

Jaebum Kim

Secretary General of the Korean–American Association



Ambassador Jaebum Kim has been Secretary General of the Korean–American Association since July 2013. He has been a policy commissioner of the Korean Council on Foreign Relations since March 2007. Since March 2011, he has also been a board member and associate director of the International Policy Studies Institute (IPSI) in Seoul and the editor of its English-language journal *Korea Review*. He participates in a range of ODA-related projects through various agencies including KOICA and Korea Global Development Consulting Center. He has taken part in a number of programs sponsored by The Asia Foundation since 1984 and joined Friends of The Asia Foundation Korea in 2007.

Ambassador Kim was director-general for documents preparation at the Bidding Committee for the 2022 World Cup Korea. His teaching experience includes professorships at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security and at the National Tax Officials Training Institute of Korea in 2007–09. He also taught “Diplomacy: Theory and Practice,” “Security in the Asia-Pacific Region,” and “Multilateral Approaches to North Korean Problems” as distinguished professor in diplomacy at the Department of Political Science and International Relations and the Graduate School of International Studies of Yonsei University in Seoul in 2005–07.

He presented his credentials as Korean ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay in 2002 and served there until 2005, when he returned to the Korean Foreign Office as ambassador-at-large. His other diplomatic assignments included ones as minister-counselor and deputy chief of mission at the Korean Embassy in Brazil in 1996–98 and counselor and deputy chief of mission at the Korean Embassy in Uruguay in 1993–96. His earlier positions were secretary in charge of political and Congressional affairs at the Korean Embassy in the USA in 1984–87, second secretary and consul at the Korean Embassy in Colombia in 1979–81, and third secretary in charge of political affairs at the Korean Embassy in Saudi Arabia in 1977–79.

Ambassador Kim’s experience in international organizations includes positions as director of the policy and DPRK affairs division at the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) in New York in 1998–2000 and as special assistant to the Secretary General of the Organization of American States in Washington, DC in 1992–93.

He was a commissioner of the Diplomatic Archives Declassification Unit during several postings at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade between 2000 and 2005. He also served as chief executive of the Job Analysis Task Force of the ministry in 2000. He was director of the Cultural Affairs Division of the ministry in 1991–92 and deputy director of the National Security Division in 1987–89. His other ministry postings were in the North America Division in 1981–84, the Cultural Affairs Division in 1976–77, and the Information Division I in 1975–76. His diplomatic career began as a desk officer in the Privileges and Immunities Division in February 1973.

The ROK government conferred on him the Order of Service Merit, Red Stripes Medal, in June 2007 and the Service Merit Medal in December 1983, in addition to a number of other honors. He was also recognized by the President of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay in September 2008 for his distinguished contributions to further strengthening bilateral relations during his service there as Korea's ambassador.

He graduated from the International Graduate School of English in Seoul with an M.A. degree in August 2009. He completed the Advanced Program for International Conference at the Hallym Institute of Advanced International Studies in Seoul in December 2006, the Senior Executive Course in August 2005 and Executive Course in August 2002 at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu. He finished the Senior Policy Course at the Central Officials Training Institute of Korea in December 2001. He also completed the Graduate Course in International Relations at the Korea National Defense University in December 1990. He obtained a Certificate in Diplomacy from the Foreign Service Programme at the University of Oxford in June 1975. He entered the Spanish Department of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in March 1969 and received a B.A. degree in February 1973.