

Bring them home: Three South Korean missionaries detained in North Korea

Thursday May 21, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

Room 101, New Millenium Hall, Yonsei University

	Session	Speakers
Opening Session	02:00-02:29 (29')	
	Welcoming Remarks (3')	Byungwon Woo Director, Institute of East and West Studies (IEWS) at Yonsei University
	Keynote Remarks (5')	Gabriella Citroni Chairperson of the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID)
	Congratulatory remarks (3')	Park Choong-Kwon Member of the Republic of Korea National Assembly
	Graciela Fernández Meijide Award (6')	Inés M. Pousadela Vice President of Centro para la Apertura y el Desarrollo de América Latina (CADAL), and Member of the Jury for the Graciela Fernández Meijide Award [video message]
	Opening Remarks (3')	Lee Jung-hoon Dean of the Yonsei GSIS and Former Republic of Korea Ambassador for International Cooperation on North Korean Human Rights
	Opening Remarks (3')	Scot Bower CEO of Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW)
	Opening Remarks (3')	Riley M. Barnes Assistant Secretary Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) [video message] (TBC)
		Robert Rehak Chair of International Religious Freedom or Belief Alliance (IRFBA – Article 18 Alliance)
Photo Session of Speakers and Participants (1')		
Session I	02:30-03:40 (70')	Story of a Korean American missionary formerly detained in North Korea and families of the three South Korean missionaries Moderated by <u>Taehee Whang, Professor of Political Science and International Studies of Yonsei University and former Director-General, Unification Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Unification, ROK</u>
	Talk (20')	Kim Hak-song former faculty member at the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology (PUST) who was detained in North Korea from May 2017 to May 2018
	Talk (10')	Kim Jeong-sam older brother of missionary Kim Jung-wook who has been detained in North Korea since October 2013
	Talk (10')	Choi Jin-young son of missionary Choi Chun-gil who has been detained in North Korea since December 2014
	Q&A (30')	
Coffee Break (20')		

Session 2	04:00-05:00 (60')	Strategy for the release and return of the three South Korean missionaries still detained in North Korea <u>Moderated by Shin-wha Lee Director, Institute for Interdisciplinary Unification Studies (IIUS), Korea University, Professor of Political Science and International Relations of Korea University, and former ROK Ambassador-at-large on North Korean Human Rights</u>
	Presentation (15')	Efforts to address abduction and disappearance of foreign nationals by the international community Gabriella Citroni Chairperson of the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID)
	Presentation (15')	Taking stock of South Korea's efforts to free its three nationals detained by North Korea Ethan Hee-Seok Shin Legal Analyst of Transitional Justice Working Group (TJWG)
	Presentation (15')	Efforts made by the United States to resolve arbitrary detention of Christians abroad Minjung Kim Head of Advanced Technology Strategy Center, Institute for National Security Strategy
	Q&A discussion (30')	
Session 3	05:00-05:50 (50')	Connecting with the Future: Strategies to Engage Younger Generations with the Chairperson of the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) <u>Moderated by Gangwon Lee, Youth Director at ROK Hostages' Families Association (ROKHFA), Yonsei University</u>
	Presentation (10')	Jeewon Jung Yonsei University
	Presentation (10')	Junoh Julian LEE Seoul National University
	Presentation (10')	Jake Wujin Shin Chadwick International
	Presentation (10')	Joshua Sejoon Whang Seoul International School
	Q&A discussion (20')	