



Moon Jae-in

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA



A Nation of the People, A Just Republic of Korea

I will become a president for everyone

I will be a president who communicates with others.
I will exert my authority in a humble and modest manner.
I will build a country stronger than it has ever been.

The opportunities will be equitable, the process will be fair
and the result will be just.

May 10, 2017, Inaugural Address by President Moon Jae-in

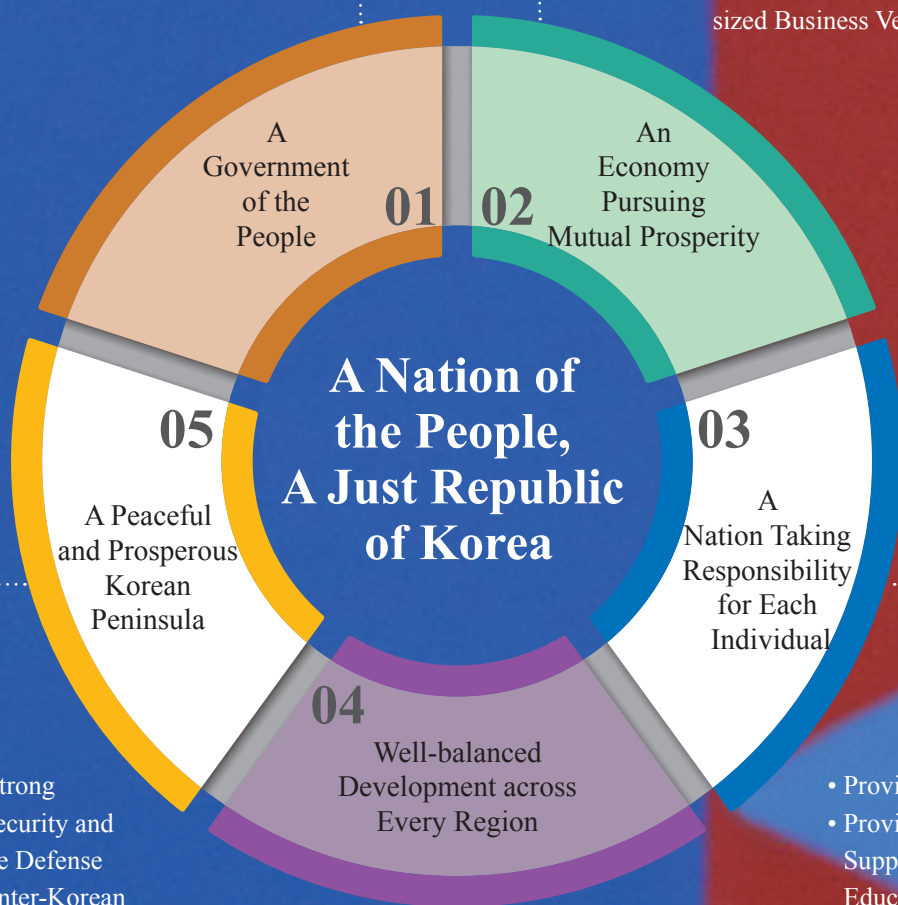




Five-year Plan for the Administration of State Affairs

- Realizing a Democracy by Popular Sovereignty
- Promoting Unity via Communication with the People—a “Gwanghwamun” President
- Creating a Transparent and Capable Government
- Reforming Law Enforcement Authorities Democratically

- Fostering a Job-creating Economy for Income-driven Growth
- Making a Vibrant and Fair Economy
- Creating an Economy for the Working and Middle Classes
- Preparing for the Fourth Industrial Revolution by Supporting the Advancement of Science and Technology
- Promoting Innovative Growth and Startups Led by Small and Medium-sized Business Ventures



- Ensuring Strong National Security and Dependable Defense
- Fostering Inter-Korean Reconciliation and Cooperation as well as Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula
- Reinforcing International Cooperation through Diplomacy

- Promoting Autonomy and Decentralization to Realize Grassroots Democracy
- Ensuring Well-balanced National Development for Mutual Prosperity
- Developing Rural Communities Where People Want to Live

- Providing Inclusive Welfare
- Providing Full Government Support for Childcare and Education
- Creating a Safe Society to Protect the Public
- Fostering a Fair Society that Respects Labor and Promotes Gender Equality
- Building a Country Where Liberty, Creativity and Culture Thrive



A New Republic of Korea, A Properly Functioning Country





A New Era Ushered in by the Candlelight Rallies

In the autumn of 2016, the scale of candlelight rallies calling for the ouster of President Park Geun-hye continuously grew across the country as time passed. Popular distrust of her Administration began with an influence-peddling scandal and suspicions over back-room string-pulling by an *eminence grise*. Finally, the National Assembly passed a bill of impeachment on December 9, and the Constitutional Court upheld the impeachment on March 10, 2017. The candlelight spread by the people brought about an unprecedented result: the dismissal of President Park Geun-hye. The removal from office of the President led to a snap presidential election on May 9, 2017, and presidential candidate Moon Jae-in of the Democratic Party of Korea was elected President to serve in the 19th presidential term of the Republic of Korea.





A President Who Reaches Out to the Public First

On May 10, 2017, President Moon took the oath of office to serve in the 19th presidential term of the Republic of Korea. He dispensed with standard protocol so that he would be able to freely connect with the people by mingling in crowds to shake hands and take photos. President Moon visited a children's rehabilitation hospital and kneeled down to listen attentively to the voices of children with disabilities, their mothers and the medical staff. At the ceremony commemorating the May 18 Democratization Movement* in Gwangju, he walked up to and comforted the representative of bereaved families with a warm hug after she finished reading her eulogy to her father.

Citizens were enthusiastic about President Moon's down-to-earth attitude. In his interview with *CNN* on September 29, 2017, President Moon said, "I try to lower the wall of security. I have been making efforts in approaching the people and being with the people." He added his belief that the success of his presidency would depend on communication with the people.

President Moon Jae-in is also working to lower the barriers of hierarchicalism within Cheong Wa Dae to promote the free flow of communication and governance through cooperation. President Moon uses an office in the secretariat building of Yeomin-gwan to work near his secretaries, instead of the presidential office in the main building. All these are typical of his leadership style of reaching out to the people first.

* The May 18 Democratization Movement was a pro-democracy uprising that took place in the city of Gwangju, Jeollanam-do Province from May 18 to 27, 1980. During the period, the protesting citizens called for the abolition of martial law and release of imprisoned pro-democracy political leaders in defiance of military dictatorship.

A President Who Engages with the Media

President Moon Jae-in's determination to communicate was vividly illustrated during a flight bound for Washington D.C., where he was scheduled to have a summit with the U.S. President. While holding an in-flight meeting with the press corps traveling with him, the presidential plane was severely jolted by turbulence, but he continued speaking without flinching. At a press conference to mark the 100th day after his inauguration, President Moon's will to interact with the media was clearly demonstrated; he held an unscripted press conference with no pre-arranged order. *Channel NewsAsia*, a Singaporean cable television news agency, reported on August 19, 2017, about how President Moon could have achieved an approval rating above 70 percent all through his first 100 days in office, saying, "One hundred days into this administration, President Moon's leadership demonstrates an exemplary combination of responsiveness, determination and flexibility that has become rare worldwide."

President Moon Jae-in also held his 2018 New Year Press Conference in an unconventional manner. He randomly chose questioners from the floor and answered their questions. President Moon said he thought communication with the public was crucial and communication with the media was integral to achieving that end. He promised to work hard to have more opportunities to meet with the media. His New Year Press Conference lasted 75 minutes and drew enthusiastic attention and a viewer rating of 22.7 percent. Immediately after the Press Conference, a journalist from an American newspaper posted this comment on her social media account: "This press conference is a free-for-all. Journalists were not pre-selected to ask questions." The Moon Jae-in Administration is making efforts to always reach out to the public first, directly at times and indirectly through the media at others. For this reason, it is being favorably assessed by both the Korean people and the international media.





Early Life of Moon Jae-in

Son of a Refugee

President Moon Jae-in was born into a farming family on the southeastern island of Geoje on January 24, 1953. His parents were refugees who had left North Korea's northeastern port of Heungnam to seek shelter during the Korean War and settled in Geoje. Around the time he entered elementary school, the Moon family moved to Yeong-do island, Busan. Despite the financial difficulties of his family, he was admitted to the prestigious Gyeongnam Middle School and Gyeongnam High School and graduated with excellence. When he passed the entrance examination to Gyeongnam Middle School, his

father, who was taciturn most of the time, did not conceal how proud he was and took his son to the Gukje Market in Busan, also called the Nampodong International Market, to buy him his school uniform.

Poverty prevented him from doing many things he wanted to do, yet it also helped him stand on his own feet. In addition, memories of his childhood spent in poverty taught him lifelong lessons and served as an opportunity to make up his mind not to turn away from those in need but to give them a helping hand.

Moon Jae-in as a Gyeongnam High School Student (back row, middle)



Turbulent Adolescence

He graduated from middle and high schools in Busan, the second largest city in Korea. He was a young student who loved reading books and was very warm-hearted, as exemplified by his carrying of a disabled friend on his back on a school field trip. After entering university, he became a leader of the student democratization movement against Park Chung-hee's dictatorial regime. He ended up being arrested and released with a suspended jail term, but was then forcibly conscripted into the special forces. After finishing his military service, he devoted himself to the democratization movement again while preparing

for the bar exam. He wound up being arrested and detained. It was in a detention facility at a police station where he heard the news that he had passed the bar exam.

President Moon Jae-in following his university graduation ceremony (front row, middle. August 1980)





Human Rights Attorney

In 1982, he graduated second from the Judicial Research and Training Institute, but was disqualified from becoming a judge due to his involvement in the protest against the Yushin constitution of 1972, which was enacted to provide the basis for dictatorial rule. There was a job offer with favorable terms from a major law firm, but he turned it down believing that a lawyer has to help those suffering through no fault of their own. He went back to Busan to start his career as a lawyer, and he first met the future President Roh Moo-hyun there.

He did not intend to work as a human rights lawyer from the outset. At that time, however, there were many cases involving student and labor movements. He did not turn his face away from workers who finally came to seek help from him after suffering oppression. Relating to what they had to say in all sincerity, he did his best to defend them. Many people who were involved in student movements at that time recall meeting him often to the extent that they got bored of seeing him.







Politician Moon Jae-in

Awakening to Politics

It was his father who first helped the young Moon Jae-in open his eyes to politics. In his childhood, he could find delight in reading thanks to his father who used to buy him books on his return home after finishing selling things. During his middle and high school years, he avidly read all the books he could lay his hands on one after another. In the process, he developed his own perspective on society. When a college student in the neighborhood visited his house, his father gave him detailed explanations about social affairs. During their conversations, Moon picked up much knowledge, which served as the foundation to develop a critical consciousness of the irrationality in society and analytical thinking later on.

Cheong Wa Dae Chief of Staff Moon Jae-in Calling on Former President Kim Dae-jung



The Participatory Government

Moon Jae-in was appointed Senior Secretary to the President for Civil Affairs after Roh Moo-hyun was elected President in 2003. Although he was a human rights lawyer who played a role as a critic of those in power and had no experience in running state or administrative affairs, he accepted the offer after being persuaded by President Roh and First Lady Kwon Yang-sook.

After working hard as Senior Secretary to the President for Civil Affairs for some time, he served as Chief of Staff for President Roh Moo-hyun until both left Cheong Wa Dae together. For the five years of the Participatory Government, Moon held fast to the position that any provocative acts detrimental to peace on the Korean Peninsula must not be tolerated. However, he also took the lead in paving the way for cooperation and peaceful exchanges between the two Koreas, working as the Chairperson of the Promotion Committee for the South-North Summit.

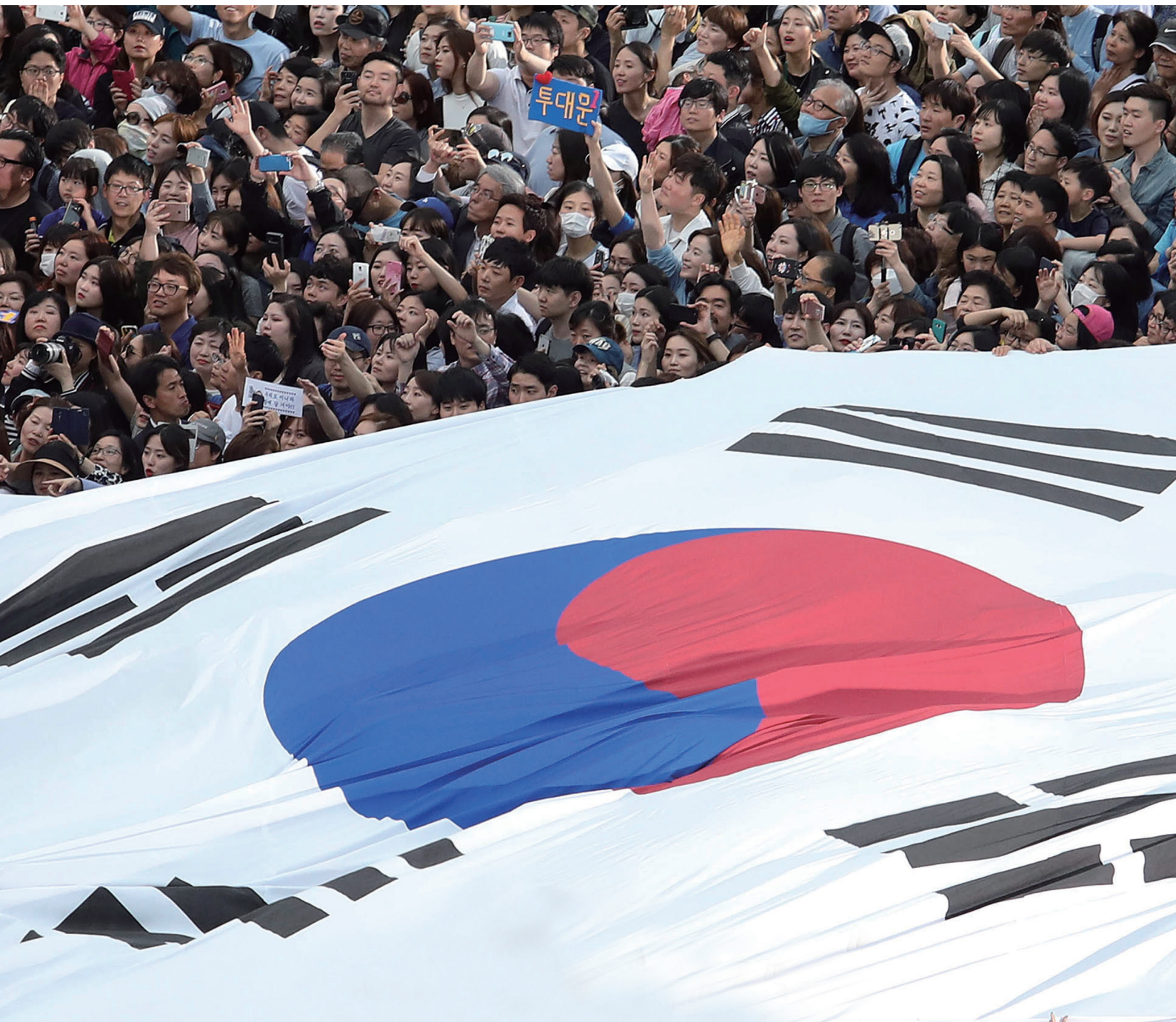


Elected President by the Largest Margin in History

The sudden passing of President Roh Moo-hyun in May 2009 sent shock waves through the entire public, Moon Jae-in included. He took the role of a chief mourner and oversaw the overall procedures from the announcement of death to presiding over meetings for preparations for the funeral. President Roh had been a friend to him, a comrade and the person who led him into politics.

Moon was elected a National Assemblyman in the election for the 19th National Assembly, representing Sasang-gu District, Busan. He ran in the 18th presidential election as the sole candidate representing the entire opposition. From 2015 to January 2016, he was the Chairperson of the New Politics Alliance for Democracy, and he retained that position when the party name was changed to the Democratic Party of Korea. In November 2016, he took the initiative in efforts to impeach former President Park Geun-hye and spoke for and stayed together with the people who took part in the candlelight protests from the beginning to the end, lamenting that the country was not functioning properly. A snap presidential election was held following the dismissal of President Park. He ran for the presidency as the candidate of the Democratic Party, declaring that he would uphold the will of the people and help create a new Republic of Korea. On the strength of full support from the public, he won by the widest margin in Korean presidential election history and was elected President for the 19th term.





President of the All New Republic of Korea

Moon Jae-in desires to be the president who unifies the people for the first time in history. Breaking the wall of regional division and going beyond political ideology, he intends to become president of all the people, and bring together a Republic of Korea that has experienced unprecedented political upheavals. He dreams of achieving denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula and of South and North Korea becoming partners that can prosper together. Since changing the world is only possible with support from the people, he is dedicated to communicating and making changes. President Moon is opening the door to a new era when the people become the true master of the country, the new Republic of Korea.

“We need to create a community that embodies respect and unity where each and every one of the people lives in harmony. The Republic of Korea will be changed by the people.”

From the statement dated March 24, 2017 announcing his candidacy for the 19th presidential election





Commentary: Decisive and determined
Moon Jae-in's 100 days will be remembered
 Despite tension between Pyongyang and Washington, Korea President Moon Jae-in paves a formidable leader's way, argues Erik Mostrand.

South Korea just showed the world how to do democracy
 By Nathan Thornburg
 May 25
 He's wary of the United States and wants to get warmer ties with North Korea.

SOUTH KOREA SPECIAL
MONOCLE
INSIDE: EXCLUSIVE! PRESIDENT MOON ON DONALD, KIM JONG-UN AND WATCHING TV WITH HIS CAT
 2018 global art special
RETAIL COMBAT Also one wants to hunt down the recent fashion trends. On the rise with the freshest looks.
BEYOND KIMCHI They're not good that can't be done by Korea's chef.
SIGN ON And that's how you spend time.
LET'S GET TOGETHER It's time to take small steps toward something is possible.
LIFT OFF The answer is yes!
FAST-TRACK NATION Beyond the headlines, South Korea is the new powerhouse for fashion, design and soft-power bibimbap.
INVENTORY London, Shanghai, LA - spot the best new hotels. Plus, our neighborhood for food, fashion and play. And your month's list of good media.

AFFAIRS
 INTERVIEW/PRESIDENT MOON
Crowd pleaser
 South Korea's president Moon Jae-in has been caught in the verbal crossfire between Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un - but quietly got his way and delivered a diplomatic triumph. And he still has time to watch TV with his cat.
 By James Chubb
 Translated by Akira



After the two leaders posed for photos, they crossed briefly into Communist on Page 9

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LEADERS OF TWO KOREAS MEET
Talks to Address Kim's Nuclear Program
 By DAVID E. SANGER and CHRIS CHANG-HOIN SEOKIL, South Korea — Kim Jong-un on Friday became the first North Korean leader to set foot in South Korea since the armistice ending a historic summit meeting with the South's president that will see Mr. Kim's wife agree to bargain away his nuclear weapons.
 Mr. Kim's decision to cross into the world's most heavily armed border zone, a prospect that seemed unthinkable just a few months ago, was broadcast live in South Korea, where a frenzied nation sought to discern the intentions of the North's 34-year-old leader.
 For South Korea's president, Moon Jae-in, who has placed himself at the center of diplomacy to end the nuclear standoff with the North, the meeting promises a tremendous boost, sending a message to the border between a country enemy of the United States.
 The historic encounter at the Peace House, a conference hall in the South Korean enclave of the border village of Panmunjom, could set the scene for an even more critical meeting planned between Mr. Kim and President Trump.
 On Friday morning, Mr. Kim emerged from a North Korean administrative building inside Panmunjom, and walked toward the border line, where Mr. Moon was waiting. The two leaders smiled and shook hands across a crowd that marks the border between North and South Korea.
 Then, Mr. Kim stepped across the border.
 After the two leaders posed for photos, they crossed briefly into Communist on Page 9



President Moon Jae-in of South Korea, left, welcomed Kim Jong-un of the North for a summit meeting on Friday morning as Mr. Kim became the first North Korean leader to cross the border.

Isolated Office Hid V.A. Pick From Scrutiny
 By PETER BAKER and MARGIE HABERMAN
 WASHINGTON — Another

For Many, Life on Team Trump Ends in a Crash
 It's often a brutal journey that leaves some bewildered by the side of the crackle. In only 16 months, Mr. Trump has turned the lives of many under the

Südkoreas Präsident lädt Putin zum Besuch seines Landes ein
 Projekt Südkorea

Toward People-Centered ASEAN Community

South Korean president: 'I believe Trump did a lot to bring North and South Korea together'

South Korea's Winter Olympics ahead of schedule
 December 13th, 2017
 The Winter Olympics are ahead of schedule, NBC News and South Korea correspondent Richard Engel reports for TODAY from Seoul

Reuters praises Seoul's diplomatic efforts for peace at 2018 Olympics

What's News
 Goldman's Trading T



South Korea's Jimping, S

Enriching Lives in the Republic of Korea

Major Achievements Following Inauguration

May 10

Inaugurated as President of the Republic of Korea



June 12

Announced a supplementary budget for job creation and the conversion of non-regular workers to regular workers

June 28 ~ July 1

Paid a visit to the United States and held a summit with the U.S. President

July 5~8

Paid a state visit to Germany (New Berlin Declaration announced) and participated in the G20 Summit

2017

July 19

Unveiled the Five-year Plan for the Administration of State Affairs and 100 Policy Tasks



July 25

Announced the plan for a paradigm shift to a people-centered economy

August 2

Announced a real estate policy focused on laying the foundation for stable housing prices for low-income families

August 9

Announced policies related to health insurance

August 16

Unveiled plans for the provision of allowances for children and basic pensions for the elderly

August 17

Held a press conference marking the 100th day after inauguration



September 6

Paid a visit to Russian President and held a summit with the Russian President

September 7

Participated in the 3rd Eastern Economic Forum and announced the New Northern Policy at the Far Eastern Federal University in Russia

September 18 ~ 22

Participated in the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly in New York as part of “peace diplomacy”

September 18

Announced a new system through which the state takes responsibility for dementia patients as part of the so-called Moon Jae-in Care

October 18

Announced the five-year roadmap for job creation

October 24

Announced an energy policy shift with the focus on phasing out nuclear power plants

November 7 ~ 8

Held a summit with US President Trump on the occasion of his state visit to Korea



November 8 ~ 15

Attended the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and visited several Southeast Asian countries, declaring the New Southern Policy at the Indonesia-Korea Business Forum

November 29

Announced the housing stabilization roadmap

December 13 ~ 16

Paid a visit to China and held a summit with the Chinese President

2018

January 1

Minimum wage increase came into effect, and employment stabilization funds disbursed

January 9

Inter-Korean high-level talks held



January 10

Held a New Year Press Conference

February 9 ~ 25

The PyeongChang Winter Olympics

April 27

Peace, A New Start-2018 Inter-Korean Summit



May 22

Paid a visit to the United States and held a summit with the U.S. President



May 26

The second Inter-Korean Summit



Toward a Mature, Grassroots Democracy

The primary task of President Moon was to restore Korea's crumbled democracy. His Administration, that set off without the benefit of a transitional period, made endeavors to listen to the unfiltered voices of the people. To this end, the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Presidential Transition was formed, and Gwanghwamun 1st Street went into operation as an on-and-offline communication channel through which citizens could suggest policy ideas. Unprecedentedly, President Moon personally reflected 99 out of about 180,000 proposals in his Administration's policy tasks. In addition, the website of Cheong Wa Dae was also overhauled to function as a communication platform with the public in line with the President's principle that the Government has to answer the questions of the people. Grabbing the attention of the world by announcing the nuclear phase-out policy, President Moon gave an instruction that a public deliberation should be held on the construction of shin kori nuclear reactors 5 and 6. In reference to this, *The Diplomat* wrote on October 27, 2017, "On the other hand, South Korea is in the middle of moving

from its traditional representative democracy, with an imperial presidency, toward a more open and participatory democratic system." The resolution of historic problems to meet the expectations of the people constitutes the very first step toward realizing social justice and forward-looking social cohesion. President Moon is now making his best efforts to get to the bottom of matters related to the May 18 Democratization Movement by establishing a special investigation committee. With the President taking the initiative and the public rendering strong support, the nation is now moving forward toward a genuine democracy. With regard to these efforts, *Asia Times* wrote on December 15, 2017, "Korea is one of the nations that economists often cite when speaking of up and coming economic engines in Asia. Given that, and in view of its rising political verve, Seoul may well be on its way to becoming a true middle power." On November 8, 2017, *The Financial Times* also wrote, "South Korea, on the other hand, is a shining example of liberal democracy at a time when authoritarianism is on the rise everywhere, especially across Asia."



A Peaceful Korean Peninsula, A Common Path Toward Prosperity

The principle of President Moon, who was dubbed the Willy Brandt of Korea by *Der Spiegel* on May 13, 2017, is to prioritize the peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula. To achieve this principle, President Moon dispatched special envoys to the United States, China, Japan and Russia as soon as he was inaugurated. He also established multilateral diplomatic relations through the New Northern Policy encompassing Russia and Mongolia and the New Southern Policy, which he started with his visit to Indonesia. This shows the fact that President Moon prioritizes practical interest over ideology. Through balanced diplomacy, the Republic of Korea further strengthened its cooperation with the United States while simultaneously working to resolve conflict with China. This led *The Atlantic* to comment in its July 19, 2017 issue, “Yet Roh’s former chief of staff Moon Jae-in may have the chance to elevate South Korea into the precise role Roh predicted: a balancer of interests for China and the United States over the Korean Peninsula.” These efforts gradually eased tensions on the Korean Peninsula, about which *The Economist* reported on December 20, 2017, “South Korea has had an extraordinary year, enduring threats from its missile-wielding northern neighbor with calm and grace... As all this was going on, South Korea had to cope with a crisis at home as well.” The Moon Jae-in Administration’s foreign policy has garnered many such favorable reports from the international media.

The Straits Times carried a report on December 27, 2017 stating, North Korea’s participation in the PyeongChang Winter Olympics in February 2018 served as a catalyst to bring “Spring on the Korean Peninsula.” The North actively responded to the message of peace, prosperity and reconciliation proffered by President Moon Jae-in. During the Winter Olympics, performances by the North Korean art troupe were staged in Seoul and Gangneung. Afterward, the South Korean art troupe also visited North Korea and put on concerts for the citizens of Pyongyang.

On April 27, the inter-Korean summit was finally held on the southern side of Panmunjeom. The leaders of South and North Korea held hands and stepped back and forth over the Military Demarcation Line (MDL), pledging to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula and defuse tensions. Witnessing every step of their move broadcast live, some 2,000 Korean and foreign journalists gathered at the inter-Korean press center erupted in applause and cheering. *The Wall Street Journal* devoted its front-page headline to this historic moment under the title, “North Korea’s Kim Takes a Historic Step South.” There might be a myriad of challenges lying ahead on the journey toward the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, the march toward peace is expected to continue while weathering all difficulties.



Realizing a People-Centered Economy

President Moon Jae-in, who always stresses people-centered policies, had the Presidential Committee on Jobs established as his first official instruction after his inauguration. This shows the President's determination to resolve the employment issue without fail.

He held an informal meeting with business leaders over beer, and carefully listened to labor leaders during a meeting with them at Cheong Wa Dae, garnering praise from the people and showing an attitude that defines a true leader.

President Moon is striving to make the Government reflect the principle that protecting the health and lives of the people is the most basic duty of a nation.

By doing so, the President is continuing his work to realize a people-centered economy. At the same time, global investors are showing confidence in investing in Korea. *Reuters reported on October 26, 2017,*

that “gross domestic product rose 1.4 percent in the third quarter from the previous quarter... The stellar numbers show Asia's fourth largest economy riding a surge in global demand for memory chips, which has cushioned the blow to tourism and retail from diplomatic tensions between China and South Korea over a U.S. missile defense system.”

Furthermore, *on November 24, 2017, Bloomberg reported,* “Global investors in South Korean debt have found a sweet spot amid a recent lull in geopolitical tensions on the peninsula.”

The Wall Street Journal reported on December 28, 2017, that South Korea, threatened by nuclear brinkmanship, was one of the three hottest stock markets of 2017. This could be proof that President Moon's people-centered economic policy was moving the economy in the right direction.



Building a Country with an Improved Quality of Life

The Republic of Korea took the world by surprise by achieving remarkable economic growth known as ‘the Miracle on the Han River’, and is now approaching an era of \$30,000 in per capita income. President Moon is now pushing a “people-centered” policy rather than aiming for mere numeric targets. He is working to achieve an inclusive welfare state where anyone, not just the wealthy, can enjoy a high quality of life.

On January 10, 2018, President Moon highlighted the people-centered economy at his New Year Press Conference and unveiled concrete action plans to raise the quality of life. To bring about qualitative changes in employment rather than just quantitative growth in the number of people employed, the President has actively pushed policies to convert irregular workers to regular workers. As the first achievement of the initiative, some irregular workers in the public sector became regular workers. He also brought about a large increase in the minimum wage to help narrow the excessive gap in wages and moved to reduce working hours. In addition, he improved the coverage provided by the national

health insurance system to ensure stability in life and initiated a state system that will take care of dementia patients. He has also inspected a system to manage the aftermath of catastrophic accidents. Initiatives to increase the number of national and public childcare centers and raise child benefits are also being pursued as part of policies to support childrearing. In regard to President Moon’s endeavors to improve the overall quality of life in Korea, *The Financial Times* reported on August 29, 2017, “South Korea has proposed a record \$380bn budget for 2018 as the Government seeks to address growing concerns about the quality of life and work in Asia’s fourth-largest economy.

The spending plan represents a 7 per cent increase from the 2017 budget and is the biggest year-on-year increase since 2009 when South Korea was hit by the global financial crisis.” President Moon does not undertake policies to overhaul the entire country simply for the sake of grand national project-making. Rather, his policies that carefully touch the lives of the people will fundamentally and positively transform the Republic of Korea.



A Year-long Fulfillment by the Moon Jae-in Administration Together with the People

“It is the people that are now transforming the world. It is also the people that are making a just Republic of Korea. I join forces with them. I will never forget the fact that the people helped found the Moon Jae-in Administration.”

From the message dated May 10, 2018
President Moon Jae-in Marking
the First Anniversary of His Inauguration.



A President who keeps his promise with the people

President Moon selected and announced the 100 policy tasks right after his inauguration. It was his promise to the people to implement 100 innovations for the development of the country. The most notable achievements were the inter-Korean summit and the Panmunjeom Declaration for peace on the Korean Peninsula. It was because the most significant promise with the people was “peace.” In addition, the promises in various areas related to popular sovereignty, the economy, security and welfare are being realized.

On the economy, the Moon Jae-in Administration is aiming at achieving people-centered growth. The maximum number of weekly working hours was reduced from 68 to 52, and policies to create jobs are being executed. With the Five-Year Roadmap on Job Creation announced in October 2017, a total of 810,000 public sector jobs have been created or upgraded. The minimum wage was increased 16.4 percent through an agreement among labor, management and the Government, which is expected to improve the quality of life.

A major achievement in welfare is Moon Jae-in Care. The number of medical services not covered by the national health insurance was reduced while extra charges paid to see more experienced doctors were abolished in order to decrease actual medical expense. The national health

insurance coverage was also expanded to apply to some medical examinations for certain diseases. A policy of having the Government take responsibility for 720,000 dementia patients to lessen the burden of their families is being implemented, and a customized housing welfare system was employed to provide public rental houses for young people, newlyweds and ordinary people without home ownership.

Creating fair relations between large companies and small and medium-sized enterprises, bold regulatory innovation, strong autonomy and decentralization for local governments, boosting the economy in local areas, and carrying out urban renewal projects are the areas into which the Moon Jae-in Administration closely looked over the past one year. The establishment of the Presidential Committee on Autonomy and Decentralization and the provision of new assistance and aid for industrial diversification for areas where local industries are under restructuring, including Gunsan and Tongyeong, are efforts to revive the local economy.

Keeping promises with the people is not an option but a duty. As the Administration is fulfilling its duty entrusted to it by the people, it intends to strive to live up to its motto step by step “opportunities will be equitable, the process will be fair and the result will be just.”



“Passion. Connected.” – PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games

After the Opening Ceremony of the PyeongChang Winter Olympics, *The Washington Post* wrote on February 9, “With artful simplicity and an earnest message, the Opening Ceremonies delivered on its intent to make peace the star Friday night. It was aspirational, dreamy, idyllic... And then the Korean nations upped the peace ante simply by walking into a stadium together for about four minutes.”

The PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games are touted as one of the most successful events in Olympic history. Some 50,000 athletes from 92 countries gave a thumbs up to the excellent facilities, extraordinary operations and extra-caring services. Importantly, the whole world hailed the message of peace jointly delivered by South and North Korea that have been at loggerheads with each other over the past seven decades.

The formation of a unified inter-Korean team has been consistently pursued by President Moon since he was a presidential candidate. It began to come into sight when Chairman of the State Affairs Commission Kim Jong Un accepted a proposal to participate in the PyeongChang Olympics. After close consultations in Panmunjeom and Lausanne, Switzerland, South and North Korea reached an agreement to field a joint inter-Korean women’s ice hockey team as well as to have their athletes parade together under a single flag during the Opening Ceremony.

The visit to the South by the North Korean art troupe and cheerleaders helped open the gate for improving inter-Korean relations. The 140-member art troupe from the North staged special performances in Gangneung and

Seoul, creating an ambience of harmony. The North Korean art troupe was warmly welcomed everywhere by South Koreans who chanted for unification. The unified women’s ice hockey team seized the spotlight at every competition, and the team’s good fight helped unite both South and North Korean cheering squads as one.

Following the art troupe and cheering squad, a delegation of high-ranking North Korean officials also paid a visit to the South in the capacity of special envoys of Chairman Kim. The delegation, led by President of the Presidium of the Supreme People’s Assembly Kim Yong Nam, included Kim Yo Jong, First Vice Department Director of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party. Staying in the South for three days, they held close consultations with President Moon and other government officials.

Numerous foreign media outlets reported these moments of inter-Korean reconciliation as the main news. *The Washington Post* wrote on February 9, “It was a moment that was unimaginable on Monday. But on Friday, it was reality. The South Korean president, Moon Jae-in, shaking hands with a member of North Korean royalty, ‘First Sister’ Kim Yo Jong. Both of them with smiles on their faces.” One reason why the PyeongChang Winter Olympics was rated as a success was that it helped plant a seed of peace on the Korean Peninsula, which was yearned for by the Korean people, thereby beginning “South Korea’s renaissance: From ruins of Korean War to hosting ‘Peace Olympics’” as described by the title of an article in *USA Today* on February 9.



Peace, A New Start

2018 Inter-Korean Summit

“When peace is established, unification will be realized naturally someday through an agreement between the South and the North. What my Administration and I would like to realize is only peace.” (From the speech by President Moon Jae-in at the Körber Foundation in Germany)

After the North's participation in the PyeongChang Winter Olympics, a South Korean art troupe visited Pyongyang in April, bringing the two sides one step closer. On April 27, 2018, the inter-Korean summit was held at Peace House, which sits on the South Korean side of Panmunjeom, and the historic summit signaled to the world a new start of peace on the Korean Peninsula. The leaders of the two Koreas held hands from both sides of the MDL, and Chairman Kim stepped across the line to become the first North Korean leader who has come to the South side since the division. On this, *AP reported on April 27* under the title “Kim Jong Un steps across Korean border, makes history,” and *BBC wrote on April 28*, “Friday's dramatic meeting between South Korean President Moon Jae-in and his North Korean counterpart, Chairman Kim Jong-un, represents an unambiguous historic breakthrough...”

After their meeting in the morning, the two leaders took a stroll on the Footbridge (“Dobodari” in Korean) to the point where a signpost of the MDL stands. During this “surreal first date” between the two leaders as *described by CNN*, they conversed for a long time. After concluding the afternoon talks, the two leaders read the Panmunjeom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula and announced their common goals of “declaring an end to

the War, turning the armistice into a peace treaty...realizing, through complete denuclearization, a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula.”

First of all, they agreed to “pursue trilateral meetings involving the two Koreas and the United States, or quadrilateral meetings involving the two Koreas, the United States and China with a view to...establishing a permanent and solid peace regime.” The two sides also came to an agreement to cease “all hostile acts and eliminating their means, including broadcasting through loudspeakers and distribution of leaflets, in the areas along the Military Demarcation Line.” In addition, they agreed “to turn the areas around the Northern Limit Line in the West Sea into a maritime peace zone in order to prevent accidental military clashes...”

The two leaders decided to establish a joint liaison office in the Gaeseong region and proceed with reunion programs for families separated by the Korean War. They also agreed to regularize the inter-Korean summit and promised to achieve denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula while installing a hotline and closely and frequently communicating with each other.

As such, the Moon Jae-in Administration's Korean Peninsula policies under the banner of “Peace First” and “Mutual Respect” are proceeding in an orderly manner. The seeds of peace scattered around the Peninsula are leading to the fruit of peace in Northeast Asia, going beyond the prosperity of the two Koreas.



Moon Jae-in

President of the Republic of Korea

Date of Birth
January 24, 1953

Place of Birth
Geoje Island, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Korea

Marital Status
Married to Kim Jung-sook with a son, a daughter
and two grandsons

Education

1980 LL.B., Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea

1971 Graduated from Kyungnam High School, Busan, Korea

Professional Career

2017 President of the Republic of Korea

2017 Presidential candidate of the Democratic Party of Korea for the 19th presidential election

2015 Chairperson of the Democratic Party of Korea

2014 Member of Interim Committee of the New Politics Alliance for Democracy

Chairperson of the Nuclear Plant Special Countermeasure Committee

2013 Standing Advisor of the Democratic United Party

2012 Candidate of the Democratic United Party for the 18th presidential election

Member of the 19th National Assembly from Sasang-gu, Busan

2011 Standing Co-representative for Innovation and Integration

2010 Chairperson of the Roh Moo-hyun Foundation

2007 Chief of Staff to the President of the Republic of Korea

Chairperson of the Promotion Committee for the 2nd South-North Summit

2005 Senior Secretary to the President for Civil Affairs

2004 Senior Secretary to the President for the Civic and Social Agenda

2003 Senior Secretary to the President for Civil Affairs

1982 Opened a law office specializing in human rights and civil society with Roh Moo-hyun, who became the President of Korea for the 16th term

Publication

2011 *Mun Jae-inui Unmyeong* (Moon Jae-in's Destiny)

2012 *Sarami Meonjeoda* (People Come First)

2012 *Moon Jae-ini Deurimnida* (Presented to You by Moon Jae-in)

2013 *Ggeuchi Sijagida* (The End is the Beginning)

2017 *Daehanmingugi Munneunda* (Questions from the Republic of Korea)

2017 *Unmeyong-eseo Huimang-euro* (From Destiny to Hope)



Together with children and their teachers invited to Cheong Wa Dae on Children's Day (May 5, 2018)



<http://www.president.go.kr>



<http://twitter.com/TheBlueHouseKR>



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<http://youtube.com/TheBlueHouseKR>



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