, how it views itself and the world, and how that opinion influences policy both now and into the future.
The safety of local ferry services made national headlines after the sinking of the Sewol in April 2014, which cost hundreds of lives and subsequently triggered intense soul-searching across South Korea. The Quantitative Methods Program undertook a study to compare South Korea’s track record on safety with those of other countries. The analysis was based on EM-DAT global disaster data from 175 countries between 1993 and 2012. This quantitative study demonstrated that South Korea lags behind the G7 leading industrialized countries on safety and is noticeably more prone to fire and maritime accidents.

In February 2014, President Park Guen-hye chose the term daebak, meaning bonanza, to describe the economic benefits that reunification with North Korea will bring to the region. The Quantitative Methods Program contributed to providing an answer to the question of how large these benefits might be by conducting a study that estimated there could be as much as a USD five-hundred trillion gain between 2015-2030 by overcoming the current distance effect of trade having to circumvent North Korea between China’s northeast provinces (i.e., Liaoning, Jilin, Heilongjiang) and South Korea, the United States, and Japan. This estimate was made under the assumption that there would be open access to North Korean territories for shorter trade routes directly connecting South Korea and China.

In a related study, the Quantitative Methods Program also recognized that little research has been conducted on what sort of reactions to expect from the business community in the aftermath of regime collapse in North Korea. Against this backdrop, students on the HEC Paris-Leadership Certificate Course were asked to devise business strategies for the Northeast Asian region in the event of such a collapse. This provided a glimpse into how business leaders would respond to possible challenges, risks, and opportunities.
The Risk, Information, and Social Policy Program began the year with a seminar in Washington, DC co-hosted with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP) on North Korea’s nuclear program. Moderated by Dr. Go Myong-hyun, presenters debated how the international community might deal with a North Korean nuclear crisis in 2014.

In February, the United Nations Commission of Inquiry (COI) on Human Rights in the DPRK released its report outlining the crimes against humanity within North Korea being committed as a matter of DPRK state policy. Dr. Go and Dr. Shin Chang-hoon, director of the Global Governance Center, subsequently published an Asan Report titled, “Beyond the UN COI Report on Human Rights in DPRK.” Through independent analysis and interviews with North Korean defectors, the report addressed the human rights conditions of North Korean workers in DPRK nuclear facilities and of overseas North Korean laborers, neither of which had been examined by the UN COI. It concluded that these groups are also subjected to slavery and forced-labor conditions in violation of international law. Dr. Go and Dr. Shin traveled to Washington, DC to co-host a seminar with the Korea Society to discuss their findings and policy recommendations.

In August, the program hosted an Asan Dosirak Series lecture on the US sanctions regime against North Korea with Professor Sung-Yoon Lee of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. Professor Lee had previously testified before the US House of Representative Committee on Foreign Affairs on the need for the North Korea Sanctions Enforcement Act of 2013 (H.R. 1771), which enhanced the effects of US sanctions against North Korea.

The program’s research in 2014 involving North Koreans residing in South Korea also led to the release of an Issue Brief titled “Resettling in South Korea: Challenges for Young North Korean Refugees.”
The American Politics and Policy Program (AP3) was established in 2012 to promote research and programs that educate the general public and advise leaders on important policy matters related to the United States while keeping the American policymaking community informed about the significance of East Asia to the US national interest.

In 2014, the AP3 worked to build on its reputation as the foremost leading authority on research and information related to the United States. Its output included the Washington Newsletters (in Korean), a report reviewing key policy developments in the United States during 2014, as well as Issue Briefs related to the US midterm election, Korean fiscal policy, and prospects for a regional cooperation on energy, among others.

Researcher participation in numerous seminars and conferences in Korea, China, Japan, and the United States allowed the program to expand its reach among experts and policymakers. The program looks to deepen its expertise and build on its accomplishments by focusing on areas of strategic importance and relevance to the interests of the United States, South Korea, and regional neighbors. As a locus for information and analysis, AP3 looks to continue its coverage of a broad array of issues and topics, including policy issue tracking, US foreign policy making on trade, US fiscal policy, geopolitics of energy, and elections, to name but a few.

The program also looks to expand its reach and visibility by supporting or working closely with other organizations, such as the Asia Foundation and the National Bureau of Asia Research, while seeking out collaborative opportunities with other research programs within the Asan Institute. Finally, AP3 looks to distinguish itself by developing expertise in the application of cutting-edge methods and techniques for policy analysis.
The ASEAN and Oceania Studies Program’s major achievement in 2014 was the publication in April of a book on East Asian regional cooperation, titled *East Asian Community: Trends and Prospects* (in Korean). The program also published two *Issue Briefs*, in conjunction with other Asan research programs, on the Park Geun-hye government’s foreign policy during her first year in office, as well as on the Asia-Pacific region’s strategic environment vis-a-vis major powers such as the United States, China, Japan, Australia, and India.

The program hosted a second strategic dialogue with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) in August to discuss the strategic environment in the Asia Pacific, middle power cooperation, and Korea-Australia bilateral relations, including the Korea-Australia FTA concluded in April. The first strategic dialogue was held in 2013 during an Asan Institute delegation visit to Australia.

In June, an Asan delegation visited Myanmar to hold a strategic dialogue with the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (Myanmar ISIS) as well as a wider Asan-Southeast Asia Dialogue.

The ASEAN and Oceania Studies Program continued to build on its three-year old partnership with the Asia New Zealand Foundation by hosting a third track two strategic dialogue in May to discuss prospects for a Korea-New Zealand FTA.

The Asan Institute held a high-level roundtable in December with H. E. Dang Dinh Quy, President of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV), during which experts from the Asan Institute and the DAV exchanged views on East Asian security, the South China Sea, and prospects for future cooperation between the two organizations.

Dr. Lee Jaehyun, chair of the ASEAN and Oceania Studies Program, received extensive media coverage in print and in televised interviews, particularly during the December 11-12, 2014 ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit celebrating the twenty-five years of formal Korea-ASEAN relations.
Dr. Kim Hankwon, chair of the China Policy Program, was active in publishing throughout the year. In January, Dr. Kim published a book produced in collaboration with the Korea Economic Daily titled *The China Complex*, for which he conducted field research in the southern and central regions of China analyzing the transformation of China’s local economic structures through interviews with businessmen, local government officials, and academics.

The China Policy Program publications in 2014 included *Issue Brief* on “China’s Reform under Xi’s Leadership” and “The ROK-PRC Relationship after Xi’s Visit” (in Korean). Dr. Kim also wrote a paper titled “Evaluating China's Attracting and Normative Power Resources” for the *Asan China Conference 2014*, titled “Assessing China’s Power.”

In October, the China Policy Program continued to host the annual *Asan Chunghae Forum*, a closed, two-day workshop focused on fostering an epistemic community between Korean and Chinese young experts by providing a relaxed, informal setting for open dialogue and scholarly exchange. Traditionally held at Chunghae Gwan, the official guest house of Hyundai Heavy Industries in the seaside city of Ulsan, the 2014 forum was held at the Asan Institute for Policy Studies in Seoul.

Dr. Kim participated in several other international events throughout the year, including as a discussant at the Tumen River Forum in October, and presented papers at the 22nd Seoul-Taipei Forum in November as well as the Northeast Asia Community Forum organized by the South Korean Shenyang Consulate General in December.

The program also hosted a series of conferences titled the *Asan Korea-China Dialogue 2014*. These conferences brought together Korean scholars in the fields of politics, economics, history, and culture for exchanges regarding ROK-China bilateral relations as well as the two countries’ perspectives on international relations.
The rise of the so-called “Islamic State of Iraq and Syria” has highlighted how profound security challenges continue to face the Middle East today. As the United States has mobilized an international coalition and begun military operations, Korea has also had to consider what role it will play. The rise of ISIS and Korea’s emerging “middle power” policy were thus the main research agendas for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Program in 2014.

Under the leadership of Dr. Jang Ji-Hyang, the program has led calls for a dramatic rethinking of Korea’s Middle East policy. Throughout the year, it outlined the need for an active, norm-driven policy at various workshops in Seoul, Amman, Doha, Riyadh, and Tokyo, as well as in lectures at Korean universities and television and newspaper interviews. The program also released several Issue Briefs, including “Rethinking Korea’s Middle East Policy” and “ISIS, Kurdistan, and Korea,” which laid out a practical roadmap for Korea’s role in the region. Building on previous works on Syria, the program also published an in-depth study of human rights, titled “Unknown Horror or Deliberate Indifference? A Comparative Analysis Analysis of Human Rights Violations in North Korea and Syria.”

The MENA program also hosted a number of events to better understand other challenges facing the region. Notably, it hosted Dr. Salam Fayyad, former prime minister of the Palestinian Authority, as well as senior Israeli officials and experts, including Dr. Efraim Inbar of the Begin-Sadat Center, to examine prospects for resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict. It also invited leading scholars such as Dr. Joseph Kechichian of the King Faisal Center in Saudi Arabia, Dr. Salah Eddin Elzein of the Al Jazeera Center for Studies in Qatar, and Professor Michael Hudson of Georgetown University to share their thoughts on regional security issues.
In 2014, the Korean Studies Program continued to contribute to advancing scholarship on Korean culture and intellectual thought in East Asia. The program produced sixty-five articles between January and September for its joint project with JoongAng Sunday devoted to introducing elements of traditional and contemporary Korean culture and society from the perspective of the humanities. The series covered themes ranging from traditional Korean architecture, arts, scholarly practices, and everyday customs. These articles will be published in a book in 2015.

To celebrate the second anniversary of the Asan Academy, the Korean Studies Program and the Asan Academy on September 26 co-hosted a conference, titled “Spirit of Seonbi (Chosun Dynasty leaders/scholars) and Korean Society: Stepping Stone to Future Leadership.” During the conference, Asan Academy students and alumni contributed to discussions by sharing their opinions on how to realize the traditional spirit of Chosun Dynasty scholarly leadership in modern Korean society.
To commemorate the centennial of the birth of Maruyama Masao, the Humanities Program hosted an international conference from July 24-26, titled “Maruyama Masao and East Asian Thought: Modernity, Democracy and Confucianism.” The conference was attended by many Japanese and Korean scholars, including Maruyama’s former students. The event concluded with the book launch of Liberalist, Maruyama Masao: An Intellectual’s Thought and Behavior in the Cold War Period (in Korean).

The Humanities Program also hosted lectures by prominent scholars throughout the year, including a lecture on January 7 by Emmanuel Pastreich of Kyung Hee University, titled “Why Am I Focusing on Koreas?”, a Dosirak Series lecture on January 20 by Sam Crane of Williams College, titled “The Revival of Confucianism: Not a Source of Chinese Soft Power,” and a Special Lecture on April 26 by Peter Kornicki of Cambridge University on “Korean Books in Japan: From the 1590s to the 1860s.”
III. Asan Academy
The Asan Academy was founded in 2012 by the Asan Institute for Policy Studies in conjunction with the Asan Nanum Foundation in order to foster leadership of Korea’s next generation.

The program offers a twenty-week, in-depth liberal arts education combining Korea’s Confucian system of scholarship (Seowon) and the University of Oxford’s renowned “Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)” curriculum, followed by a twenty-week overseas internship at leading think tanks and nonprofit organizations in either Washington, DC or Beijing.

Thirty current or recent graduates of four-year college or graduate schools are selected biannually as Asan Young Fellows. They live and share the same routine activities throughout their studies in Korea and also learn to bond and appreciate the value of community through monthly volunteer work and community outreach activities.

During their internship period, Asan Young Fellows are exposed to the world of international policymaking, undertake research projects, and have the opportunity to build lasting networks to aid them in their future endeavors.
At the conclusion of the program, Asan Young Fellows submit a policy-related thesis that they develop throughout their time as fellows on topics of their choosing. They are then offered an opportunity to participate in the Asan Alumni Program which provides activities such as international exchange, educational outreach to continue their literary engagement, lectures on liberal arts, the Asan Academy Reunion, as well as other Alumni group activities.

The Asan Academy currently has 149 graduates. Among them, a total of 34 graduates are employed with leading enterprises such as Google Korea, Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., Ltd., the Korea Federation of Women's Science & Technology Association (KOFWST), L'Oréal Korea, the Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), the Chosun Ilbo, and the Dong-A Ilbo. Asan Academy alumni have also gone on to further studies in pursuit of academic careers.
IV. The Asan Forum
In June 2013, the Asan Institute for Policy Studies launched *The Asan Forum*, an online journal dedicated to the debate and analysis of issues that affect Asia and beyond. Under the leadership of its Editor-in-Chief, Professor Gilbert Rozman, *The Asan Forum* brings together scholars and policy experts from across the region and disciplines, seeking a diversity of views to harness the intellectual synergy created when perspectives compete and, more importantly, complement one another.

In 2014, *The Asan Forum* included 133 articles by 47 contributors from across the globe. The most read articles of the year were “Where Does Japan Fit in China’s ‘New Type of Great Power Relations?’” by Amy King of Australian National University, followed by “Bad Memories, Good Dream: The Legacy of Historical Memory and China’s Foreign Policy” by Zheng Wang of Seton Hall University.

The special topics addressed in the six issues of 2014 in *The Asan Forum* were: “National Identity Frameworks and International Relations in Asia” (Jan./Feb.); “Chinese Discourse on International Relations” (Mar./Apr.); “Asian Multilateralism” (May/June); “The Revenge of History and International Relations in East Asia” (July/Aug.); “The Sino-Japanese Competition in East Asia: Views from Different Countries and Trilateral Cooperation” (Sept./Oct.); and “How Leaders are Seeking to Rebalance Asian Regionalism” (Nov./Dec.).
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V. Events
In 2014, the Asan Institute for Policy Studies hosted hundreds of events featuring world-renowned intellectuals from various governments, think tanks, academia, and the media. Through the insights shared at these events, the Asan Institute sought to promote the development of innovative policy options to tackle domestic, regional and international challenges. The Asan Institute invited leading scholars from around the world to engage the general public in order to shape a more peaceful and prosperous future. The following section provides brief descriptions of each of the Institute’s major event formats.

The Asan Conferences are one-to-two day events open to the public that convene political leaders, policy professionals, and experts for focused discussion on a broad regional or topical theme. Participants are organized into thematic panels and deliver presentations that provide a basis for further discussion. Distinguished discussants offer their own insight into panel presentations and help conference participants draw linkages among disparate topics. At the end of the conference, panelists discuss policy recommendations that arise from their collective conversations.

Womenomics Conference, co-organized by the Asan Institute and Goldman Sachs Korea Women’s Network, sponsored by the Chosun Ilbo on March 28, 2014

H.E. Yun Byung-se, Minister of Foreign Affairs at Asan-SIPRI Conference, co-organized by the Asan Institute and Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ROK on July 9, 2014

Asan Conferences
Asan Strategic Dialogues

The Asan Strategic Dialogues are meetings that bring together policymakers acting in their capacity as private citizens as well as prominent experts from major think tanks around the world to candidly discuss regional and global challenges and develop practical approaches to handling them. As a form of unofficial or “Track II” diplomacy, the Asan Strategic Dialogues offer an environment in which experts and policymakers are insulated from political and media pressure and free to experiment with ideas and solicit candid feedback from one another. Such backchannel dialogues have proved to be vital in sustaining bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Asan Country and Region Briefs

The Asan Country and Region Briefs offer visiting groups to the Asan Institute lectures by Asan Institute President Dr. Hahm Chaibong and other Asan experts on topics ranging from Korean history to Northeast Asian international relations. In 2014, groups visiting from abroad included Harvard University’s Asia Leadership Trek (Jan. 14) and the Kennedy School of Government (Mar. 17), UK Royal College of Defence Studies (June 2), McIntyre School of Commerce, University of Virginia (June 3), Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat Young Ambassadors Program (Aug. 5), US National Defense University (Oct. 8), US Congressional staff delegation (Nov. 11), the Seoul Association of Military Attaches (Nov. 12), and School of Advanced International Studies, the Johns Hopkins University (Nov. 24).
Asan Roundtables

Dr. Hahn Chaibong and H.E. Manuel A. Gonzalez Sanz, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Costa Rica on July 1, 2014 (below)

The Asan Roundtables are meetings in which guests of the Asan Institute share their perspectives on issues being addressed in their independent research or by their respective organizations. Roundtables offer guests a venue to consult on these issues with Asan Institute experts as well as opportunities for Asan programs to further their own research. In 2014, closed roundtables were also hosted by the Asan Institute’s office in Washington, DC on countering North Korea’s missile threat, the impact of a US Republican Party majority in Congress on US East Asia policy, and Russia’s relations with Northeast Asia.

Asan Dosirak Series

Amb. Viorel Istriocoiu Budura, Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific, European External Action Service on May 27, 2014

The Asan Dosirak Series brings visiting foreign scholars and policy officials together with the public for an hour and a half of open discussion. Named after the Korean word for “lunch box,” the Asan Dosirak Series allows for a more conversational and free-flowing discussion between speakers and participants. Asan Institute Dosirak events in 2014 covered issues ranging from the revival of Confucianism, North Korean trade policy, succession problems in the Arab gulf states, EU policy priorities in the Asia Pacific, and prospects for US-Japan relations. Speakers included Patrick A. Messerlin (Sciences Po), Nguyen Hung Son (Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam), John Park (Harvard Kennedy School), and Brad Glosserman (Pacific Forum CSIS), and many others.

Delegation from the Graduate School of East Asian Studies, Freie Universität Berlin on August 19, 2014 (above)

Dr. Nguyen Hung Son, Deputy Director-General of the Institute for South China Sea/East Sea Studies, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam on June 25, 2014

Asan Dosirak Series
The Asan Special Lecture Series offers the public the opportunity to listen to presentations from world-renowned public intellectuals. These lectures offer unparalleled opportunities for audience members—who frequently include students, government officials, and members of the Korean policymaking community—to listen to the world’s leading thinkers. Special lectures in 2014 included a visit on January 24 by US Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) for a discussion of US policy toward Asia as well as the importance of the ROK-US relationship; Ian Bremmer of the Eurasia Group on March 4 to discuss how geopolitics is impacting markets today; Guy Sorman on May 26 for a presentation, titled “The State and the Citizens’ Safety”; and Representative Michael Honda (D-CA) on December 19 to discuss “Peace and Prosperity in Northeast Asia.”

Asan Press Conference

The Asan Press Conference provides a venue where visiting high-profile policymakers and opinion makers can interact with the Korean press and international correspondents to disseminate their messages to the Korean public and the international community. Press conferences in 2014 included US State Department Special Envoy for the Six-Party Talks Mr. Sydney Seiler visiting the Asan Institute on October 30 to give remarks on the history of US efforts on North Korean denuclearization and the key principles of US foreign policy vis-à-vis North Korea.

“As we look to the future, we must continue to provide an example of how cooperation can lead to progress and prosperity. At the end of the day, the security that the DPRK leadership believes will come through nuclear weapons will remain elusive.”

- Sydney Seiler
US State Department Special Envoy for the Six-Party Talks

“America must make sure that rhetoric of the so-called ‘rebalance’ to Asia meets reality and that our allies in other regions do not feel that the United States has turned its back on them. America continues to have important work ahead in many other regions, particularly the Middle East. But our global commitments strengthen our place as Asia’s indispensable power rather than detract from it.”

- Marco Rubio
US Senator

“We will continue to provide extremely sharpened choices to the DPRK so that there can be no doubt as to what path brings true security, true peace, and true prosperity to the DPRK and its people and what path will continue to lead to diplomatic and economic isolation. At the end of the day, the security that the DPRK leadership believes will come through nuclear weapons will remain elusive.”

- Sydney Seiler
US State Department Special Envoy for the Six-Party Talks
The Asan Plenum is a yearly gathering of the world’s leading experts and scholars to discuss the pressing challenges facing the world. The plenum is a multi-day, multi-session conference organized by the Asan Institute for Policy Studies. In addressing the most pressing challenges facing the world with expertise from around the globe, the Asan Plenum aims to impact the policymaking process enabling the global community to better deal with the challenges it faces. The theme of this year’s Plenum is the “Future of History.”

With the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War, some proclaimed the “End of History” and democracy swept to Eastern Europe, Asia, and South America. Free market economy and IT revolution transformed the world. Europe created a common market, a common currency, and began dreaming of a political union that would transcend national boundaries.
However, in 2008 a massive financial bubble burst, leaving the global economy teetering on the brink of disaster. In 2009, the economic crisis struck Europe. The hope of European integration began to falter.

In the Middle East and North Africa, the Arab Spring turned into winter. Many regions of the world witnessed xenophobia, historical revisionism, military buildup, territorial disputes, ethnic cleansing, racism, and crimes against humanity. International order based on universal norms and values began to falter. On the Korean Peninsula, North Korea continues to carry out military provocations, committing political genocide against its own people, all the while developing weapons of mass destruction.

Will history repeat itself? What is our responsibility to history? What is the future of history? This year’s Plenum brought together over 200 distinguished experts, policymakers, scholars, and members of the media in Seoul for two days to provide insights and seek answers to these questions.
VI. Asan in the Media
In 2014, the Asan Institute for Policy Studies received wide-spread attention from domestic and international news agencies, which generated over 1,500 items of media coverage on Institute events and research. Asan conferences were covered by over 500 correspondents from around the world, including from CNN, *The New York Times*, *Agence France-Presse* (AFP), Associated Press (AP), *Le Figaro*, CCTV, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), *Yomiuri Shimbun*, KBS, MBC, and other major news agencies.


The Asan Plenum 2014, held from April 22-23, received media coverage in almost 200 articles and interviews from 50 domestic and international outlets, which was a 40 percent increase from the previous year. The Plenum was attended by over 140 correspondents, some of whom participated in the nearly 40 separate media interviews with Asan Plenum 2014 participants.

Asaninst.org, which was revamped in early 2014, received almost 200,000 visitors throughout the year. The Asan Institute’s monthly e-newsletter also received 5,000 new subscribers.

In December 2014, Asan Institute experts held an issue briefing session to present the outlook for the international relations of the region in 2015, which was attended by 70 percent of the correspondents to the Republic of Korea’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
VII. Publications
Issue Briefs are time-sensitive overviews and rapid analyses of current events. Issue Briefs are written by Asan’s own experts as well as outside scholars. In 2014, the Asan Institute published over 30 briefs covering a wide range of international and domestic affairs. Topics ranged from environmental policy, Korean public spending and taxation, Xi Jinping’s 2014 visit to Seoul, maritime security, missile defense, frameworks for energy cooperation in Northeast Asia, as well as North Korea’s economy, missile program, and nuclear development. Every six months, issue briefs are complied into a book as part of a series.

Asan Reports are lengthier up-to-date analyses for readers seeking in-depth examinations of issues critical to the region. Depending on the topics being addressed, Asan Reports are presented in Korean, in English, and in Chinese to ensure that key stakeholders have access to the material necessary to stay fully informed on issues of most pressing concern. Asan Reports in 2014 include Challenges and Opportunities for Korea-Japan Relations in 2014; South Korean Attitudes on the Korea-US Alliance and Northeast Asia; and Outside Looking In: A View into the North Korean Economy.
The *Asan Book Series* consists of books produced as the result of conferences and research. These books include papers written by distinguished scholars, practitioners, and experts in their fields, which provide useful analyses to better inform government officials and the public. Books in 2014 include *China Complex* (edited by Kim Hankwon, Kim Min Jung, Noh Kyung-Mok and Nam Yoon Sun), *East Asian Community: Trends and Prospects* (by the Korean Research Group on East Asian Community), *Contemporary Korean Political Thought in Search of a Post-Eurocentric Approach* (edited by Kang Jung In), and *Liberalist Maruyama Masao: An Intellectual’s Thought and Behavior in the Cold War Period* (edited by Kim Seog Gun and Karube Tadashi).

*Proceedings* are published transcripts and summaries produced after the completion of a major research project or following the conclusion of various Asan conferences. They provide records of discussions that can inform government officials, experts, and the public. They also contain summaries of major research findings, detailed analysis of key issues, and recommendations for current and future policy initiatives. *Proceedings* in 2014 include *Asan Beijing Forum 2013* and *Asan Plenum 2014*.

The *Translation Series* aims to translate some of the world’s most engaging and important books on politics, economics, and society into Korean and thus contribute to Korea’s participation in the global marketplace of ideas. In 2014, the *Translation Series* included the launch of a Korean translation of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Orphan Master’s Son* by Adam Johnson, *China Goes Global: The Partial Power* by David Shambaugh, *Obama and China’s Rise: An Insider’s Account of America’s Asia Strategy* by Jeffrey A. Bader, and *The Second Nuclear Age: Strategy, Danger, and the New Power Politics* by Paul Bracken.
VIII. Internship Program
Internship Program

The Asan Internship Program is designed to provide highly motivated undergraduate and graduate students with hands-on experience at one of Korea’s leading independent think tanks. In 2014, 35 internships were awarded in total, five of which were summer internships and 30 of which were six months long with 15 interns beginning in January and 15 beginning in July.

The Asan Institute offers interns exclusive opportunities to meet and interact with renowned policymakers, scholars, and policy experts from around the world. Interns assist in planning, organizing, and hosting the more than 200 roundtables, conferences, and forums that the Asan Institute holds each year. Interns also have the opportunity to conduct research, help translate publications, and write reports alongside leading researchers in Korean, East Asian, and international affairs. From preparing policy memos to attending conferences, interns gain first-hand experience in the opinion-shaping and policymaking process.

The internship program also provides a number of special programs, including lectures by visiting experts, ambassadors, and from the Institute’s own research fellows, as well as extracurricular activities such as field trips to the DMZ and cultural outings. The Asan Institute prepares interns for their future careers by sponsoring classes on topics such as professional writing and business communication.
IX. Finance
Research & Conferences: 5,381,814,104 KRW
Asan Academy: 3,079,064,079 KRW
Salaries: 4,536,557,364 KRW
Publications: 467,634,715 KRW
Other: 3,169,618,398 KRW
Total Expenditures: 16,634,688,660 KRW
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