

## AGENDA

### INTRODUCTION (09:00-09:05)

### OPENING REMARKS (09:05-09:25)

**David Morrison**, Deputy Minister,  
Global Affairs Canada

**Younggi Ahn**, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of  
the Embassy of the Republic of Korea

**Marybeth Turner**, Deputy Head of  
Mission of the Embassy of the United  
States of America

**Kanji Yamanouchi**, Ambassador  
of Japan

### KEYNOTE SPEECH (09:25-09:40)

**Sang Hyun Lee**, Senior Research  
Fellow, Sejong Institute, ROK

### GROUP PHOTO (09:40-09:45)

### [SESSION 1] Easing Tensions and Promoting Peace on the Korean Peninsula (09:45-11:05)

**Moderator:** **Sang Hyun Lee**, Senior  
Research Fellow, Sejong Institute, ROK

### [PANELISTS]

**Daesik Kim**, Director, Future of Korean  
Peninsula Policy Division, MOFA, ROK

**Eric Laporte**, Executive Director,  
Regional Security and Defence  
Relations Division, GAC, Canada

**Michael Flores**, Director, Office  
of Korean and Mongolian Affairs,  
Department of State, USA

**Naoko Aoki**, Political Scientist,  
RAND Corporation

### Q&A (20 min)

### HEALTH BREAK (11:05-11:20)

### [SESSION 2] Challenges and Opportunities for Regional Stability in the Indo-Pacific (11:20-12:40)

**Moderator:** **Jonathan Miller**,  
Co-founder and Principal of Pendulum  
Geopolitical Advisory

### [PANELISTS]

**Vina Nadjibulla**, Vice-President  
Research & Strategy, Asia Pacific  
Foundation of Canada

**Julie Kim**, Post-Doctoral Fellow,  
Canadian Global Affairs Institute

**Rachel Minyoung Lee**, Senior Fellow,  
Stimson Center

**Naoko Aoki**, Political Scientist,  
RAND Corporation

### Q&A (20 min)

### CLOSING (12:40-12:45)

### BUFFET LUNCH (12:45-14:00)

# — 2025 — KOREAN PENINSULA SYMPOSIUM



December 3, 2025  
9:00 -14:00

Embassy of the Republic of Korea  
150 Boteler St., Ottawa

### CO-HOSTS



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



### **Sang Hyun Lee, Senior Research Fellow, Sejong Institute, ROK**

Sang Hyun Lee is Former President of the Sejong Institute in Korea. He also served as President of the Korea Nuclear Policy Society (KNPS). He received his B.A. and M.A. from Seoul National University and Ph.D.

from the Department of Political Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1999. He was a research fellow at the Korean Institute for International Studies (1987-88), the Korea Institute for Defense Analysis (1988-90), and Director-General for Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2011-13). His main research interests include international politics and security, Korea-U.S. relations, inter-Korean relations, nuclear security and nonproliferation, and East Asian security issues.

## MODERATORS & PANELISTS

\*in alphabetical order



### **Naoko Aoki, Political Scientist, RAND Corporation**

Naoko Aoki is a political scientist at the RAND Corporation specializing in East Asian security issues, including Japanese foreign and security policy, the North Korean nuclear problem, and U.S. alliances in Asia. Before joining RAND, she was a nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council and previously held a nuclear security fellowship at the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as a Stanton Nuclear Security Fellowship. Earlier in her career, she worked as a journalist for Kyodo News in Tokyo and Beijing, visiting North Korea 18 times on reporting trips. Dr. Aoki holds a Ph.D. in policy studies from the University of Maryland, an M.A. in international relations and international economics from Johns Hopkins SAIS, and a B.A. in English from Sophia University in Tokyo.



### **Michael Flores, Director, Office of Korean and Mongolian Affairs, Department of State, USA**

Michael Flores is Director of the Office of Korean and Mongolian Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, he has served in leadership roles including Chargé d'Affaires and Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica. His overseas assignments include postings in Bogotá, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Bangkok, and Mexico City. In Washington, he has held key positions such as Director for Canadian Affairs, Director for Indian Affairs, and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for South Asia. Mr. Flores holds a B.A. in History and Political Science from California State University, Long Beach, an M.A. in International Affairs from The George Washington University, and an M.A. in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. He speaks Spanish, Russian, and Thai.



### **Daesik Kim, Director, Future of Korean Peninsula Policy Division, MOFA, ROK**

Daesik Kim is the Director for the Future of Korean Peninsula Policy Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of the Republic of Korea. He joined MOFA in 2008, and his main fields of expertise include the Korean Peninsula Affairs as well as the ROK's relations with China and Southeast Asia (ASEAN). Mr. Kim has held overseas postings in Beijing and Shenyang, China. He studied at Peking University (B.A. in International Politics), and Johns Hopkins University (M.A. in Politics).



### **Julie Kim, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Canadian Global Affairs Institute**

Julie (Jung-eun) Kim is a Post-Doctoral Fellow leading the Korea Program at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute (CGAI) and serves as Country Expert on North Korea for the Bertelsmann Transformation Index (BTI). She received her PhD in Political Science from Heidelberg University as a DAAD scholar, focusing on social control and regime stability in North Korea. Dr. Kim also holds an M.A. in North Korean Studies and a B.A. in German Language and Literature from Ewha Womans University. Her previous experience includes research roles at SIPRI and the East Asia Foundation, and her research interests are in authoritarian regimes, Korean Peninsula geopolitics, and Canada-Korea defence cooperation.



### **Eric Laporte, Executive Director, Regional Security and Defence Relations Division, GAC, Canada**

Eric Laporte is Executive Director of the Security and Defence Relations Division at Global Affairs Canada. He has served extensively on peace and security issues in support of Canadian foreign and security policy, both at Headquarters and abroad. His overseas postings include Counsellor and Head of the Intelligence Liaison Office at the Embassy of Canada to the United States in Washington, D.C., and two tours at the Canadian Joint Delegation to NATO in Brussels, where he served as Counsellor and Head of the Political Section, as well as acting Deputy Permanent Representative. He has also been posted to the Canadian Embassy in Tehran, Iran, and completed temporary assignments in Kandahar, Afghanistan; Beirut, Lebanon; and several locations in West Africa. At Headquarters, Mr. Laporte was Director of the Democracy Division and previously served as Lead Analyst on European and Central Asian issues in the Privy Council Office. He holds a degree from the University of Ottawa.



### **Rachel Minyoung Lee, Senior Fellow, Stimson Center**

Rachel Minyoung Lee is Senior Fellow for the Korea Program at the Stimson Center and 38 North, and co-chair of the North Korea Economic Forum at the George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies. Previously, she served as a North Korea analyst for the US government's Open Source Enterprise from 2000 to 2019, leading analytical teams on North and South Korean issues. She was most recently involved in engagement and network-building efforts at Open Nuclear Network in Vienna, and served as a POSCO Visiting Fellow at the East-West Center in Hawaii in July 2025. Ms. Lee holds a B.A. in English literature and an M.A. in international law from Korea University in Seoul.



### **Jonathan Miller, Co-founder and Principal of Pendulum Geopolitical Advisory**

Jonathan Berkshire Miller is co-founder and Principal of Pendulum Geopolitical Advisory, an Ottawa-based consultancy specializing in security, defence, and geo-economics. He is a senior fellow at the Macdonald-Laurier Institute and holds concurrent senior fellowships with

the Japan Institute of International Affairs and Asian Forum Japan. He serves as Director and co-founder of the Council on International Policy, and has been appointed Canada's ASEAN Regional Forum Expert and Eminent Person (EEP), as well as a Responsible Leader for the BMW Foundation. Previously, he held senior roles in the Canadian government on Asia-related economic and security issues and was an international affairs fellow with the Council on Foreign Relations in Tokyo. Mr. Miller regularly contributes to leading publications and is frequently cited on Asia-Pacific security and geopolitical issues by major global media outlets.



### **Vina Nadjibulla, Vice-President of Research & Strategy, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada**

Vina Nadjibulla is the Vice-President of Research & Strategy at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. She leads the Foundation's research, programs, and network support activities. She also oversees the Foundation's granting and research fellowships programs as well as development and capacity-building projects. She is a frequent media commentator on geopolitics, Canadian foreign policy, and Canada-Asia relations, with a focus on India and China. She has more than two decades of professional experience in high-level diplomacy, advocacy, policymaking, and political risk analysis. Vina is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs at the University of British Columbia and a Senior Research Fellow at The Soufan Center, a conflict resolution think-tank headquartered in New York. Vina holds a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University.