

IFTC 2025

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation

**Shaping the Future Together:
Navigating Global Complexity through Trilateral Cooperation**

Program Booklet

Tuesday, July 1, 2025 Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel, Tokyo

Hosted by Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)

Supported by

IFTC 2025

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation

**Shaping the Future Together:
Navigating Global Complexity through Trilateral Cooperation**

Program Booklet

Contents

I	Secretary-General's Opening Remarks	7
II	Congratulatory Messages	11
	Media Supporters	12
	1. The Asahi Shimbun	12
	2. People's Daily	14
	3. The Chosun Ilbo	16
III	IFTC 2025	19
	Program	20
	Biographies and Summaries	22
	1. Opening Session	22
	2. Session I.	29
	Revitalizing Regional Connectivity: Institutionalizing Trilateral Cooperation for a Stable and Peaceful Northeast Asia	
	3. Session II.	37
	Driving Inclusive Growth: In Pursuit of More Prosperous Northeast Asia amid Global Challenges	
IV	About IFTC and TCS	45

IFTC is TCS' annual flagship event held on a rotational basis among China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. The order of the country list follows the rotational principle of the IFTC host country.

The messages and views in the booklet do not necessarily reflect the views of the TCS or the respective governments; the views expressed in the writings are the sole responsibility of the respective guests and speakers.



Secretary-General's Opening Remarks

IFTC 2025 Opening Remarks



LEE Hee-sup

Secretary-General, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)

On behalf of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2025. I would like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea for their strong and continued support in making this annual event possible.

Last year marked the 25th anniversary of trilateral cooperation among China, Japan, and Korea. Next year, we will celebrate the 15th anniversary of the TCS. It is time to transition from quantitative expansion to qualitative progress.

Despite occasional pauses of Summits, our trilateral framework has continued to make progress and now plays a vital role in global economic growth.

Considering the deep and complex history of Northeast Asia, and the relatively short tradition of regional cooperation here, the level of progress we have achieved together is truly remarkable.

The resumption of the Trilateral Summit in May last year after four and half years was a major turning point. Since then, we have seen fresh energy and meaningful progress.

Initiatives like the Year of Cultural Exchange 2025–2026 are underway, and the shared goal of reaching 40 million people-to-people exchanges by 2030 is already taking shape. We also see real action in the six priority areas identified at the last Summit. Ministers of three countries have met in fields such as education, tourism, culture, health, economy and trade, and foreign affairs. At the grassroots level, exchanges of youth, culture, and local governments are also growing. To facilitate this positive momentum, the three governments are actively discussing the next Trilateral Summit.

Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

We are now standing at an important crossroads. We can move forward with renewed energy, or risk slowing down, or even going backwards.

The challenges ahead are serious. Since the end of the Cold War, we have not seen such uncertainty and instability in the world. Geopolitical tensions,

economic fragmentation, and the weakening of global governance are affecting every region. At the same time, we face rapid advances in technology like Artificial Intelligence, as well as ongoing polycrises such as wars, natural disasters, climate change, and demographic changes. The increasing overlap of economic, security, and technological interests is making things even more complex. It affects supply chains and creates new challenges for trilateral cooperation. Also, the rise of protectionism, especially after the second Trump administration introduced broad tariffs, continues to threaten the mutually beneficial value chains that have long supported the shared growth of our three closely interconnected economies. These trends pose serious risks to our region’s long-term stability and prosperity.

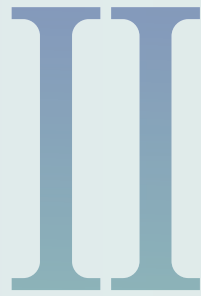
History reminds us that adversity can be a catalyst for progress. Trilateral cooperation itself was born in response to the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis. By turning crises into opportunities, we have continued to move forward through cooperation and solidarity.

What we need now is a new sense of urgency. A recognition that zero-sum competition leads only to mutual destruction. We must remember that we share a common destiny like passengers on a same boat.

Trilateral cooperation is like an orchestra. It only works when many different players – governments, citizens, media, and think tanks, come together and play in harmony.

TCS will continue to play its part as a facilitator and catalyst, ensuring that all stakeholders go forward together with shared purpose and vision.

I am confident that the insights and wisdom shared by our distinguished speakers today will offer valuable resources to help us meet today’s challenges and shape a brighter future for all. I would like to appreciate again for your presence and participation in this Forum.



Congratulatory Messages

Media Supporters

1. The Asahi Shimbun
2. People's Daily
3. The Chosun Ilbo

Media Supporters

01 | The Asahi Shimbun



「日中韓三国協力国際フォーラム2025」に寄せて

2025年7月1日
朝日新聞社代表取締役社長 角田 克

このたび、「日中韓三国協力国際フォーラム2025」が東京で開催されますことを、心からお喜び申し上げます。長年にわたる東アジア地域の平和と安定、友好と協力に対する日中韓三国協力事務局（TCS）のご尽力、ご功績に深く敬意を表します。

いま、国際秩序が崩壊の危機にさらされています。2022年2月にロシアがウクライナに軍事侵攻して以来、戦闘は続き、北朝鮮がロシアを支援するために派兵するという、かつてない状況が生まれました。イスラム組織ハマスによるイスラエル襲撃に端を発したパレスチナ紛争は、今年初めに結ばれた停戦の合意がもろくも崩れ、パレスチナ自治区ガザではイスラエル軍の攻撃と破壊で5万人を超える市民が命を奪われました。米国では第2次トランプ政権が発足し、多国間主義や自由貿易といった私たちが共有してきた価値観が揺らいでいます。

貧富の格差。食糧危機。環境破壊。気候変動。国際社会は、国境を越えて取り組むべき数多くの課題を抱えています。しかし、むしろ世界の分断は進み、若い世代に明るい未来を引き継ぐことができるのか、懸念されている現実があります。

日中韓三国協力事務局は、3カ国の平和と繁栄を促進するため、2011年に正式に発足し、この地域に多大な貢献を続けてきました。3カ国には難しい政治課題もあります。各国で実施された世論調査によると、それぞれの国民の相互理解には、まだ改善の余地が大きいと言わざるを得ません。しかし、草の根の交流は続き、広がっています。なかでも若い世代は、それぞれの歴史観や先入観にとらわれず、言語や文化の壁を軽やかに越え、アニメや音楽、ファッションや芸術を楽しんでいます。

今回の「日中韓三国協力国際フォーラム2025」は、「共に創る未来 複雑化する世界における日中韓協力の意義」を主題に掲げて開催されると伺っています。後援する立場から、実り多き議論が繰り広げられることを期待しています。

最後になりましたが、日中韓三国協力事務局の益々のご発展とフォーラムの成功を祈念して、私からの祝辞とさせていただきます。ありがとうございました。

角田 克

On the Occasion of the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2025

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2025 being held in Tokyo. I would also like to express my deep respect for the efforts and achievements of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS), which has long contributed to peace and stability in the East Asian region, as well as to friendship and cooperation among our three countries.

Today, the international order is facing a crisis of collapse. Since Russia's military invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the fighting has continued, and we are now witnessing an unprecedented situation where North Korea is reportedly deploying troops to support Russia. The Palestinian conflict, triggered by the Hamas attack on Israel, saw a fragile ceasefire agreement reached early this year fall apart, and more than 50,000 civilians have lost their lives in Gaza due to Israeli military attacks and destruction. In the United States, a second Trump administration has come into power, shaking the values we have long shared, such as multilateralism and free trade. We face numerous global challenges that transcend national borders—wealth disparity, food crises, environmental destruction, and climate change. Yet, the reality is that global divisions are deepening, raising concerns about whether we can truly pass on a brighter future to the next generation.

The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, officially established in 2011 to promote peace and prosperity among Japan, China, and the Republic of Korea, has made significant contributions to the region. There are still difficult political issues between the three countries. Public opinion surveys conducted in each country indicate that mutual understanding among the people still has much room for improvement. Nonetheless, grassroots exchanges continue to expand. In particular, younger generations are free from historical perspectives and preconceptions, easily crossing linguistic and cultural boundaries to enjoy anime, music, fashion, and the arts together.

I understand that this year's forum will be held under the theme: *"Shaping the Future Together: Navigating Global Complexity through Trilateral Cooperation."* As a supporting organization, I sincerely hope that fruitful discussions will take place.

In closing, I offer my best wishes for the continued success of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat and for the success of the forum. Thank you very much.

TSUNODA Katsu

President and CEO

The Asahi Shimbun

July 1, 2025

02 | People's Daily



增进理解互信 共塑美好未来

值此2025年中日韩合作国际论坛召开之际，我谨代表人民日报社，向论坛的召开表示热烈的祝贺！向长期以来致力于推动三国合作的中日韩合作秘书处表示崇高敬意！

中日韩合作是东亚地区基础最深厚、机制化程度最高、发展潜力最大的合作架构之一。当前，国际格局变乱交织，推动新形势下更加成熟、更加稳定、更富韧性的中日韩合作，媒体发挥着独特而重要的作用。人民日报社愿与日韩媒体一道，继续凝聚共识，携手合作，为深化人文交流、增进理解互信贡献媒体力量，共塑三国

合作的美好未来。

预祝2025年中日韩合作国际论坛取得圆满成功！

人民日报社社长

于绍良

2025年7月1日

Enhancing Mutual Understanding and Trust to Shape a Brighter Future Together

On behalf of People's Daily, I would like to extend hearty congratulations on the opening of the 2025 International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation, and sincere regards to the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat for having long been committed to advancing trilateral cooperation in various fields.

The trilateral cooperation is one of the cooperation frameworks with the deepest foundation, the highest degree of institutionalization and the greatest potential for development in East Asia. At a time when the international landscape is undergoing complex transformations, the media plays a unique and vital role in fostering more mature, stable and resilient trilateral cooperation under new circumstances. People's Daily is ready to work with media counterparts from Japan and the ROK to continue building consensus, strengthening collaboration, and contributing media expertise to deepening cultural exchanges, enhancing mutual understanding and trust, thereby shaping a brighter future for trilateral cooperation together.

We wish the 2025 International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation a complete success!

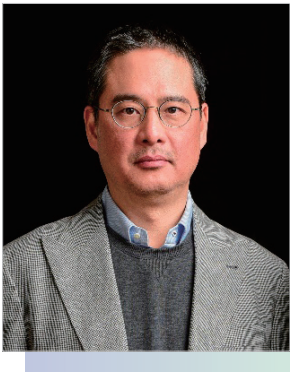
YU Shaoliang

President

People's Daily

July 1, 2025

03 | The Chosun Ilbo



여러분 안녕하세요. 조선일보 사장 방준오입니다.

우선 올해 포럼을 위해 애써주신 이희섭 사무총장님을 비롯한 3국 협력사무국 관계자 여러분께 감사 인사를 드립니다.

이번 한중일 3국 협력 국제포럼의 주제는 ‘함께 만들어가는 미래: 글로벌 복합위기 대응과 3국 협력’입니다.

지금 국제사회는 여러 유형의 큰 위기를 동시다발적으로 겪고 있습니다. 도널드 트럼프 미 행정부 출범 이후 세계 무역질서의 불안정성과 불확실성 심화, 미·중 갈등의 격화, 유럽과 중동의 평화를 뒤흔들고 있는 두 개의 전쟁, AI 혁명이 촉발한 산업과 노동 구조의 격변, 그리고 지구촌을 위협하는 극단 기후 등이 그것입니다.

지정학적 위기와 경제 위기가 맞물려 증폭되고 과거엔 상상못한 기술·사회 위기와 기후 위기까지 중첩되면서 국제사회의 불안정성은 갈수록 커지고 있습니다. 하지만 위기 극복을 주도할 글로벌 리더십은 보이지 않습니다.

이러한 복합 위기는 한중일 3국에도 직접적이고 깊은 영향을 미치고 있습니다. 세 나라는 세계 GDP의 약 25%를 차지합니다. 글로벌 공급망과 금융시장, 첨단기술 분야에서 긴밀히 얽혀 있습니다. 지금의 위기는 3국 공동의 위기일 수밖에 없습니다. 이를 극복하고 지속가능한 성장과 공동 번영을 이뤄 나가기 위해서는 보다 긴밀한 협력이 필수적입니다.

그런 점에서 한중일 협력포럼은 소중한 플랫폼입니다. 특히 지금과 같은 글로벌 위기 상황에선 한중일 3국이 위기 대응을 위한 실질적인 방안을 모색하고 동북아의 미래를 함께 그려나가는 자리가 돼야한다고 생각합니다. 오늘 이 자리에 함께하신 민·관 전문가 여러분들이 3국 협력이 새로운 단계로 나아갈 다양한 방안을 제안해주시기를 기대합니다.

마침 지난 3월 도쿄에서 만난 3국 외교장관들은 교류 강화 의지를 재확인했습니다. 4월부터 6개월 동안 일본에서 개최되는 2025 오사카·간사이 EXPO와 오는 10월 한국 경주에서 열리는 아시아태평양경제협력체(APEC) 정상회의, 그리고 내년 중국에서 개최될 APEC 정상회의가 3국 협력의 새로운 도약 계기가 되길 기대합니다. 조선일보도 한중일 3국의 상호 이해와 신뢰를 증진시키는 가교로서 역할을 성실히 해나가겠습니다.

감사합니다.

2025년 7월 1일

조선일보 사장 방준오

Greetings! My name is Bang June-oh, and I am the CEO of the Chosun Ilbo.

First, I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to TCS Secretary-General Lee Hee-sup and each member of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat for their dedicated efforts in organizing this year's forum.

The theme for this year's International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation is "Shaping the Future Together: Navigating Global Complexity through Trilateral Cooperation".

The international community is currently grappling with a confluence of multifarious, large-scale crises. These include the growing instability and uncertainty in the global trade order since the launch of the Trump administration in the United States, the intensifying U.S.-China competition, along with two ongoing wars that are destabilizing peace in Europe and the Middle East. We are also witnessing a structural upheaval in industry and labor brought about by the AI revolution. On top of this, increasingly extreme climate events are threatening the global ecosystem.

With geopolitical and economic crises reinforcing one another, an overlay of unprecedented technological, social, and environmental disruptions is further compounding global instability. Yet amid this turbulence, no clear global leadership has emerged to chart a path forward.

This critical situation is having a direct and profound impact on China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. Together, these three nations account for approximately 25 percent of global GDP and are deeply interconnected through global supply chains, financial markets, and advanced technology sectors. The current complexity, by its very nature, is a shared situation for all three. To get through it and achieve sustainable growth and common prosperity, closer cooperation is essential.

In this regard, the IFTC serves as a valuable platform—especially in times of global crisis like what we face today. I believe it provides an opportunity for China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea to explore practical strategies for crisis response and to jointly envision the future of Northeast Asia. I look forward to the insights and proposals that distinguished experts gathered here today—from both the public and private sectors—will offer to help elevate trilateral cooperation to a new level.

During their meeting in Tokyo in March of this year, the foreign ministers of our three nations reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening exchanges. I also hope that the 2025 Osaka-Kansai Expo, which began in April and will run for six months in Japan, the upcoming APEC Summit in Gyeongju, Korea this October, and next year's APEC Summit in China will serve as new milestones for advancing trilateral cooperation. The Chosun Ilbo will continue to serve as a bridge for fostering mutual understanding and trust among Japan, China, and the Republic of Korea.

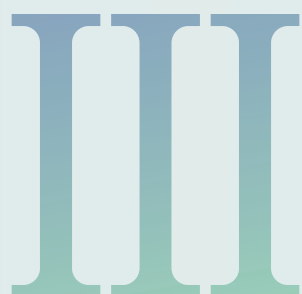
Thank you.

BANG June-oh

President

The Chosun Ilbo

July 1, 2025











IFTC 2025

Program

Biographies and summaries

1. Opening Session
2. Session I. Revitalizing Regional Connectivity:
Institutionalizing Trilateral Cooperation for
a Stable and Peaceful Northeast Asia
3. Session II. Driving Inclusive Growth: In Pursuit
of More Prosperous Northeast Asia amid Global
Challenges

Program

Time	Program	
8:45-9:20	Registration	
9:20-10:20	Opening Remarks	 LEE Hee-sup, Secretary-General, TCS
	Congratulatory Remarks	 FUJII Hisayuki, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan  WU Jianghao, Ambassador of China to Japan  PARK Cheol-hee, Ambassador of ROK to Japan
	Keynote Speeches	 KAWAGUCHI Yoriko, Former Minister of the Environment, Former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan  WU Hailong, President of China Public Diplomacy Association  KIM Jin Pyo, Chairman, Global Innovation Studies, Former Speaker of the ROK National Assembly
10:25-10:35	Break	
10:35-12:20	Moderator	LEE Hawon, National Security Editor, Chosun Ilbo
	Speakers	 SOEYA Yoshihide, Professor Emeritus, Keio University  CHEN Dongxiao, President, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies  KIM Hyun-wook, President, Sejong Institute
	Discussant	KAUSIKAN Bilahari, Distinguished Fellow, Middle East Institute at the National University of Singapore & Former Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore
12:30-13:40	Luncheon	
13:40-13:55	Cultural Performance	

14:00-15:45	Moderator	IJUIN Atsushi, Lead Economist, Japan Center for Economic Research (JCER)
	Speakers	 SHIRAHASE Sawako, Senior Vice-Rector of UNU, Assistant Secretary General of UN  YUAN Bo, Director, Asian Institute, Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC), Ministry of Commerce, China  HONG Jong Ho, Professor, Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Seoul National University (SNU)
	Discussant	NEO Gim Huay, Managing Director, Member of the Managing Board of the World Economic Forum
15:45-15:50	Closing Remarks	 LEE Hee-sup, Secretary-General, TCS

Biographies and Summaries

01 | Opening Session



Opening Remarks

LEE Hee-sup

Secretary-General, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)

Mr. LEE Hee-sup commenced his diplomatic career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of Korea, in 1987. His career has spanned various positions, including serving as First Secretary at the Korean Embassy in Japan (1995), Counsellor at the Korean Embassy in Bangladesh (1998), and a Visiting Fellow at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in the UK (2004). He has held significant roles such as Assistant Secretary at the National Security Council (2005), Director of Northeast Asia Division at MOFAT (2006), Minister-Counsellor in Australia (2007), and Minister at the Korean Embassy in Indonesia (2011). He has also served as strategic positions such as Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs at the Office of the President, ROK (2012), and later held Deputy Secretary for Policy Coordination at the Office of National Security (2013). In 2014, he was reassigned as a Minister at the Korean Embassy to Japan, and later took the helm as Director-General for Global Education and Cooperation at National Human Resources Development Institute, Ministry of Personnel Management (2019).

Prior to his current role as Secretary-General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, he served as Consul-General at the Korean Consulate-General in Fukuoka, Japan (2020).

Mr. LEE completed his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Studies at Yonsei University, Seoul, in 1985.



Congratulatory Remarks

FUJII Hisayuki

State Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr. FUJII Hisayuki was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2012 after a career in public service, including roles at the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the Financial Services Agency, and as well as serving as Deputy Mayor of Hikone City. After his election, he held several key positions within the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), including Deputy Chief Secretary of the Research Commission on Info-Communications Strategy and Deputy Director of the Economy, Trade and Industry Division.

Following his reelection in 2014, he served as Director of the Committee on Financial Affairs and later as Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. After being reelected in 2017, he held positions such as Deputy Chairperson of the Diet Affairs Committee and State Minister of the Cabinet Office and for Digital under the Suga Cabinet.

Reelected in 2021 and 2024, Mr. FUJII served as Deputy Secretary-General of the LDP and Director of the Foreign Affairs Division. In 2024, he became the State Minister for Foreign Affairs in the 2nd Ishiba Cabinet.

01 | Opening Session



Congratulatory Remarks

WU Jianghao

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Japan

H.E. WU Jianghao was appointed as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Japan in 2023. Prior to his current role, he served as Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs. He also served as Director General of the Department of Asian Affairs at MFA, and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.



Congratulatory Remarks

PARK Cheol-hee

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Japan

H.E. PARK Cheol-hee is the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Japan. Prior to his appointment, Amb. PARK served as Chancellor of the Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA). He has been a professor at the Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS) at Seoul National University since 2004. He was director of Institute for Japanese Studies (2012-2016), dean of the GSIS (2016-2018), and director of Institute of International Affairs (2019-2023) at Seoul National University. He served as President of the Korean Association for Contemporary Japanese Studies in 2017.

Amb. Park acquired Ph.D. degree at Columbia University in the City of New York, after obtaining B.A. and M.A. at the political science department at Seoul National University. Before joining a faculty at Seoul National University in 2004, he was an assistant professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Japan between 1999 and 2002 and the Institute for Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) between 2002 and 2004. He was a visiting professor at Columbia University, University of Tokyo, Keio University, and Nankai University in China. In 2022, he served as a senior staff at the Subcommittee on Foreign Relations and Security of the Presidential Transition Committee.

In his personal capacity, Amb. Park worked as a board member at several thinktanks, including Asan Institute for Policy Studies, Sejong Foundation, East Asia Foundation, and Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. He also served as a non-resident senior research fellow at the Atlantic Council. For ten years between 2012 and 2021, he wrote a column at Tokyo Shimbun. He has written a number of columns at Chosun Ilbo, JoongAng Ilbo, Munhwa Ilbo, Maeil Business Newspaper, and the Seoul Newspaper.

Amb. Park wrote a number of books and articles in Korean, English, and Japanese, including a book titled "LDP Politics and the Transformation of Postwar Japanese Regime (Seoul National University Press, 2011).

01 | Opening Session



Keynote Speeches

KAWAGUCHI Yoriko

Former Minister of the Environment and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo, and joined the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). Received her MPhil in economics from Yale University in 1972. Was a Minister at the Embassy of Japan in the United States and Deputy Director-General for Global Environmental Affairs at MITI before becoming Managing Director of Suntory Ltd. in September 1993. Became Director-General of the Environment Agency in 2000, Minister of the Environment in January 2001, Minister for Foreign Affairs in 2002, and Special Advisor to the Prime Minister (for Foreign Affairs). Was elected to the House of Councilors in 2005, serving two terms through 2013. During her years as a Diet member, she served as Deputy Chair of the General Assembly of Liberal Democratic Party members in the Upper House; Director and Chair of the Environment Committee; Director of the Budget Committee; Director of the Commission on the Constitution; Chair of the LDP Okinawa Promotion Committee; Co-chair of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament; and Board Member of the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders Foundation.

Currently serves as Emerita Fellow at Musashino Institute for Global Affairs, Musashino University, and Distinguished Fellow at the Tokyo Foundation. Is a recipient of the Wilbur Cross Medal from Yale University for distinguished public service and was awarded the Order of the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun in May 2017.



Keynote Speeches

WU Hailong

President of the China Public Diplomacy Association

Ambassador Wu Hailong joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China (MFA) in 1978. During his diplomatic career, he has worked in several international organizations and regions around the world and built an extensive expertise in international and multilateral affairs. From 1978 to 1996, he worked in the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of MFA, then at the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations. From 1996 to 2004, he served as Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in the State of Israel, then as Deputy Director-General of the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of MFA and Deputy Commissioner of MFA of the People's Republic of China in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. From 2004 to 2006, he was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations and other international organizations in Vienna, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), then served as Director-General of the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of MFA before working as Assistant Minister of MFA of China from 2009 to 2011. From 2011 to 2016, Ambassador Wu was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Head of the Mission of the People's Republic of China to the European Union, then Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland. From 2016 to 2019, he served as President of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Wu was appointed President of CPDA and has executed the role since October 2019.

01 | Opening Session



Keynote Speeches

KIM Jin-pyo

Chairman of Korea Global Innovation Studies
Former Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea

Born in May 1947, H.E. KIM Jin-pyo earned his B.A. in Law from Seoul National University in 1971 and received his M.A. in Public Administration from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1988.

He was appointed as Vice Minister of Finance and Economy from 2001 to 2002. He later served as Senior Secretary for Policy and Planning in the Kim Dae-jung Administration, and subsequently as Minister of the Government Policy Coordination Office. Under President Roh Moo-hyun, he was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy in 2003, and later served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education and Human Resources Development in 2005.

Elected to the National Assembly for five consecutive terms from 2004 to 2024, he held a number of key leadership roles including Chairman of the Policy Committee of the Uri Party, Floor Leader of the Democratic United Party, and Chairman of the Special Committee on Response to COVID-19. He also chaired the National Economic Advisory Council within the Democratic Party and served as President of the Korea-Japan Parliamentarians' Union.

In July 2022, he was elected as the Speaker of the 21st National Assembly, where he played a pivotal role in promoting bipartisan cooperation and legislative reform. He currently serves as Chairman of Global Innovation Studies (GIS), continuing his engagement in public policy and regional cooperation.

Session I.

Revitalizing Regional Connectivity: Institutionalizing Trilateral Cooperation for a Stable and Peaceful Northeast Asia



Moderator

LEE Hawon

National Security Editor, Chosun Ilbo

Hawon LEE is the National Security Editor at The Chosunilbo, South Korea's leading daily newspaper. He previously served as the The Chosunilbo's Washington, D.C., and Tokyo Bureau Chief for nearly seven years, during which he reported extensively on strategic affairs involving the United States, Japan, and the two Koreas.

He also served as the main news anchor for TV Chosun, bringing clarity and insight to viewers on major global developments.

Mr. Lee played a central role in organizing the The Chosunilbo's 5th Asian Leadership Conference in 2014 as its executive director, an event notable for the participation of former U.S. President George W. Bush (43rd).

He holds a Bachelor's degree from Korea University and a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He was also a research fellow at Harvard's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, focusing on diplomacy and security issues in East Asia.

Mr. Lee is the author of six books, including Samurai and Yankee's Quantum Jump and Xi Jinping and Obama, which explore the dynamics of global leadership and strategic shifts in Northeast Asia.

02 | Session I.



Speaker

SOEYA Yoshihide

Professor Emeritus, Keio University

Yoshihide SOEYA is Professor Emeritus of Keio University, from which he retired in March 2020 after serving as professor of political science at the Faculty of Law for 32 years. He received Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1987, majoring in world politics. Previously, Dr. Soeya served the “Korea-Japan Joint Research Project for the New Era” (MOFA), the “Council on Security and Defense Capabilities in the New Era” (Prime Minister’s Office), the “Advisory Group on Ministerial Evaluations” (MOFA), the “Central Council on Defense Facilities” (Agency/Ministry of Defense), and the “Prime Minister’s Commission on Japan’s Goals in the 21st Century” (Prime Minister’s Office). His areas of interest are politics and security in East Asia, and Japanese diplomacy and its external relations.

His recent publications in English include “Constitutional Revision Going Astray: Article Nine and Security Policy,” Helen Hardacre, et al., eds, Japanese Constitutional Revisionism and Civic Activism (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2021); “Middle Power Cooperation 2.0 in the Indo-Pacific Era,” in Chien-Wen Kou, et al., eds., The Strategic Options of Middle Powers in the Asia-Pacific (London: Routledge, 2022); “Japan’s Diplomacy toward China under the Abe Shinzo Administration,” in James Brown, et al., eds., The Abe Legacy (MD: Lexington Books, 2021); and “The Rise of China in Asia: Japan at the Nexus,” in Asle Toje, ed., Will China’s Rise be Peaceful? (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).

Presentation Summary

Institutionalization of Japan-ROK-China Cooperation

The “Joint Declaration of the 9th Japan-ROK-China Trilateral Summit” (May 27, 2024) stated that “we will strive to institutionalize the trilateral cooperation by holding the Trilateral Summit and Ministerial meetings on a regular basis.” If this signifies an acknowledgment of past failures to hold summit-level meetings regularly due to political challenges, then it represents a step forward. However, institutionalization by itself is not enough if it becomes merely symbolic. It must result in concrete outcomes that strengthen cooperation and promote peace and prosperity in the region.

In that regard, it is noteworthy that the Joint Declaration states: “recognizing that the support of the peoples of the three countries constitutes an important driving force for deepening the trilateral cooperation, we will make efforts to ensure that peoples of the three countries can enjoy substantive benefits emanating from this cooperation.” In fact, numerous substantive cooperative initiatives have already been advanced at the ministerial and working levels of the relevant government agencies. The Joint Declaration also provides a comprehensive outline of cooperative projects that advance the shared interests of all three countries. The problem is that citizens in each country often fail to appreciate these efforts, pointing to a deeper issue than just inadequate public outreach.

One major concern is that media coverage tends to highlight tensions and conflicts among the three countries, while their cooperative engagements often receive little attention. To maximize the impact of trilateral efforts, I suggest reaffirming the underlying logic and significance of Japan-ROK-China cooperation as part of a broader regional and multilateral architecture. In this regard, the Joint Declaration’s endorsement of promoting “Trilateral+X Cooperation” — aimed at extending the benefits of trilateral collaboration to other countries and fostering shared prosperity with other regions — represents a meaningful first step in that direction.

Japan, the ROK, and China are also key participants in ASEAN-centered frameworks such as ASEAN+3 (APT), the East Asia Summit (EAS), and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). The Joint Declaration underscores the importance of further expanding trilateral cooperation within these regional mechanisms. However, it does not address specific mechanisms or strategies for achieving this goal. This presents a significant challenge for the institutionalization of trilateral cooperation, and is an issue that requires careful attention moving forward.

Finally, security issues should be considered. Both Japan and the ROK are part of the Japan-ROK-U.S. trilateral framework, and they share common security concerns, especially regarding China and North Korea. This trilateral development often leads China to approach Japan-ROK-China cooperation with caution. This situation presents Japan and the ROK with the challenge of balancing their cooperation with China while maintaining their security partnership with the U.S. Although this presents a difficult challenge, it may also serve as a strategic opportunity for Japan and the ROK to contribute to the stability of U.S.-China relations and the broader peace of the Asia-Pacific region.

02 | Session I.



Speaker

CHEN Dongxiao

President, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies

Prof. CHEN Dongxiao is Senior Research Fellow and President of the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS). Specializing in the studies of United Nations, China’s foreign policy and China-U.S. relations, Prof. Chen has published extensively on China’s diplomacy, major power relationship, the UN reform, and global governance. In his responsibility as the SIIS President and senior policy adviser to the government, Prof. Chen has chaired numerous research projects commissioned by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, and supervised extensive academic publications supported by the China National Foundation of Social Sciences.

As an eminent policy advisor to the Chinese government, Prof. Chen is senior advisor on economic diplomacy for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, and senior advisor of International Business Leaders Advisory Council for the Mayor of Shanghai (IBLAC). Alongside his academic and advisory roles in China, Prof. Chen also holds such international positions as the high level advisor of Independent Team of Advisory (ITA) for ECOSOC Dialogue on longer-term positioning of United Nations Development System (2016), and the member of ASEAN Regional Forum’s (ARF) Expert and Eminent Person (EEP), etc.

Prof. Chen earned his Ph.D. from the Fudan University. He receives a special government subsidy of the State Council. As an adjunct professor of the Shanghai International Studies University, Prof. Chen holds the position as Vice Chair of China National Association of International Relations.

Presentation Summary

Inject New Momentums into Trilateral Cooperation

The current global geopolitical and economic shifts are significantly impacting East Asia, particularly the dynamics of trilateral cooperation among China, Japan, and ROK. Despite their shared interests, political trust among and between the three countries remains low, and their cooperation mechanisms are often disrupted by some counties’ domestic political agendas. Additionally, the increasing securitization of economic issues, combined with intensified competition in high-end manufacturing sectors such as EVs, semiconductors, and renewable energy, has created further challenges. U.S. strategic containment of China has also pressured Japan and ROK to align with U.S. policies, complicating regional collaboration.

To maintain regional stability and foster cooperation, China, Japan, and ROK should further strengthen their trilateral dialogue and communication mechanisms. This can be achieved in three key ways:

- 1. Stabilizing dialogue mechanisms:** The three nations must institutionalize regular leadership summits, ministerial meetings, and working group sessions to ensure these mechanisms remain resilient to domestic political disruptions.
 - 2. Establishing crisis response mechanisms:** A coordinated system is needed to address sudden crises, enabling swift action to mitigate misunderstandings and avoid conflicts.
 - 3. Expanding “China-Japan-ROK + X” cooperation:** The three countries should establish a dedicated “+ X” agenda within their trilateral frameworks to systematically involve strategic partners such as ASEAN and Central Asia in specific policy dialogues, thereby sustaining momentum for regional security, development, and cooperation.
- In addition to government-level efforts, trilateral cooperation requires robust support from non-governmental dialogue and collaboration. Civil society, academic institutions, and business communities in all three countries have crucial roles to play in addressing key issues:
- Mitigating economic securitization:** Efforts should be made to reduce the impact of excessive securitization on normal trade and technological collaboration, ensuring the stability of regional and global supply chains.
 - Enhancing academic and youth exchanges:** Strengthening academic dialogue and fostering youth interactions will solidify the social and public opinion foundation for trilateral relations.
 - Collaborating on global challenges:** The three nations should work together to provide public goods that support green and digital transitions, benefiting not only Asia but also the Global South.

By reinforcing both governmental and non-governmental mechanisms for dialogue and collaboration, China, Japan, and ROK can build on their past successes, create replicable models of cooperation, and contribute to the broader goal of regional and global security, development and cooperation.

02 | Session I.



Speaker

KIM Hyun-wook

President, Sejong Institute

Hyun-Wook Kim is currently President of Sejong Institute. His research areas include South Korea-US alliance, US foreign policy, East Asian security, etc. Before he comes to Sejong Institute, he has been professor and Director-General at Korea National Diplomatic Academy. In 2024, he was also President of the Korean Association of Area Studies. He is now a non-resident director for Korea Foundation, a member for the unified future planning committee, a standing member for the National Unification Advisory Council, a policy advisor for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a Registration Review Committee Member at Korean Bar Association. He was a policy advisor for the National Security Council, an advisory member for the Ministry of Unification, an honorary research fellow at Korean Naval Academy, and a guest commentator for KBS. He was a visiting scholar at UC San Diego and George Washington University. He has finished his Ph.D. and M.A. in political science from Brown University, and worked at the University of Southern California as a postdoctoral fellow. He received his B.A. in political science from Yonsei University.

Presentation Summary

Revitalizing Regional Connectivity: Institutionalization of Trilateral Cooperation

Trilateral cooperation among China, Japan, and ROK (CJK) emerged from the ASEAN+3 framework in 1999. It became formalized independently through regular summits from 2008 onward. However, tensions related to historical disputes, territorial conflicts, and external geopolitical developments, including COVID-19 and U.S.-China strategic competition, periodically disrupted summits' continuity. A four-year hiatus ended with the 9th CJK Trilateral Summit, driven by improved ROK-Japan relations, stabilized U.S.-China relationship, and mutual interests of three countries.

The 2024 Summit outlined six key areas of cooperation: people-to-people exchanges; sustainable development including through climate change response; economic cooperation and trade; public health and ageing society; science and technology cooperation, digital transformation; and disaster relief and safety. Despite past achievements, institutionalization faces significant hurdles, particularly around security issues like DPRK's nuclear issues, which continue to generate divergent views among the three countries. At the 2024 Summit, the joint statement reaffirmed a general commitment to regional peace and stability but showed unresolved divergences concerning DPRK.

Strengthening trilateral cooperation requires development of a shared strategic vision beyond existing project-level agreements. Unlike European integration, historically driven by a unified threat perception and distinct economic and political integration paths, CJK cooperation lacks a common strategic rationale. ROK prioritizes regional cooperation around the DPRK issue; China views trilateral ties as part of its broader global competition with the U.S.; Japan seeks to balance China's influence through the Indo-Pacific framework. Thus, institutionalization should explicitly articulate why sustained trilateral cooperation is necessary beyond economic integration alone.

To sustain momentum, holding annual Trilateral Summit is essential. Clearly institutionalizing regular summits in joint declarations—such as specifying annual meetings or scheduling the next meeting in advance—would provide continuity and stability. The 2024 Summit only acknowledged the importance of uninterrupted summit and ministerial meetings, without specifying next meeting year or dates.

Lastly, strengthening institutional capacity involves empowering the TCS with practical authority. Specifically, this includes transferring coordination responsibilities to TCS for summits and ministerial meetings, managing cooperation projects, securing financial stability through establishing a Trilateral Cooperation Fund (namely TCF), and expanding TCS's role as an observer in international forums like APEC.

In conclusion, for effective institutionalization of trilateral cooperation, defining clear strategic objectives beyond economic collaboration, regularization of Trilateral Summit, and enhancing TCS's operational capabilities are essential.



Discussant

KAUSIKAN Bilahari

Distinguished Fellow, Middle East Institute at the National University of Singapore & Former Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Bilahari Kausikan spent his entire career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore (MFA). Over 37 years in MFA, he served in a variety of appointments at home and abroad. These included Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Deputy Secretary for South-east Asia, Second Permanent Secretary, and subsequently Permanent Secretary. Upon retiring in 2013, he was appointed Ambassador-at-Large, a position he held until 2018.

Mr Kausikan became Chairman of the Middle East Institute, an autonomous institute of the National University of Singapore, in 2017, and retired in 2024, but remains associated with the institute as Distinguished Fellow.

Mr Kausikan has published four books -- “Dealing with an Ambiguous World” (2016), “Singapore Is Not An Island” (2017), “Singapore Is Still Not An Island” (2023), and The Myth of the Asian Century (2025) -- along with many articles in local and international journals. He continues to lecture on global geopolitics, and developments in North-east Asia, the Middle East, and South-east Asia, to universities and other educational institutions in Singapore and abroad, as well as corporations and financial institutions.

Raffles Institution, the University of Singapore and Columbia University all attempted to educate him but should not be held responsible for the consequences.

Presentation Summary

The strategic rationale for sustained Japan-ROK-China cooperation is clear, particularly in the light of a more uncertain environment regionally and globally. Unfortunately some of those uncertainties themselves make sustained cooperation more difficult. The complex interaction of the domestic politics of the three countries accentuates the difficulties. The presentation will conclude by some suggestions on how the both sets of difficulties can be mitigated even if they cannot be entirely erased.

Session II.

Driving Inclusive Growth: In Pursuit of More Prosperous Northeast Asia amid Global Challenges



Moderator

IJUIN Atsushi

Lead Economist, Japan Center for Economic Research (JCER)

Mr. IJUIN Atsushi is the Lead Economist at the Japan Center for Economic Research (JCER), where he previously served as the Director of the International and Asian Research Department. Prior to JCER, Mr. IJUIN had an extensive career in journalism at the Nikkei Inc. (known for The Nikkei), having served as Chief of the Seoul Bureau, Deputy Manager of Political News Department, China Headquarter Chief and senior staff writer. His research focuses on the politics and economies of China, ROK, and Japan as well as the international relations of East Asian countries/economies in a boarder context.

Mr. IJUIN earned a Bachelor’s degree from Waseda University in Japan. He has also served as a visiting scholar at George Washington University and Director at Tsinghua-Nikkei Institute of Media Studies at Tsinghua University (Beijing).

Recent publication includes and “ The Northeast Asian Economy Under De-risking “ (Co-author/Editor) and “Economic Security in Asia” (Co-author/Editor).

03 | Session II.



Speaker

SHIRAHASE Sawako

Senior Vice-Rector of UNU, Assistant Secretary General of UN

Senior Vice-Rector at the United Nations University, Assistant Secretary-General at United Nations, and Research Professor at the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the University of Tokyo. Dr Shirahase received her D.Phil. in sociology from the University of Oxford, conducted post-doctoral research at the East Asian Institute, Columbia University as a junior researcher, and held positions of Senior Research Fellow at the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, and Associate Professor of Sociology at Tsukuba University.

Her research interests include comparative social stratification and demographic transformation, gender and generational relations, family change and social security system. Dr. Shirahase serves as Vice President of the International Science Council.

She is the author of Social Inequality in Japan (Routledge, 2014) and Demographic Change and Inequality in Japan (ed.) (TransPacific Press, 2011), and her recent publications are “Social Stratification Theory and Population Aging Reconsidered,” (Social Science Japan Journal 24(2): 277–288, 2021) and Social Stratification in an Aging Society with Low Fertility: The Case of Japan (ed.) (Springer, 2022).

Presentation Summary

Inclusive Growth in Highly Aged Societies: Collaborations for Innovation

Japan is one of the most highly aged societies in the world, with total fertility rates remaining below replacement level since the mid-1970s. China, Japan, and ROK share a similar pattern of demographic transformation and are all experiencing this change at an exceptionally rapid pace. Traditionally, strong kinship and family roles have provided basic livelihood security in our societies. However, we are now collectively facing significant challenges due to the speed and scale of demographic shifts.

In this presentation, I will explore how we might pursue a new form of inclusive socio-economic growth suited to these conditions. While our societies are similar in some respects, important differences remain—making collaboration across our countries, especially in academic and policy arenas, both necessary and promising. Such collaboration will be key to fostering innovation and preparing for a more sustainable and inclusive future.

03 | Session II.



Speaker

YUAN Bo

Director, Asian Institute, Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC), Ministry of Commerce, China

Ms. Yuan Bo has been employed by the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC) since 2003. She successively served as an Intern Researcher and Assistant Researcher in the Department of Asian and African Studies from 2003 to 2010, as an Associate Researcher and Deputy Director of the Institute of Asian and African Studies from 2011 to 2016, and as a Researcher, Deputy Director, and Director of the Institute of Asian Studies from 2016 to the present.

Her research areas encompass economic and trade cooperation between China and Asian countries, regional economic integration, and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). The primary research accomplishments consist of a series of reports on the implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), “Research on Supply Chain Connectivity in ASEAN Plus Three (10+3),” “Study on Promoting the Integration and Alignment of RCEP and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP),” “Research on High-Level FTA Strategies,” “Study on the Future Development Direction of RCEP and China-Japan-Korea FTA (CJKFTA),” “New Approaches to Promote CJKFTA Negotiations,” the “China’s FTA Development Report” for 2020, 2019, and 2018, “Study on China’s FTA Strategy,” and a “Comparative Study on ASEAN’s External FTAs.”

Ms. Yuan completed her Bachelor’s degree in Economics from the Business School of Nanjing University in 1998 and her Master’s degree in Economics from the School of Economics at Renmin University in 2000.

Presentation Summary

Deepen Trilateral Regional Cooperation to promote inclusive growth

I. The Importance of Deepening Trilateral Regional Cooperation in the New Context

At present, trade protectionism and unilateralism are surging against the current, and economic globalization is facing unprecedented challenges. The global economic and trade order has fallen into turbulence and confusion, and the East Asian region, including China, Japan, and the ROK, has also been deeply affected. As the major countries in the region, the three nations have long been committed to upholding the multilateral trading system and the concept of free trade. Therefore, it is both necessary and their responsibility to deepen regional economic integration and cooperation, play a leading role, and actively respond to the current global challenges.

II. Opportunities and Challenges for Deepening Trilateral Regional Cooperation

China, Japan, and the ROK have already established a free trade arrangement under the RCEP framework and actively implemented the agreement’s liberalization commitments. They are also promoting CJK FTA negotiations, laying a solid foundation for enhanced regional cooperation. In particular, the in - depth development of the new - round of technological revolution and industrial transformation has provided new opportunities for the three countries to expand cooperation in emerging and future - oriented fields such as digital and green industries. However, deepening regional cooperation among China, Japan, and the ROK also faces real challenges, including increasing external - environment uncertainties, intensified industrial competition, differences in rules and standards, and social - and cultural - identity issues, which need to be actively addressed.

III. Recommendations for Deepening Trilateral Regional Cooperation and Promoting Inclusive Growth

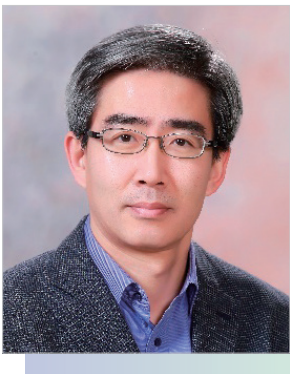
To address the challenges faced by economic globalization and the global economic and trade order, as well as the practical difficulties in deepening regional integration among China, Japan, and ROK, it is essential to embrace globalization and multilateralism, expand openness, and promote inclusive growth. This aligns with China’s consistent advocacy of an “open and inclusive” cooperation philosophy.

Firstly, the high - quality implementation of RCEP should be advanced to enhance the sense of gain from the free trade agreement and expand its coverage.

Secondly, when promoting higher - level agreements such as the CJK FTA, development space for sensitive groups and cooperation opportunities for competitive industries should be considered.

Thirdly, in driving regional cooperation in emerging fields like digital and green economies, issues such as the digital and green divides should be fully taken into account. Inclusive cooperation should be adopted to promote consensus on rules and standards.

03 | Session II.



Speaker

HONG Jong Ho

Professor, Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Seoul National University

Hong, Jong Ho is a Professor of Economics and former Dean of the Graduate School of Environmental Studies at Seoul National University (SNU). His teaching and research are focused on environmental/energy economics and sustainable economy and policy. His involvement within the school extends to serving as the former Director of the Environmental Planning Institute and the Institute for Sustainable Development. After receiving his PhD from Cornell University, he held research and academic positions at Korea Development Institute (KDI) and College of Economics and Finance at Hanyang University.

He also has broad experiences working as a consultant for international organizations, such as the World Bank and Asian Development Bank. He has previously served as the President of the Asian Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (AAERE), Korea Environmental Economics Association and Korean Association of Public Finance. He is also devoted to activities related to environmental groups, serving as a Co-President of the Korean Federation for Environmental Movement and Chairman of the Energy Transition Forum of Korea.

He is the author of the award-winning book, “Climate Crisis the Great Shift of Wealth.”

Presentation Summary

Challenges and Opportunities of the Northeast Asian Economy in the Era of Climate Crisis and Carbon Neutrality

Climate change is the paramount challenge facing humanity in the 21st century. Addressing this pressing issue involves two main strategies: “mitigation,” aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and “adaptation,” focused on adjusting to the warming planet. Mitigation efforts involve tackling the transition risks encountered by nations and businesses as they move towards decarbonization, while adaptation deals with the physical risks stemming from climate-related anomalies. Sustainable development of the Asian economy will depend on the effective implementation of decarbonisation strategies. The number of casualties and amount of material damage caused by heat waves, floods, droughts and wildfires is increasing astronomically worldwide. If we fail to respond proactively to this situation, we cannot guarantee a sustainable future.

On a global scale, we are witnessing a transformative era characterized by green and digital “twin” transitions. The global economy in the 2020s is expected to undergo a complete restructuring towards a decarbonised trade regime with the implementation of RE100 (100% renewable electricity), ESG (environmental, social and governance) and CBAM (carbon border adjustment mechanism) strategies. This presents both significant challenges and opportunities for the Northeast Asian economy, offering potential for sustained growth, new markets and job creation.

03 | **Session II.**



Discussant

NEO Gim Huay

Managing Director, Member of the Managing Board of the World Economic Forum

Ms. Gim Huay Neo is Managing Director and Member of the Managing Board at the World Economic Forum.

Before joining the WEF, she held various Managing Director roles at Temasek International including Climate Change Strategy, Sustainability and Enterprise Development. Prior to joining Temasek, Gim Huay was a Management Consultant at McKinsey & Co in the Lagos, New York and San Francisco offices. She served in the Singapore Public Service as an Administrative Officer, with stints in the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Prime Minister’s Office as well as the Singapore Embassy in the United States.

Gim Huay holds an MBA from Stanford University and a Master of Engineering and Bachelor of Arts from Cambridge University. She was selected as an Eisenhower Fellow in 2015 and Time 100 Climate Leader in 2023.

IV

About IFTC and TCS

About IFTC

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) is TCS’s annual flagship event that brings together eminent scholars/policy makers to share and offer new insights into the political climate, economic cooperation, and socio-cultural ties among China, Japan and the ROK. IFTC is held on a rotational basis among the three countries, targeted at participants of government dignitaries, experts, scholars, business leaders, journalists and civil society leaders from the three countries. The inaugural IFTC was held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK and Sejong Institute in Seoul, ROK, in 2011, commemorating the launch of the TCS. The TCS has succeeded the initiative and organized the IFTC since 2012. In 2015, IFTC has been changed to be held on a rotational basis in the three countries.

Past Events

Date	Venue	Theme	Keynote Speakers
October 2011	Seoul, ROK	Toward a New Era of Peace and Common Prosperity in Northeast Asia – Commemorating the Launch of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat	(ROK) LEE Hong-koo, Former Prime Minister (Japan) HATOYAMA Yukio, Former Prime Minister (China) TANG Jiaxuan, Former State Councilor
October 2012	Seoul, ROK	2012: Year of Transition and the Trilateral Cooperation	(ROK) KIM Sung-hwan, Foreign Minister (Japan) NAKAGAWA Masaharu, Former Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (China) LU Shumin, Vice President of Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs
April 2014	Seoul, ROK	The Unity in Diversity – Fostering East Asian Identity & Spirit of Community	(ROK) KIM Sung-hwan, Chair of SNU Institute for Global Social Responsibility/ Former Foreign Minister (Japan) OGURA Kazuo, Advisor to the Japan Foundation/ Former Ambassador to the ROK (China) ZHAO Jinjun, President of China Foreign Affairs University
April 2015	Tokyo, Japan	Challenges and Opportunities – Ushering into a New Era	(Japan) FUKUDA Yasuo, Former Prime Minister (China) LI Zhaoxing, Former Foreign Minister (ROK) HAN Seung-soo, Former Prime Minister
April 2016	Beijing, China	Deepening Dialogue and Communication, Pushing Trilateral Cooperation to a New Level	(China) XU Jialu, Vice-Chairman of the 9th and 10th NPC Standing Committee (ROK) GOH Kun, Former Prime Minister (Japan) NIKAI Toshihiro, Chairman of General Council, Liberal Democratic Party/ Former Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry
April 2017	Seoul, ROK	Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation in the Face of New Challenges	(ROK) HAN Sung-joo, Former Foreign Minister/ Professor Emeritus at Korea University (Japan) OGURA Kazuo, Former Ambassador to the ROK/ President of the Nippon Foundation Paralympic Support Center (China) LI Zhaoxing, President of the China Public Diplomacy Association/ Former Foreign Minister

April 2018	Tokyo, Japan	The Opening of a New Chapter for Trilateral Cooperation – The Past 10 years, the Coming 10 Years	(Japan) KOMURA Masahiko, Vice-President of Liberal Democratic Party (China) DAI Bingguo, Former State Councilor (ROK) MOON Hee-Sang, Member and Former Vice Speaker of the National Assembly/ Former President of The Korea-Japan Parliamentarian’s Union
May 2019	Beijing, China	Trilateral Cooperation 3.0 – Charting New Pathways to Shared Vision	(China) ZHAO Qizheng, Former Minister of the State Council Information Office (ROK) CHUNG Sye-kyun, Member and Former Speaker of the National Assembly/ Former Representative of the Democratic Party/ Former Minister of Commerce, Industry and Energy (Japan) KAWAMURA Takeo, Member of the House of Representatives/ Former Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology/ Former Chief Cabinet Secretary
April 2021	Seoul, ROK (Hybrid)	In light of the TCS 10-Year Anniversary: The New Trilateral Partnership in the Next Decade	(ROK) BAN Ki-moon, 8th United Nations Secretary General/ Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the ROK
June 2022	Seoul, ROK (Hybrid)	Future-Oriented Trilateral Cooperation: Lasting Peace, Common Prosperity, Shared Culture	(Japan) HIROSE Katsusada, Governor, Oita Prefecture (Culture City of East Asia 2022) of Japan (China) ZHANG Ping, Former Vice Chairman, The National People’s Congress Standing Committee of China (ROK) KIM Hwang-Sik, Chairman, Ho-Am Foundation; Former Prime Minister of the ROK
July 2023	Qingdao, China	Revitalizing Trilateral Cooperation in the Post-Covid Era: Communication, Connectivity and Community	(China) WANG Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee (ROK) KANG Chang Hee, Chairman, Woonkyung Foundation Former Speaker, National Assembly of the ROK (Japan) KONDO Seiichi, Former Commissioner, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan Director, Kondo Institute for Culture and Diplomacy
June 2024	Seoul, ROK	25th Anniversary of Trilateral Cooperation: Institutionalizing Collaboration and Promoting Exchanges for a Brighter Future	(ROK) KIM Sung-hwan, Chairman, East Asia Foundation; President, Taejae Future Consensus Institute (TFCI); Former Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Japan) KITAOKA Shinichi, Emeritus Professor, The University of Tokyo (China) WANG Fan, President, China Foreign Affairs University

About TCS

Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) is an international organization established with a vision to promote cooperative relations among China, Japan, and ROK. Upon the agreement signed by China, Japan, and the ROK, TCS was inaugurated in Seoul, ROK, in September 2011.

Objective

Contribute to the further promotion of cooperative relations among the three countries by providing support for the operation and management of the trilateral consultative mechanisms among the parties and by facilitating the exploration and implementation of cooperative projects

Functions

- 1

Provide support for trilateral consultative mechanisms and send its representatives to attend major consultative mechanisms, if necessary

*** TCS participation in the Trilateral Summits**

 - 5th (Beijing, China), 6th (Seoul, ROK), 7th (Tokyo, Japan), 8th (Chengdu, China), 9th (Seoul, ROK)

*** TCS participation in trilateral ministerial meetings (16 areas)**

 - Foreign Affairs, Disaster Management, Economy and Trade, Environment, Agriculture, IP, ICT, Science and Technology, Transport and Logistics, Water Resources, Culture, Education, Health, Sports, Tourism, Personnel Administration
- 2

Communicate and coordinate with the three parties, and if necessary, with other international organizations, particularly with other East Asian cooperation mechanisms
- 3

Explore and identify potential cooperative projects, and report those projects to the relevant consultative mechanisms for adoption

* TCS main projects

- International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC)
- TCS Day
- CJK Spirit Word of the Year
- Trilateral Visionary Group (TVG)
- Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program (TJEP)
- Young Scholars Forum (YSF)
- Inter-Regional Dialogue
- Trilateral Environmental Teacher's Exchange Program (TTEP)
- Trilateral Young Rural Leader's Exchange Program (TREP)
- Trilateral Entrepreneurs Forum (TEF)
- Trilateral Economic Seminar (TES)
- Forum on Carbon Neutrality Goals of China, Japan, and the ROK
- Young Ambassador Program (YAP)
- Trilateral Youth Summit (TYS)
- Trilateral Youth Speech Contest (TYSC)
- CAMPUS Asia Alumni Workshop (CAAW)

- 4

Evaluate the cooperative projects and draft reports on them, compile necessary documents into database, and submit annual progress reports

- 5

Conduct research on important issues related to trilateral cooperation, manage its website, and promote understanding of the trilateral cooperation

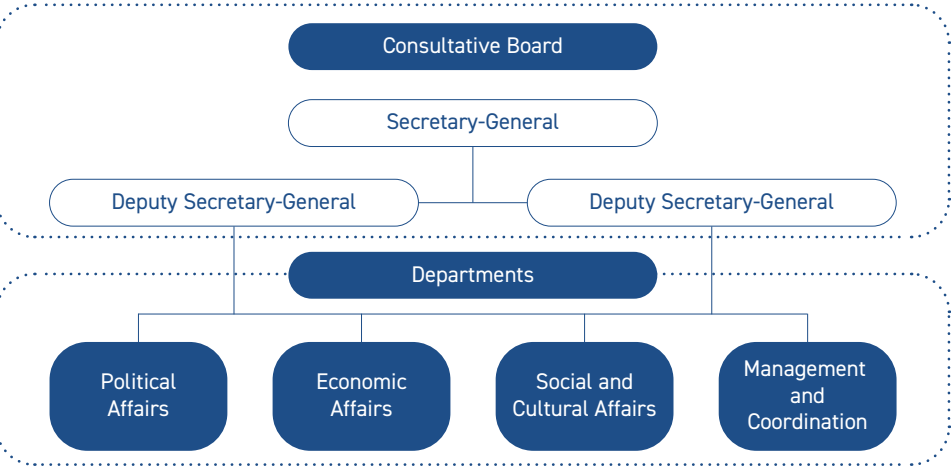
* TCS main research projects

- Trilateral Economic Report
- Trilateral Statistics Hub
- Research Project on China-Japan-Korea Local City Exchange
- Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary / Workbook

Structure

- Consultative Board: 1 Secretary-General and 2 Deputy Secretaries-General
- * 7th Consultative Board (2023.9 – present)**
- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------|
| Secretary-General | ROK | LEE Hee-sup |
| Deputy Secretary-General | Japan | ZUSHI Shuji |
| Deputy Secretary-General | China | YAN Liang |

Organizational Chart

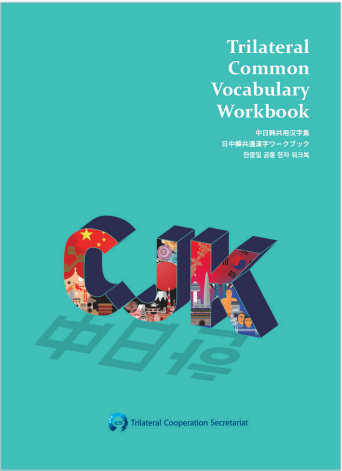


Publication

Annual Report FY2023



Trilateral Common Vocabulary Workbook



Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (JP)



Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (CN)



Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (KR)



2025 Trilateral Economic Report



History

- 1999.11 **Inception of the Trilateral Cooperation**
1st breakfast meeting among the leaders on the occasion of the 3rd ASEAN Plus Three Summit (Manila, Philippines)
- 2008.12 **Institutionalization of the Trilateral Cooperation**
1st Trilateral Summit independent from the ASEAN Plus Three framework (Fukuoka, Japan)
- 2009.10 **Consensus on a Need for a Permanent Secretariat for the Trilateral Cooperation**
The three leaders agreed to establish a secretariat for the cooperation among the three countries at the 2nd Trilateral Summit (Beijing, China)
- 2010.05 **Memorandum on the Establishment of the TCS**
The three leaders adopted the *Memorandum on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat* at the 3rd Trilateral Summit (Jeju, ROK)
- 2010.12 **Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS**
The three parties signed the *Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat* (Seoul, ROK)
- 2011.09 **Establishment of the TCS**
Opening Ceremony of the TCS (Seoul, ROK)
- 2016 **5th Anniversary of the TCS**
- 2021 **10th Anniversary of the TCS**



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