

HRNK Newsletter: Summer 2016

"We will ultimately see an end to the oppression of human rights in North Korea. When that happens, HRNK will have an honored place among those who have worked for human rights for the people of North Korea."

-Justice Michael Kirby

Chief Commissioner, UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the DPRK
Retired Justice, Supreme Court of Australia

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Events



HRNK Launches *Gulag, Inc.: The Use of Forced Labor in North Korea's Export Industries* at the National Press Club (May 26, 2016)

On May 26, 2016, HRNK published [Gulag, Inc.: The Use of Forced Labor in North Korea's Export Industries](#) by Kim Kwang-jin. Coal, iron ore, copper, and other commodities constituting the bulk of North Korea's exports are mined using forced and slave labor. *Gulag, Inc.* is an examination of North Korea's forced and slave labor practices, highlighting North Korea's extractive industry. Featured speakers included Kim Kwang-jin (Author), David Asher (Adjunct Senior Fellow, Center for New American Security), Roberta Cohen (Co-chair Emeritus, HRNK), and William Newcomb (Visiting Scholar, U.S.-Korea Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies). The event was moderated by Greg Scarlatoiu (Executive Director, HRNK).



The UN Seoul Office and the Sages Group Conference "North Korean Human Rights: Shifting Gear on Accountability" Featuring David Hawk and Greg Scarlatoiu at the Global Center Building in Seoul (June 27, 2016)

On June 27, 2016, Greg Scarlatoiu and David Hawk participated in the conference, "North Korean Human Rights: Shifting Gear on accountability," in Seoul. The main goal of the conference was to introduce a group of "sages," senior experts tasked to continue the North Korean human rights inquiry.



HRNK Co-hosts the Annual International Council on Korean Studies (ICKS) Conference "Security Challenges in the Korean Peninsula in 2016" Featuring David Maxwell, Robert Collins, and Greg Scarlatoiu at Georgetown University (June 29-30, 2016)

On June 29-30, 2016, HRNK co-hosted the annual International Council on Korean Studies (ICKS) Conference, held at Georgetown University. Panels at this year's conference discussed power relations on

the Korean peninsula, political economy, the U.S.-Korea security alliance, and Korean unification and human rights. Three members of HRNK, Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu, Board Member David Maxwell, and Senior Adviser Robert Collins, were able to take part in the events. Robert Collins moderated "The Political Economy of the Two Koreas" panel, David Maxwell was a discussant for the "Korean Unification and Human Rights" panel, and Greg Scarlatoiu shared a paper he wrote entitled "Romanian Reflections on Korean Unification."

HRNK Cited in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor "Report on Human Rights Abuses and Censorship in North Korea" (July 6, 2016)

On July 6, 2016, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor released a "[Report on Human Rights Abuses and Censorship in North Korea](#)," which identifies individuals and entities as "subject to designation for sanctions" by the U.S. Treasury. The report cited HRNK four times:

1. "The Committee for Human Rights in North Korea (HRNK) similarly reported in its report [Pyongyang Republic](#) that 'the numerous and brutal executions of members of the power elite since Kim Jong Un took power are apparently being used by the regime to maximize the power elite's fear of the young supreme leader.'"
2. "According to the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea, the OGD 'oversees the efficacy of the internal security agencies . . . and inspects all official organizations on their mission of upholding regime security.'"
3. "The Committee also reports that the OGD approves all policy, including policies pertaining to the abuse of human rights, and quotes Kim Il-sung as saying, 'the OGD is the doctor and the [Korean Worker's Party Propaganda and Agitation Department] is the medicine.'"
4. "According to HRNK, the Operations Department of the Korean Workers' Party, the predecessor to RGB, was responsible for abducting South Korean and Japanese citizens."

Also on July 6, 2016, the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned 11 individuals, including Kim Jong-un, and five entities, all identified in State's report. The sanctions are pursuant to Executive Order 13722 and Executive Order 13687 and are meant to "to pressure North Korea to cease engaging in destabilizing behavior and inflicting grave human rights abuses."



U.S. Congress-Republic of Korea National Assembly Exchange Program Featuring Rosa Park at HRNK (July 11, 2016)

On July 11, 2016, HRNK welcomed the student delegation from the Meridian International Center as a part of the "U.S. Congress-Republic of Korea National Assembly Exchange Program." Hosted in HRNK's conference room, HRNK's Director of Programs Rosa Park led a presentation, which included information about HRNK's purpose, accomplishments, the current human rights situation in North Korea, and how to get involved.



KINU Policy Meeting on the Current Status of North Korea's Human Rights Featuring Greg Scarlatoiu at the Lotte Hotel in Seoul (July 18, 2016)

Executive Director Scarlatoiu presented at the KINU Policy Meeting on the Current Status of North Korea's Human Rights, at the Lotte Hotel in Seoul, South Korea. The meeting also marked the official launch of the English translation of KINU's latest "White Paper on Human Rights in North Korea."



NGA Conference "North Korea's Changing Human Rights Landscape" Featuring Amanda Mortwedt Oh (July 19, 2016)

Amanda Mortwedt Oh presented on "North Korea's Changing Human Rights Landscape" at the 10th Annual National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) Korea Days.



Mulmangcho Summer Camp Featuring Greg Scarlatoiu at the DMZ (July 21, 2016)

HRNK Executive Director Scarlatoiu traveled to a camp site close to the DMZ, in the northwestern part of South Korea. There, he gave a Korean language keynote address, followed by a Q&A session, to a group of about 80 students, about half of them North Korean escapees. The students participated in a summer camp and training session organized by Mulmangcho, an educational organization assisting with refugee settlement, established and led by former ROK National Assemblywoman Park Sun-young. Throughout the duration of their summer camp, the students walked along segments of the DMZ. On the following day, the evening keynote address was given by South Korean Minister of Defense Han Min-goo.



HRNK Co-hosts "North Korean Human Rights: The Way Forward" Featuring Greg Scarlatoiu at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul (July 26, 2016)

Executive Director Scarlatoiu organized and hosted a conference at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul on "North Korean Human Rights: The Way Forward." Featured speakers included H.E. Choi Seokyoung (Visiting Professor/Ambassador Retired, Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University), Signe Poulsen (Representative, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Seoul)), Hyeonseo Lee (President and CEO, North Star NK and Author, *The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story*), Tim Peters (Founder-Managing Director, Helping Hands Korea), and Kim Kwang-jin (Senior Researcher, ROK Institute for National Security Strategy and Non-resident Fellow, HRNK). For the full agenda, [please click here](#).



International Solidarity for Freedom of Information in North Korea (ISFINK) "The Power of Freedom of Information: Transition from Dictatorship to Democracy" Conference Featuring Greg Scarlatoiu at the Seoul Press Center (July 28, 2016)

Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu gave a lecture at an international symposium entitled "The Power of Freedom of Information: Transition from Dictatorship to Democracy." The event, held at the Seoul Press Center, was organized and hosted by International Solidarity for Freedom of Information in North Korea (ISFINK). Executive Director Scarlatoiu presented together with human rights defenders and activists from South Korea, most of them North Korean escapees, Tunisia, Egypt and Myanmar.

Publications

[Gulag, Inc.: The Use of Forced Labor in North Korea's Export Industries](#) by Kim Kwang-jin (May 26, 2016)

[North Korea: Kyo-hwa-so No. 12, Jonggo-ri](#) by Joseph S. Bermudez Jr. and Mike Eley (August 30, 2016)

HRNK Insider

[An HRNK Interview with Kim Kwang-jin](#) by Rosa Park (June 6, 2016)

[The Rime of the Juche Mariner: North Korean Sailors and Fishermen Dispatched Overseas through Montevideo, Uruguay](#) by Greg Scarlatoiu and translated by Raymond Ha (June 22, 2016)

[Meet Tomás Ojea Quintana, the UN's New Special Rapporteur on North Korea](#) by Christine Chung (August 1, 2016)

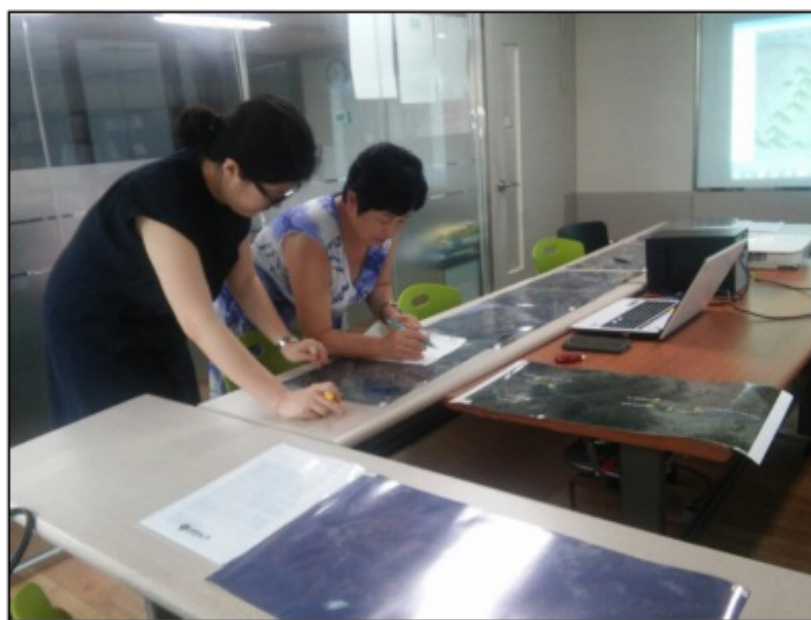
[The Human Rights Factor: Changes Under Kim Jong-un](#) by Amanda Mortwedt Oh (August 15, 2016)

[Doubling Down on Human Rights Denial at North Korea's 7th Party Congress](#) by Robert Collins (August 29, 2016)

NK Hidden Gulag Blog

[The Hidden Gulags: Lack of Transitional Justice in Post-Soviet Russia and North Korea](#) by Caroline Welling (July 22, 2016)

Research



David Hawk and Jeonghyun Kang worked with Mrs. Kim Hye-sook in South Korea to continue to research Camp 18. (July 2016)

Wikipedia

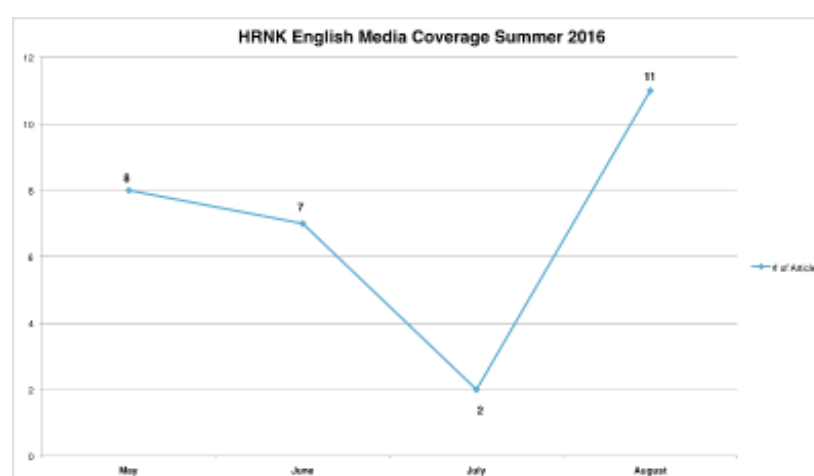
[Korean Language Translation of the "Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea"](#)

On June 22, 2016, HRNK published a Wikipedia page in Korean on the UN Commission of Inquiry entitled, "Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea." Translation was completed by Jin Yoo, HRNK Research Intern and uploaded by Chris Buchman, HRNK Consultant. [Please click here to view the Wikipedia page in Korean.](#)

HRNK in the Media

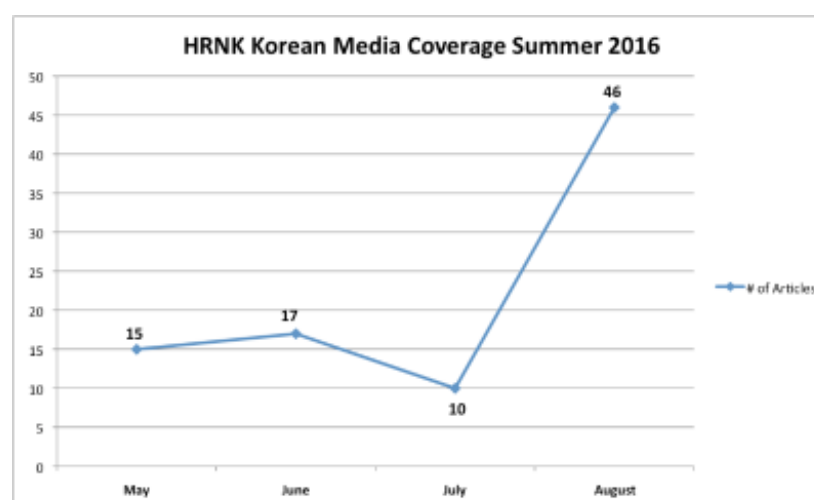
English Media

From May 2016 to August 2016, HRNK has been featured in a total of 28 news articles in the English language media. News agencies featuring HRNK included Voice of America, The Washington Free Beacon, NK News, North Korea: Witness to Transformation, KBS, and Yonhap News Agency.



Korean Media

From May 2016 to August 2016, HRNK has been featured in a total of 88 news articles in the Korean language media. News agencies featuring HRNK included KBS, Yonhap News Agency, the Korea Times, SBS, DailyNK, and Chosun Ilbo.



Chinese Media

From May 2016 to August 2016, HRNK has been featured in a total of 22 news articles in the Chinese language media. News agencies featuring HRNK included The Epoch Times, New Tang Dynasty Television, and Sina Finance.

Spanish Media

From May 2016 to August 2016, HRNK has been featured in a total of 4 news articles in the Spanish language media. News agencies featuring HRNK included Telam and ABC.

Thank you to HRNK Interns

HRNK would like to sincerely thank each and every intern who participated in the Summer 2016 internship program. Our work would not be possible without their hard work and dedication to improving the human rights situation in North Korea.



Jason Bartlett

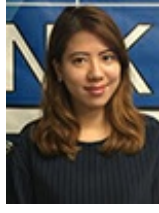


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