

Note from Editor-in-Chief

Dear readers of *the KJDA*,

Already, 22 years have passed since *The Korean Journal of Defense Analysis (KJDA)* was first published in 1989 under the auspices of the Ministry of National Defense, Republic of Korea. Throughout its history, *the KJDA* has continued to develop as one of the most prestigious and reliable academic journals in East Asia devoted to security and defense, not to mention international affairs. *The KJDA* staff extends sincere gratitude to all our readers for your support for, and interest in, our journal.

The *KJDA* Editorial Board is very pleased to arrange a special issue on North Korea's energy and mineral resource sectors and its influence on the North Korean regime's security and sustainability. The special issue, comprised of six articles, was prompted by a team of experts led by Peter Hayes in the Nautilus Institute that has more than 20 years of research history on North Korea with a belief that it is possible to build peace, create security, and restore sustainability for all people in our time.

Arabella Imhoff and Scott Bruce provided an introduction. The authors of the six articles note that cooperation for energy and mineral resource development will be a practical solution to the North Korean nuclear issue and eventually contribute to peace and stability in East Asia and beyond, and they also propose meaningful policy alternatives. Written by a group of foremost experts in this field, the articles are based on reliable data accumulated over a long period and serve as a valuable source for better understanding of North Korea's concealed gloomy reality that cannot and should not be neglected and its threatening influence overshadowing the region.

Another article written by Dr. Jin-Moo Kim, a North Korea expert at the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses, deals with China-North Korea economic cooperation, focusing on recent Chinese investment in North Korea and its correlation with North Korean regime stability. His article supplements the functionalist approach of the special issue articles and raises awareness of today's North Korean issues. Dr. Doug J. Kim, a professor at Kyonggi University, suggests a solution to the stalemate of the North Korean nuclear problem stressing engagement of the UNSC. Given that the official position of the incumbent South Korean government in addressing the issue is a direct dialogue between the two Koreas, his suggestion provides a policy alternative of option B. The article by Dr. Seongho Sheen, a professor at Seoul National University, provides an objective analysis on the issue of amendment of the ROK-

U.S. Atomic Energy Agreement, an important pending issue between South Korea and the United States, in relation to the ROK-U.S. alliance and regional security.

In addition, I am pleased to make two announcements regarding recent changes in the *KJDA* publication house. Starting from 2011, the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses has assumed full responsibility for publication of the journal and related services. Since 2008, *the KJDA* had been published in London by our internationally renowned partner, Routledge, of the Taylor & Francis Group. Despite the positive development of the *KJDA*'s overall quality achieved through the partnership with Routledge, however, *the KJDA* Editorial Board came to a decision to provide our readers with print publication of *the KJDA* at lower subscription rates and offering free online access to our archive. Readers are now able to access and utilize our articles easier and faster than before. *The KJDA* remains committed to continue providing the best service to our readers.

Secondly, *the KJDA* has launched a new online article submission system, ScholarOne Manuscripts, in May 2011 so as to improve and systemize the article submission process. Through this system, authors can easily keep track of the submissions and enjoy quicker correspondence. All submissions should be made via the system online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/kjda>.

The *KJDA* will continue delivering quality articles that acutely analyze various topics addressing the rapidly changing security environment. We understand that building a stronger relationship with our readers is the right way for *the KJDA* to become an even more esteemed academic journal in the field.

Finally, to correct a technical error in an article of the previous issue (*KJDA* vol. 23 no. 1), "Assessing China's Influence on Southeast Asia: The Taiwan Issue" by Yeikyung Kim and Jongpil Chung, it should be noted that the work was supported by a grant from the Kyung Hee University in 2009 (KHU-20100145) and Yeikyung Kim is a first author while Jongpil Chung is a corresponding author of this article.

Tae-am Ohm
Editor-in-Chief