

## **MEMBERSHIP POSITION: Republic of Korea (South Korea)**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Official Name:** Republic of Korea

**Capital:** Seoul

**Population:** 50,219,669

**Major Languages:** Korean

**Major Religions:** None, Buddhism, Christianity

**Regional/Economic Organizational Membership:** ADB, AfDB (nonregional member), APEC, ARF, ASEAN (dialogue partner), Australia Group, BIS, CD, CICA, CP, EAS, EBRD, FAO, FATF, G-20, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC (national committees), ICRM, IDA, IEA, IFAD, IFC, IFRC, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, IMSO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, ITUC (NGOs), LAIA (observer), MIGA, MINURSO, NEA, NSG, OAS (observer), OECD, OPCW, OSCE (partner), Pacific Alliance (observer), Paris Club (associate), PCA, PIF (partner), SAARC (observer), SICA (observer), UN, UN Security Council (temporary), UNAMID, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNIFIL, UNISFA, UNMIL, UNMISS, UNMOGIP, UNOCI, UNWTO, UPU, WCO, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO, ZC

### **GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM**

The sixth republic of South Korea has in place a governmental system comparable to the U.S. in that it implements a 3 branch liberal constitutional democracy. It has an executive, a judicial and a legislative branch, all set in place with the Constitution of the Republic of Korea.

### **FOREIGN POLICY**

A member of the UN since 1991, South Korea has diplomatic relations with over 188 countries. It also has ties with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. “The Republic of Korea” officially claims the entire Korean peninsula but it has a peace treaty with “The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” or “North Korea” though the North Korean media declared it no longer valid in 2009 and South Korea strained economic relations with North Korea in 2010. South Korea also has a mutual defense treaty with the United States and is an important trading partner with the European Union.

### **ISSUES SUMMARY**

Both South and North Korea claim the Korean peninsula so that's probably a big issue.

### **RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UN**

Member since 1991