



Press Release

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Contact: Communications Department

Office: +82-2-3701-7338

E-mail: communications@asaninst.org

The Asan Plenum 2025: “80 Years of Independence and 60 Years of Korea-Japan Normalization”

The Asan Institute for Policy Studies (Chairman, Yoon Young-kwan) will host the Asan Plenum 2025 on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at the Grand Hyatt Seoul under the theme “80 Years of Independence and 60 Years of Korea-Japan Normalization.” This year’s Plenum looks back at the changes on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asian relations over the past 80 and 60 years. It will assess the state of the region at a time of intensifying great power competition and ongoing challenges to progress and reconciliation. The Plenum will canvass how to move beyond the past and towards a future that ensures regional security and prosperity.

At this year’s Asan Plenum, Honorary Chairman Dr. M.J. Chung will deliver the welcoming remarks, while Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Tae-yul, and Japanese Ambassador to South Korea Mizushima Koichi will give congratulatory remarks. This will be followed by a keynote speech by former U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Dr. Kurt Campbell.

This year’s Plenum will feature over 50 international foreign and security policy experts, including Paul Wolfowitz, former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense and former World Bank President; Karen House, former publisher of The Wall Street Journal; John Hamre, CEO of CSIS; Randall Schriver, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs; Victor Cha, CSIS Korea Chair; Jia Qingguo, Professor at Peking University; Kim Sung-han, Professor at Korea University and former National Security Advisor; Ahn Ho-Young, Chair Professor at Kyungnam University and former Korean Ambassador to the U.S.; and Nagamine Yasumasa, former Japanese Ambassador to South Korea.

The Asan Plenum, which aims to envision the future of the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia, consists of seven sessions. Participants will discuss key issues affecting the security and prosperity of Korea and Northeast Asia, including South Korea’s relations with its neighbors, future visions for Northeast Asia, Asia’s emerging security architecture, the changing nature of warfare, new horizons in economic security, and North Korea’s nuclear threat.

* Please note that only members of the media with an official Asan press badge will be permitted entry. You should carry your official press badge and/or press credentials and a personal ID with you while at the venue.

* All sessions will be conducted in English with simultaneous Korean interpretation provided.

Agenda

Time	Panel Title	Panelist	Affiliation
Opening Ceremony 09:00-10:00 <i>Grand Ballroom I+II</i>	Welcoming Remarks	Chung Mong Joon	The Asan Institute for Policy Studies
	Congratulatory Remarks	Cho Tae-yul	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ROK
		Mizushima Koichi	Embassy of Japan in Korea
	Keynote Speech	Kurt Campbell	The Asia Group
10:00-10:10	Break		
Plenary Session 1 10:10-11:40 <i>Grand Ballroom I+II</i>	South Korea and Its Neighbors	Karen House	Harvard University
		John Hamre	Center for Strategic and International Studies
		Jia Qingguo	Peking University
		Lee Sook Jong	Sungkyunkwan University
		Nagamine Yasumasa	Anderson Mori & Tomotsune
		Shin Kak Soo	NEAR Foundation
		Soeya Yoshihide	Keio University
11:40-13:10 <i>Namsan I+II</i>	Luncheon -Luncheon Speech: Paul Wolfowitz, Stanford University		
Concurrent Session 2-1 13:10-14:30 <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	Visions for Northeast Asia	Victor Cha	Center for Strategic and International Studies
		Kim Sung-han	Korea University
		Andrey Kortunov	Russian International Affairs Council
		Nakabayashi Mieko	Waseda University

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<i>I+II</i>		Sheila Smith	Council on Foreign Relations
		Su Hao	China Foreign Affairs University
Concurrent Session 2-2 13:10-14:30 <i>Grand Ballroom III</i>	Emerging Security Architecture	Noah Sneider	<i>The Economist</i>
		Chen Dongxiao	Shanghai Institutes for International Studies
		Lee Shin-wha	Korea University
		Sakata Yasuyo	Kanda University of International Studies
		Randall Schriver	The Project 2049 Institute
		Luis Simón	Vrije Universiteit Brussel
14:30-14:40	Break		
Concurrent Session 3-1 14:40-16:00 <i>Grand Ballroom I+II</i>	New Faces of War	Timothy Martin	<i>The Wall Street Journal</i>
		Oded Ailam	Expert on intelligence and warfare
		Richard Falkenrath	Johns Hopkins University
		Shin Beomchul	Sejong Institute
		Tokuchi Hideshi	Research Institute for Peace and Security
		Wang Junsheng	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Concurrent Session 3-2 14:40-16:00 <i>Grand Ballroom III</i>	New Horizons of Economic Security	Anthony Kim	The Heritage Foundation
		Jeanne Choi	U.S. Department of State
		Gao Fei	China Foreign Affairs University
		Narayanappa Janardhan	Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy
		Marcus Noland	Peterson Institute for International Economics
		Suzuki Kazuto	University of Tokyo
		Yoo Myung-hee	Seoul National University
16:00-16:10	Break		
Plenary Session 4	North Korea's Nuclear Threat	Ahn Ho-Young	Kyungnam University
		Ahn Byung-suk	Korea Institute for Defense Analyses

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16:10-17:30 <i>Grand Ballroom I+II</i>		Bruce Bennett	RAND Corporation
		John Everard	Former UK Ambassador to the DPRK
		Kim Gunn	National Assembly, ROK
		Sydney Seiler	Center for Strategic and International Studies
		Yabunaka Mitoji	Osaka University
		Zhu Feng	Nanjing University
Closing Ceremony 17:30-17:35 <i>Grand Ballroom I+II</i>	Closing Remarks	Yoon Young-kwan	The Asan Institute for Policy Studies