

1. Activities

- The Institute for Far Eastern Studies of Kyungnam University's major project results for 2023 and plans for 2024
 - Results of major projects for the 2023: 17 academic conferences and seminars held, 4 research books published, 3 Korean Peninsula Focus publications, 8 periodicals (academic journals) published, Academic Exchange Support Program for North Korean and Unification Studies project operation, 2 North Korea Nuclear Academy promotions (45 people), development of 2 Korea Massive Open Online Courses (K-Mooc) courses, and so forth.
 - Major plans for the 2024: Promoting the establishment of self-operating infrastructure for Academic Exchange Support Program for North Korean and Unification Studies; developing joint academic, educational, and research projects with the University of North Korean Studies; and expanding the institute's financial independence through the development of various profitable projects, etc.
- 2.20. Publication of textbook "North Korea's Nuclear Issue and Changes in Foreign Relations"
 - The IFES and the University of North Korean Studies (UNKS) are leading institutions in North Korea and unification studies. Together, we have published jointly a textbook on changes in North Korea, which should serve as a valuable resource for researchers and the general public.
- 2.23. Publication of the book "Is a New Cold War Era Coming?"
 - The IFES publishes International Relations Research Series 39: "Is a New Cold War Era Coming?" The book features the research of seven experts who analyze features of the current international order as resembling a new Cold War.
- 2. 5. Mid-term presentation Zoom meeting held for the publication of the 2024 special issue of 『Korea and World Politics』 (Vol. 40, No. 1)

- Contents include: △'Prospect theory and North Korea-US relations during the Kim Jong-Un period: 2012-2023' △'Regional theoretical analysis of North Korea-US relations' △'Reception mechanism of signaling theory and North Korea-US relations' △'International crisis bargaining theory and North Korea-US relations: Article case of the first North Korean nuclear crisis (1993-94)' △'Recognition struggle and DPRK-US relations' △'Study on the structure of US discourse on North Korea: Focusing on the president's speech acts' △'Ontological security theory and North Korea-US relations: theories and phenomena, a new look'.
- 2. 6. Experts on North Korean unification issues working at domestic universities and research institutes hold 'Roundtable of Experts on North Korean Issues' (conference room on the first floor of the Peace Hall).
- This meeting was held under the title "Evaluation and Prospects of North Korea's Two-State Theory," and relates to the shift in North Korea's policy toward South Korea. The meeting covered the following: △ Background and prospects for North Korea's strategic route selection △ Meaning and characteristics of North Korea's plenary meeting and Supreme People's Assembly △ North Korea-China-Russia solidarity: A Chinese perspective △ In-depth discussion on policy implications, such as East Germany's unification policy and the case of two peoples and two countries.
- 2.20. A meeting was held with Professor Lauren Sukin from the London School of Economics (LSE) (conference room on the first floor of the Peace Hall).
- Professor Sukin paid a courtesy visit to IFES to meet faculty and explain her past and ongoing research. As an international security expert who studies nuclear weapons and alliance politics, she talked about her current project on the risks of U.S. nuclear security and how credible nuclear security guarantees between nuclear allies can backfire, among other issues.

2. 2024 Fellowship

- 6 people selected for 2024 Fellowship Program

- The IFES recruited applicants for the “2024 Academic Exchange Support Program for North Korean and Unification Studies - Fellowship” from Tuesday, October 10, 2023 to Tuesday, February 26, 2024. Six people among the applicants were selected.
- 11 people from 7 countries applied for this program, which is now in its 5th year.
- The institute will support various special lectures, presentations, and workshops for the six fellows starting in April of this year.

< **List of selected candidates** >

- Miyamoto, Satoru (Japan) (Professor, Department of Political Science and Economics, Seigakuin University)
- Yang, Xiangfeng (China) (Assistant Professor, Lingnan University, Hong Kong)
- Horiyama, Akiko (Japan) (Mainichi Newspaper Foreign Press Reporter)
- Pan, Binbin (China) (PhD in Political Science and Diplomacy from Ajou University)
- Kim, Yeonhee (USA) (PhD in Political Science, University of Hawaii, Minoa Campus)
- Liao, Muchun (China) (PhD candidate at King’s College London, UK)