KISA 18th Annual Convention

October 30, 2026

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies—Graduate School Building (GSB)

Diplomatic and Security Challenges in an Era of Shocks to the Global System

08:30 – 08:45	*Registration*
08:45 – 09:00 BRICS Teleconf. Room (R.226)	Welcome/Opening remarks: *Mason Richey, KISA President; Kim Chanwhan, GSIAS Dean; Christoph Heuser, FES Resident Representative*
09:00 – 10:15 BRICS Teleconf. Room	**Keynote:** The Turning World: Five Hinge Points in Global Politics *Dan Smith: Senior Fellow, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research; Visiting Professor, University of Nagasaki; former Director, SIPRI*
10:15 – 10:30	*Coffee Break*
10:30 – 12:00	Parallel Sessions 1-3

Parallel Session 1: North Korea and the Changing Regional Security Environment

Chair: *Erwin Tan*

BRICS Teleconf. Room (R.226)

What Does China Really Think About North Korea's Nuclear Weapons?
Joel Peter Atkinson, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

North Korea's Evolving Power Portfolio in a Changing Strategic Environment
Gabriela Bernal, European Centre for North Korean Studies

Analysis of Russia–North Korea Relations since 2022 and Their Implications for Regional Security
Nika Pasko, Hanyang University, and Ji-in Baek, EWHA Womans University

The Role of Sanctions Relief in the Denuclearization Process: Implications for the Korean Peninsula
Man Fung Yeung, Tamkang University

Parallel Session 2: Security, Alliances, and Political Contestation in East Asia

Chair: *Jevon Dixon*

Room 507 GSB

Restrained but Undeterred: US Commitment and Unification by Force in the ROK and ROC in the 1960s
Benjamin A. Engel, Dankook University

Foreign Nuclear Deployment as Alliance Commitment: Effects on Host-State Defense Expenditure
Hyejoon Joseph Kim, Texas A&M University

Beyond the Independence–Unification Divide: A Latent Class Analysis of National Security Attitudes in Taiwan
Christian Schafferer, Overseas Chinese University

Pragmatic with Japan, Punitive at Home: Historical Accountability under Lee Jae-myung
Joseph Yi, Hanyang University

The conference is co-funded by Korea Office of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)

Parallel Session 3: International Order, Hierarchy, and Middle Powers
Chair: *Iryna Shalaginova*

Room 508 GSB	Hierarchy Life Cycles and the Secondary State Dilemma *Daniel Connolly, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies/Alexander M. Hynd, University of Melbourne* Searching for A Liberal International Order (LIO) 3.0 *Brendan Howe, EWHA Womans University* Donald Trump and the End of the International Rules-based Order? *Boris Kondoch, Far East University*
12:00 – 13:10	*Lunch (venue Faculty Office 2, Building Cafeteria)*
13:10 – 14:20 BRICS Teleconf. Room (R.226)	**Plenary Session 1:** Harnessing Responsible AI: Building International Law and Shared Norms Moderation: *Iryna Shalaginova, EWHA Womans University, KISA Secretariat* *Boris Kondoch, Far East University* *H.E. Eva-Marie Russek, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria to Korea* *Jack Minty, Digital Trade and Technology Counselor, Embassy of the United Kingdom* *Leif-Eric Easley, EWHA Womans University*
14:20 – 14:30	*Coffee Break*
14:30 – 15:30	Parallel Sessions – 4-7

Parallel Session 4: Technology, Cybersecurity, and Artificial Intelligence
Chair: *Thomas Kalinowski*

BRICS Teleconf. Room (R.226)	The Future Is Now: Implications of Non-Aligned Artificial Intelligence for Democratic Politics *Lonnie Edge, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies* Who is seen when an institution convenes: uneven visibility in AI discourse around APEC 2025 on X *Mbus Mbock Masse Melvin, Pusan National University* Productive Lawfare and the Two-Tier Digital Economy: Pax Silica, Fintech Governance, and the Resilience Gap in the Philippines *Paolo C. Cansino, De La Salle University*

Parallel Session 5: Energy, Climate, Environment
Chair: *Damien P. Horigan*

Room 506 GSB	From Traditional Energy Security to New Resource Diplomacy: Japan's Middle East Engagement amid Geopolitical Shocks and Decarbonization *Yajing Liu, Keio University* Geopolitics, Failed State, and the Rare Earth Contest: Transboundary Toxic Contamination in Northern Thailand's Kok River *Steve Chan, Keimyung University* The Majority World's Climate Adaptation and the Future of Development Cooperation: Preliminary Findings from a Systematic Review of the WoS Core Collection 2015–2026 *Yunjeong Yang, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies*

Parallel Session 6: Contemporary Issues in International Political Economy and Development Economics
Chair: *Daniel Connolly*

Room 507 GSB

Navigating the New Trade Order: A Modified Two-Level Game Theory Analysis of the Ramifications of CPTPP Membership for South Korea.
Karen See, EWHA Womans University

Democracy Deficit in OIC Countries: Oil Curse or Islamic Constitutionalism?
Shimaa Hanafy, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

When Religion Shapes Redistribution: Islamic Economic Provisions and Income Inequality
Moamen Gouda, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Parallel Session 7: Digital Geopolitics International and Domestic
Chair: *Christian Schafferer*

Room 508 GSB

Contesting the State and Reproducing Its Narratives: Russian Maritime Narratives in Milblogger Discourse
Jevon Dixon, Swedish Defence University

Building the Smart City Before Its Citizens
Aksaule Sandybay, Hanyang University

15:30 – 15:40	*Coffee Break*
15:40 – 16:45 BRICS Teleconf. Room (R.226)	**Plenary Session 2**: The Rightward Shift in Europe: Potential Impacts on Europe's Relations with East Asia Moderation: *Lukne Vasileviciute, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies* *Ohn Daewon, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies* *Sebastien Falletti, Le Figaro (Seoul correspondent)* *Michael Reiterer, University of Brussels and former EU Ambassador to Korea* *Mason Richey, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies*
16:45 – 16:50	*Break*
16:50 – 18:00	Parallel Sessions 8-11

Parallel Session 8: Security Interdependence: Critical Minerals, Chokepoints, and Complex Supply Chains
Chair: *Joel Peter Atkinson*

BRICS Teleconf. Room (R.226)

The Contested Seabed: Offshore Wind, Critical-Mineral Dependence, and Maritime Security in an Era of Systemic Shocks
Peter Jaegeul Song, Korea Environment Institute (KEI)

De-Weaponizing Interdependence: Supply- and Demand-Side De-Risking after the 2026 Hormuz Crisis
Ahrum Yoo, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Who Governs the Green Transition? Producer-Consumer Divides in Critical Mineral Supply Chain Governance
Shayala Rai, EWHA Womans University

Parallel Session 9: State Recognition and Advancement in a Disordered World
Chair: *Lonnie Edge*

Room 506 GSB

Crisis and Legitimacy – Interconnected Phenomena?
Jost Schulz, Kiel University

North Korea and International Intergovernmental Organizations
Damien P. Horigan, UMGC Okinawa

The 'Other' Middle Powers
Erwin Tan, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Parallel Session 10: Status, Strategy, and Political Economy in the Indo-Pacific
Chair: *Brendan Howe*

Room 507 GSB

Strategic Self-Hatred? Why States Depreciate Their Own Territory
Dylan Motin, Seoul National University

Victimhood and Status Seeking in the Indo-Pacific
Claudia Junghyun Kim, City University of Hong Kong

K-Space and the Adaptive Developmental State: The Political Economy of South Korea's Space Program
Thomas Kalinowski and Yura Koh, EWHA Womans University

Parallel Session 11: Development, Human Capital, and the Global South
Chair: *Moamen Gouda*

Room 508 GSB

The ASEAN Puzzle: Why Foreign Aid and Governance Quality Do Not Translate into Lower Inequality
Pyae Nandar Aung, EWHA Womans University

Challenges and workarounds for individual activists engaging with the UN Human Rights Council, with special reference to the role of AI
C.J. Simons, EWHA Womans University

Skills Without Borders? KOICA's Technical Training and the Portability of Refugee Human Capital across Durable Solutions in Jordan
Fatima Alkhadire, EWHA Womans University

18:00 – 18:15

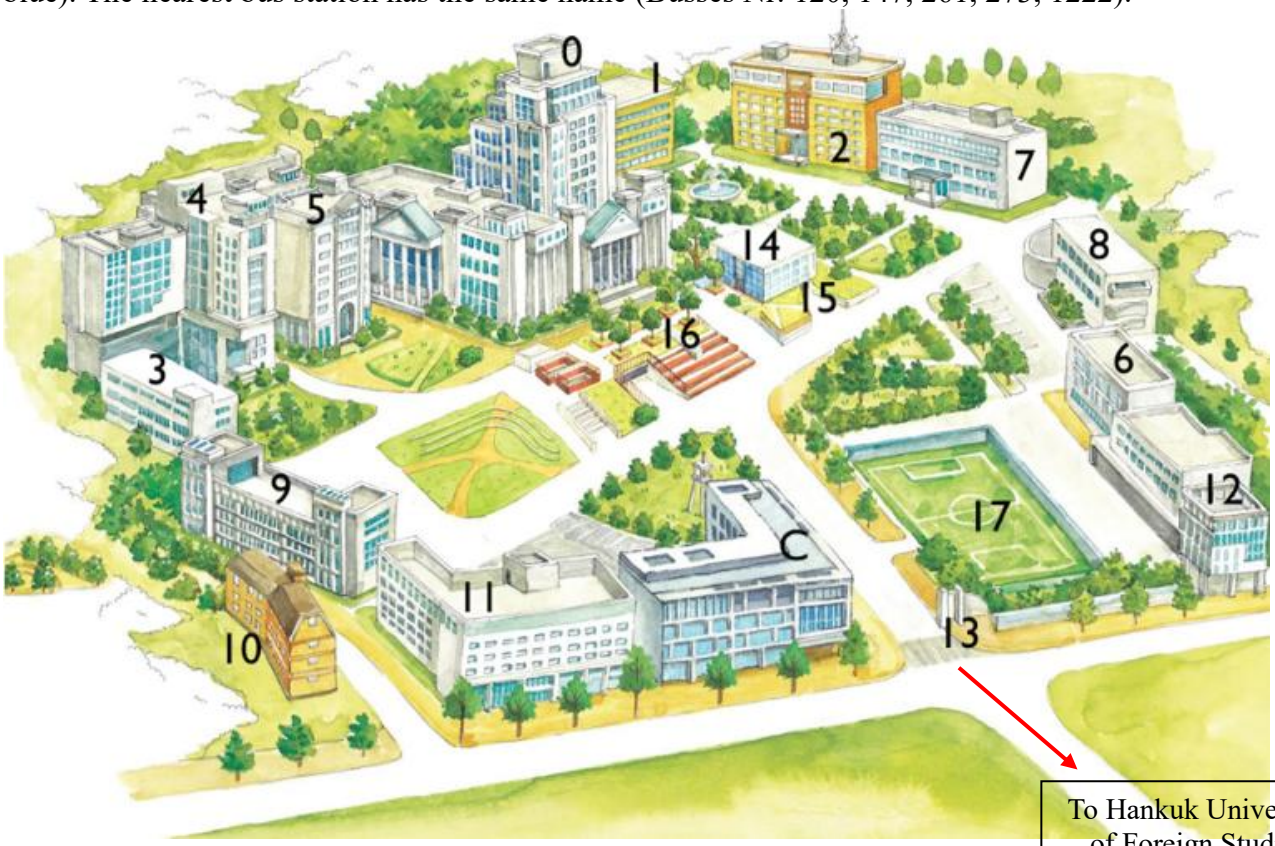
BRICS Teleconf. Room (R.226)

Concluding Remarks

Venue location:

Google maps: https://maps.app.goo.gl/JYRQ6cc86rp6Yqts8
Naver maps: https://naver.me/5YSunZfV

The conference will take place at **Graduate School Building** (GSB) – Building 6.
The nearest subway station is *Hankuk University of Foreign Studies Station* (외대앞역), Line 1 (dark blue). The nearest bus station has the same name (Busses Nr: 120, 147, 261, 273, 1222).



0. Main Building
1. Humanities Building
2. Institute of Teaching and Learning Development
3. Social Sciences Building
4. Globee Dorm & Student Buidling
5. Law School
6. Graduate School
7. Foreign Language Training and Testing Center
8. International Building
9. Library
10. Faculty Office 1
11. Faculty Office 2
    - Certificate Printing Machine
12. University Press
13. Main Gate/Information Desk
14. HUFS Historical Archives
15. Minerva Complex
16. Minerva Square
17. Ground

C. Cyber Building

For further information on the Korea International Studies Association, please see our website: https://kisa-global.org/