

Participants' Bios

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

LI Nan

LI Nan is a senior research fellow at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences' Institute of American Studies. His research mainly focuses on U.S-North Korea relations and China-North Korea relations. Dr. Li has been a visiting Scholar at Seoul National University (2014-2015), Brookings Institution (2012), Johns Hopkins SAIS (2011-2012), and Arizona State University (2004-2005) and frequently visited the Korean Academy of Social Sciences and Kim Il Sung University (DPRK). He is a graduate of the Renmin University of China where he earned a PhD in National Strategy, MA in International Relations & Political Science, and BA in International Politics & Political Science.

WU Chunsi

Dr Wu Chunsi is the Director of the Institute for International Strategic Studies, her research interests include Chinese-U.S. security relations, arms control, nuclear deterrence, and Northeast Asia security. She authors *Deterrence Theories and Missile Defense* (2001, in Chinese) and co-authors *Deterrence and Stability: China-U.S. Nuclear Relationship* (2005, in Chinese). Ms. Wu Chunsi received a doctoral degree in international relations from Fudan University in July 2002. As assistant researcher and associate professor, she worked at Center for American Studies, Fudan University, from August 1997 to October 2006. In 2004-2005, she studied Chinese-U.S. space relationship at Center for International Affairs, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

ZHANG Tuosheng

Professor Zhang Tuosheng is the Principal Researcher of the Grandview Institution. He is also a council member of the Chinese Arms Control and Disarmament Association and the Institute of International and Strategic Studies of Peking University, and a member of the Academic Committee of Center for International Security and Strategy, Tsinghua University. Previously, he was the chairman of the Academic Committee, as well as the director of the Research Department of China Foundation for International and Strategic Studies, deputy defense attaché at the Chinese Embassy in the UK, a research fellow in the Institute of Strategic Studies of People's Liberation Army (PLA) National Defense University and a lecturer at the PLA Military Collage. His main research interests are China-US relations, China-Japan relations, Asia-Pacific security, security crisis management and China's foreign policy. He has authored or co-authored lots of research publications including papers, policy reports and books. He earned his master's degree from Central Party School of the Communist Party of China.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Georgy TOLORAYA

Georgy Toloraya is the Director of Asian strategy center at the Institute of Economics of Russian Academy of Sciences. He was previously a member of the Panel of Experts assisting the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) from 2019 to 2024. He also holds a professorship at Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO). Prof. Toloraya previously served as a diplomat, including two postings in DPRK (1977-80 and 1984-87), in Republic of Korea (1993-98), in Moscow as Deputy Director-General handling the Korean Peninsula (1998-2003), and as a Consul-General of the Russian Federation in Sydney, Australia (2003-2006). Prof. Toloraya holds a Ph.D. in economics and a Full Professor degree in Oriental studies. He served as a visiting fellow at Brookings.

Alexander VORONTSOV

Alexander Vorontsov is currently the head of the Department for Korean and Mongolian Studies at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russia Academy of Sciences. He also holds post as Russian Military Science Academy Professor. He repeatedly takes part in Track 1.5 and Track 2 conferences dealing with the security situation on the Korean Peninsula and East Asia. He was a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies in Washington D.C. in 2005-2006, graduated from Asia Pacific-Center for Security Studies Executive Courses in Honolulu in 2005. Dr. Vorontsov served as second secretary in the Russian Federation’s Embassy in Pyongyang from 2000 to 2002. He holds a Ph.D. in history from the Institute of Oriental Studies at the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. He was the member of the Russian part of the Russia-DPRK, Russia-ROK Intergovernmental Commission dealing with trade-economic and scientific-technical cooperation. Dr. Vorontsov has studied at Lomonosov Moscow State University and Pyongyang Kim Il Sung University.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Doug BANDOW

Doug Bandow is a senior fellow at the Cato Institute, specializing in foreign policy and civil liberties. He worked as special assistant to President Reagan and editor of the political magazine *Inquiry*. He writes regularly for leading publications such as *Fortune* magazine, *National Interest*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Washington Times*. Bandow speaks frequently at academic conferences, on college campuses, and to business groups. Bandow has been a regular commentator on ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Fox News Channel, and MSNBC. He holds a J.D. from Stanford University.

Keith LUSE

Keith Luse is the Executive Director of the National Committee on North Korea. Previously, he was the Senior East Asia Policy Advisor for Chairman and later Ranking Member Senator Richard G. Lugar at the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 2003 until 2013. Mr. Luse was also Staff Director for Senator Lugar at the Senate Agriculture Committee from 1999 through 2002, where the Senator also served as Chairman and later Ranking Member. During fourteen years of working for Senator Lugar in Washington, Mr. Luse had numerous meetings and interactions with North Korean officials inside North Korea and in the United States.

Jenny TOWN

Jenny Town is a Senior Fellow at the Stimson Center and the Director of Stimson’s Korea Program and 38 North. Her areas of expertise include North Korea, US-DPRK relations, US-ROK alliance relations and extended deterrence, and Northeast Asia regional security. Ms. Town is also an Associate Fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), a Member of the National Committee on North Korea, and an Associate Member of the Council of Korean Americans. She previously served as the Assistant Director of the US-Korea Institute at SAIS (2008-2018) and an expert reviewer for North and South Korea for Freedom House’s Freedom in the World Index (2010-2023), where she previously worked on the Human Rights in North Korea Project. Ms. Town holds a BA in East Asian Studies and International Relations from Westmar University and a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs.

About the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD)

Impartial and independent, HD has been achieving peace since 1999 by finding common ground for agreement beyond the limits of traditional diplomacy and national interests.

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An international body with headquarters in Switzerland, HD is a non-profit organisation funded by donors and supervised by an independent board.

HD STAFF BIOS

Sangsoo LEE

Sangsoo Lee is a Senior Advisor for HD’s Northeast Asia program. Previously, he was the Deputy Director of the Institute for Security and Development Policy (ISDP) and the Head of the Stockholm Korea Center. His areas of interest are Security and Conflict issues in Northeast Asia with a focus on the North Korean nuclear crisis and inter-Korean relations. Dr. Lee holds a Ph.D. in Northeast Asian Studies from Peking University and has been a Visiting Researcher at the United Nation University (UNU-CRIS) (2007), and at the London School of Economics (LSE) (2011).

Michael VATIKIOTIS

Dr. Michael Vatikiotis is HD’s Senior Advisor and former Asia Director. He has been a writer, broadcaster and journalist in Asia for more than 35 years. His latest books include *Blood and Silk: Power and Conflict in Modern Southeast Asia* and *Lives Between the Lines: A Journey in Search of the Lost Levant*. Vatikiotis is a graduate of the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, earned his doctorate, which was on Thailand, from Oxford University, and was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Maryland. He is a member of the Asia Society’s International Council and speaks the Thai and Indonesian languages fluently.

David GORMAN

David Gorman is HD’s Regional Director for Eurasia. With over 25 years of experience in peacemaking, he began his career in the Middle East and has since contributed to peace efforts across Africa, Southeast Asia, and Eurasia. His extensive fieldwork includes residencies in the Philippines, Indonesia,

Liberia, Bosnia, and the West Bank and Gaza. An accomplished author on peacemaking, David holds a graduate degree from the London School of Economics.

Teodora GYUPCHANOVA

Teodora Gyupchanova is a Project Officer HD’s Northeast Asia program. She has spent over 10 years working on Korean Peninsula issues, DPRK, inter-Korean relations, human security and foreign policy analysis in international organizations, civil society and the public sector. Teodora received an MA in International Cooperation (Intl Security and Foreign Policy) from Yonsei University and a BA in Korean Studies from Sofia University.