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Interview

- Korea Immigration & Integration Program Mentor

Ministry of Justice at a Glance

- Director Changwan Han of International Dispute Settlement Division

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Readers Survey

The Republic of Korea government has changed its official “government identity.” The new logo conveys the dynamism and enthusiasm of the country with the three colors of blue, red and white. It echoes off Korea’s national flag Taegeukgi with the taegeuk circular swirl and the blank canvas embodies in white. The typeface

was inspired by the font used in the “Hunminjeongeum” (1446), the original Hangeul text, in consideration of the harmony embodied in the taegeuk circle. Starting March 2016, the new logo is used at all 22 ministries including the Ministry of Justice and 51 central government agencies.

Emblem



Ministry of Justice

ACT ON THE PUNISHMENT, ETC. OF CRIME OF STALKING

Act No. 18083, Apr 20, 2021



CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 (Purpose)

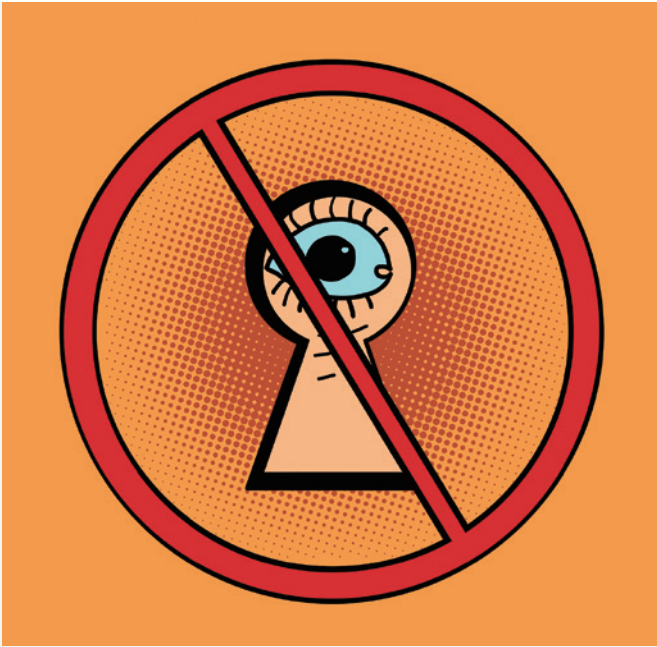
The purpose of this Act is to protect the victims of stalking and to contribute to the establishment of a healthy social order, by prescribing special cases concerning the punishment of crime of stalking, the procedures therefor and protective orders of the victims.

Article 2 (Definitions)

The terms used in this Act shall be defined as follows.

- 1.The term “stalking” means actions causing anxiety or fear to other party by committing any of the following to the other party or their cohabitants or family, against the will of the other party and without a justifiable cause.

- A.The act of approaching, following or blocking the course
 - B.The act of waiting or watching near residence, workplace, school or any other everyday place (hereinafter referred to as “residence, etc.”)
 - C.The act of causing the arrival of an object or writing, word, symbol, sound, picture, video, image (hereinafter referred to as “object, etc.”) using mail, call, fax or any other information network referred to in Article 2 (1) 1 of the “Act on Promotion of Information and Communications Network Utilization and Information Protection, etc.”
 - D.The act of causing the arrival of object, etc. at or near residence, etc. personally or through a third party
 - E.The act of damaging object, etc. at or near residence, etc.
- 2.The term “crime of stalking” means the engagement in repetitive or persistent stalking.



- 3.The term “victim” means a person who has suffered direct harm from crime of stalking.
- 4.The term “victim, etc.” means victim and the other party of stalking.

CHAPTER 2 CRIME OF STALKING, ETC. AND PROCEDURES THEREFOR

Article 3 (Emergency Measures against Stalking, etc.)

Upon receiving a report of an ongoing stalking, judicial police officer must get to the scene immediately and take the following measures.

- 1.Stop stalking, notify to end stalking and warn of punishment for persistent or repeated stalking
- 2.Separate the stalker and the victim and start a criminal investigation
- 3.Advise victim, etc. on the procedure for requesting emergency and provisional measures, etc.
- 4.Guide the victim, etc. to a counseling center for the victims of crime of stalking or a protective facility (only when the victim, etc. consents)

Article 4 (Emergency Measures)

①If there exists a concern of a persistent or repetitive stalking and requires immediate action to prevent the crime of stalking, judicial police officer may take the following measures under the officer’s authority or at the request of other party to stalking, legal representative thereof, or the reporter of stalking.

- 1.A ban on approaching the other party or residence, etc. of the other party within 100 meters
- 2.A ban on approaching the other party through telecommunications as defined under subparagraph 1 of Article 2 of the “Framework Act on Telecommunications”

②In cases where a judicial police officer has taken measures following paragraph 1 (hereinafter referred to as “emergency measures”), the officer must immediately write out the written decision of emergency measures including the essentials of stalking, the reasons for the need and the details of emergency measures.

Article 5 (Application for Approval of Emergency Measures)

- ①In cases where a judicial police officer has taken emergency measures, the officer must, without delay, request a prosecutor to apply for an ex post facto approval thereof to a district court judge.
- ②The prosecutor who received the application of paragraph 1 shall request ex post facto approval of the emergency measures within 48 hours from the time of the emergency measures. In this case, the written decision of emergency measures in accordance with Article 4 (2) must be attached.
- ③District court judge may approve the request submitted in accordance with paragraph 2 if the emergency measures are deemed necessary for the prevention of persistent or repetitive stalking.
- ④In cases where the prosecutor has not requested ex post facto approval in accordance with paragraph 2 or the district court judge has not approved the request in accordance with paragraph 2, judicial police officer must immediately revoke the emergency measures thereof.
- ⑤The duration of emergency measures may not exceed 1 month.

Article 6 (Notification of Emergency Measures, etc.)

- ①When taking emergency measures, judicial police officer must notify the other party to stalking or the legal representative thereof.
- ②When taking emergency measures, judicial police officer must inform the person subject to the emergency measures thereof (hereinafter referred to as “person subject to emergency measures”) on the details of the measures and the procedure for raising an objection.

Article 7 (Change of Emergency Measures, etc.)

- ①Person subject to emergency measures or legal representative thereof may apply for revocation or change of emergency measures to a judicial police officer.
- ②Other party to stalking or legal representative thereof may request change of emergency measures in cases where the other party has moved residence, etc. after emergency measures, of Article 4 (1) 1, have been placed.
- ③Other party to stalking or legal representative thereof may request revocation of emergency measures in cases where the other party deems the emergency measures unnecessary.
- ④In cases where there is a justifiable reason, judicial police officer may revoke emergency measures thereof under their authority or by requesting in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 3, and may change emergency measures with the approval of district court judge.

⑤Emergency measures (including any case where it has changed in accordance with paragraph 4. Same shall apply hereinafter within this paragraph) loses its validity if it falls under any of the following cases.

1.When the duration set for emergency measures is overdue

2.When the court has made the following decisions regarding the person subject to emergency measures

A.The decision of measure in accordance with Article 9 (1) 2 identifying the other party following Article 4 (1) 1 as the victim

B.The decision of measure in accordance with Article 9 (1) 2 identifying the residence, etc. in accordance with Article 4 (1) 1 as the residence, etc. of victim (limited to cases where the other party of stalking is identified as victim)

C.The decision of measure in accordance with Article 9 (1) 3 identifying the other party in accordance with Article 4 (1) 2 as the victim

Article 8 (Request of Provisional Measures)

①When the recurrence of crime of stalking is deemed likely, a prosecutor may request the court for measures in accordance with the subparagraphs within Article 9 (1) under their authority or by application of judicial police officer.

②Victim or the legal representative thereof may demand a prosecutor or judicial police officer to make a request or application in accordance with paragraph (1), or make statement of opinion regarding the matter.

③In cases where the judicial police officer has not made the application in accordance with paragraph (1) despite receiving the demand for application in accordance with paragraph (2), the officer must report the reason.

Article 9 (Provisional Measures on Stalker)

①For cases where it is deemed necessary for smooth investigation · interrogation of stalking crime or protection of victim, the court may take any of the following measures (hereinafter “provisional measures”) by decision.

1.Written warning regarding the termination of stalking crime towards the victim

2.A ban on approaching victim or residence, etc. within 100 meters

3.A ban on approaching victim through telecommunications in accordance with Article 2 subparagraph 1 of the 「Framework Act on Telecommunications」

4.Confinement in a detention center or room of State police station

②Provisional measures of paragraph (1) may be concurrently imposed.

③In cases where the court has decided to make provisional measures, the court must notify a prosecutor and victim and legal representative thereof.

④In cases where the court has decided to make provisional measures, the court must inform the stalker of the right to appoint an attorney-at-law and the ability to appeal in accordance with Article 12, and must notify the imposition of provisional measures to following persons according to the category of subparagraph.

1.Where the stalker has attorney-at-law: Attorney-at-law

2.Where the stalker does not have an attorney-at-law: Legal representative or person designated by stalker

⑤Duration of provisional measures in accordance with subparagraphs 2 and 3 of paragraph (1) cannot exceed two months, and provisional measures in accordance with subparagraph 4 of same paragraph cannot exceed one month. Provided, if the court deems it necessary to extend the duration for the protection of victim, the court may extend the duration of provisional measures in accordance with subparagraphs 2 and 3 of paragraph (1), limited to two occasions and the duration limited to two months each.

Article 10 (Execution of Provisional Measures, etc.)

①A court may have court officials, judicial police officers or rectification officials in detention centers to execute provisional measures after court decision of such measures.

②A person who executes the decision of provisional measures in accordance with paragraph (1) shall notify stalker the details of provisional measures and procedure for raising an objection, etc.

③Victim and legal representative thereof may request change of provisional measures in case the victim has moved residence, etc. after provisional measures, in accordance with Article 9 (1) 2, have been placed.

Article 11 (Change of Provisional Measures, etc.)

①Stalker or legal representative thereof may file a request for the revocation of the decision to take provisional measures or for the change of the type of such measures.

②Where a prosecutor deems provisional measures necessary during investigation and court proceedings, the prosecutor may request the court to extend the duration of provisional measures or change the type of such measures. Where the prosecutor deems that such measures unnecessary, the prosecutor may request the court to revoke the relevant provisional measures.

③The court may rule to revoke the relevant provisional measures, extend the duration of measures or change the type of such measures ex officio, or where the court deems that requests made in accordance with paragraph (1) have justifiable grounds to the contrary.

④Provisional measures (including the decision to extend or change the type of such measures referred to in paragraph (3). Hereinafter the same shall apply in Articles 12 and 14) shall be void when a prosecutor makes a disposition not to institute or when a judicial police officer makes a decision not to transfer.

Article 12 (Appeals)

①Prosecutor, stalker or legal representative thereof may appeal against the decision on emergency or provisional measures in any of the following cases.

1.Where there is any violation of statutes or erroneous determination of facts that could affect the decision



2.Where such decision is significantly unfair

②An appeal in accordance with paragraph (1) shall be raised within seven days from the notification of such decision.

Article 13 (Filing Petition of Appeal)

①In raising an appeal in accordance with Article 12, a petition of appeal shall be filed with the court of original judgment.

②The court shall send relevant records, along with written opinions, to the appellate court within three days from the receipt of such petition of appeal.

Article 14 (Appellate Trial)

①The appellate court shall rule to dismiss an appeal where the appeal is deemed to have no merit or where the proceedings therefor violate any Acts.

②Where the appellate court deems that an appeal has merit, it shall remand the case to the lower court or transfer it to another competent court, after revoking an original decision. Provided, it may quash the original decision and make a decision on provisional measures at its discretion, where it is too urgent to remand or transfer the case or where it is deemed necessary on other grounds.

Article 15 (Re-Appeals)

①A re-appeal may be filed with the Supreme Court against a decision to dismiss an appeal, only where such decision is in violation of any statutes.

②Articles 12 (2), 13 and 14 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the period and trial of re-appeal in accordance with paragraph (1).

Article 16 (Non-Suspension of Execution)

No appeal or re-appeal shall have the effect of suspending the execution of a decision.

Article 17 (Dedicated Investigation System for Victims of Crime of Stalking)

①The Prosecutor General shall have the chief public prosecutor of each district public prosecutors' office designate prosecutors in exclusive charge of crime of stalking to investigate the victims of such crime except in exceptional circumstances.

②The chief of each police station(The chief of National Office of Investigation, the Commissioner General of the each district's Police Agency, the chief of a police station. Hereinafter the same shall apply) shall designate judicial police officers in exclusive charge of crime of stalking to investigate the victims of such crimes except in exceptional circumstances.

③The Prosecutor General and the chief of each police station shall provide education on professional knowledge necessary to investigate crime of stalking, investigative methods and procedures for the protection of victims, etc. with respect to prosecutors and judicial police officers referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2).

CHAPTER 3 PENALTY PROVISIONS

Article 18 (Crime of Stalking)

- ①A person who commits crime of stalking shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 3 years or by a fine not exceeding 30 million won.
- ②A person who commits crime of stalking by carrying or utilizing any weapon or other dangerous object shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or by a fine not exceeding 50 million won.
- ③Crime in accordance with paragraph 1 cannot be prosecuted against the express wish of the victim.

Article 19 (Concurrent Imposition of Penalties and Order to Undergo Education, etc.)

- ①If a court declares a stalker guilty (excluding a suspended sentence) or notifies a summary order, it may order the person to undergo education(referring to the order to undergo education in accordance with the 「Act on Probation, Etc.」. Hereinafter the same shall apply) or complete a stalking treatment program (hereinafter referred to as "order to complete a program") for not more than 200 hours, concurrently with such sentence, as may be necessary to prevent re-offense.
- 1.Order to undergo education: Concurrent imposition within the duration of period of suspension of execution of sentence if execution of sentence suspended
- 2.Order to complete a program: Concurrent imposition if fine or imprisonment pronounced or summary order notified
- ②If a court pronounces a suspension of execution of sentence on a stalker, it may impose on the person probation or/and community service for a certain period not exceeding the period of such suspension, concurrently with an order to undergo education in accordance with paragraph (1).
- ③An order to undergo education or an order to complete a program in accordance with paragraph (2) shall include the following.
- 1.Diagnosis-consultation of stalking behavior
- 2.Education of healthy, orderly society and human rights
- 3.Other matters necessary to keep stalker from re-offense
- ④An order to undergo education or to complete a program prescribed in paragraph (1) shall be executed under the following classifications.
- 1.Execution of sentence suspended: within the duration of period of suspension of execution of sentence
- 2.Fine pronounced or summary order notified: within six months from the date on which a sentence becomes final and conclusive
- 3.Imprisonment pronounced: within the term of punishment
- ⑤If an order to undergo education or to complete a program in accordance with paragraph (1) is imposed concurrently with a fine or a suspension of execution of sentence, it shall be executed by the director of a probation office and, if imposed concurrently with imprisonment, by the head of a correctional facility. Provided, that

when the person is released or released on parole from prison before completing the entire program required under an order to complete a program that is imposed concurrently with imprisonment, or is exempted from the execution of such punishment as a result of counting the number of days of detention pending judgment, the remaining portion of such program shall be executed by the director of a probation office.

⑥With respect to matters other than those prescribed by this Act, concerning probation, community services, orders to undergo education or to complete program concurrently imposed with penalties, the 「Act on Probation, Etc.」 shall apply mutatis mutandis.

Article 20 (Non-Compliance with Provisional Measures)

Any person who fails to comply with provisional measures in accordance with Articles 9 (1) 2 and 3 shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 2 years or by a fine not exceeding 20 million won.

Article 21 (Administrative Fines)

- ①Any person who fails to perform emergency measures without a justifiable ground shall be subject to an administrative fine not exceeding 10 million won.
- ②If a person who is subject to an order to complete a program in accordance with Article 19 (1) receives a warning in accordance with the 「Act on Probation, Etc.」 or the 「Administration and Treatment of Correctional Institution Inmates Act」 for not complying with the instruction of the director of a probation office or the head of a correctional facility concerning the implementation of the order to complete a program, but again fails to follow such instruction without a justifiable ground, the person shall be subject to an administrative fine not exceeding 5 million won.
- ③An administrative fine referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be imposed-collected by the head of the relevant administrative agency as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

ADDENDUM

This Act shall enter into force six months after its promulgation.

Reason for Enactment

Along with the recent increase in serious cases of harm due to stalking accompanying extensive mental · physical harm enough to disable normal everyday life, it has become a social issue in the understanding of the fact that the lack in appropriate punishment of offender and protection of victim in the early stage of stalking has allowed its development to violent crimes including assault and murder, threatening the personal security and life of victim.

Main Contents

- A.Stalking is defined as the act of causing anxiety or fear to victim by approaching, following or blocking the course, waiting or watching near residence, workplace, school or any other everyday place, causing the arrival of an object, writing, word, symbol, sound, picture, video, image, causing the arrival of object etc. at or near residence, etc. personally or through a third party, damaging object, etc. at or near residence, etc., against the will of the victim and without a justifiable cause(Articles 2 (1) and (2)).
- B.Upon receiving a report of an ongoing stalking, judicial police officer must get to the scene immediately and take measures including stopping stalking, notifying to end stalking and advising the victim on the procedure for requesting provisional measures(Article 3).
- C.If there exists a concern of crime of stalking and requires immediate action to prevent the crime of stalking, judicial police officer may take measures including a ban on approaching the other party or residence, etc. of the other party within 100 meters and a ban on approaching the other party through telecommunications under the officer's authority or at the request of other party to stalking and legal representative thereof(Article 4).
- D.When the recurrence of crime of stalking is deemed likely, a prosecutor may request the court for measures under their authority or by application of judicial police officer, for cases where it is deemed necessary for smooth investigation · interrogation of stalking crime or protection of victim, the court may take provisional measures including a ban on approaching victim or residence, etc. within 100 meters, a ban on approaching victim through telecommunications and confinement in a detention center or room of State police station(Articles 8 and 9).
- E.The Prosecutor General shall have the chief public prosecutor of each district public prosecutors' office designate prosecutors in exclusive charge of crime of stalking, the chief of each police station shall designate judicial police officers in exclusive charge of crime of stalking to enable professional response and investigation against crime of stalking(Article 17).
- F.A person who commits crime of stalking shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 3 years or by a fine not exceeding 30 million won and a person who commits crime of stalking by carrying or utilizing any weapon or other dangerous object shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or by a fine not exceeding 50 million won(Article 18).

<Provided by Ministry of Government Legislation>

Korea Immigration & Integration Program Mentor

Dr. Aman Ullah

Dr. Aman Ullah currently serves as a mentor of the Korea Immigration & Integration Program and a foreign advisor to the Ministry of Justice. He also works for Law Firm Keumseong as an assistant manager.

Q: *There are numerous positions to describe your occupation; a foreign advisor to the Ministry of Justice, an assistant manager at Law Firm Keumseong, a mentor of the Korea Immigration & Integration Program and a lecturer. Can you briefly introduce yourself and your career for our readers?*

Hello, I am Aman Ullah from Pakistan. I first arrived in Korea as a student for language course in 2013. Then, I completed my masters and PhD research here in Korea. Since I was a boy, I enjoyed helping others. I have always been interested in providing help to others despite the difficulties that I might encounter, and such interests led me to Keumseong. As you have mentioned in your question, I am currently serving as a foreign advisor to the Ministry of Justice, and a mentor for foreigners wishing to settle down in Korea.

Q: *You have previously mentioned through other interviews that you first laid interest in Korea after listening to stories of your friend's family in 2008. Since then, you have continued your study in Korean Studies in both Pakistan and Korea for over a decade now. What made you to pursue Korean Studies after first hearing about Korea? Could you share a specific moment of decision, if there were any?*

I have always wanted to work abroad and in 2008, I first learned about Korea. At the time, I had not considered studying in Korea, but when I was searching for universities as a student, I came across a school in the capital of Pakistan that offered Korean studies major. However, I came to realize that Pakistan lacked the instructors to teach about Korea to the extent I wanted to learn. Only one person in Pakistan had a PhD in Korean studies at the time and meeting him helped me grow my interest in the field. By pursuing Korean studies, I believed I would be able to help people back in Pakistan. For these reasons, I came to Korea to study about Korea and I managed to complete my PhD course in Korea.



Q: *You are also working as a foreign advisor to the Ministry of Justice. How were you appointed as a foreign advisor and what is your role?*

As you know, I write a lot and I write about policies whenever I have the time. I have written for the Ministry of Justice's column and they have contacted me. I sent them a piece describing my thoughts on the Korea Immigration and Integration Program, which was reviewed internally by the Ministry of Justice, and I was selected as an advisor. I am one of the only two foreigners elected as advisors. My role is mostly to suggest new policies in relation to foreign residents.

Q: *You are also a frequent writer writing about policies in Korea. What are the policies that you write about the most?*

I usually write about the difficulties that foreign residents meet living in Korea. Most of my work focuses on multicultural policies that require some improvement.

Q: *I agree with you that multicultural policies should be based on mutual respect and interchange among cultures. Could you share your thoughts on specific improvements that can be made to achieve such mutual interchange?*

Mutual interchange cannot be a one-way road. I believe it is crucial to educate continuously both foreigners and Koreans. As for now, it seems more realistic to start by educating children rather than our generation. Educating children from their youth will allow them to acquire naturally the cultural knowledge, unlike adults who would need to learn consciously such content.

Q: *Couldn't there still be an opportunity to change the society as adults?*

I do believe there have been notable changes in the public awareness on diversity compared to the early 2000s. I was not in Korea during that specific time, but based on materials from that period, the Korean society seemed not to be aware that there are foreigners living in Korea. Now, the Korean society is at least aware of the fact that there are foreigners living in Korea. However, it has not progressed to the extent where Koreans perceive foreigners as a member of their same society.

Q: *There are foreigner-related policies outside of multicultural policies, as well. What do you think, as a foreigner currently living in Korea, could be improved in such policies?*

First, I would like to stress that I respect the policies and efforts made by the Korean government. A number of improvements have been achieved since the enactment of the Framework Act on Treatment of Foreigners Residing in Republic of Korea. However, most of the policies in Korea focus on policies for multicultural families. If both members of a married couple are foreigners, or if one does not have any existing connection in Korea, it is practically impossible to receive most of the benefits. That makes general foreign residents hard to perceive themselves as a member of the Korean society, living along other Koreans. For example, I have lived in Korea for over 8 years now, but my family cannot receive most of the welfare benefits for multicultural families because my spouse and I are both foreigners. This would not have been the case if we were living in the United States since we would be recognized as immigrants due to the long residence period.

Q: *What is the length of period required in Korea in order to be recognized as an immigrant?*

As for the United States, the required period is one year. However, the Korean government does not have any related policy. The term "immigrant" is not used at all and the official term in Korea is "foreigner," which I believe needs to be changed in the future. If foreigners with great memories in Korea go abroad, they could contribute to the improvement of perception of Korea as a country. An example of a policy aiming for such phenomenon is the scholarship program. There are multiple scholarships funded by the Korean government, but such funding rarely leads to employment. In other words, the Korean government financially supports the education of foreign students but fails to make use of their talents.



Q: *What do you think are some of the improvements that could be made to the multicultural education system in Korea?*

Foreigners are minorities in Korea. In the past, were mostly aimed at but we are seeing some changes recently.

However, because the current multicultural education is not carried out on a regular basis, it does not make any practical changes in perception. One-off classes where foreign teachers visit schools to simply show their traditional culture should be replaced with a regular course specifically dealing with multicultural education. Instead of an hour-long class on general facts about a country, the education system should include classes on diverse cultures and religions. After introducing students to more in-depth studies, the students should be tested on their comprehensive knowledge to better educate them about multicultural diversity.

Q: *Are the ideas that you have just shared to us (on the ways to improve multicultural education) based on any specific models of other countries?*

No, it is not. I believe it is not realistic and pragmatic to directly benchmark foreign models into Korea. Korea has its own characteristics, culture, and historical background. For instance, European countries are usually much more open to cultural and historical blending than Korea, so such difference would make each country to implement its own model.

Q: *On a related note, you have previously pointed out in one of your columns that “the Korean society has a high level of resistance against foreigners due to its mono-ethnicity discourse.” Could you share your opinion on the ways to resolve such problem of the Korean society?*

Truth is that Korea is not really a mono-ethnic society. It is not now, and it has not been a mono-ethnic society in the past, either. Korea has interacted with numerous countries including Mongolia in the past, through transnational marriages and immigration to and from neighboring countries. The problem is that the education system stressed the concept of “mono-ethnicity” even though Korea really was and is not. Such education could have contributed to the resistance of Koreans towards foreigners that seemed to have rapidly increased in the span of few years. I believe that changes in education especially from a young age will lead to changes in general perception.

Q: *Are there any efforts to educate and improve the perception of adults on diversity?*

As far as I know, they are mostly one-off attempts as well. For example, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family carry out a project to improve the adults’ awareness. An instructor conducts related lectures to parents once in about six months. However, the problem is that most of the time the instructor is not very fluent in Korean. Giving a lecture to children is much easier as the instructor usually introduces his or her culture, but giving a lecture to adults is a different story.

Q: *What do you think is the biggest difficulty faced by foreigners when they first come to Korea?*

The Korean government currently deems language as the biggest barrier for foreigners, but I think otherwise. Even if a person is not familiar with a foreign language, they can still understand and communicate through body language. In fact, my friends use English, but that did not cause any problems living in Korea. The problem is the lack of knowledge regarding the Korean culture, society and law. Educating foreigners about the Korean culture and history, such as eating etiquettes and greeting manners will help them more easily adapt to the Korean society. For example, when Koreans see foreigners who do not greet in front of them, they think that the foreigners are impolite, but that is indeed a misunderstanding derived from cultural differences. I myself had a tendency to speak continuously and sometimes expressed disagreement with my boss, and some Koreans were not pleased with this. I did not know this at first and had some problems struggling to adapt to the new culture. That is why educating culture to foreigners is important, and I recommend spending the budget for such education.

Q: *Do you know what it is like in other countries, especially those with many foreign students?*

Those countries are a bit different from Korea. For example, when a student studies abroad in the United States, all classes are conducted in English and the student can naturally learn and take in the language. In contrast, foreign students who come to Korea do not study in Korean, since most lectures are conducted in English as they

mostly take “international classes” taught in English. After learning Korean in language schools and getting third-degree certificates, students just forget Korean and their use of Korean is limited to daily communication.

In addition, workers come to Korea after learning Korean in their countries but their lives are limited to their workplaces such as factories. As a result, most workers usually acquire bad words and only use slangs. They may live over a decade in Korea, but only use the type of language used in factories. When they go back to their countries, they set up Korean academies and teach students the same bad language. I thought that is a big problem indeed.

Q: *Do you mean to say that the factories do not offer the foreign workers opportunities to learn Korean language and culture as a part of welfare?*

No, they do not provide any opportunities. Workers are only interested in extending their working visas rather than taking interest in Korea. They do not see a future in Korea and take little interest in settlement because the Korean immigration policy prevents them from settling down. Since workers are bound to leave one day, they make little efforts to learn and educate themselves. If the government offers enough opportunity for settlement as a policy, that can encourage them to make some effort to learn more regarding language and culture.

Q: *What kinds of policies, for instance, would allow foreign workers to think they can permanently settle in Korea?*





They come with E9 visas and can change to other visas, but numbers are limited due to quotas. In addition, since last December, the policies have changed, which prevents E9 visa workers from changing their visas to F2 because it was said there were too many foreigners receiving F2 visas. F2 visas allow more freedom to work, but now it is not given, which makes it less likely for foreigners to receive permanent residency (green card). Now, workers need the permanent residency to naturalize as Korean citizens since F2s are not given. In this regard, it is more difficult for workers to settle in Korea, which I believe should change. Workers have talent and skills. Considering them as simple laborers and preventing them from moving to other fields, Korea cannot progress. If Korea can harvest those abilities, Korea will be able to grow.

Q: *You mentioned that even though the scholarships are well provided, foreign students face difficulties in finding jobs in Korea. What causes this to happen?*

Frankly speaking, visa is not an issue. Most engineering students come to Korea thanks to government scholarship programs such as, Brain 21 and Brain 23, in which government takes full responsibility of education costs. Since the government invested a lot in the program, Korea should utilize students from these programs by employing them to Korean companies. However, due to the lack of cooperation between the government and companies, students from these

programs do not get enough opportunity to work in Korea. In most cases, they work as an instructor in schools, become a research student or work abroad after graduation. A friend of mine wrote a high quality dissertation, but failed to receive any calls from Korean companies. Instead he received a call from NASA. Likewise, most foreign students who studied in Korea with Korean scholarship now work outside Korea. If this continues, the scholarships will be nothing but a waste of government budget.

Q: *Are Korean companies excluding foreigners? Or is it that foreigners do not want to work in Korean companies?*

There are two reasons. First, companies in other countries offer more benefits and salary. Second, Korean companies demand Korean proficiency essentially, but most foreign students who major in technology were educated in English. Consequently, foreign students who studied in Korea choose to work abroad rather than learn Korean. Since 2017, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Justice have cooperated to provide permanent residency or visa benefits to foreign students who come to Korea with scholarships. However, I believe that cooperating with businesses will be more helpful for the students. These students are human resources and to lose them will be crucial for Korea after all it has invested.

The Korean government attracts many foreign students to enhance Korea's status. However, I believe it is more important to utilize the human resources in Korea rather than simply inviting them.

Q: *What is your current job in Law Firm Keumseong immigration center regarding the settlement and lives of foreigners?*

I work a lot and so does Keumseong. I try to give many opinions and I like that the firm accepts many of them. Since there are many foreigners who lack knowledge about the Korean culture and law, I encourage them to freely contact me at Keumseong for any legal advice, especially in cases where they violate the Korean law unwittingly. Since foreigners can face difficulties in their lives due to their ignorance of Korean law, we provide legal counseling about visa amendments, delay in payment of wages and lawsuits.

Q: *You have lived a long time in Korea and provided help to others. What is your advice to foreigners who first come to Korea or want to settle?*

I always emphasize it is important to understand the Korean culture and society. Accommodating Korean culture can make the settlement of foreigners much easier. Do not apply your native culture and language to Korea. If you are living in Korea, you must adapt to Korean culture and think in a more flexible manner.

Furthermore, I think that foreigners should keep their initial intention in mind. When they first come to Korea, they are eager to adapt to the society and live well in Korea. However, this fades out as time passes by. If they lose this attitude, they also lose their purpose of living in Korea.

Recent Events



Promoting Asia-Pacific Regional Cooperation for Legal Protection of Intellectual Property Rights

Ministry of Justice Co-hosts the “Sub-regional Workshop on IP Enforcement” with World Intellectual Property Organization

Ministry of Justice, World Intellectual Property Organization(WIPO) and Presidential Council on Intellectual Property co-hosts the “Sub-regional Workshop on IP Enforcement,” online between 8. 23.(Mon) - 24(Tue).

Ministry of Justice concluded a Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) with WIPO on March 2018, cooperated with WIPO since 2019, co-hosted legal workshop as part of a joint project for the protection of intellectual property within the Asia-Pacific region and is concentrating on efforts to strengthen the expertise of intellectual property enforcement agencies.

- Especially, this workshop strengthened the expertise by co-participation of the Presidential Council on Intellectual Property and inviting hands-on staffs of various international organizations as speakers.

- Today, digital transformation in various industries is accelerating and increasing online economic activity due to the global outbreak of infectious disease, raising the necessity of the protection of new digital technologies and the prevention of intellectual property infringement in online environment.

This workshop, hand-on staffs of various international organizations including WIPO, World Customs Organization(WCO), European Union Intellectual Property Office(EUIPO); legal prosecutors of the Asia-Pacific region and Korean public officials(prosecutors and investigators) will actively discuss on the topic of investigation and enforcement of the crime of intellectual property infringement in the total of 13 sessions and share experiences of intellectual property protection in digital environment.

Ministry of Justice will utilize this workshop as a platform for finding desirable policy directions for intellectual property protection in the Asia-Pacific region and expect this workshop to contribute to the strengthening of expertise in intellectual property of national and international law enforcement agencies.

Ministry of Justice, hand in hand with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, Plans to lead the establishment of International Trade Law in the Asia-Pacific Region

Promote sharing and education of International Trade Law experience with developing nations in the region



The Minister Park, Beom Kye, with UNCITRAL and Incheon City, hosted the MOU extension ceremony for the support for UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (UNCITRAL RCAP) on November 3, 2021 at the Incheon Songdo G Tower.

- The ceremony was to celebrate the MOU extension between the three organizations designed to provide financial and human resources to UNCITRAL RCAP.
- Minister Park, Beom Kye of the Ministry of Justice, Mayor Park, Nam Chun of Incheon City, and Director Anna Joubin-Bret of UNCITRAL participated in the event to congratulate the 10th Anniversary for the foundation of the one and only regional centre for UNCITRAL and to share the need to extend UNCITRAL RCAP’s role based on the 10 years of experience.

Minister Park mentioned that “Founding of the first and only UNCITRAL Regional Centre in Incheon has great implications as it signifies the international acknowledgement of Korea’s economic development and our democratic establishment, and shows the trust in our judicial and dispute settlement system.” He offered the goal “to help UNCITRAL RCAP to become the centre of development for Asia-Pacific International Trade Law through the cooperation between the three organizations.”

- Also, Minister Park stated that “If our Ministry of Justice, actively promoting legal support policies for MSMEs, and UNCITRAL, working on various MSME related issues, such as insolvency, limited liability, cooperate, we can expect to find effective measures for supporting MSMEs.”



Ministry of Justice, with UNCITRAL, plans to actively support the developing countries in the Asia and the Pacific region to adopt and utilize international trade law, and today’s ceremony will be the new beginning for arranging legal foundation for the cooperation of the two organizations.

- With UNCITRAL, and especially with the Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, the Ministry of Justice will implement education and training program for public officials and experts of the developing countries in the Asia and the Pacific region and policy research of the International Trade Law arranged through discussion with the UNCITRAL. Furthermore, MOJ plans to introduce advanced law and share national experience of adopting international trade law such as enactment of implementation act to increase the utilization of norms.

- Externally, Korea will be able to meet the demands of the international society which changed following the rise of our national status. In addition, by building international trade environment more familiar to Korean companies through the spread of international trade law Korea adopted, we expect to increase predictability and decrease legal costs.

After the ceremony, Minister Park visited the UNCITRAL RCAP office located in the same building and listened to the achievements made in the past ten years since its establishment, asked for further effort to strengthen the role of RCAP, and expressed the Ministry of Justice’s willingness to join in on the effort.

Policies of the Ministry of Justice

Seasonal Worker Program will be improved to solve worker shortage in agricultural and fishing villages

Solving difficulties of agriculture and fishing villages through expanding eligibility for foreigners residing in Korea to participate in the program, ensuring diligent workers opportunities for reentry, abolishing limits on crops that can be farmed under the program, providing employment opportunities in small-sized agricultural and fishing villages and more

The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Areas established measures to vitalize the Seasonal Worker Program to solve labor shortage in agriculture and fisheries. This will be enforced from January 1, 2022.

Stable supply of workforce is provided by making the Seasonal Worker Program permanent and allowing more foreigners to participate in the program

The difficulty of securing foreign workforce due to COVID-19 was considered in transitioning the temporary Seasonal Worker Program* into a permanent program. This will allow securing of labor force at any time of the year.

* Operation period: '20.3.26 ~ '22.3.31 (one year), Number of participants: 51 local governments, 1,470 personnel participating ('21.12.5)

In the past, participation in the program was limited to foreigners residing in Korea with family visitor visa (F-1) or family dependents visa (F-3), or foreigners who cannot depart due to COVID-19, or Myanmarese who are permitted for special stay due to instability of situation in Myanmar.



- From now on, the following foreigners are also allowed to participate in the program* ①International students (including students receiving language training) ②Afghans who are granted special stay due to instability of the region ③Foreign national Koreans with work and visit visa (H-2) and signed non-employment agreement ④Foreigners with arts and culture visa (D-1) and job seeker visa (D-10)

* As of '21.10.31., 185,254 people can participate in the program, which includes 169,273 international students, 6,782 foreign national Koreans who signed non-employment agreement out of foreign national Koreans with H-2 visa (131,564), 9,199 people with Job Seeker visa. The number of international students who can participate will gradually be increased by considering severity of COVID-19 situation.

There are now more benefits to foreigners who participate in the program, such as ensuring reentry for diligent Seasonal Workers

If migrant workers of the program abide by the law of Republic of Korea and get recommendation from local governments for their hard work, their reentry can be ensured by issuing certificates of visa issuance at competent immigration service office.

Moreover, if international students residing in Korea participate in the Seasonal Workers Program for more than 60 days, they can get additional points when applying for the job seeker visa (D-10). If those who has H-2 visa* and signed non-employment agreement participate in the program for more than 6 months, they are allowed to change their residency status to overseas Korean visa (F-4).

* Foreign national Koreans with H-2 visa may be employed for maximum duration of 4 years and 10 months. If they have legitimate reasons to extend their residency in Korea, such as educating or raising their children, they may do so after signing non-employment agreement.

New policies will be further promoted for migrant workers who worked for 5 years with seasonal migrant worker visa (E-8). This would include creation of agriculture and fisheries expertise visa (E-7-5) or agriculture and fisheries immigration visa that allows migrants to reside in rural areas with population decrease if they meet certain standards.

Considering labor shortage in rural areas, farming and fishing houses will be allowed to hire more workers. For farming houses, limits on crops eligible for Seasonal Worker Program



will be lifted and limits on farming scaled will be relieved.

12 people* can now be hired in farming and fishing houses. If status of migrant worker changes due to instances such as workers departing, houses can hire additional workers among foreigners residing in Korea. The regulation that limits farming houses from growing maximum two types of crops under the Seasonal Workers Program is now lifted.

* Hiring up to 9 people is a given. 3 more people can be hired based on special cases (exceptional management of workers, elders, raising children under 8)

Small sized farming and fishing houses will also be given opportunities to hire migrant workers by allowing short-term employment of foreigners residing in Korea for 1 week. Moreover, a public Seasonal Worker Program will be put into trial, in which public sectors, such as local governments or center for rural work forces, hire migrant workers and deploy them to farming houses.

※ Seasonal workers residing in Korea can be employed for minimum 1-month period and maximum 5-month period.

To prevent escaping of migrant workers, repatriation deposit system will be adapted when signing MOU with foreign countries. Illegal employers will be limited from inviting foreign workers and will be punished more severely to maintain employment order among migrant workers.

Repatriation deposit system will be newly created to prevent illegal brokers. Those who illegally employed deserted migrant workers with seasonal migrant worker visa (E-8), non-professional employment visa (E-9) and vessel crew visa (E-10) will be severely punished. They will also be limited from inviting migrant workers.

The Ministry of Justice will put further effort to solve labor shortage in rural due to COVID-19 by allowing more migrant workers to be employed at right moments of time.

Policies of the Ministry of Justice

Briefing on the Arrival of Afghan Special Entrants (8. 26.)



Progress

We cannot give up on Afghan friends who helped the Republic of Korea. Today the government welcomes the local cooperators who worked with our government in Afghanistan and their families. These people are finally arriving here in Korea after miraculously succeeding to escape from Kabul in our government’s meticulous joint operation which was a difficult operation which the result could not be guaranteed for in the urgent local situation turning moment by moment. The government, after careful consideration and numerous discussions, made the difficult decision to allow special entry. As the Minister of Justice directing the immigration policy, I feel heavy responsibility and sense of duty than any other ministry.

Necessity to Accommodate

These people all worked together at our embassy, KOICA, Korean hospital, Korean job training center and Korean base in Afghanistan. People who cooperated with our government’s Afghanistan reconstruction project. Lived in a distant country, but in effect neighbors who lived together with us. In the situation where these people are risked of their lives because of the fact that these people worked together with us, how can we pretend not to know. Therefore our government made the difficult decision. Developed countries such as the US, the UK, Germany and Australia which were active in Afghanistan already evacuated cooperators who they worked together with. We need to take responsibility to correspond

to the Republic of Korea’s status in international society. We were once fleeing from war and received help of the international society. Now is the time for us to give help. With this we became a pillar of international society active in protecting the universal value of democracy and human rights.

Constituents

Quite a few of these people are excellent people who worked as medical staff, job training center staff and administrative staff at our embassy. Children who came together are all young and there are quite a few infants as well. More than half of all entrants are minor children. Having worked together with our government in Afghanistan, some already have command of Korean language. They will adjust well to Korea.

Status of Stay

The Ministry of Justice is planning to grant phased status of stay in Korea. In principle, one must possess a visa upon entry to be admitted into Korea, but the MOJ is planning to issue C-3 short term visa on arrival at the airport to admit these people. Soon after entry, F-1 residency status will be given, which allows long term stay, to allow for more stable status of stay. Finally, after the temporary stay period, the MOJ will grant F-2 residency status, which allows free employment and independence. However, a legislative amendment is needed to grant such status and we are currently preparing for the necessary revision. We are amending the ‘Enforcement Decree of the Immigration Act,’ to allow F-2 residency status to be given to ‘foreigners who have special contributions or have served to promote public interests,’ and the revision will be included in the pre-announcement as of today.

Measures for Safety

We believe that our citizens will have various concerns. Understanding the concerns, we will make every effort to protect our citizens. We are taking special care regarding the spread of COVID-19. PCR tests will be conducted on all upon their entry into Korea, and will be conducted twice more during their quarantine. (Total of 3 tests) At the Jincheon facility (National Human Resources Development Institute), used as temporary place of stay during quarantine, a medical

team will also reside (4 doctors, 6 nurses). 40 MOJ staff members with expertise in foreigner related tasks have also been placed. Identity verifications have been thoroughly conducted through related institutions and plan to be conducted again in the future. To free the citizens of worry, the MOJ will make safety its top priority and will take full responsibility.

Future Plans

For the time being, these people require a peace of mind and the help from our citizens will greatly help. The MOJ expresses its greatest gratitude to the residents of Chungcheongbukdo province and the residents of Jincheon and Eumseong who have decided to graciously welcome our friends from Afghanistan. Korean language and culture lessons will be provided in the temporary living facilities to prepare for settlement. The government will aid prompt settlement through systematic social integration education and will provide support for independence and self-sufficiency. The MOJ asks our citizens’ understanding and support to show that the Republic of Korea is faithful to and accepting of all those who have provided help for us in the past. Thank you.

One Afghanistan Special Contributor Household receives U.S Special Immigrant Visa, Departs to U.S through Incheon Airport on December 15

One of the households (6 people; 2 adults, 4 children) among the Afghanistan Special Contributors (393 people) who entered Korea on August 26, departed to the United States after receiving Special Immigrant Visa* for which they have applied to the US Embassy in Afghanistan back in 2019.

* Visa given to Afghans who contributed to the national interests of the United States

The household completed their visa application process, including interviews and medical examinations, in Afghanistan from 2020 to 2021 before entering Korea,

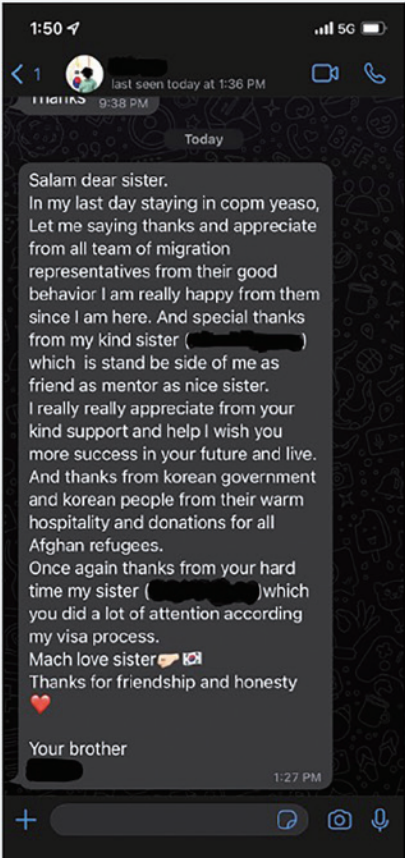
- And on August 15, 2021, entered Korea through ‘Operation Miracle’ after feeling threatened as the Taliban overthrew the Afghanistan’s government in 20 years.

The representative of the household met the special contributor requirement for Korea by working as a radiologist at the Bagram Korean Hospital in Afghanistan, and also satisfied the requirement for the U.S Special Immigrant Visa by working at the Bagram U.S military base.

As the household entered Korea, the visa application process that was initiated in Afghanistan had been transferred to the US Embassy in Korea, and the proceedings were completed last week. Per their decisions, the members of the household departed to the United States on December 15.

Before departure, the representative of the household expressed sincere

gratitude for the heartwarming welcome and support by the Korean government and the people, and for the kindly guidance provided by the Ministry of Justice Immigration Service employees. The other 387 Special Contributors are participating in various programs designed to help their settlement and independence in Korea at the Korea Coast Guard Academy in Yeosu, and will progressively settle down in regional communities as they receive work offers and decide their place of stay.



Director Changwan Han of International Dispute Settlement Division

Changwan Han
Director of International Dispute Settlement Division, Ministry of Justice

International Dispute Settlement Division

International Dispute Settlement Division was founded last August (2020) to focus solely on Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS), in response to the growing need for preventing and resolving ISDS cases. Before, ISDS cases were handled by International Legal Affairs Division, along with many other works. It is expected that the establishment of International Dispute Settlement Division contribute to the effective prevention and resolution of ISDS cases. The work of International Dispute Settlement Division ranges from carrying out the arbitrations (gathering evidence, preparing documents, etc.) and supervising law firms working on behalf of the government, to offering educative sessions on preventing ISDS cases.

Changwan Han is the Director of International Dispute Settlement Division at the Ministry of Justice. Director Han was appointed as the Director of International Legal Affairs Division on April 9, 2018 and he was appointed as the Director of International Dispute Settlement Division in August, 2020. Before his appointment as a Director at the Legal Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Justice, Director Han was an attorney at law at Bae, Kim & Lee (BKL). Director Han passed the 45th National Bar Examination and graduated the 35th Class of the Judicial Research & Training Institute.

Q: How did your work experience at the law firm BKL, specializing in maritime, insurance and aviation litigations, influence your later career as the head of the International Legal Affairs Division and International Dispute Settlement Division? What sparked your current interest in international law?

Maritime, insurance, and air service-related litigations at large law firms are great opportunities to practice and acquire knowledge of the underlying principles of international transactions. In addition, involvement in such legal proceedings enabled me to be familiarized with multifold discussions that revolve around topics such as international arbitration and international M&A. Participating in prominent cases as an attorney, I was able to be accustomed to the basics of international



litigations, which also helped me when I first started working as part of the Ministry of Justice.

Regarding the subsequent question on what the driving force was that steered my career towards the sectors of international legal affairs and international dispute settlement, the strongest force in action was my personal desire. I have always had an aspiration to work in the public domain rather than continuing on the private practice of law when a vacancy in the Ministry of Justice appeared. Reading the notice of recruitment for the head of International Law Division in 2018, it came to mind that this was the right moment I have been waiting for and I was lucky enough to secure the position. To put it in a nutshell, seizing the golden opportunity while constantly being on the lookout for a suitable occasion to transfer to the public sector is what led me to my current occupation.

Q: What qualities or attributes are needed by next generation of lawyers who wish to pursue a career in the field of international dispute settlement?

I would not mention foreign language skills as I am aware that everyone has sufficient level of foreign language skills these days. I would say “SWAN” is necessary for professionals and I often tell this to my fellow colleagues who are less experienced than me. “SWAN” is an abbreviation of the words, “Smart, Working-hard, Ambitious, and Nice”. “Smart” accounts for your ability to develop your professional skills and working process while “Working-hard” accounts for the effort you put

into work. “Ambitious”, in this context, does not mean your desire for success, but rather signifies your determination to improve your performance and ability to prioritize more important tasks. Last but not least, “Nice” does not mean you have good personality, but means you view your work positively and willingly work with your teammates; it is about your attitude as a professional. I believe “SWAN” is needed for professionals working in all fields of law including international and national law, mediation, and M&A.

To be more specific, you should be interested in international law if you wish to work in this field. Only few opportunities exist for people who wish to work in the field of international law; unlike other fields that hold regular recruitments, recruitments are only held when there are vacancies. Hence, you should be updated with the information as you can work in the field only if you seize the opportunity to do so.

Q: How would you describe your ultimate goal as a legal professional?

It is hard to say that I have a concrete goal, but my current aim is to successfully fulfill my duties and continue to expand on what I gain in the process of working. I hope to remain working in this position or in other positions in the public sector although it might be substantially difficult because the field of international law typically does not yield many job openings.

Q: You have worked as the head of International Legal Affairs Division before the foundation of International Dispute Settlement Division and later moved to serve as the first head of International Dispute Settlement Division. What are the main differences between the two divisions in terms of their work?

Before, International Legal Affairs Division was in charge of UNCITRAL, UNIDROIT, international aids, diplomatic events, legal cooperation, and ISDS (Inter-State Dispute Settlement) cases. No wonder I felt like I am not tackling any of the tasks well. Now, thanks to the foundation of International Dispute Settlement Division that focuses specifically on ISDS, I get to focus solely on ISDS. Indeed, there are pros and cons. In International Legal Affairs Division, you experience different fields of law including private international law, law of international transaction and public international law. In International Dispute Settlement Division, on the contrary, you can build your expertise in one field. However, working in the two divisions is similar in essence as both of them are part of the public sector.

Q: The International Dispute Settlement Division takes full charge of the administration of international dispute settlement cases which include collecting evidence, processing documents, attending trials, and monitoring law firms that represent the government. Since international disputes involve foreign investors as counterparts, it seems there may be certain hindrances when



gathering evidence. Are there specific directions mandated by the ICSID concerning such procedures?

Although ICSID does not specifically stipulate procedures related to the collection of evidence in ISDS cases, the International Dispute Settlement Division adheres to the rule of evidence established by the International Bar Association(IBA), which is applied to general cases of arbitration as well as ISDS cases. Since this guideline is a mere basis on which the arbitral tribunal has the ultimate authority to regulate the procedures of collecting and presenting evidence, it is safe to say that there are no set rules in the process of gathering documentation and that a large part is at the discretion of the arbitral tribunal. As the question points out, the government faces a series of obstacles when accumulating evidence. Despite the fact that investment disputes are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice, related documents are often held by other ministries, which is why their cooperation is key to safe passage of the initial stages of assembling the factual basics of a lawsuit. For this reason, the Ministry of Justice is working in various ways to obtain legal evidence, for instance by promptly distributing an official letter to relevant ministries the instant an incident occurs and requesting that the relevant data be kept. In addition to directing and supervising the law firms that represent the government, the Ministry of Justice stands in the forefront of each dispute and battles through the process together. In particular, the International Dispute Settlement Division is fully responsible for the task of procuring and submitting

documents from within the government. Data collection is the most demanding and important duty of the Ministry of Justice, which is why we pay extra attention to related tasks.

Q: What difficulties have you faced while working in the field of international disputes/ISDS? Have you ever felt your efforts paid off?

I guess I would feel paid off if we won our cases. We do not have much experience of winning a case as most of our cases are ongoing, but I hope we could win some cases in the future so that we can contribute to the national interest and feel personally rewarded as well. International Dispute Settlement Division was founded last August so it has been more than 10 months since we started working as a new team. The rationale behind the foundation was to protect the national interest by training each member of our team to be an ISDS specialist and we have worked hard to advance our expertise. Gaining further expertise will help us improve our performance in international dispute settlements so I would also feel rewarded if we do so. Filing documents is the toughest part of our work. In order to handle ISDS cases, the Ministry of Justice requests relevant documents to government branches; however, they are sometimes reluctant to submit the requested documents as some documents are confidential or, in some cases, those branches are not well aware of the ISDS procedure.



Q: The Foreign Investment Ombudsman system was first introduced in 1999, with an aim to resolve grievances of foreign-invested companies operating in Korea through analyzing problems foreign firms experience, requesting cooperation from relevant administrative agencies, and proposing new policies to improve the foreign investment promotion system. To establish a preemptive cooperation system that would forestall international investment disputes with foreign investment companies, the Ministry of Justice recently signed the “Ministry of Justice-Foreign Investment Ombudsman Business Agreement”. What is your view on the expected effects of the business agreement with the Foreign Investment Ombudsman?

The primary focus in the field of international investment dispute settlement is to prevent disputes from occurring in the first place. So far, there was not a single link between the Foreign Investment Ombudsman and the Ministry of Justice. However, since foreign investors often visit the Ombudsman to file investment complaints, the Ministry of Justice came to the conclusion that identifying these dissatisfactions in advance may offer substantial guidance on how disputes can be efficiently constrained from sprouting. This business agreement indicates the formation of the “triangular system for investment dispute prevention (Ministry of Justice - Investor - Investment Ombudsman)”, which will enable the Ministry of justice to acquire and study information collected by the Ombudsman. There are high hopes that it will act as a great reinforcement to the current system that includes educative sessions on the prevention of investment disputes. The details of the business agreement are yet to be finalized, but since smooth communication is crucial, the International Dispute Settlement Division is currently working on establishing a direct channel with the Ombudsman such as forming a working committee.

Q: Some worries were expressed at a confirmation hearing of the Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy nominee that if the

Korean government continues to intervene in the management of Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO), the government may be subject to the foreign investors’ ISDS. How would you define the scope of ISDS in general and what are your thoughts about criticisms that ISDS procedure is abused by some foreign investors?

Simply stated, most of the government measures on foreign investors are subject to ISDS; however, it is difficult to generalize the scope as it differs by agreements or conventions. Some agreements have exceptional provisions stating that government measures related to national health, public health, and national security are not subject to ISDS. In this case, the scope of ISDS differs depending on the existence of such exceptional provisions. If an agreement has no exceptional provisions, all government measures are subject to ISDS. There have been deep concerns in the international community about the possible risks of abuses. At the same time, the international community has been putting efforts to ameliorate such concerns, not to mention that our justice ministry is part of it. UNCIRAL has set ISDS reform as its agenda and many developing countries, developed countries and the EU have suggested alternatives which are currently on the table for discussion. Most countries concur in the view that the country’s governing power should not be disrupted by foreign investors’ ISDS. However, countries’ views differ slightly depending on their positions in international trade; exporting countries (that send many foreign investors abroad) are more concerned with protecting the right of their investors while other countries consider protecting the rights of the government more important.

Q: Guidelines against COVID19 have restricted the activities of many companies, leading to concerns that a resultant surge in ISDS (Investor-State Dispute Settlement) cases will emerge. What is your outlook on ISDS (Investor-State Dispute Settlement) cases in the post-COVID19 era?

Since COVID-19 has generated asymmetrical impacts on different regions of the world, the outlook on ISDS in the post-COVID19 era is bound to vary from country to country. Speaking of Korea, most of the COVID19-related measures are related to quarantine, and many of them are based on generalized rules that are applied comprehensively, rather than being targeted towards specific foreign companies or industries. Moreover, these actions were taken to protect public health. Current measures do not discriminate against foreign investors and there are no such plans in the future, therefore the chances are scarce that an ISDS (Investor-State Dispute Settlement) related to the corona virus will be raised. The International Dispute Settlement Division is carefully observing the situation, but it is unlikely that the dreaded scenario of multiple ISDS lawsuits being filed in the aftermath of COVID-19 will be realized, as long as the laws and procedures stipulated by the Korean administrative system are followed.

Vaccine in Korea widely open to foreigners

In 2020, COVID-19 depleted normal daily lives of people around the world and Korea was not an exception. After a year of struggle, maybe there seems to be a breakthrough. A vaccine that may bring an end to this long, hard and lonely fight against the tenacious virus. Korea has currently adopted four types of vaccines developed by foreign pharmaceutical companies; Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Janssen. Then, can foreigners in Korea get a vaccine injection by the way. If they can, when and how can they get it?

Are foreigners also eligible for vaccination in Korea?

According to the current regulation regarding vaccination eligibility, quick answer to the question is yes. If you are residing in Korea, Korean citizenship is not necessarily a requirement for vaccination.

Specific conditions

Due to the limitation in vaccine supply, there are some conditions to be

met before actual vaccination.

First, vaccination is open for foreigners that have stayed in Korea for over 90 days prior to the date of vaccination. This condition exists to prioritize vaccination of those that have and are likely to stay in Korea for a considerable length of time.

Second, one needs to have a foreign registration number issued by the immigration office. Koreans with foreign nationality are eligible for vaccination as well. This condition exists to provide vaccines to the foreign residents residing in Korea, rather than the ones staying for the purpose of travel.

Third, one has to be signed up for national health insurance. If all three conditions are satisfied, foreigners are also fully eligible for vaccination in Korea. It is possible to get vaccinated at entrusted medical institutions, and the whole process following from reservation through vaccination order is identical to that of Korean citizens.

For those who have stayed in Korea for over 90 days but do not have a foreign registration number, or if you are exempt from foreign registration duty, there is an alternative process that allows you to get vaccinated. For the two cases mentioned, one needs to get a temporary management number issued by the public health center. However for

those who has not been signed up for the national health insurance, registration needs to be made at the healthcare center, and vaccination is also possible only at the healthcare center.

As long as one is eligible for vaccination, no fee will be charged regardless of his or her nationality and vaccination site.

Getting ready for vaccination

When can you get vaccinated?

Priority in vaccination order is identical to the vaccination order of Korean citizens.

When your age or occupation group becomes eligible for vaccination, you should apply for advance reservation via internet using National COVID19 Vaccine Reservation system(<http://ncvr.kdca.go.kr>), phone call(1339), or walk in reservation at medical institutes.

******Those who are not signed up for national health insurance must register by visiting the healthcare center.

Is it possible to choose vaccine type?

Korean government does not allow anyone(including Korean citizens) to choose the type of vaccine. Appropriate vaccine type is allocated according to the characteristics of one's relevant group.

Vaccination order

General priority and overall vaccination plans continuing from the second half of 2021 are as following:

General priority

Group: Objective	Relevant groups(in order of priority)
A: Severe illness ↓casualty rate control	1_ Clients and employees of elderly care facilities 2_ Clients and users of in-home care facilities for the elderly 3_ Individuals 65 and older 4_ Adults with chronic disease 5_ Individuals who are 50 to 64 years old
B: Maintenance of medical and fundamental social systems	1_ Employees of medical institutions associated to COVID19 treatment 2_ Employees of high-risk medical institutions(healthcare workers) 3_ Frontline response personnel 4_ Employees of medical institutions and pharmacies 5_ Soldiers, police, fire fighters, employees of social infrastructures
C: Prevention of community transmission (mass infection)	1_ Clients(excluding the elderly) and employees of mass facilities 2_ Employees of child ↓adolescent education or care institutions 3_ Individuals who are 18 to 49 years old



D: Excluded from vaccination

*Future inclusion
possible based on
clinical trial
results

- 1_Children and adolescents
- 2_Pregnant women

Vaccination plans continuing from July of 2021

*Specific plans may change according to changes in vaccine supply status

~June 2021	July to September	October to December
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clients and employees of elderly care facilities• Clients and users of in-home care facilities for the elderly• Individuals 65 and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adults with chronic disease• Individuals who are 50 to 64 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2nd dose recipients• Non vaccinated individuals or ones in need of re-vaccination
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees of medical institutions associated to COVID19 treatment• Employees of high-risk medical institutions (healthcare workers)• Frontline response personnel• Employees of medical institutions and pharmacies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soldiers, police, fire fighters, employees of social infrastructures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residents and employees of elderly care facilities• Clients and employees of mental health and rehabilitation facilities• Clients and employees of facilities for people with disabilities and homeless people	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees of child ↓adolescent education or care institutions• Individuals who are 18 to 49 years old	



Support for essential activities

Individuals who require emergency departure for activities such as government duty and essential business activities may be given priority despite the vaccination order. However, such priority will be given after strict screening of qualifications. Approval of such exception would be provided by the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency after screening by relevant organization(Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy; Ministry of SMEs and Startups; Ministry of Foreign Affairs). False reports and misuse of policies will be subject to strict countermeasures(revision of laws and amendments).

What to expect for each type of vaccine: 2nd shot

	Pfizer	Moderna	Astra Zeneca	Janssen
Platform	mRNA vaccine		Virus-vector vaccine	
Number of doses	2	2	2	1
Time gap	21 days	28 days	8~12 weeks (mostly 11~12 weeks)	-

For vaccines that require two doses in total, cross vaccination is not recommended among different vaccines due to insufficient clinical trial data.

Incentives for those who’ve completed their injection

Even though, Korea has adopted various types of vaccine abroad as written above, many people still doubt whether vaccine is totally safe without any serious side effects. A series of recent cases related to physical damages after vaccine injection seems to drive people into a deep loophole of concern. To address this problem and encourage more citizens to voluntarily get a vaccine, Korean government recently

announced several incentive measures for people who’ve completed vaccine injection.

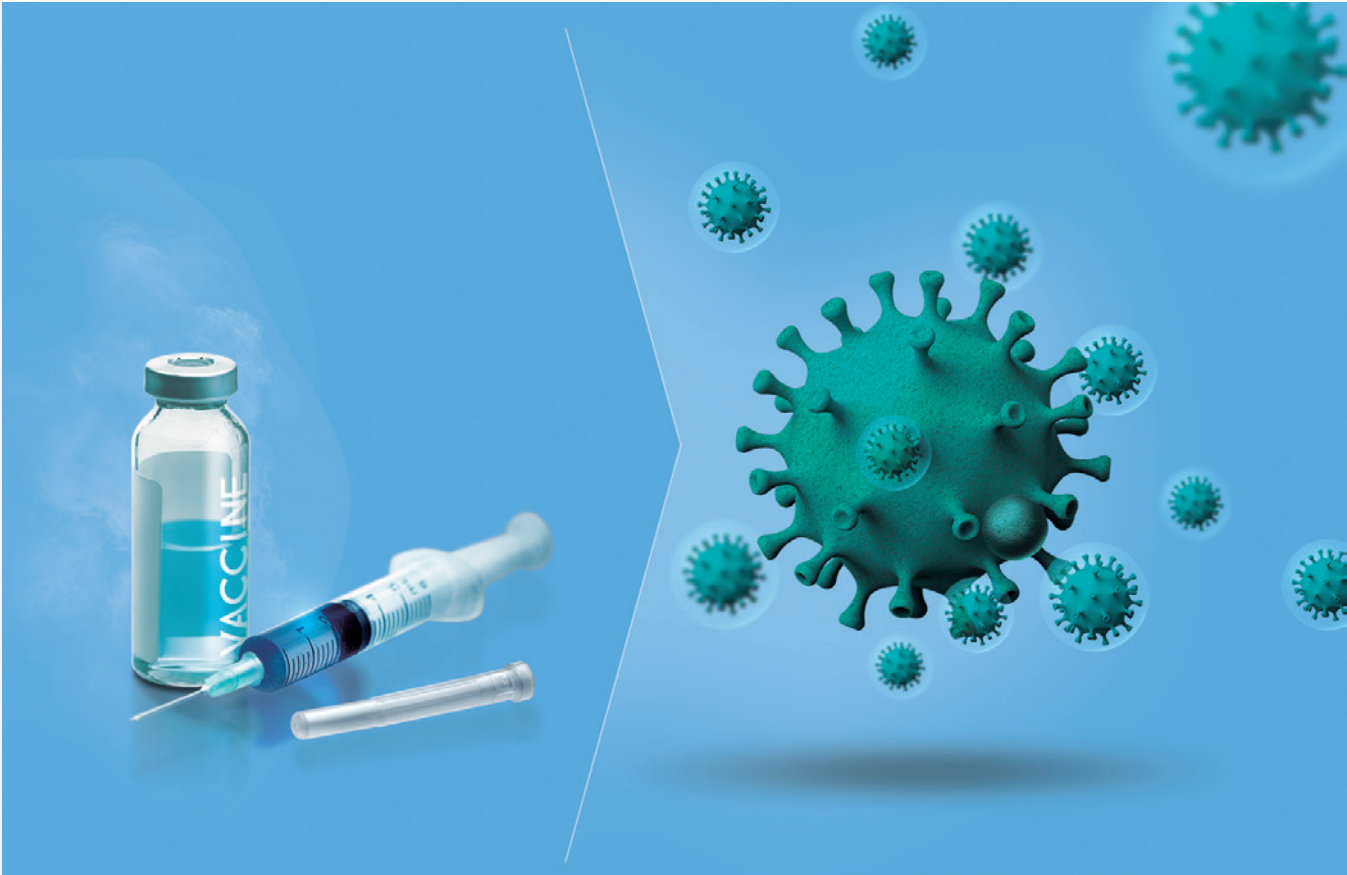
- 1) From June
 - a. For those who’ve completed the first of two times of vaccine injections, the restriction will be eased off in cases of family gathering and welfare facilities for the aged. Currently, the maximum number of people allowed for family gathering is restricted to 8, but those who’ve got injected at least once will not count when it comes to the number of maximum people regulated.
 - b. Also, to vitalize voluntary vaccine injection, admission fees and facilitation charges for public facilities will be discounted for people who’ve completed vaccine injection. In some cases, charges will be exempted or they will be provided priority rights.

- 2) From July, when more than a quarter of Korea completes first injection
 - a. For people who’ve injected vaccine at least once, they are exempted from their duty to wear masks outdoor. They can go to the mountains and take a walk in the parks without masks. However for outdoor events and indoor facilities, they still have to wear masks as before injection.
 - b. In case the person has fully completed their injection according to the procedure, he or she will not count for the maximum number of people allowed for private gathering, The same will apply for religious activities.
 - c. People who have completed vaccine injection at least once will be free from the restriction regulating the maximum number of people possible for using outdoor multiuse facilities and those who’ve completed whole procedure of injection will not be bothered by the regulation both indoor and outdoor facilities.

- 3) From October, when 70% of citizens have completed first injection
 - a. Return to daily lives is possible except for special cases such as hospital and sanatoriums.
 - b. Authority will review the exemption of mask duties for all citizens.

Vaccine injection abroad and travelling

Many foreigners from United States, United Kingdom or other states which have shown a fast progress in vaccine injection comes to Korea after they’ve completed their injection in their own country. However, Korean government is currently continuing with a guideline that even if the party submits a certificate of injection, he/she still has to be in self-quarantine for two weeks after arrival in Korea as other immigrants. In other words, completing a vaccine injection abroad doesn’t exempt the foreigner from the self-quarantine duty. There seems to be a bit of



controversy about this measure, but it is mainly explained by the authority’s stance that they can’t totally trust the certificate issued above, whether the person holding the certificate has really been injected a trustworthy vaccine or not. When the government announced incentive measures in May, they simultaneously stated that the authority is currently discussing the adoption of ‘Vaccine Passport’. If the party completes his injection, a vaccine passport will be issued and he can freely travel through the borders carrying this passport. The outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020 seems to have closed down the international borders in the age of globalization, but the vaccine can reopen the barriers inevitably built up by the virus. But currently the timeline is uncertain when it comes to the adoption of vaccine passport system in Korea. Several European states announced that they will soon be phasing in, causing people who are looking forward to travelling Europe to make reservation for residual vaccines. In contrast, Korean government has stated that the adoption basically depends on the principle of reciprocity, a fundamental principle in international law. The principle of reciprocity means that the adoption of vaccine passport in Korea requires the equivalent treatment in the opposite party. The Korean immigration authorities will not approve the vaccine passport of foreigners in Korea unless vaccine injection of Korean citizens in their homeland is admitted by the other party. This negotiation seems to necessitate a long time of settlement between the separate parties.

Conclusion
Vaccine is not a panacea or cure-all in terms of coping with COVID-19. However, nobody doubts that it is the most efficient solution to deal with it. Korea opens the threshold of breakthrough not only to its citizens but also foreigners who satisfies certain conditions. Foreigners are welcome to voluntarily apply for injections and prepare for a safe comeback to daily lives before the outbreak of COVID-19.

K-pop & Baseball, What Koreans are Into

There are so many new things to do once you decide to settle down in a foreign country – you may not know where to even begin. But do not fret – with these easy steps, you will be calling Korea home in no time.

Grocery Shopping



There is always your local supermarket (GS supermarket); or head to the bigger ones (E-mart, Costco) or department stores for a wider selection. You will also notice that some parts of your town regularly hold outdoor

stalls. These are called 3-day or 5-day markets. They will often be cheaper than regular markets. There is also the bonus of getting to converse with the vendors, who may give you a discount if you bargain successfully.

Of course, if you need a quick snack or refreshment, local convenience stores are open 24/7 for you to take your pick.

In terms of price, bigger supermarkets will give you the best deals, while convenience and department stores will be on the more expensive side.

Table Manners

There are Korean dishes, usually in the form of broths (stew), fish, etc. for everyone at the table to share. Each will help themselves to a serving using a stirring spoon. Do not dunk your individual utensils in the shared dish, but do not be surprised if someone does so.

Traditionally, rice bowls go to the left, and soup is placed on the right.

Do not stick your chopsticks or spoon on your rice bowls. This is considered disrespectful and even ominous to more superstitious members of society, as this is how utensils are placed during Korean funeral rituals (“jaesa”).

During meals, it is possible, though less amongst the younger generation, that some people will ask questions you consider personal. For example, they may inquire about your marital status, living conditions, age, etc. They are not trying to antagonize or pry into your



life; rather, they will think of it as a healthy and affectionate display of interest in your life and wellbeing. Try not to be offended and deflect the questions if you are too uncomfortable.

Tipping is not mandatory, nor is it the norm. If you wish to thank the waiter for an especially commendable service you may do so, but do not do it in the open where everyone can see.

Transportation*

Trains

	KTX	Saemaeul	Mugunghwa
Price	Most Expensive (30,000~60,000 won)	Medium (15-30% cheaper than KTX)	Cheapest
Speed	Fastest	Medium	Slowest
Range of Destinations	Limited to major cities ex) Busan, Gwanju, Mokpo	Wider range of cities and popular tourist destinations	Widest range of cities, stops often
Tips	Similar to a Japan Railway Pass or a Eurorail Pass, a KR Pass is available to foreigners.	Offers amenities such as dining cars, restrooms and special cars.	It will be worth the extra money to pay for a special car; a standard-car ticket on a heavy travel day will likely mean having to stand in the aisles

Subway

The 5 cities with subway systems are Busan, Daegu, Gwangju, Incheon, and Seoul. Aside from Seoul, these cities will at most have 3 lines, which means you will have to take the bus at some point. Seoul, however, has 9 major subway lines that run all throughout the city and even go into the suburbs and surrounding areas. Subways generally come every 5 minutes.

Tickets can be purchased with cash from an Automatic Vending Machines (ATVM) located at every subway station. However, it is best to use a prepaid transit card (T-Card).

Buses

All major cities and most towns in Korea have a main bus terminal. Transportation to other cities is possible via the express bus system. They do not have toilets on board but do make frequent stops at rest areas. Each city has its own bus system.



T-Card

The cheapest way to use public transport is to use a T card, which is an integrated fare system transferable from bus to bus, bus to subway, or vice-versa. It is available for purchase at ticket windows of subway stations or at convenience stores and vendor kiosks that post a ‘T-money’ signboard. By using the T-money Card, instead of cash, the card user can get an approximately 10% discount on the regular fare. The price of the T-money Card is 2,500 won, and the card can be easily recharged for amounts ranging from 1,000 won to 90,000 won. Users departing Seoul can get a refund for any remaining amount on the card at a T-card vender.

*For more information, see <https://korea.stripes.com/travel/how-travel-safely-using-koreas-public-transportation>.

Opening a bank account

Opening a bank account online would be complicated for foreigners so it is recommended to visit a bank. The application process and requirements for opening a bank account differ by banks so it is best to consult the bank on phone about required documents before your visit. Generally, banks are open from 9AM to 4PM, Monday to Friday while some branches stay open for a longer time. You can also find foreigner-friendly branches that provide exclusive services for foreigners; most of them are open on Sundays for foreign workers as well. Have a look at



the table below for more information about foreigner-friendly branches of major banks in Korea.

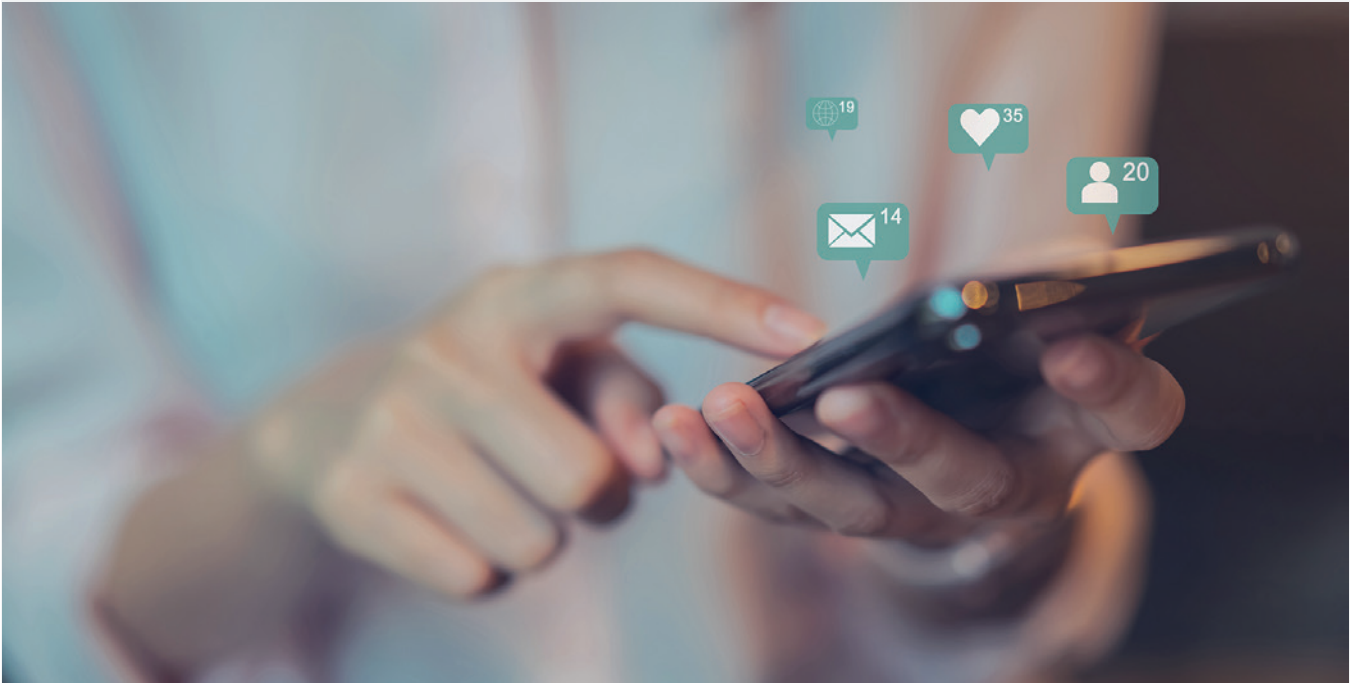
Banks (in an alphabetical order)	Foreign-friendly branches (location)
Hana Bank	Toegyero, Euljiro 6-ga, Hyehwa, Daerim, Guro-dong, Namdonggongdan, Daehwa Station, Uijeongbu, Songu-ri, Wongok-dong, Gimpodaero, Gimpo Daegot, Yongin, Pyeongtaekjungang, Cheonan Station, Seongseo, Gimhae, Gwangsan
KB Bank	Wongok-dong, Gimhae, Gyeong-an, Ojang-dong, Uijeongbu, Hwaseong Baran, Pyeongtaek
Shinhan Bank	Wongok-dong, Uijeongbu, Gimhae, Cheonan, Daerim
Woori Bank	Ansan, Gimhae, Uijeongbu, Gimpo, Pyeongtaek, Balan, Kwangjuk, Hyehwa-dong, Kwanghui

Your passport, visa, Alien Registration Card (ARC), and Korean phone number are to open an account. You may be asked to bring a certificate of employment or university documents (again, check with the bank beforehand). You can still open an account without the ARC but you can only get limited services; ATM cards and online banking services are not likely to be available. Moreover, most banks have launched mobile banking applications for foreign customers. For instance, Shinhan Bank’s multilingual banking app “SOL Global” is offered in 12 languages (English, Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Russian, Tagalog(Philippine), Mongolian, Indonesian, Myanmar, and Korean). Woori Bank provides smartphone banking services in 8 languages (English, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, Indonesian, Mongolian, and Korean) via “Woori Global Banking”.

Getting a Korean phone number

There are two types of mobile plans in Korea: prepaid plans and monthly plans. If you are staying in Korea for less than 3 months, the prepaid plan will be a better option as it is less complicated to apply. Moreover, you are recommended to bring your own device from home as buying devices are expensive unless you are tied to a two-year contract. For a prepaid plan, you only need your passport but if you wish to get a monthly plan, you need to bring your ARC; other documents such as a bank account may be needed as the requirements differ by stores. There are three major carriers in Korea: SKT, KT, and LG U+. You can either buy a SIM card (which is a prepaid option) or sign up for monthly

plans from one of the three carriers. Each carriers provide different services so you should compare the deals before you make purchases. Once you get a Korean phone number, you can use a mobile app called “PASS” to verify your identity when registering to other apps or websites.



Government Departments

Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission

<http://www.acrc.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-44-200-7151~6

Constitutional Court of Korea

<http://english.ccourt.go.kr/>
82-2-708-3460

Fair Trade Commission

<http://eng.ftc.go.kr>
82-44-200-4326

Financial Services Commission

<http://www.fsc.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-2156-8000

National Assembly Law Library

<http://law.nanet.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-2-788-4111

Judicial Research & Training Institute

<http://jrti.scourt.go.kr/>
82-31-920-3114

Korea Communications Commission

<http://eng.kcc.go.kr/user/ehpMain.do>
82-2-500-9000

Korea Consumer Agency

<http://english.kca.go.kr/index.do>
82-43-880-5500

Korea Customs Service

<http://english.customs.go.kr/>
82-1577-8577

Ministry of Food and Drug Safety

<http://www.mfds.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-43-719-1564/ 82-1577-1255

Korean Intellectual Property Office

<http://www.kipo.go.kr/kpo/user.tdf?a=user.english.main.BoardApp&c=1001>
82-42-481-5008

Korea Law Service Center

<http://law.go.kr/LSW/main.html>
82-2-2100-2520
(Ministry of Government Legislation)/
82-2-2100-2600
(Legislative Research Services)

Korea Meteorological Administration

<http://web.kma.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-2181-0900

Korean Bar Association

<http://www.koreanbar.or.kr/eng/>
82-2-3476-4008

Korean Library Information System Network

<http://www.nl.go.kr/kolisnet/index.php>
82-2-590-0626

Korean National Police Agency

<http://www.police.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-182

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

<http://english.mifaff.go.kr/main.jsp>
110 (from Korea) / 82-2-6196-9110 (from overseas)

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism

<http://www.mcst.go.kr/english/index.jsp>
82-44-203-2000

Ministry of Education

<http://english.moe.go.kr/enMain.do>
82-2-6222-6060

Ministry of Employment and Labor

<http://www.moel.go.kr/english/main.jsp>
82-52-702-5089 (National Labor Consultation Center)
82-44-202-7137 (International Cooperation Bureau)
82-44-202-7156 (Foreign Workforce Division)

Ministry of Environment

<http://eng.me.go.kr/>
82-44-201-6568 / 82-1577-8866

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

<http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-2-2100-2114

Ministry of Gender Equality and Family

<http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-2-2100-6000

Ministry of Government Legislation

<http://www.moleg.go.kr/english>
82-44-200-6900

Ministry of Health and Welfare

<http://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-44-202-2001~3

Ministry of Justice

http://www.moj.go.kr/moj_eng/index.do
82-2-2110-3000

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

<http://www.molit.go.kr/english/intro.do>
(Day) 82-44-1599-0001, (Night) 82-44-201-4672

Ministry of National Defense

<http://www.mnd.go.kr/mbshome/mbs/mndEN/>
82-2-748-1111

Ministry of the Interior and Safety

<https://www.mois.go.kr/eng/a01/engMain.do>
82-2-2100-3399

Ministry of Economy and Finance

<http://english.moef.go.kr/>
82-44-215-2114

Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy

<http://www.motie.go.kr/language/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-1577-0900 / 82-44-203-4000

Ministry of Unification

https://www.unikorea.go.kr/eng_unikorea/
82-2-2100-5722

National Assembly Library

<http://www.nanet.go.kr/english/>
82-2-788-4211

National Intelligence Service

<https://eng.nis.go.kr/>
82-111

National Research Foundation of Korea

<https://www.nrf.re.kr/eng/index>
82-2-3460-5500 / 82-42-869-6114

National Tax Service

<http://www.nts.go.kr/eng/>
82-2-397-1200 / 82-1588-0560

Network of Committed Social Workers

<http://www.welfare.or.kr/>
82-2-822-2643

Public Procurement Service

<http://www.pps.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-70-4056-7524

Ministry of SMEs and Startups

<https://www.mss.go.kr/site/eng/main.do>
82-1357

Statistics Korea

<http://kostat.go.kr/portal/english/index.action>
82-2-2012-9114

Supreme Court Library of Korea

<https://library.scourt.go.kr/base/eng/main.jsp>
82-31-920-3612~3

Supreme Prosecutors' Office

<http://www.spo.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-3480-2337

The Board of Audit and Inspection of Korea

<http://english.bai.go.kr>
82-2-2011-2114

The Supreme Court of Korea

<http://eng.scourt.go.kr/eng/main/Main.work>
82-2-3480-1100

The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea

<http://korea.assembly.go.kr/index.jsp>
82-2-788-3656

National Library of Korea

<http://www.nl.go.kr/english/>
82-2-535-4142

VOD Service for Conferences

<http://na6500.assembly.go.kr/>
82-2-788-3056/2298

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*Justice of Coexistence Empathized by the People,
Legal Administration Supporting the Lives of the People*

Emblem

The Republic of Korea government has changed its official "government identity." The new logo conveys the dynamism and enthusiasm of the country with the three colors of blue, red and white. It echoes off Korea's national flag *Taegeukgi* with the *taegeuk* circular swirl and the blank canvas embodies in white. The typeface

was inspired by the font used in the "*Hunminjeongeum*" (1446), the original *Hangeul* text, in consideration of the harmony embodied in the *taegeuk* circle. Starting March 2016, the new logo is used at all 22 ministries including the Ministry of Justice and 51 central government agencies.



Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea



Ministry of Justice

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Focusing on Business and Investment

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