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The Future of Multilateral Security Cooperation in Northeast Asia: Six-Party Talks and Its Implications

BY PROF. STEVEN KIM

Visiting Professor, Asia-Europe Institute

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The current progress in the six-party talks aimed at resolving the North Korean nuclear issue has stimulated interest in the prospects for the creation of a multilateral security mechanism in Northeast Asia. In fact, according to the 13 February 2007 agreement, the responsibility of one of the working groups is to study the feasibility of forming just such a mechanism in Northeast Asia. Are these expectations realistic? How can the talks contribute to the formation of regional security mechanism? What are the long-term interests in the region that are conducive to the formation of multilateral security mechanism? What are the lessons from the talks regarding how a multilateral security mechanism can resolve and manage

inter-state conflict? Is there a rationale for an East Asian multilateral security mechanism?

Academic qualifications: Dr. Kim holds a BA and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, and a MA from Seoul National University in Political Science.

Employment: Dr. Kim is assistant professor at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu. Previously, he had been a research fellow at the Sejong Institute in South Korea where he served as Director of the Regional Studies Program and the Sejong Democracy Forum. He was also a lecturer at Kyung Hee University.

Research and Publications: Dr. Kim's research focus is on security issues related to the Korean peninsula including South Korean foreign relations, inter-Korean relations, and Northeast Asian security, as well as South Korean politics and culture. His interests also include post-9/11 U.S. foreign policy and its implications for the security dynamics in Northeast Asia, as well as broader socio-politico-economic developments such as democratisation, economic integration, and political and security cooperation in East Asia. His publications include *Divided Korean Public Opinion: Progressives and Conservatives*, *Resolving the North Korean Nuclear Problem: Status Quo vs. Transformative Approach*, *ROK's Nuclear Experiments: A Successful Case of Alliance Management*, *Change in U.S. Foreign Policy After the Cold War: Unilateralism vs. Multilateralism*, *Democracy and Asian Values*, and *The Korean Political Culture in Conflict: Hierarchy vs. Individualism*.

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