

COMMUNICATION

Korea

A. General

The second US-DPRK Summit was held in Hanoi, Vietnam on February 27-28. The negotiations ended without any further progress for the denuclearization of North Korea. President of Moon Jae-in of South Korea began his mediation for the peace process.

B. The YIJUN Institute of International Law

Chairman Byung Sun Oh hosted spring workshop for the governing board members of the Institute in Mt. Ansan, Seoul on May 17.

President Eric Y.J. Lee was invited to the Executive Congress of ASGARDIA: The Space Nation held in Vienna on April 10-12. He was appointed the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Space Nation created first in human history.

Volume 5, Number 1 of the CHINA AND WTO REVIEW was duly and timely published on March 1, 2019.

The YIJUN Institute of International Law opened its Youtube channel: <INTERNATIONAL LAW TV> in March. Its website is: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7BGxY5EC3OJoqSeDnSGGfA>

C. Korean Society of International Law

Dr. Sung-deok Lee took office as President of the Korean Society of International Law. He is Professor of International Law at Choongang University School of Law.

The KSIL co-hosted academic workshop titled, “Legal Governance of Historical Memory in Europe and Korea” on April 19.

Vietnam

Vietnam Society of International Law: An Introduction

Vietnam Society of International Law (“VSIL”) is a social - professional society of Vietnamese citizens and organizations who have been practising international law in Vietnam. It was established in 2016 for the purpose of international legal scientific development in Vietnam. VSIL operates nationwide based on principles of voluntariness, democracy, autonomy, self-financing and not-for-profit.

VSIL caters for the demands of having a professional forum to share and exchange knowledge and experiences of numerous Vietnamese international law researchers and practitioners. Whilst VSIL facilitates intellectually stimulating discussion on the development of international law, it also showcase contribution of Vietnam at international stage. VSIL operates in accordance with its Constitution as agreed in the Establishment Congress and reports its activities annually to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Justice. VSIL is headquartered in Hanoi, and governed by the Executive Council comprising of 23 members. Currently, VSIL has more than 400 members who are attorneys, academics, governmental officials, practitioners, students, and others, who are interested in international law. As a professional forum for exchanges of knowledge and experiences, VSIL usually convenes academic workshops and roundtables on the sideline of the regular Executive Council meetings on contemporary topics of international law.

In 2016, immediately after the establishment, VSIL successfully held the roundtable themed “Vietnam 2016: A year of International Law.” At the roundtable, leading experts as well as members of VSIL summarized historical milestones of developments of international law in Vietnam as well as analyzed its important achievements in the field of international law in 2016. For example, enactment of the Vietnam Law on International Treaties, Vietnam’s accession to Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (“AALCO”) and International Development Law Organization (“IDLO”), etc. The focus of the roundtable was centred around the successful election of the very first Vietnamese candidate, Professor Nguyen Hong Thao, a member of VSIL, to the United Nations International Law Commission. At the roundtable, the establishment of VSIL is also considered as an important achievement of the year which was seen as catching up with the development trends of international law societies in many countries in the region and the world. Nevertheless, VSIL was

unanimously viewed as contributing to raise the position as well as voice of Vietnam in international legal forums.

On the sideline of the Executive Council meeting in 2017, VSIL held the conference themed “Settling trade and investment disputes between foreign legal entities and individuals and State of Vietnam” which attracted participations of many academics from universities and practicing lawyers from both Vietnamese and foreign law firms operating in Vietnam. At the conference, opportunities and challenges faced by Vietnamese law firms participating in settling trade and investment disputes between foreign legal entities and individuals and State of Vietnam were discussed in great details.

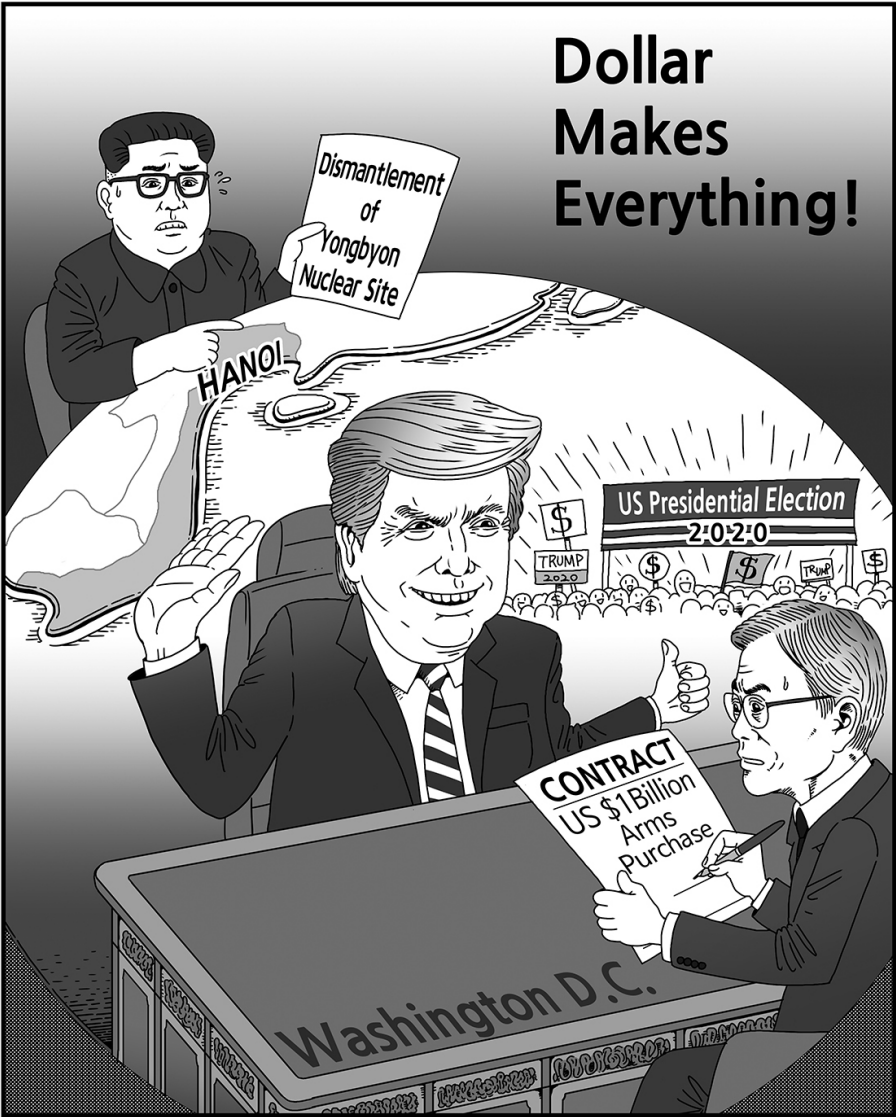
Especially in 2018, with a view to foster the study and education of international law including investment law among law students of Vietnam, VSIL signed an agreement with the Center for Legal Studies (“CILS”) and obtained the permission to organize the Vietnam National Round of Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot (“FDI Moot”). The FDI Moot was co-hosted by VSIL and Ho Chi Minh City University of Law. VSIL organized this National Round with the aim to provide opportunities to the training of Vietnamese law bachelors to learn high-quality advocacy skills and master excellent linguistic competency that are used in international trade and investment disputes. These skills are essential in fostering a dynamic foreign investment environment in Vietnam based on the rule of law and international commitments. With the support from VSIL, the winner of the National Round proceeded to compete in the Asia-Pacific Round in Korea. Upon successfully passed the Regional Round, the team from Vietnam moved to compete in Global Round of FDI Moot in Sweden. This has been the best achievement of any moot teams of Vietnamese students so far in any international moot competition.

Besides, VSIL is currently preparing for publication of the first VIETNAMESE YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW as well as for the establishment of Vietnam International Conciliation Center under the auspices of VSIL.

In another efforts, VSIL actively engages in establishing relations with States organs as well as foreign organizations and takes part in their projects. Members of the Executive Council of VSIL pay regular visits to and meet with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the National Assembly Office, the People’s Supreme Court, etc. to consult and exchange of views on international law issues as well as to report activities of VSIL. Through these interactions, VSIL aims to make objective and constructively critical contributions to the lawmaking and policymaking process to ensure the compliance of Vietnamese law and policy with common standards of international law. VSIL also started to exchange of views and

explore opportunities to cooperate with World Justice Projects and other International Law Societies in the regions.

With these achievements in the first two years, VSIL is becoming a prestigious and professional association and a reliable partner for both domestic and foreign organizations. In the coming year, VSIL plans to organize more academic workshops, national rounds of moot court competitions, exchange and meetings with domestic and foreign partners to realize its missions of promoting, training and researching of international law to contribute towards international integration process of Vietnam.



ABOUT THE AUTHORS



Young-Yik Rhim is the founder, Chief Executive Officer and general counsel at Intellicon Metalab. He has pioneered the field of Computational Law and the Legal-Tech in Korea. Currently, Rhim serves as a Presidential Committee Member on the Fourth Industrial Revolution in the Korean Government. Also, he is an Adjunct Professor of Mass Communication and Public Relation at Konkuk University, Seoul, Korea teaching several graduate courses including Legal A.I., Computational Law, Intellectual Property, etc. He received his B.S. in Biological Sciences from Seoul National University and also studied Mathematics, Physics and Electrical Engineering. He developed the first Legal A.I. system in Korea (Intelligent Legal Information System or i-LIS), which won the Competition on Legal Information Extraction/Entailment (COLIEE) two consecutive years (2016-2017). He has published several books and articles, and his current research is in Meta-Learning, Explainable AI(XAI) and Computational law. He may be contacted at: ceo@intellicon.co.kr



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Erratum

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Complete Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsular

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Page 299 (footnote 41)

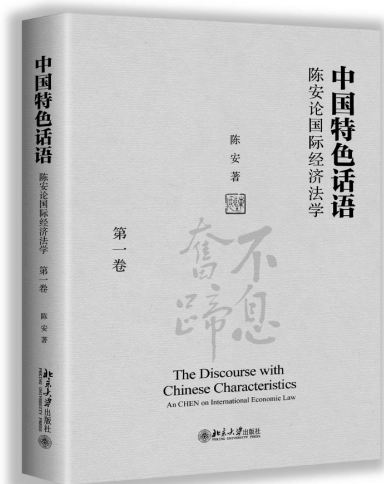
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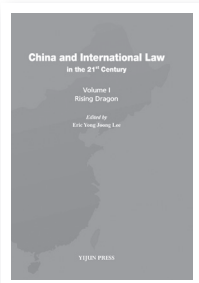
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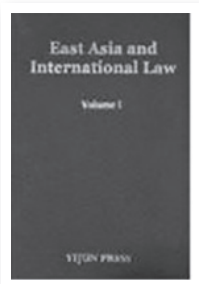
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