**Research Report**

**Security Council**

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***“The issue of arranging guidelines for establishing a reunified Korea and the predicaments that come with the process of doing so”***

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**Introduction**

The Korean Peninsula is located in East Asia and is home to the countries of North Korea and South Korea. The peninsula has been divided since the end of the Korean War in 1953, with the North being controlled by a communist government which was supported by the Soviet Union and the South being a democratic nation supported by the United States. The two countries have a heavily militarized border with a demilitarized zone (DMZ) in between and have theoretically been in a state of war since the armistice was signed in 1953.

While South Korea has seen an acute economic growth, their northern neighbours have been in an economic crisis since they lost economic support of the Soviet Union after it collapsed. North Korean residents suffer from food shortages, minimal to no access to healthcare, lack of education and terrible living conditions while the government invests most of its wealth into their military and the development of nuclear weapons to be able to scare off other countries. China took over the role of the Soviet Union and is to this day the main ally of North Korea.

Actions to create a unified Korea have been taken since, but without success. Due to the peninsula’s strategic position, both China and the United States want to remain an ally in the region and are afraid a unified Korea will lean to the side of the opposing country. So, the only way a reunified Korea could happen is when the United States, China, Japan and Russia are convinced the new Korea would stay neutral.

Reunification of the Korean Peninsula would have several benefits for the country. Firstly, it would bring an end to the state of war and help to reduce tensions in the region. This would also help to reduce the military presence and spending of both countries, which would free up resources for economic and social development.

Reunification would also allow the Korean people to be reunited with family members who have been separated by the border. This would also allow the two economies to be integrated, which would lead to increased economic growth and development. Reunification would also allow the people of the Korean Peninsula to have more control over their own future, and would allow them to have a stronger voice in the international community. Furthermore, it could serve as an example for other countries with similar divisions, such as China and Taiwan, or India and Pakistan, on how to resolve their differences peacefully through dialogue and reconciliation.

It's worth noting that reunification would also have its own set of challenges and would require a lot of political will and negotiation from both sides. Also, the process would have to be carefully managed to ensure that the rights and interests of all Koreans are protected.

**The Committee**

You will be a delegate in the Security Council, the most important body of the United Nations. In this committee, the most important issues of the modern age are discussed. Because the Security Council is so important, you will be debating in pairs, so every country is represented by two delegates. Furthermore, the five most important countries (the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Russia, France and China) have VETO rights, which they can use to prevent an amendment or resolution from passing. Also, the Security Council is the only committee where member states can declare war on each other. If this happens staff members have to inform all the other MUNA committees of the conflict. The Security Council is an ad-hoc committee, which means that you do not have to write your resolution beforehand. You will write a resolution from scratch with your fellow delegates by sending in amendments.

**Keywords**

DMZ – (Korean) Demilitarized zone. A four-kilometre-wide buffer zone on the border between North and South Korea which is free of any soldiers.

**Overview**

The Korean peninsula is home to a communist, poverty-stricken North Korea and democrat, wealthier South Korea. Both countries have been in war and technically still are, since they are in an armistice since 1953. Actions to create a unified Korea have been taken but without success, since the United States don’t want to lose their ally South Korea and China is afraid of losing their ally North Korea, both would only agree on a reunified Korea if it’s certain it would be a neutral country.

The new unified Korea would have several benefits such as a reduction of tension in the region, economic growth, better living conditions and a more powerful country. The process of reunification will be a challenge and has to be carefully managed.

**Arguments**

These are suggestions of arguments, do your own (more detailed) research as well.

Arguments for the United States and Japan:

* A unified Korea under a single government could shift the balance of power in the region in ways that are not favourable to America’s and Japan’s interests, causing a loss of power in the region.
* Reduction of humanitarian concerns in the region
* A unified Korea would reduce the risk of military conflict and use of nuclear weapons in the region
* A unified Korea would create a new neutral (improved) trading partner

Arguments for China and Russia:

* A unified Korea under a single government could shift the balance of power in the region in ways that are not favourable to China’s and Russia’s interests, causing a loss of power in the region.
* A unified Korea would reduce the risk of military conflict and use of nuclear weapons in the region
* A unified Korea would create a new neutral (improved) trading partner

Arguments for other countries:

* A unified Korea would create a new neutral (improved) trading partner
* The reunification could serve as an example to unify more countries
* Reduction of humanitarian concerns in the region
* A unified Korea would reduce the risk of military conflict and use of nuclear weapons in the region

**Timeline of Events**

*1940*: Japan, which had occupied Korea since 1910, tightens its control over the Korean peninsula.

*August 15th, 1945*: Japan surrenders to the Allied Powers, ending World War II.

*September 8th, 1945*: Soviet troops enter Korea and take control of the northern part of the peninsula. September 9th,

*1945*: U.S. troops enter Korea and take control of the southern part of the peninsula.

*1948*: The Republic of Korea (ROK) is established in the southern part of the Korean peninsula and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is established in the northern part.

*June 25th, 1950*: North Korea invades South Korea, starting the Korean War.

*July 27th, 1953*: The Korean War ends with an armistice signed by North Korea, South Korea, and the United Nations Command.

*1970s*: The two Koreas begin to develop different economic systems, with South Korea moving towards capitalism and democracy while North Korea becomes a communist state.

*1990s*: North and South Korea hold several reunification talks, but no agreement is reached.

*2000*: A historic meeting between leaders of the two Koreas takes place in Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea, but it does not lead to any progress in reunification talks.

*2017*: North Korea conducts several missile tests and nuclear weapons tests, leading to increased tensions with South Korea and other countries.

**Resolution**

Because the Security Council is an ad-hoc committee, you will not need to write a resolution beforehand. Instead, we will be writing a resolution together as a product of the debate. Therefore, you will have to come up with solutions on the spot. These solutions are expressed in the form of amendments.

Because of the complex nature of this issue, it is very hard to come up with one single solution for this problem. Therefore, it should be solved in little steps.

It is important to remember that when writing amendments, you should always keep in mind your country’s stance.

**Links and Sources**

Wikipedia:

* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korean_War>
* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korean_reunification>

More info:

* <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/voting-system>
* <https://www.ier.hit-u.ac.jp/COE/Japanese/Newsletter/No.6.english/KIMURA.html>
* <https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/The-Big-Story/Imagining-a-unified-Korea>
* <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/JIPA/Display/Article/3212547/the-potential-of-korean-unification-and-a-unified-korean-armed-forces-a-cultura/>