



People for Successful COrean REunification

Dear friends and partners of PSCORE,

Spring has just begun and PSCORE had many events and activities during the month of March. Key items on the agenda of our campaign events were the children's rights situation in North Korea and the 1969 KAL Hijacking case. The European Parliament and the United Nations' Human Rights Council were visited in order to spread more awareness towards these issues.

With many new projects coming up, stay updated about our future activities by liking and following our [Facebook](#) page.

Thank you for your continuous interest in our organization.

Sincerely,

People for Successful COrean REunification

Donate!

Events

We participated in many events throughout March and went to the European Parliament in Brussels and the United Nations' Human Rights Council In Geneva.

European Parliament

Update on Human Rights in North Korea



First up was the conference at the European Parliament in Brussels about the Human Rights Situation in North Korea organized by Laszlo Tokes, who is a member of the European Parliament. The topics PSCORE brought to the table were Children's rights in North Korea and the unresolved 1969 Korean Air abduction case. We also held meetings with various representatives to rally their support for these causes in the upcoming UPR cycle for North Korea in May.

United Nations' Human Rights Council.





Children's Rights in North Korea

We had a very successful first side event at the Palais des Nations on children's rights in North Korea. Our five speakers each discussed the various aspects of the condition of the children as well as the UPR process. Members of the audience included representatives of the EU delegation as well as various other countries. We had a lively question and answer session at the end focusing on ways in which civil society can contribute to change and ways forward for the international community.

1969 KAL Hijacking Case

One of the other side events presented at the United Nations together with Amnesty, was the 1969 KAL Hijacking case where Mr. Hwang stressed the severity of the situation that time is running out for him to see his father again. PSCORE was there to join and support this side event providing booklets to the public, trying to spread awareness of the issue and get the support needed to take action.



Reports

Forgotten Abductees

We have released a report on the 1969 Korean Airlines abduction case called “Forgotten Abductees, 50 years in North Korea”. This report tells the heartbreaking story of Mr. Hwang In Cheol who has not seen his father for 50 years. His father Hwang Won, who was an MBC producer, boarded a Korean Airlines plane together with 49 others that ended up being hijacked by North Koreans. They have released 39 people, but the remaining 11 abductees remain missing.

Unfortunately, Mr. Hwang Won is still missing to this very day. North Korea refuses to answer questions about this case, which makes the eleven abductees’ whereabouts and life situation unknown.

Forgotten Abductees: 50 Years in North Korea

1969 Korean Air Lines Hijacking

Report for:

- “An Update on the Human Rights Situation in North Korea”
– European Parliament Conference
- 40th Session of the UN Human Rights Council

By



People for Successful Corean REunification (PSCORE)



Lawyers for human rights and unification of Korea (Hanbyun)

1969 KAL Abductees' Families Association

March 2019

Videos



This month we released a video that provides background information about the 1969 KAL abduction case well as Mr. Hwang's own experiences, Mr. Hwang's oral statement at the UN and an interview where he tells the viewers about his journey.

[Click here to see the Videos](#)

Education Program



Our education program is a one-on-one tutoring project designed to fulfil the specific educational needs of North Korean refugees. The objective is to empower North Korean refugees by equipping them with knowledge and providing support for their adjustment in South Korea. English instructors are mainly composed of international volunteers, providing opportunities of intercultural exchange. Culturally enriching English textbooks and writing materials are provided by PSCORE.

Students apply for diverse subjects of different levels, and are then matched with volunteer instructors. Students also received mentoring from instructors who share advice and information for socio-cultural involvement. Weekly English classes are also held every Wednesday at the PSCORE office as an extension of the one-on-one tutoring program. Students interested in improving their English skills, such as listening, writing, and speaking, are encouraged to drop by freely.

We hope to close the cultural and educational gap of North Korean refugees through our interactive education program, helping them to become independent global citizens.

PSCORE in the Media

5 March 2019: An Update on the Human Rights Situation in North Korea conference at the EU Parliament

Three of Korea's biggest broadcasting stations (MBC, SBS and KBS) reported about our participation in the event: An update on the human rights situation in North Korea hosted by MEP Laszlo Tokes at the European Parliament on March 5th. Of course, the biggest spotlight was put on Mr. Hwang In-Cheol and the 1969 KAL abduction case but SBS also mentioned the message from PSCORE's President, Mr. Kim Tae-Hoon. He discussed the legal aspects of the children's rights situation as well as Mr. Hwang's case.

Link: https://news.sbs.co.kr/news/endPage.do?news_id=N1005163948

11 March 2019: UN Human Rights Council, Children's Rights Side event

PSCORE was featured in a Yonhap news article about our activities at the United Nations' Human Rights Council in Geneva on March 11th. The side event was about the human rights issue of North Korean children. Mr. Kim Tae-hoon(PSCORE) expressed concern that the underage daughter of former North Korean ambassador to Italy, who recently went into hiding. The daughter was forcibly sent back to the North and he added that she could face serious punishment there. He mentioned the fact that the repatriation of Cho's daughter without any contact with her parents is a violation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) that North Korea also ratified.

Link: <https://www.yna.co.kr/view/AKR20190311153151088>

12 March 2019: UN Human Rights Council, 1969 KAL Abduction Side event

MBC reported on the side event that we co-hosted with Amnesty International at the Human Rights Council in Geneva, about the 1969 KAL abduction case. In December 1969, the Korean Air flight YS-11 departing from Gimpo to Gangneung changed course to North Korea 10 minutes after takeoff. North Korea repatriated only 39 of the 50 passengers and crew the following year and has yet to send back 11 people. During the event we urged the North Korean authorities to immediately release the captives of YS-11 and we asked for the international community's support emphasizing that this hijacking case is the only case yet to be resolved.

Link: http://imnews.imbc.com/news/2019/world/article/5201739_24712.html

PSCORE in the Media

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Future Endeavors

Once again, thank you so much for your continuous support.

Starting from next month, we are planning to have talks overseas and meetings with other NGO's within South Korea based on reunification. Moreover, we will give presentations on the human rights situation in North Korea at Korean high schools and universities.

After that, we are also planning to organize campaigns and workshops, but more information will be given on that in next month's newsletter.

Sincerely,

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