

# S. Korea

## World Premier Asset





## OPINION

In 1953, a country that was in ruins right after the war became the current 8th power of the world in less than 70 years, or Korea emerges as a superpower competing for the world's G2 place in 20 years,

# what do you find the most difficult?

The first will seem more impractical and almost impossible. This is a case that has not been preceded in the history of mankind and has become an example of the rise of mankind, which is difficult to hope for in the future.

This is the story behind the Chinese Sai Weng said that a difficulty can be a blessing in disguise and vice versa. "Who knows what is good for a person in life? Indeed, none of us knows what the future holds. A hardship can have positive effects and prosperity can have negative effects.

In the historical trend that Korea is rapidly becoming the center of the world, whether in the market for smartphones or electronic products, in the field of cultural content for films, music or theater, or in the market of the high technology such as semiconductors or Internet technology, Korea is already a country of the world, now the brand. As with the recent friction with Japan, Korea has become so strong that Japan can no longer compete with Korea in terms of physical strength and international political fighting power. And in the process of overcoming the ongoing pandemic, Korea has received the most reliable global assessment with the highest technology and the safest and most stable domestic operational capability. The country called Korea is emerging as a luxury brand. (Ô)

The following article is written by Choi Sang-gi

University of Zurich, Switzerland  
This report examines the relationship between ethnic IQ and national income and growth.

The highest IQ in the world  
1st in Korea,  
2nd place in Japan,  
3rd, Taiwan  
4th, Singapore  
5th, Germany  
6th, Netherlands  
7th, Austria  
He leads 8th place in Italy.



Until the 1960s, the nation with the best brains in the world were cited the Jews. The reason is that

it was before Asia appeared in Western world history. Jews appeared in Western history and became active in the Rothschild family, which dominated the business world in Europe and controlled 90% of the world diamond market. The Oppenheimer family, which has been in control for 100 years, is a prime example. However, as the economic development of Korea and China accelerates after Japan, a midbrain assessment showed that the Jewish race was far behind.

Readers are familiar with the Los Angeles Black Riots. Before the black riots in LA, a trial was held in an LA court in the United States for Koreans in Koreatown, LA about 10 years ago.

The complainants were Jews. It is said that the Jews, who had advanced in the distribution of fish and the distribution of food in the United States and Europe, could not do business at all because of the Koreans who had settled in Los Angeles. When I went to the wholesale market to buy fresh fish and vegetables at 5 a.m., Koreans were out at 4 a.m. The Jews got out at 4 a.m., and the Koreans got out at 3 a.m. and lined up. When the Jews also came out at 3 a.m., the Koreans brought blankets the day before and sat down ahead of time. Tired of Koreans, these Jews - they couldn't do business because of the yellow monkeys - filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for violating the fair trade law, but lost. However, I didn't think it was wrong to say that it is because of judicial fairness that the United States is hanging on.

**There are concrete reasons why Korea has the highest average IQ in the world.**

### 1. Excellence at Hangeul.

The excellence of Hangeul is difficult to express. Compared to Japan or the United States and China, the character generation speed when sitting in front of the computer reaches seven times. In other words, when the Japanese and the Chinese write 100 pages of science and technology texts. Koreans do 700 pages in Hangeul. Although science and technology do not become arithmetic, the accumulation of productivity is indescribable.

Hyundai's competitiveness would be able to beat the opponent if it is only 10% higher. At 10% competitiveness, the Koreans are already scoring huge points on the excellence of Hangeul.

### 2. Great enthusiasm for education

High population density. Due to the great zeal for education, in Korea even the most gangsters can express their opinions in writing unless they are mentally weak. As a result, the information delivery capacity given per unit of time and the information highway are the most robust.

Moreover, due to the high population density, the information superhighway stacked like a spider's web has made it the most powerful country on the internet and has the ability to rotate the brain and acquire data information with the fastest Internet.

As Koreans know, brain development is slow because they grow up on their own or have little opportunity to interact with people. The high population density causes many problems, but it also has these advantages.

### 3. Topography of Korea.

It is well known that the area where the brain is most developed is a place with four distinct seasons. Hot when it's hot and cold when it's cold is the best place. However, it is not good to be too hot or too cold. In particular, from Nasan (the eastern peninsula), the Northeast Asian region is said to have the best medicinal efficacy among all the plants. Wild ginseng certainly exists in southwest China and the Americas. However, wild ginseng from the Americas, including southwest China, is inferior in medicinal properties to the 10-year-old bellflower in Korea. The reason why Korean medicines are more expensive and preferred than Chinese medicine in oriental medicine is not only because of the exchange rate problem, but also because of their medicinal effectiveness. It's because the soil is so good.

### 4. Korean traditional culture.

A representative example is the culture of the spoon and the chopstick. As people who use chopsticks, Japan and China use them, but in China and Japan only chopsticks are used and not spoons at the same time. From childhood, the development of the nerves of the fingers is greatly improved. As a result, brain cells develop rapidly from childhood. Moreover, it can be said that this is the reason why the Republic of Korea stands out the most in all the aspects that require a keen sense at your fingertips.

When you go to an American supermarket and the American cashier is working, the Americans leave. This is because the American cashier is too long to calculate the change of currency. If there is a queue, customers will definitely return. However, when I go to a Korean-run supermarket, there is no one in line. It is not because the trade is not working. There are more customers, but there is no need to queue because the calculation ends instantly.

When Koreans see a banker counting money in a Korean bank, they think it is an ordinary case, but when a foreigner visits Korea for the first time and goes to a bank, it is considered a sort of magic or art. Is it a human being? Oh, how wonderful! ~ There is no one in their country or elsewhere in Europe who counts money as a Korean ghost.

## CAPITAL OF THE WORLD 2036?



John Titor's prophecy for the 2036 map



map of the ancient 4th century, which was documented in Handangogi

## Non-Korean alien John Titor's prophecy of a united Korea in 2036

A prophecy about Korea published by John Titor that he time traveled from the future in 2036 has heated the internet. Soon Korea will rule Manchuria as well as the interior of divided China, and Japan will become a colony of Korea! The map is very similar to the ancient map in the 4th century, which has been documented at Handangogi (a compilation of texts on ancient Korean history). No one would be too confident, but hopeful for Koreans to have such bright expectations and aspiration for unification ...

### The true story of John Titor.

John Titor called Hall Radio of the United States and said he traveled in a time machine from the future in 2036, and came at a high price in 2000 to find a solution to a problem in the future as a member of the US military. Since strange listeners often made funny jokes ... at first glance it sounded like a lie, but at first viewers thought it was a joke and asked questions to keep up. However, the responses were too coherent and contained too precise scientific, historical and social information to be dismissed as a joke or a lie. Later, even the stingy presenter came to believe he was in fact from the future, and hundreds of thousands of Americans who heard the public interview, which lasted about 50 minutes, believed he was in fact someone who flew from the future to the past in a machine age.

Even today in 2021, they believe it actually came from the future on a time machine.

### He mentioned Korea during the interview ...

John Titor said the situation in Asia in 2036, where he currently lives, looks like this map. South Korea, which became a global superpower in 2036, absorbed much of Chinese territory and all of Vietnam, and Japan as a colony. Looking at this map, some will say: This is ridiculous. How can Korea become such a powerful country? Having Japan, one of the most powerful countries, as a colony ... sounds like a psychopath. It's easy to see a reaction that ridicules Koreans by telling them that they will become the most powerful country in the world in the near future.

An everyday prankster wouldn't last ten minutes in front of real scientists ready to unravel his story. However, according to The Guardian, "Titor has stood up to skeptical physicists." He even shared detailed diagrams and photographs of his time machine, all of which were surprisingly convincing. It soon became clear that if this guy John Titor was a prankster, he'd at least done his homework.

### HE CAME BACK TO POST A SERIOUS WARNING ON CNN

While most people doubt that John Titor is truly a time traveler, there are those who still believe, and he may have even returned several times. The most notable example came on November 30, 2010, when a user calling himself John Titor issued a terrifying warning over CNN's iReport feature, frantically warning the United States not to go to war with the North Korea. Titor explained that the conflict would be a horrible mistake, which would lead to the annihilation of half of the United States. Many young Koreans believe this will become a reality in the near future, and the reality is causing a remarkable change now that the Covid-19 situation is stabilizing. In fact, there were many others besides John Titor that Korea would become the most powerful country in the world around 2040.

Jim Rogers, known as the world's three biggest investors, has consistently argued through his books

and lectures for almost 11 years now that in the very near future Korea will overtake China and Japan as well as advanced countries such as Germany and will emerge as the most powerful country in the world comparable to the United States. And also what Jim Rogers predicted was the fall of Japan. Around 2040, Japan will become a completely failing country economically, the government will lose its function and the country will be reduced to one of the worst criminal cities in the country, so Jim Rogers warned you to buy a gun quickly or leave Japan while you still have the option. He didn't just say what he said, he sold all of the Japanese assets he owned, such as Japanese stocks and real estate.

Therefore, as the map above shows, a scenario in which Korea absorbs Japan, which has completely lost its nation function, just as large, strong companies acquire economically struggling small companies, is a sufficiently feasible prediction. . The case of Vietnam is also quite convincing as in the case of the Japanese colony.

In addition to Jim Rogers, Goldman Sachs of Wall Street in the United States has also predicted in previous economic outlook reports that it will become a G2 country along with the Korean United States. As with human life, the situation in the world is constantly changing. 250 years ago there was no country like the United States, 100 years ago there was neither Germany, such a power, nor Saudi Arabia. 60 years ago, South Korea was the poorest country in the world. North Korea had a much more favorable condition. It was a poor country that couldn't even be compared to countries like the Philippines and Cambodia, which were quite wealthy at the time. But today, it is a wealthy and powerful country that ranks in the top 10 in the world.

If someone around 1960 said that in the next 60 years Korea would overtake Japan in the global electronics market and become supreme in the global shipping market, 5th for automobiles and 6th military power, and TV dramas and movies, people all over the world will sing Korean songs in Korean, watch Korean movies with their families at home, and Korea will become one of the 10 most prosperous countries in the world, it was said that he was mad. Who would believe such an absurd dream?



## CITIZEN DMZ



Bee Chapel par l'artiste Terrence Koh

# 70 YEARS

## after the Korean War (1950-53)

Every time lost I press DMZ and  
I know where my spirit is ...  
It is my GPS

- To Our DMZ Citizens -

First of all, I see my local fellow citizens: DMZ architecture, multi-service, production, IT, no rating or review, IT consultant 9000 km away ... Virtual DMZs provide me online repairs. A concrete existence in a divided territory of 4 km wide by 243 km for almost 70 years and yet another virtual interconnection to our citizens of the world. IT protection with Proxis, Firewall in private networks or trading partners comes from the word DMZ (demilitarized zone) of the 2 Koreas. Here is the capital of the world cookies, our veterans, the missing, the refugees escaping from the North, the migrants beaten by dictators, the orphans, the victims of discrimination, denaturalization, stateless, the refugees of the world. This is the connected empire of the globe to be invited to vote. DMZ is our virtual nation's newborn being in an extra-territorial.

We would not need ideological conflicts in neutralized space. Mountain of Switzerland in Asia without nuclear weapons but supervised by all the powers of the world. The sanctuary for refugees, migrants, multi-religions, physical or psycho nomads ... our global nation DMZ is the reserve of an anonymous refuge. A DMZ virtual passport is initially reserved for the first hundred

Elite Ambassadors who spread the virus of the righteous and consolidates the global community by the vote of the world cookies ... Not requiring the qualification, the nationality, the locality, the age ... but democratic common sense!

A vast DMZ area buried with mines is inaccessible for human beings to live. But several areas in projects could accommodate elites of migrants and refugees to build the satellites (under discussion). A key step must act for the opening DMZ of closed connections by taking advantage of a resource break from the heart of the dynamism in Asia. If you practice mobile apps, the voice of your nation is ours.

Expulsion of 9,000 migrants in Ceuta / Melilla, Spain on May 17, 2021, +140,000 new illegal arrivals in southern Italy since early 2021. Several million migrants from Africa, the rush to Europe in the 21st century. The suicide of the French and Europeans by the migration crisis is a daily controversy in the medias ... The DMZ empire invites our citizens of the world to share mutual prosperity. Our story overcomes the tragic circumstances that unfold across geographies. Our nation is no longer limited to a territory but rather a geopolitical consent.

## CITIZEN DMZ

# DMZ (Demilitarized Zone)



## DMZ is Proxy, Firewall for IT

**If you want to get out of prison you need the key to the lock, and if you can't get it, have courage and tenacity. Social and economic problems were not problems of the will, but problems of the spirit.**  
(by Trille Lionel)

full of new realistic ideas. The megalopolis gives quick access to mountainous regions and superb natural parks too.

English required, Korean advised and aged between 18 and 30 on the day you apply to join the WHP (H-1 Visa) available for some countries each year. Mastering at least the basics of Korean is a real plus. Practicing Korean while traveling through the various Apps, Google translation or Google Lens will no longer displace you. In Japanese there are 5,000 ideograms, whereas it suffices to master 46 signs in Korean to be able to read and write a name. And these simple basics will open doors, a local friendship and in particular to find a job, to do language tutoring.

Léa was firstly fascinated by North Korea and she was very curious to learn more about such a mysterious country. Léa says in her site [souslecieldecoree.fr](http://souslecieldecoree.fr) "I did not understand how a country could still live in total autarky today, living completely cut off from the world. This is how I started to learn more about North Korea , Korean traditional culture, Korean food and language ... "

(\* Léa has two Youtube: Leadventure, Jeolla Go)

When hired by a French or multinational company in South Korea, the foreigner needs to know what Koreans think about work; how are cooperative networks formed and what misunderstandings can arise in interactions between Koreans and 157k Americans, 86k Japanese, 401k Chinese (total of 2 million expatriates) in Korea. Knowledge of recent Korean history is important, tensions in the DMZ, Japanese colonization 1910-45, the Korean War 1950-53, the disturbances of the military dictatorship of Park Chung-hee and uprisings in Gwangju 5.18 (1980), the perpetual movements of democracy ... are still shaping the attitudes of workers. One must also consider its response to the social phenomenon of evolved feminism and NGO activities in Korea. This means that newcomers need to know a bit about gender relations in Korea, both in the Confucian tradition and more recently in the Americanized Korean and Yugyo Talibans culture against Confucius

likely the BTS origin.

Recently, foreigners might find themselves facing high tension issues with Japan; national movements 'Boycott of Japanese Goods', 'Dokdo Island is Korean Territory' and 'WWII Comfort Women' as well as 300 missing ghosts of Thai workers, and with recent attempts by the government to exclude immigrants who are positive for human immunodeficiency virus. Doing this well will require that the foreigners know something about the history of Korean attitudes on race, morality, and sexuality. The practical adaptation of entering the lives of people from other nations is informed by the individual assistance of Youtubes and Apps.

The real Léa struggled to settle in Gwangju and in the island of Geoje, and the employer relations with her new context (restaurant and guesthouse work visa, Vlogger activities) were not always very fruitful. Lover of travels in 28 countries, persevering and curious, however, she settled and recently made herself a good interpreter of the cultural difference by launching the 'City Tour Bus from Sunchang to Damyang to discover Metasequoia-lined Road'. She now plans to spend her life in South Korea, and she believes that she is making a valuable contribution to South Korea and France.

She then faced challenges of a very different kind. Even in the most seemingly universal activities of daily life, cultural difference colors her day. Not only the obstacle of the Korean language but also with the Jeollado Saturi dialect of the mother of the restaurant owner Gwangju ...

If international debates on human rights, medical and agricultural issues related to climate change, ethnic and gender relations with migrants, are to advance as we live in the 21st century. An individual, even if not a multinational company or an international organization, lives globally connected by mobile apps and new communications technologies. Even provincial towns like Gwangju, Geoje Island, Sunchang, she could have challenged foreign workers from South Asia who replaced the locals in the fields of manufacturing, agriculture, food industry.

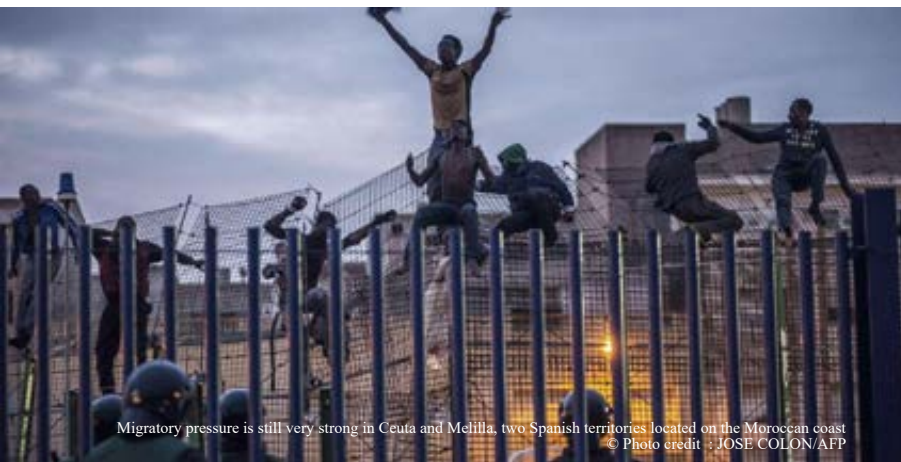
(written by Hyong-jin KWON)

Working Holiday Visa in South Korea, less known than Japan, it is one of the most exotic WHV, but it impresses you every day with an exponential dynamism and the value of Korean culture of the 21st century. The futuroscope capital, Seoul, is the world's first destination of renowned multi-platforms since the coronavirus, which is even more modern than Tokyo. English is relatively common in Seoul. Taking a ride in the metro allows you to experience modernity

# MORAL OBLIGATION



**The Empire DMZ**  
"We can no longer limit our country to territory, it is the entire planet."



Migratory pressure is still very strong in Ceuta and Melilla, two Spanish territories located on the Moroccan coast  
© Photo credit : JOSE COLON/AFP

**"Fortress Europe"**  
**Ceuta and Melilla: two Spanish enclaves in Morocco under high tension**

Spain has exercised its sovereignty over Ceuta since 1580 and over Melilla since 1496. But in 1993, the country entered the European Union. Ceuta and Melilla then become landlocked European territories in the heart of Morocco.

We must educate workers who can function as global citizens with sensitivity and understanding of the world. When asked where he was from, the ancient Greek cynic Diogenes replied, "I am a citizen of the world." By that he meant that he refused to be defined simply by his local origins in the Greek self-image; he wanted to define himself in terms of more universal aspirations and concerns. In the 21st century, a territory is not reserved for a particular country of origin. Each individual qualifies his residence temporarily or permanently according to his rights authorized by the source of his moral and social obligations. When it comes to fundamental moral values such as justice, we must regard all human beings as our fellow citizens and local residents. We are living in the age of legal cosmopolitans.

Humanity has just started to see the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel and completely freeing itself from the challenges of this health crisis is a complex process that requires time, patience, but also taking appropriate initiatives. The DMZ has been fully patient in balancing the ideological and political equation, monitoring the enemy-brothers of the same ethnicity in real time and meeting any challenges that the "next day" may

hold. Realistically, heavy weapons, including mortars, anti-tank guns and multiple rocket guns, are extensively deployed in the DMZ. Numerous debates and policies on project initiatives such as DMZ World Peace Park, a cooperative zone in the North and South for more than a decade, are in a bubble of discussions since the powers do not belong to 2 Koreas rather to the United Nations (South) and China (North). The DMZ objectivity must take place with the mutual prosperity of 2 Koreas, which are advantageous exemplary security measures, against all odds. When countries, despite their differences in political status, think functionally rather than politically, they focus more on how to optimize space and connect them to global markets.

## DMZ, Golden Door 'ASIAN DREAM'

Transport infrastructure and DMZ projects by migrants and refugees likely current

Myanmaris can liberate it and transform our global system of dividing nations into connections. I realize that it seems likely that through migrants and refugees, our citizens will steer the DMZ liberation as long as the area is controlled by the powers of the world. South Korea is the economic hub of Florissant East Asia. Shifting the migration crisis from the Old Continent to the DMZ is conceivable in order to ease tensions and neutralize the political steering of 2 Koreas as scapegoats. I am sure that the 2 Koreas and Almighty will adapt to current situations, by offering attractive "packages" to migrants so that they can taste Korean hospitality, humanity, education, health, security and technologies ensuring the legitimate justice of the globe.

### DMZ Spirit

- Proxy, firewall world security
- Sacrifice on the globe
- Mutual prosperity
- Geopolitical consent by cookies of the world
- Against injustice
- Digitally vote





## OPINION

world cookies e-citizen

# DMZ

## Beyond the Panmunjom Wall

In the north of the 'Game of Thrones' wall, the haunted forest, a vast, mostly wild, unexplored forest stretches across the most remote lands of the Thenns populated by the free people. Beyond the Panmunjom Wall, the Korean Demilitarized Zone, abbreviated as DMZ (from English demilitarized zone), created on July 27, 1953 during the signing of the armistice of P'anmunjom, is a narrow strip of land serving buffer zone between the two Koreas. The last frontier of the Cold War covers the north lands of the Wall. It remains the only region of the last sovereign dictator.

Through smartphone technology, K-dramas and K-POPs, rumors quickly circulated in the North that South Koreans enjoy prosperity, with happy family life, unlike washing-up -brain-education in the North, rumors mainly disseminated by the escapees from the North for whom the lands of the South are 'The Golden Door' of the free world.

The citizens of the North refer to themselves as "*People of the Democratic Republic*", while those of the South call them "*Slave people of old-fashioned communists*". The northern territories beyond the wall are very closed, without freedom, isolated by US sanctions, and dominated by many injustices, forced labor and abusive surveillance. The unjust division between North and South was imposed by outside powers.

Between 1974 and 1990, the South Korean authorities discovered the existence of four tunnels dug under the border by the North Koreans. Despite the mines, the demilitarized zone has become a sanctuary for the conservation of several animal species, especially migratory birds. In winter, thousands of herons and whooping cranes stay there. The mines scattered immediately after the fenced area, over a hundred meters - leaving a space of some 3 km wide by 248 km (instead of 4 km wide at the start) - explode as humans pass. It seems that tigers are also present in the area, as well as endangered Amur leopards, and many snow leopards. Many big cats are killed by mines each year, as well as other animals including rabbits, deer, and wild boars. However, accidents have decreased in recent years, suggesting that animals have become aware of danger zones, and have established their own zones of life.

Apart from the 196 nations recognized by the United Nations, the DMZ, one of the 329 protected territories of the globe (January 2020: destinations designated as separate territories), also awaits us like a sanctuary that has escaped our minds. Following the lifestyle of perpetual electronic travel or

virtual travel is enough to get to know some

unusual places in various continents. But traveling in the DMZ is a real risk of life, one of the most conserved natural areas on the planet but fraught with dangers.

**The human imagination, fueled by technological innovation, with a little courage, knows no limits.**

248 km long and about 4 km wide, located on either side of the border between the two countries, the DMZ cuts the Korean peninsula along approximately the 38th parallel which formed the inter-Korean demarcation line before the conflict.

The reckless fugitives surviving these minefields are true heroes. The DMZ is the most highly secure locked-in area today, a center of tension constantly monitored by all powers, and which is both the epicenter of ironic conflicts and an economic hub for booming regions of Asia. The success of Estonia's e-Residency initiative provides economic access to the borderless EU zone, but it is far from having such a resounding international echo.

### A step towards the DMZ

Some foresee the death of the flag theory in the near future, due to an economic crisis that leads to extensive renationalization. Globalization and internationalization have become perennial realities and will not be replaced inversely. Traveling can get a little more difficult, but far from impossible. International trade can get a little more difficult, but far from impossible either. The concept of nation is called to change. In the future, citizenship will no longer be determined by the birth or citizenship of parents. People will choose the countries of which they want to be citizens, not the reverse.

**Nations will compete to attract citizens, virtual or otherwise, just as businesses compete today to attract customers.**

**The DMZ: owner of conflicting territories? or accelerate the world's connectivity?**

The United States and Mexico share a continental geography, but it is their growing connectivity that turns their political divide into a mutually structured space. In the Pearl River Delta of China - where cities like Hong Kong, Macau and Zhuhai have very different legal agreements with Beijing - a Y-shaped bridge (over man-made islands and through a tunnel of six kilometers), opened in 2017, connects the three cities, reducing the passage from four hours previously to just one hour. When countries, despite their differences in political status, think functionally rather than politically, they focus more on how to optimize space, labor and capital, on how to spatially group resources and connect them to world markets.

Thanks to global transport, communication and energy infrastructure - highways, railways, airports, pipelines, power grids, internet cables, etc. - the future has offered a new maxim: "*Connectivity is our destiny.*" Global infrastructures transform our global system of divisions in nations into connections. The infrastructure is like a nervous system connecting all parts of the planetary body; capital and code are the blood cells that pass through it. More connectivity creates a world beyond states, a global society greater than the sum of its parts. (by Parag Khanna).

We are aiming for the era where cities will matter more than states and supply chains will be a more important source of energy than the military - whose primary focus will be to protect supply chains rather than borders. Competitive connectivity is the new "*arms race*" of the 21st century. (Written by Hyong-jin KWON)



# Colonizing the colonizers: My moments of freedom



Jung Yu-na / Courtesy of Voices from the North

Jung Yu-na was a featured speaker at the May 15 Asia Regional Forum organized by Freedom Speakers International (FSI) and sponsored by UniKorea. Below is an excerpt of her remarks. — Ed.

By Jung Yu-na

Today, I want to share my first moments of freedom with you. Each moment may seem obvious to many of you, but I can assure you that they were very precious and special to me.

When you are born free, it may be difficult to see how precious freedom is. How easy it is to take things for granted without ever thinking about the consequences of being without it.

Today I will tell you about my three moments of freedom. One, becoming a South Korean citizen. Two, getting a driver's license. Three, getting a passport. These moments are so precious for me because I was born in North Korea without any liberty.

I couldn't say the words I wanted to say, see what I wanted to see, hear what I

wanted to hear.

That was the world I used to live in — not knowing what freedom meant. Some say that ignorance is bliss? Well, that depends on your definition of "bliss."

I never expected that my first trip to another country would be when I escaped from my own. I thought if I went to China, I would have freedom, but that expectation was completely wrong because I always had to run and hide myself from the Chinese police.

I needed a passport to show them, but like other North Korean defectors, I didn't have any traveling documents. We were never allowed to have a passport to go outside of North Korea, except for official business approved by the authorities. And not many North Korean people went on official business trips. Furthermore, the North Korean authorities demanded that China catch North Korean defectors and immediately send them back to North Korea.

For that reason, I was always being pursued by Chinese police. If they had caught me, they would have deported me

to North Korea where I could have been jailed or even executed. Luckily, my aunt escaped to South Korea before me, so she brought me here and finally my first taste of real freedom began.

## **My first moment of freedom was the day I got my South Korean citizenship.**

I was so happy and looked forward to living out my dreams in this country that felt like a gift to me. When I was in North Korea, I had North Korean citizenship, but the meaning was different. Unlike here where citizenship has power, the North Korean one shows that you are a slave of that dictatorial government.

Here, being a citizen means you can vote for the president and you can have a say in the nation's democracy, but in North Korea, the government dictates the rules and laws to the people. My first surprise about South Korea was that people can go anywhere in South Korea without needing permission. In the North, you must apply for a permit when you want to go travel anywhere.



If you ask North Korean defectors if they have ever visited Pyeongyang, many will say they have not. Even though they are North Korean citizens, they can't legally go to Pyeongyang without carrying a permit. So, the little South Korean citizenship card meant a lot to me. It meant I had real power and real freedom for the first time.

My second moment of freedom was the day I got my driver's license. I never thought that I could drive my own car, because it is difficult to own a car in North Korea.

### **After I learned about South Korea, I constantly dreamed of escaping.**

Watching South Korean dramas taught me a lot. I found out a lot of things were different than in the North; that South Koreans could drive and go wherever they wanted. It seemed like they had real freedom.

**“My third moment of freedom was the day I got my passport. Can you picture someone actually getting a passport who never thought they could?”**

How exciting would that be? If I could have had a passport before, then I could have avoided the dangerous experiences I went through in other countries en route to South Korea. Having a passport at last, I suddenly got an idea. What if I go to China with this powerful document? I asked my case manager what I needed to do to get permission from the South Korean government to go to China. He said "nothing!" I only needed to apply for a visa to China. That's all.

I was shocked by that answer. In the North it takes one year to get a passport because they check your origin, your family connections, your level of loyalty to the regime. And only chosen people can apply for a passport. For example, government officials and some people who were selected to be overseas workers.

### **With my South Korean passport, I went to China.**

It felt so weird; so delightful. I felt so refreshed, like I had colonized the colonizers.

It was like a drama; that one little girl escaped her own country. She left behind her hometown with her childhood memories. She tried her best to take in the last scene of her home. She knew she loved her hometown, but she also knew the government didn't let people live in freedom and they didn't care about human rights. So, she swallowed her tears and crossed the Tumen river to have a better life with freedom and human rights.

You can see how hard it is to move as a North Korean citizen and how precious it is when you are finally free to move or travel as you wish.

If I were still in North Korea, I would never have taken a flight in an airplane, I would still believe that Americans look

like wolves and have enormous noses. And I would still be singing songs for the North Korean regime.

The lyrics of one song state that North Koreans are Kim Il-sung's people and Kim Jong-il's is their true family. Even the land and the air belong to the Kim dynasty. There is no freedom for the people. Even the rich and powerful are all slaves controlled by that dictatorial government.

I am now a South Korean citizen. I still can't believe I own a car and have a passport so I can go anywhere freely. And also I can't believe that I can say the words I want to say, listen to anything I want. That is true freedom.

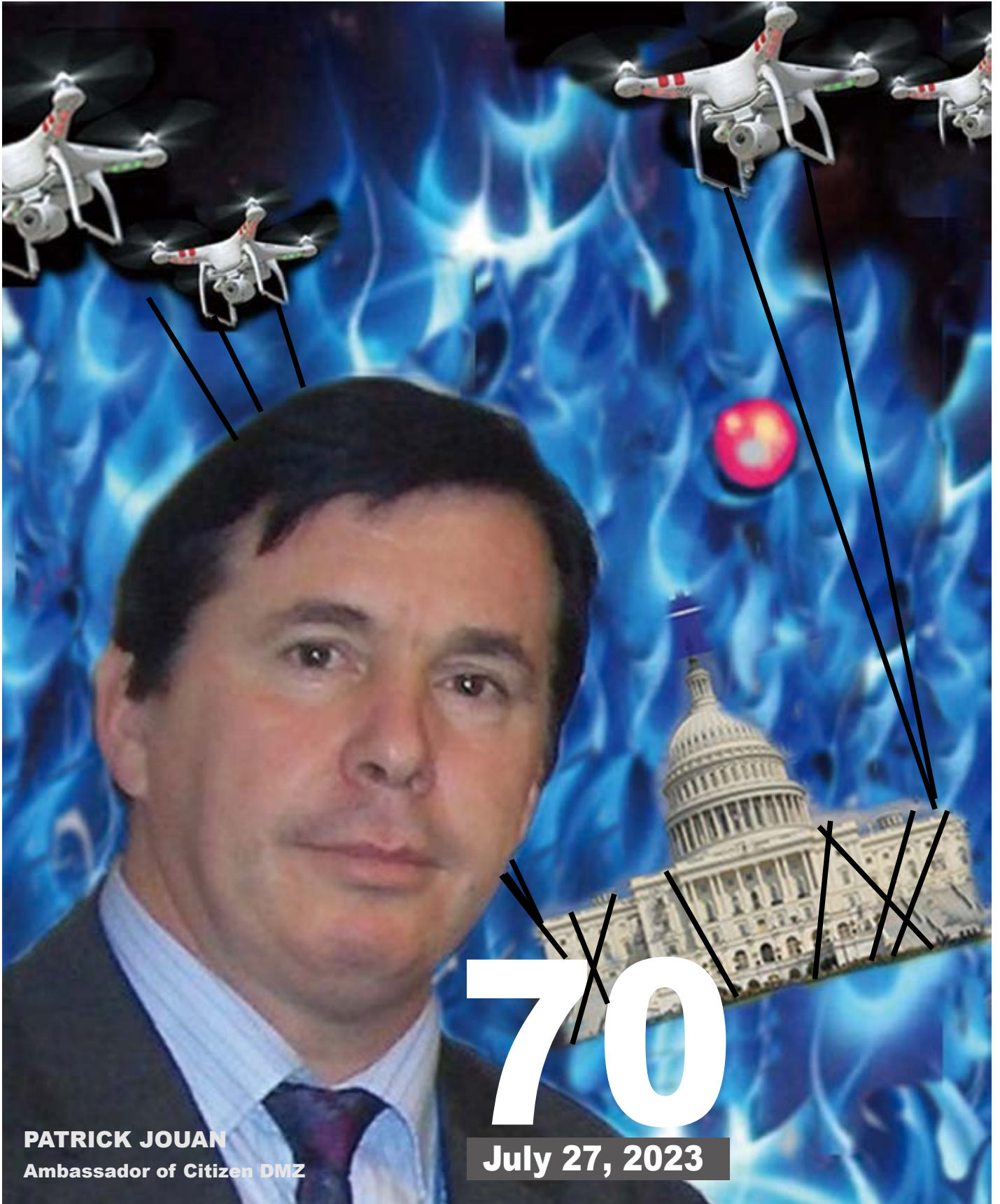
Can you imagine you can't use the internet in your daily life? Or that you can't have the job you want or that the government can force you to go anywhere it wants at any time? If you don't know about them, then you wouldn't feel frustrated. Once you experience those things, you can't go back to living as a slave.

How hopeless would that be?

When you are born in freedom, you can take that freedom for granted. Freedom is everything for us. Without it, it feels like living in prison. I now know what it feels like to be treated as a real human being. Today I shared with you my three moments of freedom. Becoming a South Korean citizen, being able to own a car, and getting a passport allowing me to travel anywhere in the world.

North Koreans still in North Korea deserve that kind of freedom, to have their own moments of freedom, and to have the opportunity to answer the question, "What does freedom mean to me?"

Jung's remarks were edited by Casey Lartigue Jr., editor of Voices from the North.  
**YOUTUBE : What Freedom Means to Me**



**PATRICK JOUAN**  
Ambassador of Citizen DMZ

**70**

**July 27, 2023**

**70 Years after the Korean War (1950-53)**

**CITIZEN DMZ**