

2019 Global Peace Forum on Korea - “Making Connections: Global Challenges, Korea, and Peaceful Coexistence”

By [Dr. Kiyul Chung](#)

Global Research, October 25, 2019

Region: [Asia](#)
Theme: [History](#)

On September 28, 2019 Global Peace Forum on Korea (2019 GPFK), initially proposed by a nonprofit, educational organization, <Institute for 21st Century International Relations> (21cir), was held throughout the day at Italian Academy of Columbia University in New York City where 2018 GPFK was also held last year at the same time period (September 29-30).

Like last year, we organized 2019 GPFK Organizing Committee (2019 GPFKOC) in mid June. The 2019 GPFKOC was run by 5 people who also joined the leadership of 2018 GPFK last year.

The 5 Co-chairs represent their following respective organizations: 1) International Peace Bureau (IPB), 2) NCCCUSA (National Council of Churches of Christ in USA), 3) Pax Christi International UN Representative, 4) UMC, Global Ministries, Racial Justice and Human Rights UN Representative, 5) the above-mentioned 21cir.

Since June, the 2019 GPFKOC under its wing ran 3 working subcommittees: 1) Program Subcommittee; 2) Secretariat; 3) Organizing or Outreach subcommittee.

The 2019 GPFKOC as the official host body had organized a daylong global-scale academic conference where we invited about 120 people to join both all day long dialogue and an evening dinner program.

The participants are mostly international scholars, experts, peace activists, government officials (UN Ambassadors), elected parliamentary members, religious leaders, students, etc. from about 15 nations.

However, the majority participants came from US and both Koreas (DPRK and ROK).

The GPFK's permanent theme from last year's founding conference, 2018 GPFK, is "Peace and Prosperity for Korea and the World." However, the GPFKOC came up with a new theme for the 2019 GPFK which was "Making Connections: Global Challenges, Korea, and Peace Coexistence."

After Opening Ceremony from 9 AM, all together 3 Sessions were carried out throughout the day from 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM. This year we had 5 keynote speakers all together and about 20 panel presentations. At the Opening Ceremony, the first 3 keynote speeches were delivered by scholars from US and both Koreas (DPRK and ROK). The other 2 keynote speeches were made during afternoon hours from Session II and III panel discussions.

honored dignitaries who did help us this year as well. They are former President Jimmy Carter and sitting UN Undersecretary General Rosemary A. DiCarlo from Dept. of Political and Peace-building Affairs (DPPA). Both sent wholeheartedly genuine messages for the success of 2nd GPFK event.

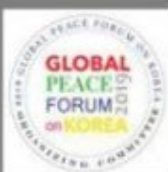
2019 GLOBAL PEACE FORUM on KOREA

Peace and Prosperity for Korea and the World

Making the Connections: Global Challenges, Korea and Peaceful Coexistence

The Italian Academy, Columbia University
1161 Amsterdam Ave. New York, NY USA

Sep 28, 2019



2019 Global Peace Forum on Korea Organizing Committee

globalpeaceforumonkorea.com



The Honorable Rosemary DiCarlo

Undersecretary General
Dept. of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United Nations, New York

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL ROSEMARY DICARLO'S
REMARKS TO THE 2019 GLOBAL PEACE FORUM ON KOREA

New York, 28 September 2019

I am pleased to again send my warm greetings to the 2019 Global Peace Forum on Korea.

Last year, the Korean Peninsula experienced momentous developments. We witnessed summits and family reunions. And many commitments were made.

Today, the international community is eager for talks to resume and progress to be made.

I am glad that the United Nations has been a platform for the two Koreas to send messages of collaboration and peace.

Over the past 12 months, the Panmunjom Declaration was circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and Security Council; traditional Korean wrestling was listed as Intangible Cultural Heritage thanks to a joint application from both Koreas, and the World Taekwondo and International Tae kwon-Do Federation promoted peace at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

These symbolic steps are crucial. But more is needed.

The Secretary-General continues to urge the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to begin working-level talks with the United States, as agreed by the two leaders in June, and to resume inter-Korean dialogue.

The summits involving the leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea and United States respectively remain important milestones.

They have built an atmosphere conducive to advancing sustainable peace and complete and verifiable denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula, in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions. There could be setbacks, but there is now a foundation to make tangible progress on the core issues.

The United Nations system and our Good Offices are available to support the diplomatic efforts of the parties.

I wish you great success in the discussions ahead and look forward to the results of the forum.

Thank you.

This year we had a very special religious leader from US Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic Cardinal Joseph Tobin, Archbishop of Newark Diocese, also sent his warm support message. Another special highlight of the 2019 GPFK was the presence of 3 Honorable UN Ambassadors from both Koreas (DPRK and ROK) who for the first time joined a NGO-sponsored academic event which took place on US soil.



Again for the sake of our readers, at the end of this short introductory remarks, we'd like to publish some of the photos taken throughout the day which we hope may help/assist the readers to understand and/or have some ideas about what'd happened at the 2019 GPFK.

In short, it was a full day of not only lots of dialoguing, learning, challenging, exchanging but also of sharing, dreaming, and envisioning for a better and new 'peaceful and prosperous Korea and the world.'

However, at dinner time, the participants, seemingly everybody, also celebrated, honored, and appreciated each other in a genuinely respectful way with warm friendship, food and wine while they seemed to have enjoyed both western and eastern music and dance.

Many participants seemed to have left the celebratory dinner party NOT with pessimistic senses of failure, despair, or dark vision for the future BUT rather with optimistic senses of overwhelming energies, wholehearted feelings of joy, being fully empowered and even a very much hopeful new vision for “Peace and Prosperity for Korea and the World” in near future.

For your information, in the following weeks, we’d like to continually post some of our speakers’ speeches and papers on our media.

Best wishes!

On behalf of 2019 GPFK Organizing Committee

Prof. Kiyul Chung, PhD

Founder/Executive Director, Institute for 21st Century Int’l Relations

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