North Korea’s Nuclear Negotiations

U.S. and Asia Relations
North Korean and Nuclear Power

- Starting the 1960s, North Korea began developing nuclear power with the help of the Soviet Union.
- Currently, evidence shows North Korea continues to gain nuclear machinery from the black market.
- North Korea continues to test and develop its nuclear program.
Denuclearization (1990’s)

- The U.S has pulled its nuclear missiles out of South Korea when signing the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty. In 1991 South and North Korea agreed to “not test, manufacture, produce, receive, possess, store, deploy, or use nuclear weapons."

- While NK did not withdraw from the NPT in 1993 (eventually suspended its threat to withdraw), it did eventually withdraw in 2003 and is no longer a party.

- NK agreed amid bilateral US-NK bilateral talks for a moratorium on nuclear missile tests for the length of the talks.
The Comeback of Nuclear Power (2000’s)

- 2003 - North Korea leaves the NPT because it has now reactivated its nuclear power plant.
- 2003 - The Six Party talks began, consisting of the U.S, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, China and Russia.
- 2006 - North Korea launched their first nuclear test, causing a wave of international concern.
- 2007 - North Korea agreed to halt operation on their power plant for fifty thousand tons of oil. The Six Party then agreed to North Korea’s demand and sent the oil through South Korea.
- 2009 - Obama takes office, the Six Party talks once again but this causes North Korea to retaliate by launching a rocket and discharging international monitors from its power plants. In December the U.S held their first senior-level bilateral meeting with North Korea. North Korea conducts its second underground nuclear test.
- 2011 - The leader of North Korea, Kim Jong-i, dies. His son, Kim Jung-un, takes over power.
- 2012 - The U.S and North Korea agree that North Korea will inactivate their missiles for food aid, but that deal falls apart after NK launches a rocket and missiles. Since then, North Korea has launched missiles up until 2018 when Trump came into office.
Nuclear Power during Trump Administration

- **2018** - North Korea and Trump agreed to have had a summit in Singapore because of the Olympic games taking place in South Korea. Trump later pulled out but North Korea offered to release U.S prisoners and invite journalists to view the destruction of a nuclear power plant. In June, the two meet and made a deal to have peace between them, complete denuclearization of the Korea Peninsula, and recover the remains of U.S soldiers in the North Korean war. Trump will also no longer push for US-South Korea military exercises against North Korea. In exchange, North Korea will destroy its missile engine site.

- **2019** - In February, the two countries met again in Vietnam but no deal was made. Then in June, Trump becomes the first U.S president to go to the DMZ (demilitarized zone). North Korea tests missiles between July and August so many European countries urge the U.S to have negotiations with North Korea. Choe Son Hui, North Korea's First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs announces at the U.N that North Korea and the United States will have a meeting in October. North Korean and U.S. officials met in Sweden for talks, but negotiations fell apart as they couldn't come to an agreement. Since November of 2019 Trump and Kim have not had face-to-face meetings.
Sources


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