

# Korea's Expanding Global Role: Accomplishments and Challenges Talking Points for Session II: Diplomatic and Security Issues

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# Structure of Presentation

- ◆ **Evolution of Peacekeeping: Trends and Countertrends**
- ◆ **Implications and Options**



# Evolution of Peacekeeping: Trends and Countertrends

- Multidimensional response to regional/ intrastate conflicts
- Rise of a “global peacekeeping regime”
- Normative innovations and impacts
- Countertrends



# Evolution of Peacekeeping

Multidimensional response to regional/  
intrastate conflicts

“...However, all these acts [of harassment against UN peacekeepers] will not deter UNOCI from doing its job as we remember one of Winston Churchill's maxims: 'If you are going through hell, just keep going...’”

—Amb. Choi Young-jin, SRSG/ HoM, UN  
Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (2007-11),  
December 2010.



# Evolution of Peacekeeping

## Multidimensional response to regional/ intrastate conflicts

- Comprehensive, intrusive engagement geared towards state/nation-building: DDR, SSR, administrative/ judicial reform.
- New(er) issues
  - ◇ Protection of civilians (PoC)
  - ◇ Robust peacekeeping
  - ◇ Capacity-building
  - ◇ “Hybrid” versus “ownership” approaches to peacebuilding
  - ◇ Linkage with other operations: antipiracy, counterinsurgency

# Evolution of Peacekeeping

## Rise of a “global peacekeeping regime”

- The evolution of the concept of peacekeeping corresponds with the proliferation of peacekeeping actors that collectively constitute a new regime of sorts.
- Proliferating actors
  - ◇ UN
  - ◇ Regional organizations: AU, EU, NATO, OSCE, CSTO
  - ◇ Multinational forces (Haiti, Timor-Leste)
  - ◇ Donor/ diplomatic frameworks (G8, Challenges Forum)
  - ◇ Training & research networks (CF, IAPTC)



# Evolution of Peacekeeping

## Normative innovations and impacts

- Several new norms envision an expansive role for peacekeeping; their emergence is triggered in part by peacekeeping experiences in the post-Cold War period.
- ◆ UNPK “failures” in the 90s (Bosnia, Somalia, Rwanda)
- Norms
  - ◆ Mainstreaming of human rights
  - ◆ Neo-humanitarianism
  - ◆ Human security
  - ◆ Responsibility to protect (R2P)
  - ◆ Humanitarian intervention debates



# Evolution of Peacekeeping

## Countertrends

- But these expansive trends have been checked by several countertrends.
- Peacekeeping
  - ◇ “Peacekeeping fatigue”
  - ◇ Afghanistan (protracted deployments and “light footprint”)
  - ◇ “Core business of UN peacekeeping”
- General
  - ◇ 9/11 and counterterrorism
  - ◇ Economic/ financial turmoil





# Implications and Options

- Peacekeeping and international politics
- Peacekeeping in national policy
- Finding a right balance of contributions
- Peacekeeping and international cooperation



# Implications and Options

## Peacekeeping and international politics

- The evolution of peacekeeping in the post-Cold War period reflects changes in the strategic meaning of peacekeeping in international political processes.
- ◆ Cold War : a conflict management tool employed by neutral (mostly middle power) states, consensus on non-participation by major powers.
- ◆ Post-Cold War: one of the major endeavors of the international community as a whole, active participation by major powers that see peacekeeping as more directly connected to national and international security concerns.
- ◆ The latter trend was reinforced by 9/11, international terrorism, failed/failing/weak states, organized crimes.
- On the other hand, the normative dimension of peacekeeping has remained and in a sense became stronger, producing higher expectations.



# Implications and Options

## Peacekeeping in national policy

- As a result, today's debate on national peacekeeping policy revolves around two perspectives:
  - ◆ **Normative:** peacekeeping as an “international good”  
Contribution to peacekeeping projects the country to be a “good international citizen.”
  - ◆ **Strategic:** peacekeeping as a means of strategic engagement.  
Contribution to peacekeeping serves national interests through its diplomatic, economic and political impacts on the host nation as well as on partner states, coalitions and organizations.
- In reality, both elements are usually present in the policy-making of many states.



# Implications and Options

## Finding a right balance of contributions

- Niche capabilities and comprehensive (WoG) approach:
  - ◇ Critical operational enablers (e.g., military helicopters, engineering units, medical facilities), civilian expertise in governance-related areas
  - ◇ Whole-of-government/ 3D (defense, diplomacy, development) approach; but difficulties in implementation.
- Military, para-military and civilian skills and expertise
- Geographical coverage: regional policy, logistical hurdles



# Implications and Options

## Peacekeeping and international cooperation

- Regional: increasing regional interest and the absence of a formal framework:
  - ◇ Three “peacekeeping nations” on the rise?
  - ◇ Japan’s peacekeeping: UNSAS, Central Readiness Force, peacekeeping training and education centers, MINUSTAH and UNMISS deployments
  - ◇ Peacekeeping capacity-building needs in the region



# Implications and Options

## Peacekeeping and international cooperation

- Global: geographical concentration of peacekeeping needs and proliferating frameworks:
  - ◇ Africa and Middle East continue to dominate peacekeeping deployment.
    - Linkage to the country's policies towards the regions and countries
  - ◇ Proliferating frameworks operate at different levels and domains
    - ✓ Decision making
    - ✓ Doctrine and concept development/ research cooperation
    - ✓ Operational collaboration
    - ✓ Capacity building
      - Greater opportunities for national contributions and inputs