



December 2021

Dear friends of the Korea Policy Institute,

As the year comes to an end the Korea policy of the administration of President Joseph Biden remains mired in the cold war past. Although it claims to be open to engaging North Korea without preconditions, the Biden administration's core interest remains the denuclearization of the "Korean peninsula." Since the Republic of Korea (South Korea) does not possess nuclear weapons, the Biden administration, moving in lockstep with its predecessors, seeks the unilateral disarmament of North Korea.

Continuing to identify North Korea as a security threat, the Biden administration has leveled new sanctions against North Korea and increased its military footprint in South Korea—all while disregarding North Korea's entreaties that the United States abandon its hostile policies. By failing to seize the opportunity to prioritize peace, the United States may have driven the final nail in the coffin of South Korean President Moon Jae-in's proposal that the parties agree to a [Declaration to End the Korean War](#) as the starting point of renewed diplomacy. Given escalating U.S.-North Korea tensions, it is unlikely that North Korea and South Korea, which will undergo a leadership change with next spring's elections, will be able to forge ahead with the peace-making provisions of the [Panmunjom Declaration for Peace and Prosperity and the Unification of Korea](#) in which General Secretary Kim Jong Un and President Moon Jae-in "solemnly declared before the 80 million Korean people and the whole world that there will be no more war on the Korean Peninsula and thus a new era of peace has begun."

In these uncertain times, the Korea Policy Institute continues to provide analysis of current events and history from the standpoint of the Korean people's struggles, in Korea and the diaspora, for peace, reconciliation, and the reunification of Korea, and to advocate for U.S. policies that align with their goals and the interests of the people of the United States to end costly *forever wars*.

We are especially pleased to announce that KPI has embarked on a collaboration with the Ending the Korean War Teaching Collective, as it prepares to launch an open-access syllabus on the war, which will be hosted on the KPI website and will serve as a resource for the critical political education needed to imagine and enact an end to the Korean War. Building on the commitment in ethnic studies to people's struggles, the EKW Teaching Collective comprises activist-scholars committed to a feminist intersectional and decolonial praxis. They organized the successful, unanimous passage by the Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) on June 22, 2020 of the historic "[Resolution Calling for a Decolonizing Peace and a Formal End to the Korean War](#)" and the passage of a [similar resolution](#) by the Association for American Studies (ASA), a scholarly organization with over 5,000 members, in late July of this year.

The work of KPI, a 501c3 nonprofit organization fueled by volunteer labor, is not possible without your support. We are funded solely by individual donors who are committed to a U.S. policy of friendship towards Korea that respects the sovereignty of the Korea people, their desire for peace, and the reunification of their country. Donations can be made [online](#) or by check, mailed to Korea Policy Institute, P.O. Box 2281, Berkeley, CA 94702.

We thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Korea Policy Institute Board of Directors

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