

# HRNK Newsletter: Fall/Winter 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

## Help HRNK spread the word!

HRNK, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, relies on donations to support our programs and research. Your support enables HRNK to continue our important work promoting human rights in North Korea. Donations can be made online at:  
<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/HRNK>

or mailed to:

1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 435  
Washington, DC 20036

Thank you!

Happy Year of the Rooster 2017. The fall and winter of 2016 provided numerous opportunities to research, investigate, and spread awareness about North Korean human rights issues. We published three new satellite imagery reports, two on *Kyo-hwa-so* No. 12 Jongo-ri and one on *Kwan-li-so* No. 25 Chongjin. We also published five HRNK Insider articles by authors Robert Collins, Christine Chung, Greg Scarlatoiu, and Rosa Park. We were honored to discuss North Korean human rights issues in a variety of fora for a total of 32 separate events. Media outlets, including CNN, The Washington Post, Voice of America, KBS, and Yonhap News Agency, prominently featured our work. Your interest in and the need for more North Korean human rights information has been reinforced in the past few months. Thank you very much for your support.

## Publications

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

***North Korea: Flooding at Kyo-hwa-so No. 12, Jongo-ri*** by Greg Scarlatoiu and Joseph S. Bermudez Jr. (September 16, 2016)

***North Korea Camp No. 25 Update 2*** by Joseph S. Bermudez Jr., Andy Dinville, and Mike Eley (November 29, 2016)

---

## HRNK Insider

***Kim Jong-un's Hats: the Concept of Authority in North Korea*** by Robert Collins (October 6, 2016)

***An Exclusive Interview with Alexa White*** by Greg Scarlatoiu and Rosa Park (October 11, 2016)

***North Korean Mothers Fight to Be Reunited with Stateless Children Left Behind in China*** by Christine Chung (November 4, 2016)

***The Challenge of Giving Thanks in North Korea*** by Robert Collins (November 23, 2016)

***Control of the Kim Regime's Political Prison Camps*** by Robert Collins (November 28, 2016)

## HRNK in the Media

### English Media

From September 2016 to December 2016, HRNK was featured in a total of **111** news articles in the English language media. News agencies featuring HRNK included CNN, The Telegraph, The Washington Post, The Diplomat, Huffington Post, Radio Free Asia, Voice of America, The Washington Free Beacon, NK News, PIIE North Korea: Witness to Transformation, KBS, and Yonhap News Agency. Here are a few highlights from Fall/Winter 2016:

- On August 30, 2016, HRNK published "North Korea: Kyo-hwa-so No. 12, Jongo-ri" by Joseph S. Bermudez Jr. and Mike Eley, leading to coverage by Radio Free Asia, Yonhap News Agency, Korea Times, UPI, United Press International, Chosun Ilbo, The Diplomat, and The Sun.
- On August 31, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was interviewed by CNN. In this interview, he discussed the execution of Kim Yong-jin as well as the kidnapping of American student David Sneddon by North Korea. The interview was subsequently picked up and relayed by the Daily Mail, Huffington Post, Washington Post, Miami Herald, The Straits Times, and The Independent.
- On November 1, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was interviewed by CNN. In this interview, he discussed the secret recordings of Kim Jong-il. The interview was subsequently picked up and relayed by Mercury, The Herald Sun, Courier Mail, Daily Telegraph, WFMZ, NBC, KTVZ, ABC, The Independent, and many more.
- On November 29, 2016, HRNK published "North Korea Camp No. 25 Update 2" by Joseph S. Bermudez Jr., Andy Dinville, and Mike Eley, leading to reporting by The Guardian, CNN, Gant News, US News & World Report, Newser, Christian Today, Fox News, PIIE Witness to Transformation, and KTVU.

## Korean Media

From September 2016 to December 2016, HRNK was featured in a total of **107** news articles in the Korean language media. News agencies featuring HRNK included KBS, Yonhap News Agency, SBS, DailyNK, and MBC. Here are a few highlights from Fall/Winter 2016:

- On August 30, 2016, HRNK published "North Korea: *Kyo-hwa-so* No. 12, Jongo-ri" by Joseph S. Bermudez Jr. and Mike Eley, leading to articles by Radio Free Asia, Yonhap News Agency, KBS News, Chosun Ilbo, SBS News, Seoul Gyung-jae, E-daily, Newsis, Gookmin Ilbo, Donga Ilbo, and Daily NK.
- On September 5, 2016, the U.S. Department of State referenced satellite images from HRNK's "The Hidden Gulag IV: Gender Repression and Prisoner Disappearances" by David Hawk, which showed the expansion of *Kyo-hwa-so* No. 12 Jongo-ri with the addition of a women's section, leading to reports by New Daily, Joongang Ilbo, Segye Ilbo, Daily Sports, Newsis, Donga Ilbo, and Voice of America.
- On September 7, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was interviewed by VOA. In this interview, he discussed North Korea's control over media with Uriminzokkiri. The interview was subsequently picked up and relayed by Nocut News, SBS News, Chosun Ilbo, Seoul Gyeongjae, Herald Gyeongjae, MBN, Maeil Gyeongjae, and Yonhap News Agency.
- On November 29, 2016, HRNK published "North Korea's Camp No. 25 Update 2" by Joseph S. Bermudez Jr., Andy Dinville, and Mike Eley, leading to coverage by Yonhap News Agency, Daily NK, Voice of America, Seoul Sinmun, SBS News, and Joongang Ilbo.
- On December 16, 2016, at a conference co-hosted by HRNK entitled "Expert Meeting: U.S. and ROK Policy Toward North Korean Human Rights" in Washington, DC, The Honorable Scott Busby, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, stated that the United States would soon release a second list of sanctions against North Korean officials, leading to articles by Yonhap News Agency, Media Pen, KBS News, SBS News, BBS News, Daillian, Newsis, Segye Ilbo, Seoul Sinmun, Bublyul Sinmun, Seoul Gyungjae, Money Today, and News1.

## Events

### **CNN Interviews Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu (August 31, 2016)**

On August 31, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was interviewed by CNN on the execution of Kim Yong-jin and the kidnapping of American student David Sneddon by North Korea.



*CNN Interviews HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu (Photo Credit: CNN).*

### **Korea Club with Markus Garlauskas in Vienna, VA (September 7, 2016)**

On Wednesday, September 7, 2016, HRNK and KEI hosted the Korea Club with Markus Garlauskas, who gave a presentation entitled "A Changing North Korea." Markus Garlauskas is the Senior National Intelligence Officer on the National Intelligence Council at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI). He oversees the production of coordinated intelligence community strategic analysis on North Korea, while serving as the DNI's senior subject matter expert and analytic advisor on North Korea issues in support of the DNI's role as the principal intelligence adviser to the President.



*HRNK staff and interns with Markus Garlauskas (fourth from left), featured speaker at the Korea Club.*

## **Lecture entitled “The North Korean Conundrum” by Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at George Mason University’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in Fairfax, VA (September 20, 2016)**

HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu addressed the history, current state, and future prospects of the North Korean human rights situation. Scarlatoiu explained how the repressive Kim regime maintains the status quo. He discussed what the United States and the international community are doing to effect change. Scarlatoiu also addressed the factors that contribute to the longevity of the Kim regime as well as the forces that are eroding the Kim family's grip on power.

## **Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu on The John Batchelor Radio Show, with Gordon Chang and John Batchelor: Interview on Flood Damage at *Kyo-hwa-so* No. 12 in Jongori, North Korea (September 21, 2016)**

HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was a featured speaker on The John Batchelor Radio Show with Gordon Chang and John Batchelor. He discussed issues in depth regarding HRNK's report on the flood damage in North Korea, specifically at *Kyo-hwa-so* No. 12 in Jongori.

## **National Unification Advisory Council (NUAC) Presentation Featuring Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu in Atlanta, GA (September 24-25, 2016)**

HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu addressed the nature of the North Korean regime, the factors that have contributed to its longevity, and the factors that are eroding its grip on power. The lecture examined North Korea's policy of human rights denial as well as UN, U.S., and ROK efforts to address the human rights situation in North Korea. The presentation also touched upon issues critical to Korean reunification.

## **Presentation on HRNK by Rosa Park at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA (September 26, 2016)**

HRNK Director of Programs Rosa Park gave a lecture to HRNK Board Member and Professor Jacqueline Pak's class at George Mason University. She introduced the class to HRNK's publications and explained how to become involved with North Korean human rights issues.

## **Lecture entitled "The Han River Miracle: South Korea's Past, Present and Future" by Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at George Mason University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in Fairfax, VA (September 27, 2016)**

HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu addressed the economic, social and political evolution undergone by South Korea since its establishment in 1948. Scarlatoiu discussed South Korea's astounding economic development, also known as "The Han River Miracle." He also addressed the "darker side" of that miracle, the price South Koreans had to pay to accomplish this unprecedented success story. He addressed the current political outlook of South Korea as well as political security, trade and investment issues pertaining to the U.S.-South Korea alliance.

## **Presentation on North Korean Human Rights by Amanda Mortwedt Oh at the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, MN (September 29, 2016)**

HRNK Project Officer Amanda Mortwedt Oh gave a presentation to International Law Association students of the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, MN, on North Korea human rights trends under Kim Jong-un.



*HRNK Project Officer Amanda Mortwedt Oh (center) at the University of St. Thomas School of Law.*

## **“North Korea: Exploring the Heart of Darkness” lecture by Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at “China and East Asia: A Political-Economic Conflict Seminar” delivered to United States Transportation Command officials at Scott Air Force Base in Saint Clair County, Illinois (October 4, 2016)**

On October 4, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Scarlatoiu addressed the history and nature of North Korean regime dynamics, emphasizing the linkage between human rights and political security issues.

## **KEI's "Flooding in North Korea: Humanitarian and Human Rights Concerns" Podcast featuring Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu (October 7, 2016)**

Korean Kontext host Jenna Gibson spoke with Greg Scarlatoiu, Executive Director of HRNK, who has been following the issue of flooding in North Korea closely. They discussed the extent of the crisis as well as the balance between providing humanitarian assistance and taking a tough stance on security concerns.



*HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu interviewed in his office  
(Photo Credit: KEI).*

## **HRNK Co-hosts Working Group with ROK MOU Featuring Robert Collins (October 18, 2016)**

On October 18, 2016, HRNK co-hosted an expert working group with the ROK Ministry of Unification, featuring HRNK Senior Adviser Robert Collins as a guest lecturer.

## **Korea Club with Robert Collins in Vienna, VA (October 20, 2016)**

On Thursday, October 20, 2016, HRNK and KEI held Korea Club with Robert Collins, who gave a presentation entitled "Songbun, Pyongyang Republic and North Korea's Policy of Human Rights Denial." Robert M. Collins is HRNK Non-resident Senior Adviser and author. He is a 37-year veteran employee of the U.S. Department of the Army and served for 31 years in various positions with the U.S. military in Korea, including several liaison positions with the Republic of Korea military. He finished his career in June 2009 as Chief of Strategy, U.S.-ROK Combined Forces Command,

Seoul, Korea. Collins served the 4-star U.S. commander as a political analyst for planning on Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asian security issues. Collins authored HRNK reports "Marked for Life: Songbun, North Korea's Social Classification System" (2012) and "Pyongyang Republic: North Korea's Capital of Human Rights Denial" (2016), as well as numerous HRNK Insider articles.



*HRNK Senior Advisor Robert Collins as featured speaker at the Korea Club.*

## **Guest Lecture Entitled "Human Rights in East Asia" Featuring Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at American University in Washington, DC (October 21, 2016)**

On October 21, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was a guest lecturer for Professor Heng-Blackburn's class at American University. He spoke about various issues related to the human rights situation in East Asia.

## **Public International Law & Police Group (PILPG) "Human Rights Documentation Toolkit (HRD Toolkit) Launch Event" Featuring Director of Programs Rosa Park at the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington, DC (October 25, 2016)**

On October 25, 2016, HRNK Director of Programs Rosa Park was a panelist at the "Human Rights Documentation Toolkit Launch Event." She spoke on "Panel 1: Documenting Human Rights Violations in Restrictive Environments," discussing the challenges of human rights documentation in North Korea.



*HRNK Director of Programs Rosa Park (second from right) as a panelist at the HRD Toolkit launch event.*

## **Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen Participates in Meeting with Tomás Ojea Quintana, UN Special Rapporteur on North Korea (October 26, 2016)**

On October 26, 2016, HRNK Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen participated in a meeting hosted by the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights with Tomás Ojea Quintana, who became the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on August 1, 2016. She discussed HRNK's first interview with Special Rapporteur Quintana that was published on August 1, 2016 and also the publications produced by HRNK, which were given to him.

## **"The Evolution of North Korean Human Rights Discourse and Activism: Domestic and Transnational Dimensions" Featuring HRNK Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen, Board Member Marcus Noland, and Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC (October 27, 2016)**

On October 27, 2016, the Catholic University of America hosted "The Evolution of North Korean Human Rights Discourse and Activism: Domestic and Transnational Dimensions" featuring HRNK Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen on "Session II: North Korean Defectors, Activists, and the (Contentious) Rise of Transnational Networks," and Board

Member Marcus Noland and Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu on "Session IV: The Evolution of NKHR Discourse and Advocacy and What it Means for Policy."



*HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu (second from left) and HRNK Board Member Marcus Noland (second from right) during Session IV at "The Evolution of North Korean Human Rights Discourse and Activism: Domestic and Transnational Dimensions."*

## **Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu as Featured Speaker at the North Korea Freedom Coalition in Vienna, VA (October 27, 2016)**

Executive Director Scarlatoiu was a featured speaker for the North Korea Freedom Coalition on October 27, 2016 at Woo Lae Oak Restaurant, providing an update on ongoing efforts at the UN and other relevant issues. The North Korea Freedom Coalition is led by HRNK Co-Vice-Chair Suzanne Scholte.

## **Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen Participates in Meeting with CFR Delegation at the UN in New York, NY (October 28, 2016)**

On October 28, 2016, HRNK Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen participated in a meeting with a CFR delegation and UN staff, and spoke about human rights recommendations, credentials, accountability, and

information related to the report, “A Sharper Choice on North Korea: Engaging China for a Stable Northeast Asia,” available here: [http://i.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/TFR74\\_North%20Korea.pdf](http://i.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/TFR74_North%20Korea.pdf). Cohen provided human rights expertise for task force deliberations. Dr. Nicholas Eberstadt, AEI Henry Wendt Chair and HRNK Board Member, was also a CFR Task Force member.

## **Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen Participates in Meeting with UN North Korea Task Force Members in New York, NY (October 28, 2016)**

On October 28, 2016, HRNK Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen participated in a meeting with UN North Korea Task Force members in New York City.

## **CNN Interviews Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu (November 1, 2016)**

On November 1, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was interviewed by CNN on secret tape recordings of Kim Jong-il.



*CNN interviews HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu (Photo Credit: CNN).*

## **HRNK Hosts WTOP JJ Green's Interview with Grace Jo (November 9, 2016)**

On Wednesday, November 9, 2016, HRNK arranged and hosted a WTOP interview with Grace Jo, Founder and Vice President of NKinUSA, and North Korean escapee. Please find the interview here: <http://wtop.com/j-j-green-national/2016/12/escape-north-korea-story-grace-jo/>.



*JJ Green of WTOP with Grace Jo, Vice President of NKinUSA and North Korean escapee at HRNK's office.*

## **Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen as Featured Panelist at "Korean Unification: Stakeholders and Options" Hosted by the Korea Development Institute, National Bureau of Asian Research, and Korea Institute for National Unification in Washington, DC (November 10, 2016)**

On November 10, 2016, HRNK Co-Chair Emeritus Roberta Cohen spoke on a panel at the conference entitled "Korean Unification: Stakeholders and Options," which was hosted by the Korea Development Institute, National Bureau of Asian Research, and Korea Institute for National Unification. On the panel, she detailed the human rights and security issues involved with unification.

## **"China, Middle East and South Asia Seminar" Featuring Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at the Capitol Hill Club in Washington, DC (November 15, 2016)**

On November 15, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu gave a lecture to a group of senior U.S. military officials as part of a seminar on China, the Middle East, and South Asia in Washington, D.C.

## **Korea Club with Ambassador Joseph DeTrani in Vienna, VA (November 17, 2016)**

HRNK and KEI hosted the Korea Club on Thursday, November 17, 2016. The event featured Ambassador Joseph DeTrani, who gave a presentation entitled "Recommendations for the Next Administration's North Korea Policy." Ambassador Joseph DeTrani is the President of the Daniel Morgan Academy. Prior to joining the Academy, he served as the president of the Intelligence and National Security Alliance (INSA) for three years and now serves on their Board of Advisors. Prior to joining the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in 2006, he served at the Department of State as the Special Envoy for Six-Party Talks with North Korea.



*HRNK staff and interns with Ambassador Joseph DeTrani (left), featured speaker at the Korea Club.*

**"The Korean Peninsula and Reunification" Featuring Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at George Washington University in Washington, DC (November 29, 2016)**

On November 29, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu participated on a panel on South and North Korea, hosted by George Washington University's Sigma Psi Zeta Sorority.

**Guest Lecture by Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu at the Daniel Morgan Academy in Washington, DC (December 1, 2016)**

HRNK Executive Director Scarlatoiu was a guest lecturer for one of Ambassador Joseph DeTrani's classes at the Daniel Morgan Academy on December 1, 2016. His lecture covered North Korean human rights, Kim regime dynamics, and prospects for Korean unification. Scarlatoiu engaged in a lively Q&A with Ambassador Joseph DeTrani and students in his class.

**Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu Featured as Speaker at Conference Hosted by the Global Peace Foundation, the ROK Ministry of Unification, and the ROK National Unification Advisory Council at the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea (December 6-8, 2016)**

HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu gave a lecture highlighting the North Korean human rights situation and prospects for Korean unification at the ROK National Assembly. The conference was attended by about 250 participants.

## HRNK Co-hosts "Inquiry on Crimes Against Humanity in North Korean Political Prisons" at Johns Hopkins University SAIS in Washington, DC (December 8, 2016)

Three renowned jurists presided over the hearing: Navanethem Pillay (Chair), Mark Harmon, and Thomas Buergenthal. Collectively, these luminaries have served on the International Criminal Court (ICC), International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (ECCC), and the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Notably, it was during Ms. Pillay's tenure as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights that the U.N. Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ("COI") conducted its investigation and issued its landmark report. The hearing also featured expert testimony from renowned experts on North Korea's gulags and its penal system generally—David Hawk and Ken Gause. David Hawk is the author of HRNK's "The Hidden Gulag: Exposing North Korea's Prison Camps" (2003), "The Hidden Gulag Second Edition: The Lives and Voices of 'Those Who are Sent to the Mountains'" (2012), "North Korea's Hidden Gulag: Interpreting Reports of Changes in the Prison Camps" (2013), and "The Hidden Gulag IV: Gender Repression and Prisoner Disappearances" (2015). Ken Gause is the author of "Coercion, Control, Surveillance, and Punishment: An Examination of the North Korean Police State" (2012) and "North Korean House of Cards: Leadership Dynamics Under Kim Jong-un" (2015).



*HRNK satellite imagery reports used as reference at "Inquiry on Crimes Against Humanity in North Korean Political Prisons."*

## **Arirang TV Interviews Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu in Washington, DC (December 14, 2016)**

On December 14, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu was interviewed by South Korea's Arirang TV for a special feature on North Korean human rights.

## **Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu Participates in Roundtable Discussion with UN Independent Panel of Experts on North Korean Human Rights hosted by the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights in New York, NY (December 14, 2016)**

On December 14, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu participated in a roundtable discussion with the UN Independent Panel of Experts on North Korean human rights, hosted by the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights in New York City.

## **Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu and Director of Programs Rosa Park Host a Working Meeting with the ROK National Human Rights Commission in Washington, DC (December 15, 2016)**

On December 15, 2016, HRNK Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu and Director of Programs Rosa Park hosted a working meeting with members of the ROK National Human Rights Commission. Topics covered included the North Korean Human Rights Act and the future of North Korean human rights policy in both the United States and South Korea.

## Thank You to HRNK Interns

HRNK would like to sincerely thank each and every intern who participated in the Fall/Winter 2016 internship program. Our work would not be possible without their efforts, enthusiasm, and dedication.



**Amanda Won**



**Soohyun Chang**



**Ivy Euihwa Choe**



**Dacia Pajé**



**Grace Warwick**



**Suvin Kim**

A special thanks to Chris Buchman, former HRNK research intern and consultant.



**Chris Buchman**

➔ Follow Us

