Is Korean Democracy in Crisis?

November 12-13, 19, 2020
The Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center
Stanford University

Day 1: November 12

4:00 pm  Introduction

Gi-Wook Shin, Director, Shorenstein APARC; William J. Perry Professor of Contemporary Korea; Professor of Sociology; Senior Fellow, FSI, Stanford University

Ho-Ki Kim, Professor of Sociology, Yonsei University, Korea

4:10 pm  Byongjin Ahn, Kyunghee University, Korea

Political culture and polarization: Pitfall of political over-participation or “street-democracy”

4:20 pm  Discussion led by Joan Cho, Wesleyan University

4:50 pm  Kwanhu Lee, Gyeongnam Development Institute, Korea

Underdevelopment of party politics: Factionalism, weak institutionalization, and poor appreciation

5:00 pm  Discussion led by Jacob Reidhead, Stanford University

5:30 pm  Break

5:40 pm  Seongwook Heo, Seoul National University, Korea

Erosion in balance of power: Courts losing legitimacy and respect with politicization
5:50 pm  Discussion led by Tom Ginsburg, University of Chicago

6:20 pm  Aram Hur, University of Missouri
Uses and misuses of nationalism in politics

6:30 pm  Discussion led by Yumi Moon, Stanford University

7:00 pm  End of Day 1

Day 2: November 13

4:00 pm  Il-Young Lee, Hanshin University, Korea
Jun Ho Jeong, Kangwon National University, Korea
Two divergences in South Korea’s economy: Regional and generational disparities

4:10 pm  Discussion led by Sungsup Ra, Asian Development Bank

4:40 pm  Yong Suk Lee, Stanford University
Challenges of post-truth: Politicization and polarization of the press, social media, disinformation

4:50 pm  Discussion led by Misook Lee, Munhwa Daily, Korea

5:20 pm  Seongsoo Choi, Yonsei University, Korea
Education and its impact on civic value and generational gap

5:30 pm  Discussion led by Hannah Kim, University of Nebraska, Omaha

6:00 pm  End of Day 2

Day 3: November 19

4:00 pm  MyoungHo Park, Dongguk University, Korea
Politicization of civil society: Losing function as watchdog of power, former democratic activists becoming new authoritarian leaders
4:10 pm  Discussion led by Paul Chang, Harvard University

4:40 pm  Victor Cha, Georgetown University
How the rise of populist regime affects foreign policy

4:50 pm  Discussion led by Joon-woo Park, APARC Forum in Korea

5:20 pm  Larry Diamond, Stanford University
Korean democracy in comparative perspectives

5:30 pm  Discussion led by Won-Taek Kang, Seoul National University, Korea

6:00 pm  Publication plan

6:15 pm  End of Day 3