



December 1, 2022

Dear friends of the Korea Policy Institute,

As the year comes to a close, the United States and North Korea are again squaring off, and the stakes are higher than ever. In response to South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol's embrace of a "[Kill Chain](#)" system that enables decapitation strikes against North Korea, North Korea adopted a [policy](#) authorizing the use of nuclear weapons to preempt South Korea's attacks. In either scenario, South Korea's armed forces fall under U.S. command authority. Any outbreak of fighting on the Korea peninsula, including a kill chain attack on the North, would be straight out of the U.S. playbook, and would place both South Korea and the United States at risk of attack. There is only one way out of this situation. Acknowledging that North Korea will not give up its nuclear weapons under the present circumstances, the United States must return to the table that it walked away from in Hanoi in 2019, lift sanctions against North Korea's civilian population, and begin addressing that country's legitimate security concerns, in earnest.

In these uncertain times, the Korea Policy Institute (KPI) continues to provide analysis of current events and history from the perspective of the Korean people's struggles to achieve the peaceful and independent reunification of Korea. In support of this mission, KPI is especially pleased to support the work of the [Ending the Korean War Teaching Initiative](#). Committed to feminist intersectional and decolonial praxis, the Ending the Korean War (EKW) Teaching Collective comprises activist-scholars who seek to teach the war so as to end it. To this end, the EKW Teaching Collective will be rolling out—at a sequence of events, in-person and virtual, over the next two years—an open-access, multimedia syllabus on the Korean War. Hosted by KPI, the syllabus is a living document, a political education platform that is intended to serve as an anti-imperialist tool against permanent war.

We are pleased to announce the launch of the first syllabus module, "Reverberations." Shifting focus away from questions on the Korean War's origins that preoccupied Cold War-era Korean studies, this module examines the war's irresolution through its "ongoing deep structural impact on the social, political, and economic dimensions of people's everyday lives on the intensely militarized Korean peninsula, in the diaspora, and within the greater region." "Reverberations" provides users with short introductions, key words, discussion questions, and links to study materials organized around eight manifestations of the war's impact and persistence: [Division and Partition](#); [Militarized Migration, Kinship and Diaspora](#), [Vietnam War](#), [Ongoing U.S. Military Occupation and War Exercises](#); [Regional Militarization and Nuclearization](#); [Militarized Ecologies, Environmental Racism and Degradation](#); [LA Uprising/Saigu](#); and [North Korean Human Rights](#).

The syllabus is part of a broad, multifaceted, political educational effort spearheaded by the EKW Teaching Collective that included the [Resolution Calling for a Decolonizing Peace and a Formal End to the Korean War](#), passed unanimously by the Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) on June 22, 2020, and a [similar resolution](#) passed in July of 2021 by the Association for American Studies (ASA), an academic organization with over 5000 members.

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 committed to U.S. policy that respects the Korean people's sovereignty, 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 (Marty Hart-Landsberg, Christine Hong, Haeyoung Kim, Paul Liem, Juyeon Rhee, JT Takagi, Ji-Yeon Yuh)