

JU CHUL KI

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We now turn to the Korean peninsula, Mr Ju Chul Ki, who is a career diplomat from South Korea, and was most recently the National Security Advisor to President Park.

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I would like to highlight three major areas in my intervention. Firstly, the danger of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Warnings were given during this forum, including in the previous session on the North Korean nuclear threat. The most challenging threat for world peace and stability now is the threat of proliferation of WMD, mostly nuclear weapons, which might trigger a nuclear war. Unless North Korean ambition of becoming a nuclear weapons state is stopped and reversed within one or two years, there is a real danger of nuclear proliferation.

The global community took measures through UN Security Council resolutions to sanction North Korea to accept denuclearisation. The entire world should cooperate to bring a tangible outcome, otherwise more countries may go nuclear in order to defend against the North Korean threat. This will mean the demise of the non-proliferation regime, thus the *raison d'être* of the NPT and even IAEA. The permanent members of the UN Security Council must assume the primordial responsibility of stopping proliferation, as they have the prime responsibility and mandate of preserving peace and stability of the world. They have the veto power and more authority to do this. They should overcome political power bickering or preoccupation of the real politics. They should be, ideally, united this time to address the North Korean nuclear issue; otherwise the world will become far more chaotic and volatile. The world should join hands to press North Korea to change course and come back to the conference table. North Korea's human rights situation should also be actively raised and pursued. We need a comprehensive package plan to resolve the North Korean nuclear crisis. When North Korea comes back to the conference table and achieves full denuclearisation, there should be enough compensatory measures to help build its economy in addition to its own survival.

We want to see concrete progress being made during President Trump's on-going visit to East Asian countries. We need peaceful resolution, not a war. We Koreans have suffered too much from different wars over the past 1 000 years. We should be brave and determined to tackle this North Korean threat, but when the time comes, when conditions are met, we need not be afraid of talking to North Korean leadership.

It is my view that the Iranian nuclear deal should be upheld. It would be very difficult to envisage another solution. I hope, personally, that the US Congress will take some decision on this matter.

The emergence of another nuclear weapon state should be blocked in the name of humanity. European partners' constant pressure and urge on North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapon programmes and their giving valuable recommendations and advice to China and Russia is necessary to help find the resolution of the current crisis.

There is a need for further promoting the Northeast Asian security structure. In East Asia, tensions go beyond the boundary of the Korean peninsula, and there is the so called Northeast Asian paradox in that good economic performance and partnership exist among regional countries, but the region lacks any permanent security cooperation mechanism. Whenever there is a problem among neighbours, we have to go to South Asia to discuss our matters there. Northeast Asia is the only region that lacks security dialogue mechanism, and a tailor-made regional security mechanism should be installed. When North Korea abandons its nuclear ambitions, it may also join the process to strengthening the basis for its survival. Among key partners, there is already an annually held assistant minister level meeting and various networks of meetings on soft agenda issues such as climate change, nuclear safety and disaster

management etc. We need enlightened leaders and networks of influential intellectuals to attain this goal of preventing sources of conflict and nurturing high level cooperation in this part of the world. We need to groom people to believe in this cause, and as Europe has shown a good example, European friends can continue to encourage us the Northeast Asians for the consolidation of more regional cooperation.

My second point relates to the danger of the weakening basis of democracy, and how we should address it. After the fall of the Berlin Wall there was euphoria over the complete success of democracy, but after the Arab Spring, the spread of democracy seemed to falter as was discussed during our session. As the US new government focuses more on the America First policy, there is the worry of weakening support for global values. This might cause less emphasis on universal values across the world. During our discussions on international trade and investment in the economy, some proposals were tabled to address current challenges on multilateralism, namely WTO etc. We need to harness global values, and my hope is that moderate countries, and perhaps middle countries, should endeavour to uphold global values. In this regard, Europe should continue to play a leading role. Europe has to uphold global values while the United States gets its house in order, and East Asian countries should join hands in upholding global values. South Korea and Japan should work together in this direction, overcoming their past differences. Canada and Australia may pitch in too, and other moderate countries, such as our host country, can register their voices instead of remaining passive. Like-minded countries can collect their wisdom and creative ideas to help amend current problems in many fields, including the climate change issue and SDG implementation. China will be a key contributor to the global cause and we should not be afraid of talking to China.

My third point is the potential for new tripartite cooperation and burden sharing of the World governance. In the course of providing foreign investment assistance in Africa, besides Europe and the United States, China, Japan and South Korea assume a growing role. Likewise, Northeast Asian countries can share the burden of world's governance and development assistance. It would be good if Northeast Asian countries further increase mutual communication and policy coordination. People once talked about a trilateral governance structure of the United States, Europe and Japan, as Brzezinski said about 10 years ago. One could now envisage a new type of trilateral structure between the United States, Europe and Northeast Asia for better governance and to uphold global values. It could be a means of taming down tension amongst Northeast Asian states, and help the spirit of cooperation instead of individual self-assertiveness that many worry about, or forming a block against each other.

The current China, Japan, Korea trilateral cooperation mechanism needs to be constantly revamped.

The three Northeast Asian countries could also liaise with other partners. By linking with India and ASEAN countries, one could also vitalize existing multilateral and regional institutions so that these regional summit gatherings such as Asia-Europe meeting and APEC can be fully used with change, reform and become stronger and better structured to promote peace, stability and economic growth. For these purposes, we need our political leaders endowed with wisdom, broad eyesight, new vision and leadership. We, the intellectuals, should educate them and groom future leaders.

I hope that the World Policy Conference will continue to carry out such an endeavour to foster a more open and more tolerant world.