

Hyun Hong-choo

Senior Partner at Kim & Chang



Ambassador Hong-choo Hyun, Senior Partner with the firm of Kim & Chang, was Korea's Ambassador to the United States from 1991-93. He also served as a Korean Ambassador at the Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations.

After serving in the Korean army as a judge advocate officer, Ambassador Hyun then worked as a prosecutor for Seoul District Public Prosecutor's Office and the Ministry of Justice. He became the first deputy director of the Agency for National Security Planning in 1980. From 1985-88, he was a member of the National Assembly, Korea's legislature. During this time, he worked as one of the drafters of current Korean Constitution that introduced direct presidential election and other democratic reforms, and served as director of the Office of Policy Coordination and deputy secretary general of the government party. From 1988-90, he served in the cabinet as the Minister of Legislation. After joining Kim & Chang in 1993, Ambassador Hyun's practice focus is advising corporate clients on M&A, strategic planning and regulatory matters.

Ambassador Hyun has been a member of Korea's Special Committee for Constitutional Revision, Committee for Presidential Transition and Advisory Council of the Korean Constitutional Court. He is currently a member of the U.S.-Korea Business Council, Presidential Board of Advisors on National Unification and the Commission for National Security Posture Review. He is also a member of the Trilateral Commission, Board of Governors of the Pacific Forum / Center for Strategic and International Studies, Advisory Board of Brookings Institution/CNAPS and the Seoul Forum for International Affairs.

He graduated from Seoul National University (B.A. 1963) and Columbia Law School in New York (LL.M. 1969). He is the author of *Transition in Korea* (1987), and published numerous articles. For his many accomplishments, Ambassador Hyun has been awarded the Order of Public Service Merit (1973, 1984, 1992) and the Order of National Security Merit (1975, 1981) from the Korean government. He has also received the Columbia Law School Medal for Excellence (1993).