

Boston University Academy Model United Nations Conference IX
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Boston University Academy
Boston, MA

Reunification of Korean Peninsula

Specialized Committee: Peace Treaty Negotiations

Background Guide

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Committee Staff

Chandler Cheung, co-director/co-chair

Skyler Cheung, co-director/co-chair

Dmitri Demler, vice-chair

Sudarshan Ramanan, Secretary-General

John Lee, Secretary-General

Jonas Rajagopal, Secretary-General



Welcome Letter

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to BUAMUN 2021! My name is Chandler Cheung, and I will be the co-chair of this year's specialized committee tasked with peace treaty negotiations to resolve the Korean War and reunify the Korean peninsula. I am joined on the dais with fellow co-chair Skyler Cheung and vice chair Dmitri Demler. We are all seniors in our final year involved with BUAMUN, and we are all extremely excited to work with you all on peace treaty negotiations to reunify the Korean Peninsula!

As with all Model UN conferences, your performance as a delegate and the success of the committee will depend on your knowledge of the multi-faceted issue at hand. Thus, ample research completed prior to the committee is crucial.

If you have any concerns or questions about the specialized committee format or anything else at any time, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will answer your questions as soon as possible. Hope to virtually see you all soon!

Best wishes,

Chandler Cheung

Skyler Cheung

Dmitri Demler

admin@buamun.org



Position Paper Information

The chairs of this committee will review and provide feedback for all position papers submitted at least a week in advance of the committee. A well-written and well-research position paper will influence the determination of awards for committees. For award consideration, your position paper should be submitted to chairs before the start of the conference.

Your position paper should follow a 3-part scheme: 1) introduction to the topic, 2) delegate's stance on the topic, and 3) delegate's proposed action on the topic.

Please adhere to the following format for your paper: 12 pt Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and 1"-margins. Also, we ask that you fill-out and include the header at the top of your paper as follows:

Delegate:

School:

Committee: Peace Treaty Negotiations

Position:

Topic: Reunification of Korean Peninsula

If you have any questions regarding your position paper or any information included in the background guide, please contact your chair through email.

Committee Logistics

Parliamentary Procedure & Resolutions

All specific procedures regarding the debate, motions, and points during committee will be discussed prior to the commencement of the first committee session.

The goal of this specialized committee is for delegates to work collaboratively and draft resolutions. Resolutions mainly comprise preambulatory and operative clauses. Preambulatory clauses demonstrate a need for a resolution, while operative clauses detail specified actions, divided into sub-clauses for clarity. Please refer to the Further Research section at the end of this background guide for more information about common preambulatory and operative clauses and proper formatting for resolutions.

In order for a draft resolution to be introduced, it must contain the signatures of at least two delegates designated as sponsors and of at least one fifth of the total number of delegates as signatories.

Portfolio Requests

Portfolio requests are notes between delegates and directors, requesting a certain course of action that falls within a delegate's specified portfolio power. The committee director has full discretion on which requests may or may not be granted. A comprehensive portfolio request with thorough plans has a greater chance of being passed.

Committee Structure

This committee is a simulation of a meeting between 6 countries: North Korea, South Korea, United States, Russia, China, and Japan. These six countries have previously met several times to discuss the denuclearization of North Korea, albeit with little success. This committee is taking place in a few years from present day.

Over the past few years, tensions between North and South Korea have tremendously escalated to the point where an international military confrontation could occur at any moment. There are already minor conflicts along the DMZ. There have been reports of bodies washing ashore in South Korea, in the same area as a popular route for defectors from North Korea.

North Korea has fired several warning shots into the Pacific Ocean. They have also developed their nuclear missile arsenal. North Korea, at the moment, does not want to engage with the United States in a full-scale war. China and Russia are also pressuring the isolated country to mend its relations and agree to a peace treaty. North Korea has agreed, on the condition that they receive strong economic benefits and maintain its military power. As a country, North Korea is wary that either the United States or South Korea could breach the terms of agreement for these negotiations.

As representatives of these countries, it is your duty to reach a peaceful treaty that involves all six countries. It is imperative that you de-escalate all tensions as soon as possible. Good luck, delegates!



Topic Background

Korean War

North vs. South Korea

For hundreds of years until the late 19th century, the Korean peninsula was ruled by several imperial leaders. For a short time afterward, King Gojong declared the peninsula the Korean Empire. By 1910, Japan annexed Korea and the peninsula became a part of the Japanese empire for the following three and a half decades.

After World War II, Americans and Soviets decided to divide the Korean peninsula along the 38th parallel, with Russians occupying the northern area and Americans the south. The northern part of Korea was ruled by communist dictator Kim Il Sung (1912-1994) with support from the Soviets, while the southern region was led by anti-communist dictator Syngman Rhee (1875-1965), with support from the American government.

Border skirmishes near the 38th parallel were common. Almost 10,000 North and South Korean soldiers were killed in better prior to the war's outbreak.



Topic Background

Korean War

Outbreak

Refer to the political map of Korea below prior to the Korean War, labeled, with territories controlled by the North and South Korean armies at different times of the conflict.



Topic Background

Korean War

Outbreak

The first military action of the Cold War began on June 25th, 1950, when roughly 75,000 soldiers from the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th parallel and invaded the South. This latitudinal boundary separated the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the north and the Western-supported Republic of Korea to the South. The North Korean government had a goal to unite the peninsula under communist rule.

American officials were completely surprised by the invasion, which they viewed as an extension of the Cold War and an affront to democracy and global freedom. So, American troops entered the war to back South Korea in July, 1950.

Initially, after casualties on both sides and fighting stalled, American military leaders wanted to prevent further hostility with North Korea because they feared a wider war with Russia, China, or potentially a World War III. They anxiously tried to work out a peace treaty.

The North Korean army was well prepared with regard to weapons, supplies, and training. As a result, the defensive attempt to drive communists out of South Korea was futile.



Topic Background

Korean War

The Korean War and the Cold War

Despite the ongoing border conflicts, the North Korean invasion was completely unexpected to American officials; many feared this invasion was the first step in a communist offensive to take control of the world.

As a result of this mindset, American officials believed that military intervention was necessary. In fact, the National Security Council (NSC-68) recommended that the United States use military force to contain communist expansionism, regardless of economic or strategic concerns. US President Truman (1884-1972) viewed the invasion as a clear violation of his anti-communist policy of containment during the Cold War. Truman also regarded the Korean and Cold War conflicts as the symbol of the global struggle against evil.

On the battlefield, the South Korean army was especially underprepared. Harsh and dry fighting conditions during that summer forced the unaccustomed American soldiers to drink water from rice patties fertilized with human waste, resulting in persistent intestinal diseases and other illnesses.

Topic Background

Korean War

The Korean War and the Cold War

By the end of the summer (1950), President Truman and General Douglas MacArthur changed war strategy to an offensive one: their goal was to free northern Korea from the communists.

In September 1950, US General Douglas MacArthur launched an attack at Inch'on, which pushed the retreating North Korean army out of Seoul and over the 38th parallel.

American troops continued to head north toward the Yalu River, which serves as the border between North Korea and Communist China. Chinese officials worried the combat would spill over into China and wanted to protect themselves against an armed attack

Chinese leader Mao Zedong (1892-1976) sent troops to North Korea. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers drove the American army southward in intense battles. Zedong warned the US to stay away from the Yalu boundary, if they wanted to prevent an all-out war.



Topic Background

Korean War

Split in American Strategy

In response to the China's intervention in the war, MacArthur wanted to retaliate with another military advance or even nuclear weapons. Truman, however, was more conscientious of potential consequences and refused.

President Truman and his advisors definitely did not want the war to involve China. They believed that this would lead to Soviet aggression in Europe and the inevitable deployment of atomic weapons

General MacArthur, however, held a different viewpoint. He believed that anything less would be a disgraceful “bowing-down” to the communists.

In March 1951, General MacArthur sent a letter to Joseph Martin, a House Republican leader whose views on the war were similar to the general's. In the letter, MacArthur wrote that there would be “no substitute for victory” against international communism

Shortly after MacArthur's letter and public criticism of Truman's leadership, Truman fired his general for insubordination on April 11th.



Topic Background

Korean War

Korean War Stalemate and Armistice

In July 1951, Truman and new military officials initiated peace talks at Panmunjom, while fighting continued near the 38th parallel. Both sides agreed on enacting a ceasefire, but differed on the treatment of prisoners of war. China and North Korea were in favor of the prisoners being repatriated, while the US was not

An armistice was finally signed on July 27th, 1953; the agreement allowed the prisoners to remain where they chose, drew a new boundary near the 38th parallel that granted South Korea roughly 1,500 square miles of new territory, and established a “demilitarized zone” (DMZ) separating the two nations, which still remains today.

Casualties

Though the Korean War never officially ended, fighting ceased in July 1953, which left almost 5 million people dead, including millions of civilians from starvation. About 10 percent of Korea’s pre-war population accounted for half of these deaths.

In addition, roughly 40,000 American soldiers died in action in Korea, with more than 100,000 wounded. Today, the Korean peninsula remains divided.



Topic Background

Post-war Developments

Both North and South Korea were decimated as a result of constant bombing and casualties from the Korean War. This consequently affected their respective economies and infrastructure. Shortly after, the United States provided large funds to South Korea as a part of the United Nations Korea Reconstruction Agency. Similarly, aid for reconstruction in North Korea was provided by China and the USSR. Surprisingly, North Korea was able to set the foundation for a modern industrial society shortly after the conclusion of the war. During the 1950s, North Korea's prospects were much more promising.

On the other hand, South Korea's rebuild was slowed by political corruption. The government often resorted to undemocratic tactics to remain in power over an increasingly urban population, such as election fraud, bribery, and strict security laws. Moreover, the country's slow pace of economic recovery did little in the government's favor. It lacked the necessary local resources to sustain proper economic growth.

In the upcoming decades, South Korea's prosperity was a result of heavy investment in jobs in the education, finance, science, and economic sectors. Coupled with sweeping land reform, South Korea suddenly saw a dramatic shift from peasant farmers to urban workers. This set the path for South Korea's rapid economic growth for decades in the future.

Topic Background

Current Topics

The following sections detail the pressing issues of reunification.

Economic

Most prominently, North Korea's economy is a fraction of South Korea's. This is reflected in essentially every aspect of the economy, including education, industrial production, and level of exports and imports.

Humanitarian

Another prominent issue that needs to be dealt with is the supply of aid, mainly to North Koreans. Their citizens, especially those in rural areas, lag behind in healthcare coverage, access to medicine, and disease immunity. On top of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the reunification of Korea must prioritize the health of its people.

Military

It is widely known that North Korea prides itself on its military and nuclear capabilities. Its extensive missile and nuclear testing sites, standing army, and military facilities indicate immense concern from a global security standpoint. The demilitarized zone (DMZ) also serves as a symbol of division between North and South Korea.

Politics

When considering the union of these two countries, which political system should prevail? Or should a hybrid government rule?



Topic Background

Current Topics

Social

In addition, there are stark social differences between North and South Korea, which raise questions on how well these two populations could coexist. Issues such as depression, suicide rate, work and job conditions, technology dependence are all prominent distinctions. Applying observations from the reunification of East and West Berlin, it may not be unreasonable to expect mass migration from North to South Korea. This complicates issues further, since current defects already face discrimination in South Korea.

Foreign Relations

As previously mentioned, North Korea's main allies are Russia and China, while South Korea is supported by Japan and the United States. While these countries are often at odds, a unified trade deal would be essential to ensure a stable economy. A trade deal between these world powers also ensure that there would be countless conflicting interests.



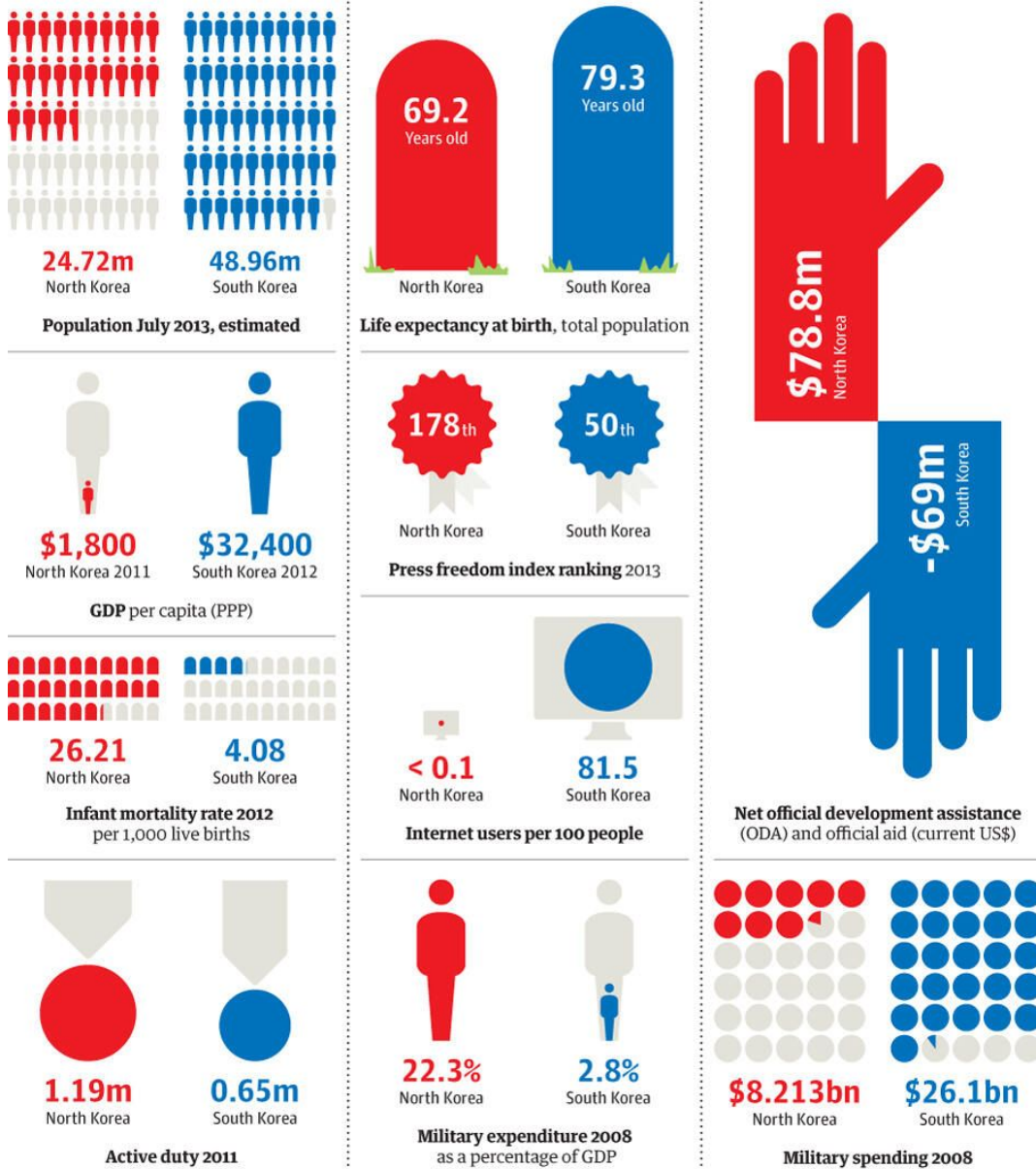
Topic Background

Current Topics

Demographics

The contrast in demographics between the two Koreas as of 2013.

North and South Korea



SOURCE: CIA WORLDFACTBOOK, REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS, WORLD BANK, FOREIGN POLICY, IISS MILITARY BALANCE 2012

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

- 1985 North Korea signs the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).
- 1994 North Korea and the United States sign an agreement. North Korea pledges to freeze and eventually dismantle its old, graphite-moderated nuclear reactors in exchange for international aid to build two new light-water nuclear reactors.
- 2002 October - The Bush Administration reveals that North Korea has admitted operating a secret nuclear weapons program in violation of the 1994 agreement.
- 2003 January 10 - North Korea withdraws from the NPT.
- February - The United States confirms North Korea has reactivated a five-megawatt nuclear reactor at its Yongbyon facility, capable of producing plutonium for weapons.
- April - North Korea declares it has nuclear weapons.

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2005 North Korea tentatively agrees to give up its entire nuclear program, including weapons. In exchange, the United States, China, Japan, Russia and South Korea say they will provide energy assistance to North Korea, as well as promote economic cooperation.

2006 July - After North Korea test fires long range missiles, the UN Security Council passes a resolution demanding that North Korea suspend the program.

October - North Korea claims to have successfully tested its first nuclear weapon. The test prompts the UN Security Council to impose a broad array of sanctions.

2007 February 13 - North Korea agrees to close its main nuclear reactor in exchange for an aid package worth \$400 million.

September 30 - At six-party talks in Beijing, North Korea signs an agreement stating it will begin disabling its nuclear weapons facilities. It misses the deadline to disable its weapons facilities by the end of the year.

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2008 June 27 - North Korea destroys a water cooling tower at the Yongbyon nuclear facility.

December - Six-party talks are held in Beijing. The talks break down over North Korea's refusal to allow international inspectors unfettered access to suspected nuclear sites.

2009 May 25 - North Korea announces it has conducted its second nuclear test.

June 12 - The UN Security Council condemns the nuclear test and imposes new sanctions.

2012 February 29 - The State Department announces that North Korea has agreed to a moratorium on long-range missile launches and nuclear activity at the nation's major nuclear facility in exchange for food aid. This follows six-party nuclear arms talks that occurred in Geneva, Switzerland a few months prior.

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2013 January 24 - North Korea's National Defense Commission says it will continue nuclear testing and long-range rocket launches in defiance of the United States. The tests and launches will feed into an "upcoming all-out action" targeting the United States, "the sworn enemy of the Korean people," the commission says.

February 12 - Conducts third nuclear test. This is the first nuclear test carried out under Kim Jong Un. Three weeks later, the United Nations orders additional sanctions in protest.

2014 March 30-31 - North Korea warns that it is prepping another nuclear test. The following day, the hostility escalates when the country fires hundreds of shells across the sea border with South Korea. In response, South Korea fires about 300 shells into North Korean waters and sends fighter jets to the border.

2015 May 6 - In an exclusive interview with CNN, the deputy director of a North Korean think tank says the country has the missile capability to strike mainland United States and would do so if the United States "forced their hand."

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2015 December 12 - North Korea state media says the country has added the hydrogen bomb to its arsenal.

2016 January 6-7 - North Korea says it has successfully conducted a hydrogen bomb test. A day after the alleged test, White House spokesman Josh Earnest says that the United States has not verified that the test was successful.

March 9 - North Korea announces that it has miniature nuclear warheads that can fit on ballistic missiles.

September 9 - North Korea claims to have detonated a nuclear warhead. According to South Korea's Meteorological Administration, the blast is estimated to have the explosive power of 10 kilotons.

July 4 - North Korea claims it has conducted its first successful test of an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) that can "reach anywhere in the world."

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2017 August 7 - North Korea accuses the United States of "trying to drive the situation of the Korean peninsula to the brink of nuclear war" after the UN Security Council unanimously adopts new sanctions in response to Pyongyang's long-range ballistic missile tests last month.

August 9 - North Korea's military is "examining the operational plan" to strike areas around the US territory of Guam with medium-to-long-range strategic ballistic missiles, state-run news agency KCNA says.

September 3 - North Korea carries out its sixth test of a nuclear weapon, causing a 6.3 magnitude seismic event, as measured by the US Geological Survey. Pyongyang claims the device is a hydrogen bomb that could be mounted on an intercontinental missile. A nuclear weapon monitoring group describes the weapon as up to eight times stronger than the bomb dropped in Hiroshima in 1945.

November 1 - A US official tells CNN that North Korea is working on an advanced version of its intercontinental ballistic missile that could potentially reach the US. .

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2018 June 12 - The final outcome of a landmark summit between the United States and North Korea, and nearly five hours of talks between Trump and Kim in Singapore, culminates with declarations of a new friendship but only vague pledges of nuclear disarmament.

December 5 - New satellite images obtained exclusively by CNN reveal North Korea has significantly expanded a key long-range missile base, offering a reminder that Kim is still pursuing his promise to mass produce and deploy the existing types of nuclear warheads in his arsenal.

2019 February 27-28 - At the beginning of the year, Trump met with Kim Yong Chol, North Korea's lead negotiator on nuclear talks, and they discussed denuclearization and the second summit scheduled for February. A second round of US-North Korean nuclear diplomacy talks ends abruptly with no joint agreement after Kim insists all US sanctions be lifted on his country. Trump states that Kim offered to take some steps toward dismantling his nuclear arsenal, but not enough to warrant ending the imposed sanctions on North Korea.

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2019 March 15 - North Korea's foreign minister tells reporters that the country has no intention to "yield to the US demands." In the wake of the comment, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo insists that negotiations will continue.

May 4 - South Korea's Defense Ministry states that North Korea test-fired multiple rocket launchers, including a new tactical guide weapon on May 3. According to the defense ministry's assessment, the launchers' range is about 70 to 240 kilometers (43 to 149 miles). The test is understood to be the first missile launch from North Korea since late 2017 and the first since Trump began meeting with Kim.

October 2 - North Korea says it test fired a new type of a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), a day after Pyongyang and Washington agreed to resume nuclear talks. The launch marks a departure from the tests of shorter range missiles North Korea has carried out recently.

Present-Day Events

North Korea Nuclear Timeline

2020 March 9 - According to US and South Korean officials, North Korea fires at least three unidentified projectiles, the second such move by the regime in two weeks. North Korean state media says military exercises began on February 28, the one-year anniversary of Kim's summit in Hanoi, Vietnam, with Trump which ended without a deal. The military drills continued March 2, when Pyongyang fired two unidentified short-range projectiles from an area near the coastal city of Wonsan.

Present-Day Events

North and South Korea Current Events Timeline

June 2020 North Korea shuts all lines of communication with South Korea, a sign of increasing tensions

Later, North Korea blows up a liaison office used to communicate with the South. Though it had not been in use due to the pandemic, this is a sign of deteriorating ties.

One week after, North Korea suspends its plans for increase military action against South Korea. This comes after North Korea promised to retaliate against anti-propaganda messaging sent by defectors and activists from South Korea.

July 2020 Kim Jong Un claims there will be “no more war on this earth” because of their nuclear arsenal

North Korea states that at the moment, it has no plans to communicate with the United States.

Satellite reports show increased activity at a suspected nuclear facility, possibly including a secured perimeter and an underground facility.

Present-Day Events

North and South Korea Current Events Timeline

July 2020 A shocking report declares that the mayor of Seoul, South Korea has been found dead, after a lengthy search.

August
2020 In a statement unlike his previous bold claims, Kim Jong Un acknowledges that much needs to be done to boost North Korea's flailing economy. He announces a years-long plan to improve their power, manufacturing, and agricultural production. He blames economic sanctions, the coronavirus pandemic, and massive flooding.

September
2020 A report from United States weapons experts is published that claims North Korea is prepping a new weapon test system, having the potential to expand their arsenal and defy threshold amounts set by President Trump in 2018.

South Korea reports that North Korean navy officials shot and killed a South Korean official who expressed a desire to defect. Kim Jong-Un issues a rare apology of the military's brutal murder of a South Korean civil servant.

Questions to Consider

We do not ask that you address any or all of these questions in your position paper. These questions should provide a place to begin if you feel overwhelmed by the various topics or unsure where to start.

1. How should non-governmental organizations (NGO's), such as the International Medical Corps and Doctors Without Borders, or intergovernmental organizations (IGO's), such as the World Health Organization and World Trade Organization, be involved?
2. How should the North Korean dictatorship and Kim dynasty be restructured?
3. On another related question, how should North Korea's extensive nuclear arsenal be dismantled/removed?
4. How should the entire operation of reunification be funded?
5. Should there be repercussions in place should a country violate its agreement?
6. What aspects from the reunification of East and West Berlin should be applied to his unique situation, if any at all?
7. Previous six-table talks have focused on these topics: a security guarantee for North Korea, the construction of light water reactors, peaceful usage of nuclear energy, diplomatic relations, normalization of trade, and irreversible disarmament. Even though these talks broke down, which topics are still relevant and should be addressed?

Prominent Figures

North Korea

Chairman of Democratic People's Republic of Korea:

Portfolio Powers: Able to veto any measures passed by ministers; Authority to declare war; Receives intelligence briefings from officials at DMZ.

Contacts: Diplomatic representatives to South Korea, Japan, Russia, China, and the United States; vice Chairman of State Affairs

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto with unanimous vote from all four ministers; primary advisor to Chairman on trade relations.

Contacts: North Korean ambassadors to South Korea, Russia, China, Japan, and the United States

Minister of Defense:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto with unanimous vote from all four ministers; authority to launch nuclear/ballistic weapons with consent of Chairman.

Contacts: Network of spies in South Korea, including agents posing as defectors; North Korean intelligence community.



Prominent Figures

North Korea

Minister of Health:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto with unanimous vote from all four ministers; oversees distribution of food/medicine

Contacts: Deputy-General of World Health Organization; Minister of Disease Outbreak Control

Minister of Agriculture and Forestry:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto with unanimous vote from all four ministers; oversees production of food, basic commodities (wood, metal, etc.)

Contacts: Minister of Economy; Head of Factory Logistics and Management;

Commander of People's National Army:

Portfolio Powers: In command of roughly 1.2 million ground troops, two fleets on eastern and western coast, thousands of guards protecting the Southern border, and a special operations force of roughly 200,000 soldiers.

Contacts: Generals of Ground, Naval, Air, Forces; Chief of Military Operations



Prominent Figures

South Korea

President of South Korea:

Portfolio Powers: Able to veto measures passed by cabinet; authority to unilaterally declare war; receives intelligence briefings on state of adversary countries.

Contacts: United Nations Director General; South Korean intelligence officers.

Minister of National Defense:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on any measure with majority vote from the Speaker, Chairman, and Ministers of National Defense and Foreign Affairs; capable of launching short-range missiles and directing group of 100 tanks; oversees network of satellites spying on North Korea

Contacts: Network of spies in North Korea; generals of army, air force, and navy; guards at the DMZ.

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on any measure with majority vote from the Speaker, Chairman, and Ministers of National Defense and Foreign Affairs; can impose sanctions.

Contacts: Ambassadors of North Korea, Russia, China, Japan, and United States

Prominent Figures

South Korea

Speaker of the National Assembly:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on any measure with majority vote from the Speaker, Chairman, and Ministers of National Defense and Foreign Affairs; authority to pass measures on budget and economy; capability to begin impeachment process on president.

Contacts: South Korean intelligence community; body of National Assembly.

Chairman of Health and Welfare Committee of the National Assembly:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on any measure with majority vote from the Speaker, Chairman, and Ministers of National Defense and Foreign Affairs; able to introduce measures on health to National Assembly.

Contacts: World Health Organization Director General; Head of Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency



Prominent Figures

China

President of People's Republic of China:

Portfolio Powers: Authority to declare war; able to veto any measures passed by ministers; able to impose economic sanctions on other countries.

Contacts: Chinese ambassadors to North Korea, South Korea, United States, Russia and Japan; United Nations Director General; World Health Organization Director General.

Chairman of Central Military Commission:

Portfolio Powers: Access to 650,000 infantry, 2,000 tanks.

Contacts: Generals of Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto with majority vote from three ministers; primary negotiator of trade relations.

Contacts: Minister of Economy; heads of embassies in Russia and North Korea.



Prominent Figures

China

Minister of National Defense:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto with majority vote from three ministers; access to military intelligence briefings on adversary countries; authority to launch short-range missiles.

Contacts: Minister of State Security; global network of spies.

Minister of Mining and Agriculture:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto with majority vote from three ministers; in charge of production of valuable materials (mining rare-earth elements); oversees four dozen factories.

Contacts: CEOs of Chinese manufacturing and farming equipment companies.



Prominent Figures

United States

President of United States:

Portfolio Powers: Authority to deploy up to 20,000 troops; Able to impose economic sanctions; Able to issue two executive orders during course of committee on issues relating to trade deals or military action.

Contacts: United Nations Director General; World Health Organization Deputy Director-General.

Secretary of State:

Portfolio Powers: Serves as primary advisor to President on foreign affairs, economic trade, and diplomatic relations; Able to integrate American businesses in foreign markets.

Contacts: United States Ambassadors to North Korea, South Korea, Russia, Japan, and China; Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Director of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA):

Portfolio Powers: Access to intelligence reports on North Korean military facilities; Able to deploy SEAL teams and Special Operation forces.

Contacts: Deputy Directors of CIA for Analyses, Operations and Science & Technology; United States intelligence community.

Prominent Figures

United States

Secretary of Defense:

Portfolio Powers: Authority to deploy fighter jets, battleships, and other military vehicles used for combat or surveillance.

Contacts: Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security; Head of Department of Army, Air Force, and Navy.

Secretary of Health and Human Services:

Portfolio Powers: Authority to administer medication and vaccines and provide childcare; Able to control distribution of food services.

Contacts: Secretary of Labor; Head of Centers for Disease Control; President of American Red Cross.

United States Executive Director of International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD):

Portfolio Powers: Access to fund of 400 billion dollars, which can be provided in loans or grants; Able to value/devalue strength of national currencies based on national production and level of imports/exports.

Contacts: Managing Director of International Monetary Fund (IMF); Board of Governors of International Finance Corporation.

Prominent Figures

Russia

President of Russian Federation:

Portfolio Powers: Able to issue two presidential decrees over course of committee regarding national security, economic, or trade measures; able to veto any measures passed by ministers.

Contacts: Russian intelligence community; head of KGB.

Deputy Chairman of Security Council:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on national security measures with majority vote of the Deputy Chairman, Minister of Defense and Foreign Affairs; receives intelligence briefings; oversees spy satellites.

Contacts: Global network of spies; border patrol agents.

Minister of Defense:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on national security measures with majority vote of the Deputy Chairman, Minister of Defense, and Minister of Foreign Affairs; capable of launching intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Contacts: Generals of Russian army, air force, and navy.

Prominent Figures

Russia

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on national security measures with majority vote of the Deputy Chairman, Minister of Defense, and Minister of Foreign Affairs; able to override veto on economic and trade measures with majority vote from Ministers of Economic Development, Foreign Affairs, and Industry and Trade.

Contacts: Russian ambassadors to North Korea, South Korea, Japan, United States, and China.

Minister of Economic Development:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on economic and trade measures with majority vote from Ministers of Economic Development, Foreign Affairs, and Industry and Trade; able to impose economic sanctions on adversary countries.

Contacts: CEOs of Russian companies; minister of agriculture

Minister of Industry and Trade:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on economic and trade measures with majority vote from Ministers of Economic Development, Foreign Affairs, and Industry and Trade; oversees steel, oil, and electricity industries.

Contacts: World Trade Organization Director General.

Prominent Figures

Japan

Prime Minister of Japan:

Portfolio Powers: Able to veto measures passed by ministers; authority over national budget; can replace only one minister over course of committee.

Contacts: United Nations Director General; Japanese intelligence community.

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on any measure with majority vote of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Economy, Trade, and Industry; able to impose economic sanctions.

Contacts: Japanese ambassadors to South Korea, North Korea, Russia, United States, and China.

Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on any measure with majority vote of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Economy Trade, and Industry; oversees trading ports.

Contacts: World Trade Organization Director General; CEOs of Japanese manufacturing companies.

Prominent Figures

Japan

Minister of Defense:

Portfolio Powers: Able to override veto on any measure with majority vote of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Economy Trade, and Industry; receives intelligence briefings.

Contacts: Japanese intelligence community; commander of self-defense forces.

Further Research

For an extensive guide on Parliamentary Procedure, please refer to this document from Cornell's Model UN Conference [here](#). For an introduction to sections of a resolution, refer to the webpage [here](#).

If you're are looking for more background information, the CIA World Factbook is a great place to start! It provides facts and figures relating to each country's economy, government and demographics. It is linked [here](#). Other reputable sources regarding current events include BBC News (bbc.com), the New York Times (nytimes.com), CNN (cnn.com), and Reuters (reuters.com).

Final Remarks

We understand that we have provided a plethora of information over the course of this background guide. If you made it this far, congratulations! We recognize that committees modeling current situations, especially one that is as prominent as the reunification of the Korean Peninsula, can be a daunting assignment to tackle. Negotiating a peaceful unification requires critical thinking, collaboration, drafting, and lots more re-drafting. But we believe that you are up for the challenge! Remember to consider this situation from various points of view, including those on the other side of the negotiating table. And as always, please reach out to us if you have any questions.

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