



The Centre for Korean Research is pleased to present:

"U.S. Approaches to New Leadership in the Koreas"

By Nicholas Hamisevicz and special guest Michael Madden

Thursday, October 20th

3:30-5:00 pm

Conference room #120, C.K. Choi Building

1855 West Mall

Abstract: The U.S. will quickly interact with new leadership changes in both North and South Korea next year. For North Korea, the U.S. has to monitor the changes in leadership as Kim Jong-un starts to develop more responsibilities. However, Kim Jong-il still seems to be leading the country as his trips to China and Russia clearly indicate. The U.S. will also have to continue to working with its allies and talking to North Korea in order to prevent further provocations from causing instability in the region.

However with South Korea, the U.S. will have the challenge of maintaining this wave of positive relations and interaction with its ally. South Korean President Lee Myung-bak has elevated the importance of the relationship with the U.S., and there are many indications that one of President Obama's best relationships is with President Lee. In early 2012, the U.S. might face a different outlook in the National Assembly, and it will be interacting with a new South Korea president at the end of the year. Thus, the U.S. will have to adjust

quickly to coordinate policies with the new leadership in South Korea, especially over North Korea issues.

Michael Madden, author of the NK Leadership Watch blog, will talk about Kim Jong-un and other North Korean leadership changes to watch. He will discuss the unveiling of Kim Jong-un to the world, his current positions in the North Korean government, and the other North Korean leaders that seem to be in Kim Jong-un's support group. Mr. Madden will also provide some other North Korean leaders to pay attention to for succession issues. Furthermore, Mr. Madden will discuss some of the prominent leaders in North Korea that work on issues involving the United States, China, and South Korea. He will conclude by providing some thoughts on how these countries should try to approach some of these individuals in North Korean leadership positions.

Nicholas Hamisevicz Bio: Nicholas Hamisevicz is the Director of Research and Academic Affairs at KEI. He is responsible for issues related to North Korea and for academic outreach. He organizes and speaks in KEI's numerous university programs around the country. Mr. Hamisevicz is also responsible for programming and publications related to North Korea.

Prior to joining KEI, Mr. Hamisevicz was the Research Associate in the Asian Studies Center at The Heritage Foundation. He wrote and provided research analysis on political and security affairs in Asia, especially regarding China, Korea, and South Asia.

Mr. Hamisevicz earned a MA degree in International Communication from American University and a MA degree in International Studies from Korea University. He graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BA degree in Communication Studies from West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Michael Madden Bio: Michael Madden is a leading authority on North Korean political culture, leadership dynamics and history. He is author and editor of *NK Leadership Watch*, associate editor of *Parallax* and regular contributor to *KPA Journal*. He attended Suffolk University where from 2005 to 2011 he was principal administrator of the Inter-cultural Studies Program at Charles University, Prague.