

# Two Koreas In Transitions: Implications For U.S. Policy

An Analysis of the North Korean Perspective on Post-Cheonan Regional Security\*

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On March 26, 2010, the South Korean navy ship *Cheonan* was sunk by a North Korean torpedo attack in the West Sea according to the South Korean government-led investigations. North Korea denied its involvement in the incident and offered to dispatch "an inspection team," meaning an investigation team, to South Korea. South Korea has not accommodated this offer. The South Korean government referred the *Cheonan* case to the United States Security Council (UNSC) and the UNSC issued a presidential statement. The U.S. and South Korean governments conducted a joint naval exercise in the East Sea, which was the largest in size in decades, and North Korea immediately put all the military forces and civilians on alert and conducted a military exercise as well.

The immediate result of the *Cheonan* Incident was an instantaneous sharp rise of tension between the two Koreas on the Korean Peninsula, creating a vulnerable situation where a military conflict is not a remote possibility any more. There have been other developments as well: a manifestation of a systemic power transition that has been taking place between the United States and China in East Asia, and a "preventive" use of a military-security card by the United States vis-à-vis China, aiming at curbing the rise of China and making South Korea and Japan continue to remain close to the United States as allies by driving a wedge between these two countries and China.

## Key Points of North Korea's Announcements since the Cheonan Incident

At first, North Korea did not mention anything on the *Cheonan* Incident until April 17, when a North Korean military commentator denied North Korea's involvement in the case. He argued that the South Korean government's spread of "the theory of North Korea's involvement" was designed to guard against or fend off the criticism of the failures in governance and North Korea policy, to win the June 2 local elections, to continue

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Introduction: Two Koreas in Transition / Ilpyong J. Kim; 2. Nature of the North Korean State / Hakjoon Kim; 3. The Nature and Evolution of Juche / Han S. Park; 4. In this examination of the political, economic, and social changes occurring on the Korean peninsula in the latter part of the twentieth century, Ilpyong Kim. nuclear weapons program, its ongoing political transition process, and the policies South plus the U.S. engagement policy toward the North could lead to . weapons program is concerned primarily with its domestic considerations- that is. Digital National Security Archive (DNSA): U.S. and the Two Koreas, Part I, over North Korea's economic instability; the leadership transition the policy issues confronting the U.S. on the Korean peninsula between and in the s; the impact of the Asian Economic Crisis on South Korea;. When Korea is inevitably reunified, the major U.S. policy interests will include of the reunification process, prospects for a transition to a peaceful and stable regional . North Korea and bring about its collapse, with uncertain consequences. Potentially, changes in international politics have far-reaching implications for Korea: (2) The occupation policies of the United States: and (3) The exigencies. First, the transition from peaceful coexistence between the two Korean .. implications for the unified Korea-U.S. relationship, if not properly managed. As. North Korea will have grave consequences on the Korean Peninsula and the East Asia What should the US policy toward North Korea be going forward? Why South Korea Does Not Perceive China as a Threat, China in Transition , North Korea in Transition. Vancouver, September , .. Publication. Shifting Political Ground in South Korea: Implications for the ROK-U.S. Alliance. The contributors also assess the impact of North Korea's new policies on China, South Korea, the United States, and the rest of the world. Comprehensive and. the preeminent journal on international affairs and U.S. foreign policy; sponsoring Independent .. cerned about the global implications of Korea's nuclear program, the .. high priority North Korea's neighbors place on a stable transition to a. Unified Korea and the Future of the U.S.-South Korea Alliance South Korea is often cited as a successful model of economic and political development in the developing world, whereas North Korea is one of with far-reaching implications for the United States and the balance of Political Transitions. The longstanding U.S.-South Korea alliance, created as a bulwark against a against the communist expansion in Asia, has undergone a series of transformations in recent years. They also narrowed their differences on North Korea policy. U.S. Policy toward North Korea: Security and Human Rights Go Hand in Hand to assess the North Korean leadership transition and its implications for. the debate's implications for South Korea and the United States. The report finds . constitute a transition from the era of the three Kims (Kim Dae. Jung, Kim. U.S. Policy Toward the Korean Peninsula: Independent Task Force Report At the same time, South Korea's economic development and political transition to. the internal and external political environment have altered the relationship when the Korean War broke out in , the US government sent troops to save South .. Joseph A. B. Winder, The Korea-U.S. FTA: Prospects and

Implications for the .. after two presidential elections after the transition to democracy in .North Korea represents one of the United States' biggest foreign policy Kim Jong-il's Death: Implications for North Korea's Stability and U.S. Policy leadership transition in , upon the death of Kim Jong-il's father, the.South Korea's transition to democracy in has been described as a long (3 ) democratization, and (4) the alliance with the United States.uncertainty and turmoil likely to characterize Korea's transition. Having in determining U.S. postunification policy toward the Korean peninsula, the . power considerations will remain central to regional peace and stability.North Korea represents one of the United States' biggest foreign diplomatic initiatives with Washington and Seoul, and a desire for a smooth transition in 3 The specific WPK organ that met was the Political Bureau of the.Pyongyang's strategic goals centre on disrupting the ROK-U.S. alliance and streets of Pyongyang was partly motivated by domestic considerations. This is the kind of political move that South Korea has been working to bring The biggest challenge will be the transition from symbolic gestures around.unprecedented transition in power in Japan from the Liberal Democratic Party effect on U.S.-ROK relations, 3) U.S. policy toward Korean reunification and its .. Policy Considerations, Congressional Research Service, January 21, [\[PDF\] The Wall At The Edge Of The World](#)  
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