

Trust-building in North East Asia and the role of the EU

*International conference organised by the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) with
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The Far East is today the world's most dynamic economic area, contributing for more than half to global growth. Yet, North Korea's nuclear programme continues to be a threat to regional peace, while China's rise takes place outside of - and in potential opposition to - the US system of alliances which has been a factor of stability in the region. Asia's policy makers are therefore increasingly looking for ways to accommodate these changing power relations in an environment still beset by competing nationalisms.

The conference focuses on the question of peace and security in North East Asia, examining in particular the efforts, and the initiatives, aimed at regional cooperation and trust-building undertaken by the leaderships of the Republic of Korea (ROK), Japan and the People's Republic of China in recent times. Particular attention is given to the process of Trilateral Cooperation and to ROK President Park Geun-hye's proposal of 'North East Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative' (NAPCI), including discussion of the role that the European Union - and Italy - can play in supporting the NAPCI and other regional initiatives aimed at reconciliation and trust-building in North East Asia.

Friday, 21 October 2016

10:00 – 16:30

Palazzo Rondinini

Via del Corso, 518 - Rome

Working language: English

A special thanks to Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena for kindly providing the conference room.

Programme

- 10:00-10:30 **Welcome coffee/tea and registration**
- 10:30-11:15 **Welcoming remarks**
Ferdinando Nelli Feroci, President, IAI
Yong-Joon Lee, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Italy
Ugo Astuto, Director General, Asia and the Pacific, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFAIC)
- 11:15-12:30 **Trust-building and regional identity in North East Asia**
Chair: Nicola Casarini, Research Head for Asia, IAI
Speakers: Nam-Kook Kim, Jean Monnet Professor, Korea University, Seoul
 Silvia Menegazzi, Lecturer, LUISS University, Rome
 Axel Berkofsky, Senior Research Fellow, ISPI, Milan
Discussant: Alain Guidetti, Senior Diplomatic Advisor, GCSP, Geneva
- 12:30-13:30 **Lunch**
- 13:30-14:45 **The Korean peninsula and the EU**
Chair: Jin-Wook Hong, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of ROK in Italy
Speakers: Hazel Smith, Professor, Central Lancashire University, Preston, UK
 Moo-Sung Lee, Professor, Myongji University, Seoul
 Ramon Pacheco Pardo, Senior Lecturer, King's College, London
Discussant: Antonio Fiori, Associate Professor, Bologna University
- 14:45-15:00 **Coffee/tea break**
- 15:00-16:15 **Supporting NAPCI and Trilateral Cooperation: Prospects for Korea-EU and Korea-Italy relations**
Chair: Ettore Greco, Director, IAI
Speakers: Si-Hong Kim, Professor, Hankuk University, Seoul
 Michael Reiterer, Senior Advisor, Asia-Pacific Division, European External Action Service, Brussels
 Davide Giglio, Head of Far East Unit, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFAIC)
Discussant: Nicola Casarini, Research Head for Asia, IAI
- 16:15-16:30 **Concluding remarks and farewell coffee/tea**