



APSI 2017 Fall Speaker Series Presents:

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ARMING FOR UNIFICATION: KOREAN NATIONALISM AND THE NUCLEAR CRISIS

Tuesday, October 17, 2017
6:00 p.m.
Perkins Library, Room 217
Duke University, West Campus



America's inability to stop North Korea's long march to the attainment of nuclear weapons proves that they were never crucial to its security in the first place. As the regime's own propaganda has made clear for decades, it arms with a view to decoupling South Korea and the United States, forcing US troop withdrawal, and forming a confederation with the South as a transition to unification.

Our own government's refusal to take this strategy seriously derives not only from wishful thinking and America-centricity, but also from a failure to grasp the ideological landscape of the Korean peninsula, where the DMZ divides a radical nationalist state from a moderate nationalist one. Rather than waste more time and resources trying to enlist China's help, Washington must focus critical attention on its own ally's unwitting encouragement of North Korean hopes.

Must America expose itself to the threat of nuclear attack in order to protect moderate Korean nationalists from radical ones?