



February-March 2016

PSCORE Newsletter

People for Successful COrean REunification

PSCORE's Trip to Europe and the United Nations

United Nation Human Rights Council's Meetings in Geneva, Switzerland



As a member of the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), PSCORE since 2012 has been attending annual U.N. meetings in order to share the organization's annual report, achievements, and upcoming plans on the human rights issues of DPRK.

This year, we continued to bring our perspectives to the Council, with a special focus on the rights of North Korean labors overseas. PSCORE's founder Young-il Kim gave an oral statement at the UNHRC's Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in DPRK session. He was the only defector and NGO leader who participated at the U.N. debate. He addressed the severe abuse of North Korean labors rights, with which many are forced to work in a condition in which they are overworked, underpaid, and do not receive proper healthcare. "We can no longer turn our blind eyes to this problem, proper solutions and efforts should be taken properly by the Human Rights Council." – he concluded at the end of his statement.



You can follow this link to watch Young-il Kim's statement at the session: <http://goo.gl/cHzeAe>.

This year's meeting of the Council has been concluded successfully with many great discussions and ideas being developed to the human rights security of the international community as well as of North Korea. We were also very fortunate to be able to meet many people, including representatives and professionals in the human rights field.

Meeting with the U.N. Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance



While attending the UNHRC, we also had the chance to meet with the U.N. Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance. The Working Group assists families in determining the fate of family members who have reportedly disappeared. Many North Korean defectors have family members that were caught during their escape and repatriated back to North Korea. We met with the Working Group to discuss what can be done to help these defectors find out about the whereabouts of their missing family members.

Event with IGFM

On March 26, PSCORE participated in the IGFM (Internationale Gesellschaft für Menschenrechte) event on North Korea in Frankfurt, Germany as special speakers on the discussion regarding United Nations Security Council's resolution about human rights in North Korea. We also joined the picket in front of the Chinese Consulate to demonstrate against the sending back of North Korean refugees. Later on that day, Young-il Kim and PSCORE's Secretary General Bada Nam joined the Symposium on "Human Rights in North Korea", where he talked about worker rights and religious freedom in North Korea. Young-il Kim also gave testimony about his escape from North Korea.



Young-il Kim's
Interview with
the IGFM



Speeches at Educational Institutes around Europe

PSCORE took the opportunity to be in Europe this March to travel to several European countries to hold speech events at the educational institutes about the issues of human rights in North Korea. Our institution destinations included the Royal Holloway – University of London, Kings College London, Brunel University London in the United Kingdom, University of Le Havre in France and University of Groningen in the Netherlands.



At the speech events, Young-il shared his personal experience as a North Korean defector and talked about the terrible human rights situation in North Korea in the past and present. Together with the team of PSCORE including the interns and volunteers, he also used the time at the events as a forum and discussion site to engage students and delegates to talk more about the North Korean human and labor rights issues at an in-depth level.



Media Coverage of PSCORE

Throughout our trip in Geneva and Europe, we had many opportunities and honors to meet and being interviewed by a lot of media outlets, in which we see as great chances to deliver our perspectives on North Korean laborers abroad, as well as foster PSCORE's present in the particular human rights field.

Our Secretary General, Bada Nam, had an interview with the Bolantimes.com as an U.N. Correspondent, and gave his strong opinions and concerns on how the North Korean government is insisting its citizens from accessing any sort of freedom and basic human rights. He concluded by giving a hope that international bodies such as the United Nation and U.N. Human Rights Council are the only way to make North Korean regime accountable for North Korean people human rights.

In addition, PSCORE also got mentioned in other articles about the topic of North Korean labor rights abroad on NKNews.org, Time.com and German news outlets Idea.de and Zenit.org. Please refer to our Facebook page, PSCORE Korea, to catch a glimpse of those articles.

We would like to thank all the support of the interns, volunteers, and institutions, among others, in helping to make our trip to Europe this March 2016 a big success. We hope to continue to deliver quality events and activities the future!

Published article about PSCORE's North Korean Defectors

On January, we received a visit from German journalist Barbara Bierbrauer and were happy to connect her to our student-defectors Myung-chul Kim and Chung-guk Ahn about their escapes from North Korea to South Korea. Groove Korea magazine has recently published Barbara's article on early March, titled "From North to South."

The article gives readers the anecdotes of the journeys escaping from North Korea from the defectors and their hardships in relearning how to live and starting a new life in South Korea. You can find Barbara Bierbrauer's article on <http://goo.gl/a05C16>.



Education & Propaganda Research Project

This year, PSCORE is planning to publish a special report through our current on-going Education & Propaganda Research Project. The project will focus intensively on the educational system of North Korea as well as comparative analyses of other communist educational systems. This report will serve as an important resource on education, which is one of the most important matters of human rights and is extremely diminished in the DPRK.

In addition with a few new members in our research team, we are currently boosting up our agenda in continuing to interview the students who defected from North Korea, finalizing initial drafts, and moving forward to the next steps of the project.

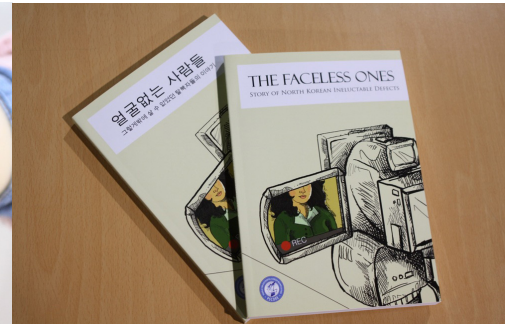


Fundraising Initiatives



We are continuing with our online selling of PSCORE bracelets after receiving positive responses from supporters as we brought them along to our Europe trip.

You can now purchase the bracelets along with our book “The Faceless Ones” and our signature ‘Blinded-Voiceless-Truthless: The North Korean’ printed t-shirt on <http://pscore.bigcartel.com>.



New Interns Recruitment Season



A new season of interns has come! PSCORE always welcome vast arrays of new interns coming all year-round, and the Summer/Fall season is usually the most busiest time of the year for us as we will have many outdoor campaign activities, Rock Out Concert, and many more exciting opportunities to work and learn.

We have openings on many internship positions, including **Graphic Design**, **Education**, **Web Development**, **Research**, and **Marketing/Communications**. If you're interested to join our young and dynamic team and to get more information, please do not hesitate to contact pscore@pscore.org.

On-Going and Upcoming Events and Projects

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| <p>1 Education and Propaganda Research Project</p> <p>2 Street Campaigns</p> | <p>3 12th Rock Out Concert</p> <p>4 PSCORE's 10th Year Anniversary</p> |
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