Building Trade Ties with Korea’s Emerging Female Leaders ("Emerging Female Leaders")

In recent years, the Republic of Korea has been at the forefront of establishing trade and economic partnerships with countries across the globe. However, the negotiators and diplomats responsible for forging these deals have long been predominantly male. With more highly educated and qualified women entering government and related private sector jobs, the lack of female mentors and role models has become a barrier to their career growth and success. This reality can have a limiting effect on their career trajectory and ability to reach positions of leadership and impacts the overall interests of the country.

In light of this, the Asia Society Policy Institute (ASPI) is pleased to announce the fourth year of its program: Building Trade Ties with Korea’s Emerging Female Leaders. The overarching goal of the initiative, in partnership with Korea Foundation, is to support the professional development of the next generation of female trade negotiators and experts from the Republic of Korea.

More About Building Trade Ties with Korea’s Emerging Female Leaders Program

The program offers the opportunity for rising female professions from the Republic of Korea with interest and experience in international trade to participate in an intensive program. This year’s program will be held in person and will include a week-long program in the U.S., featuring workshops and briefings in Washington D.C. and New York City, and is tentatively set for July 10th – 15th 2023. The program will cover travel and related expenses, including round-trip airfare from Seoul to the U.S., travel within the U.S., lodging, local transport, and some meals during sessions.

The program will include meetings with senior female executives and experts, current and former government officials, and other speakers. It will focus on developing skills and competencies for trade negotiations and working in the trade field more broadly, deepening understanding of trade negotiations and the formation of trade policy, and providing mentorship and guidance for women empowerment in the workplace.

Participants will achieve this through in person engagement and practical learning. This will include briefings and discussions with experienced trade
negotiators, senior and emerging business leaders, and women working in international organizations. The program sessions will cover a range of relevant topics, including:

- Understanding the trade negotiating process
- Gaining negotiating skills, including strategies and tactics, creative problem solving, and “getting to yes”
- Working with the private sector, legislative and other entities, through trade policy consultations
- Developing skills to advance in the work place and providing career development guidance

**Eligibility**

- **Age:** 40 or under (to be eligible for this year’s cohort of Korea’s Emerging Female Leaders, candidate must be born in or after 1983.)
- **Language Skills:** Fluent in spoken and written English
- **Professional Experience:** Background in a trade-related field and some work experience preferred. Relevant fields include:
  - Government agencies involved in international trade
  - Private sector and businesses engaged in international trade
  - Legal professions, particularly related to trade law
  - Other relevant trade backgrounds, including academia
- **Career Path:** Strong interest in continuing to pursue a career in trade.

**Application Timeline**

- Application window opens – March 29, 2023
- Deadline for Application Submissions – May 5, 2023
- Candidates Selected and Notified – May 15, 2023

*Please note this timeline is subject to change.*

**Application Process and Materials**

Applications should be sent by email to femaleleaders@asiasociety.org with the subject line “Full Name_Korea’s Emerging Female Leaders Application.”

Applications should include the following:
Curriculum Vitae or Resume

Statement of Interest: One-page explanation of why the applicant is interested in the program, what they hope to gain from participation, how they will contribute to the success of the program, and how participation aligns with their career goals.

1 Letter of Recommendation

To inquire about the program or submit an application, please send an email to femaleleaders@asiасociety.org

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