



IIPS
Colloquium
17 April 2003

NE Asian Affairs and Korea-Japan Cooperation

Speaker: Professor Yun Duk-Min

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May 2003

On 17 April 2003, the Institute for International Policy Studies hosted a colloquium on the twin topics of international affairs in Northeast Asia and cooperation between Korea and Japan. The colloquium featured as guest speaker Professor Yun Duk-Min of Korea's Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security. Professor Yun commented on the twists and turns in the negotiations surrounding North Korea's nuclear program and presented his assessment of the course that these negotiations are taking.



Describing the new administration, Professor Yun noted that, right from the very start of President Roh's term, his staff has constituted an extremely well-balanced team. With the administration set to pursue the same pragmatic foreign policy as the previous government, Professor Yun dismissed the various doubts that have been voiced regarding the Roh government.

The professor went on to give an overview of the three sets of negotiations which preceded

North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Indulging once again in its customary games of brinkmanship, the North will likely seek to hold on to its nuclear trump card while attempting to win further compensation in the vein of the Geneva Agreement. Thus, the negotiations are likely to be lengthy and tough.

A lively question-and-answer session included questions from the floor that related to the problems of multilateral negotiations; war and the limitations of peaceful solutions; missile defense and the Japan-US-Korea alliance; China's national interests as reflected in its negotiating posture; anti-American sentiment; and how a re-unified Korean peninsula might look in practice.

