



## Situation in Korean Peninsula: Responses of Six Party Members (North Korea, United States, South Korea, China, Russia and Japan) - Who Said What

November 17-21, 2017

*Compiled by Dr. Jojin V. John \**

Country	
North Korea	<p><b>Kim Jong Un</b></p> <p>November 21, 2017<sup>1</sup></p> <p>“The hostile forces' desperate efforts to block the advance of (North Korea) make the indomitable spirit of the Korean workers stronger and make them produce a great miracle startling the world.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Commentary- KCNA</b></p> <p>November 20, 2017<sup>2</sup></p> <p>“An insult to the dignity of the supreme leadership of the DPRK is the</p>

<sup>1</sup> "Kim Jong Un Visits Sungri Motor Complex", KCNA, November 21, 2017, <https://kcnawatch.co/newstream/1511217033-264333817/kim-jong-un-visits-sungri-motor-complex/>

<sup>2</sup> "Trump Hit for Insulting Dignity of DPRK Supreme Leadership", KCNA, November 20, 2017, <https://kcnawatch.co/newstream/151164863-585726915/trump-hit-for-insulting-dignity-of-dprk-supreme-leadership/>

biggest insult to its army and people and an intolerable challenge to human mentality and conscience.”

“Trump must clearly understand that his rubbish is leading the U.S., to say nothing of himself, to irretrievable road to the hell.”

“It is a stark reality that the old and ailing U.S. is heading toward the hell.”

“The mentally deranged money-grabber dared point his finger at the sun. This has made him the criminal who is sentenced to death by the army and people of the DPRK.”

“Those who challenge the dignity of the supreme leadership of the DPRK and its social system can never find their place to live under this sky. Rabid dog Trump will certainly be made to pay dearly for his hideous crime.”

### **KCNA**

November 20, 2017<sup>3</sup>

“Japan seeks to secure a pretext for deploying its SDF troops on the Korean peninsula under the excuse of "threat" from the DPRK and thus bring into reality its old dream of "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" by justifying its reinvasion of the Asia-Pacific region.”

“Japan itself will not be safe once a war breaks out on the Korean peninsula. Everything of Japan to be involved in the war may disappear at once together with the U.S. military bases in Japan.”

“Japan's crazy ride on a militarist chariot will only make it fall into a pitfall of ruin.”

### **Rodong Sinmun**

November 17, 2017<sup>4</sup>

"The United States should repent of its crimes of bringing about the danger of a nuclear war to the peninsula before talking about the 'negotiated denuclearization without preconditions.'"

"As the prevailing situation shows, the United States seeks to bring down the DPRK by force of arms and take hold of world supremacy,

<sup>3</sup> "KCNA Commentary Blasts Japan's Military Moves", KCNA, November 20, 2017, <https://kcnawatch.co/newstream/1511172055-420298787/kcna-commentary-blasts-japans-military-moves/>

<sup>4</sup> "DPRK asks U.S. to repent for bringing nuclear war danger to Korean Peninsula", The Xinhua News, November 17, 2017, [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/17/c\\_136760902.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/17/c_136760902.htm)

	<p>not for negotiated settlement of the issue."</p> <p>United States should "abandon a daydream that the DPRK would bow to its brigandish demand."</p> <p>"It is foolish for the United States to think of negotiation aimed at unilateral dismantlement of nukes, far from the repeal of its hostile policy toward the DPRK."</p>
USA	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Statement- White House</b></p> <p>November 21, 2017<sup>5</sup></p> <p>President Trump and President Putin also discussed ... the need to continue international pressure on North Korea to halt its nuclear weapon and missile programs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Press Release- Treasury Department</b></p> <p>November 21, 2017<sup>6</sup></p> <p>"The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) today sanctioned one individual, 13 entities, and 20 vessels as the United States continues to take action multilaterally and unilaterally to disrupt North Korea's illicit funding of its unlawful nuclear and ballistic missile programs. Today's sanctions target third-country persons with long-standing commercial ties to North Korea, as well as the transportation networks that facilitate North Korea's revenue generation and operations."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Heather Nauert- Spokesperson, State Department</b></p> <p>November 21, 2017<sup>7</sup></p>

<sup>5</sup> "Readout of President Donald J. Trump's Call with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia", The White House, November 21, 2017, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/11/21/readout-president-donald-j-trumps-call-president-vladimir-v-putin-russia>

<sup>6</sup> "Treasury Sanctions Trading, Labor, and Shipping Companies and Vessels to Further Isolate North Korea", The US Department of the Treasury, November 21, 2017, <https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/smo220.aspx>

“We’ve had our maximum pressure campaign, where we’re asking governments all around the world to do their part to choke off the money supply that goes into North Korea. All that we view as successful.”

"As of about a month and a half ago ... it was at least 20 countries around the world that had done different things with that maximum pressure campaign.”

"That would exclude countries being involved in U.N. Security Council resolutions and various sanctions.”

“So all of these things sort of working in harmony we believe are having an effect. Part of what this does – it further isolates North Korea. North Korea is certainly a pariah state.”

**Donald Trump- President**

November 20, 2017<sup>8</sup>

“Today, the United States is designating North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism. It should have happened a long time ago. It should have happened years ago.”

“This designation will impose further sanctions and penalties on North Korea and related persons, and supports our maximum pressure campaign to isolate the murderous regime that you've all been reading about and, in some cases, writing about.”

“Tomorrow, the Treasury Department will be announcing an additional sanction, and a very large one, on North Korea. This will be going on over the next two weeks. It will be the highest level of sanctions by the time it's finished over a two-week period.”

“The North Korean regime must be lawful. It must end its unlawful nuclear and ballistic missile development, and cease all support for international terrorism -- which it is not doing”

**Rex Tillerson- Secretary of State**

November 20, 2017<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> "Department Press Briefing", The US Department of State, November 21, 2017, <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/dpb/2017/11/275815.htm#NORTHKOREA>

<sup>8</sup> "Remarks by President Trump Before Cabinet Meeting", The White House, November 20, 2017, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/11/20/remarks-president-trump-cabinet-meeting>

"We still hope for diplomacy."

"This is only going to get worse until you're ready to talk."

"The practical effect of it (sanctions) is ... it may though disrupt, and dissuade some third parties from undertaking certain activities with North Korea, as it does impose prohibition on a number of other activities that may not be covered by existing sanctions."

**Rex Tillerson – Secretary, State Department**

November 17, 2017<sup>10</sup>

"Let me stress that the United States seeks greater support from our African partners on growing global security matters, including North Korea."

"Further, I urge you to take additional measures to pressure the DPRK by downgrading your diplomatic relationships with the regime, severing economic ties, expelling all DPRK laborers, and reducing North Korea's presence in your country in all other ways it may be found."

"The DPRK presents a threat to all of our nations. Everyone – including each country represented here today – must play a part in this peaceful pressure campaign to convince the DPRK that the only way to achieve true security and respect from the international community is to abandon its current path and choose a meaningful dialogue about a different future."

**Heather Nauert – Spokesperson, State Department**

November 17, 2017<sup>11</sup>

"I know that some countries would like to see a freeze for freeze. I'll

<sup>9</sup> "Tillerson says North Korea designation aimed at third parties", The Reuters, November 21, 2017, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missiles-usa-tillerson/tillerson-says-north-korea-designation-aimed-at-third-parties-idUSKBN1DK2GN>; "US designates North Korea as state sponsor of terrorism", Korea Times, November 21, 2017, [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2017/11/103\\_239604.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2017/11/103_239604.html)

<sup>10</sup> "Remarks at the Ministerial on Trade, Security, and Governance in Africa", US State Department, November 17, 2017, <https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2017/11/275755.htm>

<sup>11</sup> "Department Press Briefing", The US State Department, November 17, 2017, <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/dpb/2017/11/275768.htm>

	<p>come back to something that I've said before: There is no moral equivalency between the actions on the part of the DPRK, and by that I mean missile launches, advanced nuclear tests – there's no moral equivalency between that and our legal, justified activities when we take part in freedom of navigation operations, for example. One does not – is not equal to the other."</p>
South Korea	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Noh Kyu-duk- Spokesman, Foreign Ministry</b></p> <p>November 21, 2017<sup>12</sup></p> <p>"The government's position is that the latest measure (US designation of North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism) would contribute to the approach of bringing North Korea to the negotiating table through strong sanctions and pressure so as to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue peacefully."</p> <p>"In that vein, I don't think (the measure) has anything special to do with the Winter Olympics."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Choo Mi-ae- Chairwoman, Democratic Party</b></p> <p>November 17, 2017<sup>13</sup></p> <p>"As the leader of the ruling party of the Republic of Korea, I am strongly requesting that North Korean athletes participate in the PyeongChang Winter Olympics."</p> <p>"Through their participation, I hope to jointly march toward a new era of peace on the Korean Peninsula."</p>
China	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lu Kang- Spokesperson, Foreign Ministry</b></p> <p>November 21, 2017<sup>14</sup></p>

<sup>12</sup> "N.K. welcome to join PyeongChang Olympics despite listing as terror sponsor", The Yonhap News, November 21, 2017,

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/21/0401000000AEN20171121006500315.html>

<sup>13</sup> "S. Korea's ruling party leader urges N. Korea to join PyeongChang Olympics", The Yonhap News, November 17, 2017,

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/18/0401000000AEN20171118000400315.html>

<sup>14</sup> "Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lu Kang's Regular Press Conference", Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PRC, November 21, 2017,

[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/t1512680.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/t1512680.shtml)

	<p>“I don't see any necessary connection between the timing of President Trump's announcement and Minister Song Tao's visit to the DPRK.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Xinhua</b></p> <p>November 20, 2017<sup>15</sup></p> <p>“The ruling parties of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) have pledged to strengthen inter-party exchange and coordination, and push forward the development of relations between the two countries. The pledge was made during a visit to the DPRK by Song Tao, special envoy of the Communist Party of China (CPC) General Secretary Xi Jinping, on Nov. 17-20.”</p> <p>“The two sides also exchanged views on relations between the two parties and the two countries, and on the Korean Peninsula issue and other issues of common concern.”</p>
Russia	
Japan	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shinzo Abe- Prime Minister</b></p> <p>November 21, 2017<sup>16</sup></p> <p>“I welcome and support (the designation) as it raises the pressure on North Korea.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shinzo Abe- Prime Minister</b></p> <p>November 17, 2017<sup>17</sup></p> <p>“It's not an exaggeration to say our security environment is at its severest</p>

<sup>15</sup> "Ruling parties of China, DPRK vow to strengthen exchange, push forward ties", November 21, 2017, [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/20/c\\_136766697.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/20/c_136766697.htm)

<sup>16</sup> "South Korea, Japan say listing North Korea as terror sponsor will pressure Pyongyang to denuclearize", The Reuters, November 21, 2017, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missiles/south-korea-japan-say-listing-north-korea-as-terror-sponsor-will-pressure-pyongyang-to-denuclearize-idUSKBNiDL07l>

<sup>17</sup> "Abe pledges to beat deflation 'once and for all'", The Nikkei Asian Review, November 17, 2017, <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Policy-Politics/Abe-pledges-to-beat-deflation-once-and-for-all>; "In key policy speech, Abe sounds alarm over Japan's 'most severe security environment ever'", The Japan Times, November 17, 2017, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/11/17/national/politics-diplomacy/key-policy-speech-abe-sounds-alarm-japans-severe-security-environment-ever/#.WhKUFkqWaM8>

	point ever since the end of the war.”
--	---------------------------------------

	"I will work to strengthen our missile defenses and other defense capabilities, and do my best to protect the people and their peaceful lives."
--	---

\*\*\*\*

*\*Dr. Jojin V. John, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi.*

*Disclaimer: The views expressed are that of the Researcher and not of the Council.*