

EVENT

The Republic of Korea (ROK) and Japan are the two most important US allies in Asia. The Defense Department has dubbed the US-ROK alliance the "linchpin of peace and prosperity" and the U.S.-Japan alliance the "cornerstone of peace and security."

The alliance system can only realize its full potential — and confront major regional and global challenges — if the third side of the strategic triangle, Japan-ROK relations, functions well. These relations, however, have been bedeviled recently by strained relations and the perception of wavering US commitment to the region. This virtual event brings together a group of experts to discuss the current state of Japan-ROK relations and their role in the larger U.S.-led Asian alliance system.



KEYNOTE

SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN IN AN ERA OF TURBULENCE

Jonathan Pollack,

Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Pollack is a senior fellow at the John L. Thornton China Center and the Center for East Asia Policy at the Brookings Institution. His research interests include U.S. strategy in Asia and the Pacific, Korean politics and foreign policy, and Asian international politics.

He is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. He was chairman of the Strategic Research Department at the U.S. Naval War College and he previously worked at the Rand Corporation in Santa Monica. Pollack has authored and edited over a dozen books and research monographs.



Loyola Marymount University
Global Policy Institute

KOREA **KF**
FOUNDATION

한국국제교류재단

This event is hosted by the Global Policy Institute at Loyola Marymount University. This event is sponsored by the Korea Foundation.

AGENDA

4:30 - 4:35 PM

VIRTUAL WELCOME: **Gene Park,**
Director, Global Policy Institute at LMU

4:35 - 4:55 PM

KEYNOTE: **Jonathan Pollack,**
Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

4:55 - 5:45 PM

PANEL
Celeste Arrington, *George Washington University*



Arrington specializes in comparative politics, with a regional focus on the Koreas and Japan. Her research interests include law and social change, legal professionals, social movements, democratic governance, the media, comparative policy processes, and qualitative research methods.

Cheol-hee Park, *Seoul National University*



His research interests include Japanese politics, Japan-ROK relations, and international relations in East Asia. He has written many articles on Japan-ROK relations and has contributed to articles in multiple volumes including *East Asia's Haunted Past*, *National Identities and Bilateral Relations*, and *Japan's Foreign Relations in Asia*. He is currently a columnist at *Tokyo Shimbun*, *JoongAng Ilbo*, and *Munhwa Ilbo*.

Yoshihide Soeya, *Keio University*



He is currently a Professor Emeritus at Keio University after recently retiring as a professor of political science and international relations at the Faculty of Law of Keio University in March 2020. His areas of interest include politics and security in East Asia and Japanese diplomacy and its external relations.

Gene Park, *Global Policy Institute*



Park's research interests include comparative and international political economy; Japanese foreign policy and politics; and the politics of monetary policy, public spending and taxation. He also has a broad interest in East Asian security. His most recent co-authored book is *"Taming Japan's Deflation: The Debate over Unconventional Monetary Policy"* (Cornell University Press, 2018).

5:45 - 6:00 PM

MODERATED VIRTUAL Q&A ON ZOOM