



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

November 22-29, 2017

*Compiled by Dr. Jojin V. John **

Country	
North Korea	<p>Statement- Government of DPRK</p> <p>November 29, 2017¹</p> <p>“The test-fire of intercontinental ballistic rocket Hwasong-15, newly developed under the political resolution and strategic decision of the Workers' Party of Korea, was successfully carried out.”</p> <p>“It is the most powerful ICBM which meets the goal of the completion of the rocket weaponry system development set by the DPRK.”</p> <p>“After watching the successful launch of the new type ICBM Hwasong-15, Kim Jong Un declared with pride that now we have finally realized the great historic cause of completing the state nuclear force, the cause of building a rocket power.”</p>

¹ "DPRK Gov't Statement on Successful Test-fire of New-Type ICBM", KCNA, November 29, 2017, <https://kcna.kp/>

“The development and advancement of the strategic weapon of the DPRK are to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country from the U.S. imperialists’ nuclear blackmail policy and nuclear threat, and to ensure the peaceful life of the people, and therefore, they would not pose any threat to any country and region as long as the interests of the DPRK are not infringed upon. This is our solemn declaration.”

“As a responsible nuclear power and a peace-loving state, the DPRK will make every possible effort to serve the noble purpose of defending peace and stability of the world.”

**Statement- Director of Press, Institution for American Studies of
DPRK Foreign Ministry**

November 28, 2017²

“The DPRK's nuclear force which targets none other than the U.S. is the reliable deterrent to prevent a nuclear war and firmly defend peace on the Korean peninsula by thoroughly eradicating the half-a-century long unilateral nuclear blackmail and threat from the U.S.”

“We take this opportunity to issue a warning to the pseudo-intellectuals who are hurling vicious abuse at the DPRK in pursuance of the moves of the Trump administration and some of the Western media that are producing false reports based on absurd and groundless speculations.”

“If you are truly interested in the settlement of the nuclear issue and peace and security, you should properly understand the root cause of the nuclear issue based on your own principles and contribute to international justice by being true to the principle of objectivity and unbiasedness, the very life and mission of the media.”

KCNA

November 26, 2017³

² "Statement by Director of Press of Institution for American Studies of DPRK Foreign Ministry", KCNA, November 29, 2017, <https://kcnk.kp/>

³ "U.S. Gangster-like Threatening Diplomacy Rejected", KCNA, November 26, 2017, <https://kcnawatch.co/newstream/1511685046-273227528/u-s-gangster-like-threatening-diplomacy-rejected/>

“Tillerson called on even African countries to cut off all the relations with the DPRK. This is little short of admitting its defeat in the one-to-one nuclear stand-off with the DPRK that has persisted century after century. The U.S. has become so exhausted and fallen on hard times in confrontation with the DPRK that it has now stretched its hands for help even to the African countries which it has so far regarded only as targets of exploitation and plunder.”

“The nuclear force of the DPRK is targeted against the U.S. which is working desperate to undermine the sovereignty and rights to existence and development of the DPRK. There is no need whatsoever for the African countries to feel any threat from the nuclear deterrence of the DPRK.”

Ri Jong-hyok - Deputy of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly and Director of the National Reunification Institute

November 26, 2017⁴

"Today's reality shows that our obtaining of nuclear (weapons) shatters the U.S. ambition to secure its supremacy in the Asia-Pacific region and safeguards peace and security on the Korean Peninsula and its region.”

"It's Korean people's resolute decision that (North Korea) should face off the U.S. only with nuclear (weapons) to achieve the balance of power.”

"Our nuclear deterrence is a sword of justice aimed at fighting (U.S.) nuke and Asia and any country in the world need not worry about our threats as long as they do not join invasion and provocations toward us.”

Spokesperson- Foreign Ministry

November 22, 2017⁵

“Following Trump's reckless remark on the UN arena of "totally destroying" our country, the U.S. labeled the DPRK as a "state sponsor

⁴Senior N. Korean official says its nuke program targets no country but U.S.", The Yonhap News, November 26, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/26/0401000000AEN20171126002100315.html>

⁵"FM Spokesman Blasts U.S. for Re-listing DPRK as "Sponsor of Terrorism"", KCNA, November 22, 2017, <https://kcnawatch.co/newstream/1511364633-149796013/fm-spokesman-blasts-u-s-for-re-listing-dprk-as-sponsor-of-terrorism/>

	<p>of terrorism" this time. This is a serious provocation and a violent infringement upon our dignified country.”</p> <p>“By re-listing the DPRK as a "state sponsor of terrorism", the U.S. openly revealed to the whole world its intention to destroy our ideology and system by using all kinds of means and methods.”</p> <p>“Our army and people are full of rage and anger towards the heinous gangsters who dared to put the name of our sacred country in this wretched list of "terrorism" and are hardening their will to settle all accounts with those gangsters at any time in any way.”</p> <p>“The U.S. will be held entirely accountable for all the consequences to be entailed by its impudent provocation to the DPRK.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ri Yong-ho_ Foreign Minister</p> <p>November 22, 2017⁶</p> <p>"The situation on the Korean Peninsula is worsening and is tense because of the increased use of military forces by the imperialists."</p>
USA	<p style="text-align: center;">Donald Trump- President</p> <p>November 28, 2017⁷</p> <p>“I will only tell you that we will take care of it. We have General Mattis in the room with us, and we've had a long discussion on it. It is a situation that we will handle.”</p> <p>On Washington approach to North Korea in the context of a new missile test, President Trump responded,</p> <p>“Nothing changed. Nothing changed. We have a very serious approach, but nothing changed. We take it very seriously.”</p>

⁶ "Cuba, DPRK vow to strengthen ties amid escalating tensions with U.S.", Xinhua, November 23, 2017, http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/23/c_136773592.htm

⁷ "Remarks by President Trump in Meeting with Congressional Leadership", The White House, November 28, 2017, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/11/28/remarks-president-trump-meeting-congressional-leadership-o>

Rex Tillerson- Secretary of State

November 28, 2017⁸

“The United States strongly condemns North Korea’s launch of what is likely an intercontinental ballistic missile into the Sea of Japan, indiscriminately threatening its neighbors, the region and global stability.”

“The D.P.R.K.’s relentless pursuit of nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them must be reversed. Together the international community must continue to send a unified message to North Korea that the D.P.R.K. must abandon its WMD programs. All nations must continue strong economic and diplomatic measures. In addition to implementing all existing UN sanctions, the international community must take additional measures to enhance maritime security, including the right to interdict maritime traffic transporting goods to and from the D.P.R.K.”

“Diplomatic options remain viable and open, for now. The United States remains committed to finding a peaceful path to denuclearization and to ending belligerent actions by North Korea.”

November 28, 2017⁹

“Our European partners have also been strong supporters of our diplomatic and economic pressure campaign against North Korea. In addition to enthusiastically supporting UN Security Council resolutions, countries have taken unilateral steps to maximize pressure on the regime in Pyongyang. Portugal froze all diplomatic relations with the DPRK in July. Spain and Italy have expelled North Korean ambassadors. Latvia has fined banks who have violated the sanctions. Our European allies know North Korea is a threat to all responsible nations and requires a coordinated response. We commend our allies for increasing pressure on the regime in Pyongyang in order to achieve the complete, permanent, and verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.”

⁸ "Press Statement", US Department of States, November 28, 2017, <https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2017/11/276019.htm>

⁹ "The U.S. and Europe: Strengthening Western Alliances", US Department of State Affairs, November 28, 2017, <https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2017/11/276002.htm>

Jim Mattis- Secretary of Defense

November 28, 2017¹⁰

“Mr. President, Senator, Speaker, a little over two and a half hours ago, North Korea launched an intercontinental ballistic missile. It went higher, frankly, than any previous shot they've taken. It's a research and development effort on their part to continue building ballistic missiles that could threaten everywhere in the world, basically.”

“And in response, the South Koreans have fired some pinpoint missiles out into the water to make certain North Korea understands that they could be taken under fire by our ally.”

“But the bottom line is, it's a continued effort to build a threat -- a ballistic missile threat that endangers world peace, regional peace, and certainly, the United States.”

Col. Robert Manning- Spokesman, Pentagon

November 28, 2017¹¹

“The U.S. Department of Defense detected and tracked a single North Korea missile launch today at about 1:17 p.m. EST. Initial assessment indicates that this missile was an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).”

“The missile was launched from Sain Ni, North Korea, and traveled about 1000 km before splashing down in the Sea of Japan, within Japan's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). We are working with our interagency partners on a more detailed assessment of the launch.”

Our commitment to the defense of our allies, including the Republic of Korea and Japan, in the face of these threats, remains ironclad. We

¹⁰ "Remarks by President Trump in Meeting with Congressional Leadership", The White House, November 28, 2017, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/11/28/remarks-president-trump-meeting-congressional-leadership-o>

¹¹ "Statement by Pentagon Spokesman Col. Robert Manning on North Korea ICBM Launch", US Department of Defense, November 28, 2017, <https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Releases/News-Release-View/Article/1382158/statement-by-pentagon-spokesman-col-robert-manning-on-north-korea-icbm-launch/>

remain prepared to defend ourselves and our allies from any attack or provocation.”

Statement- White House

November 27, 2017¹²

“President Trump and President Macron agreed on the need for all nations to impose and maintain maximum pressure on the North Korean regime to denuclearize.”

Robert Manning- Pentagon spokesman

November 27, 2017¹³

"We watch North Korea very closely. We'll continue to do so."

"The Republic of Korea (South Korea) and U.S. alliance remains strong, and capable of countering any North Korean provocations or attacks."

"The State Department is working very hard to exercise those diplomatic options and initiatives and efforts with China."

Chad Carrol- U.S. Army Colonel and UN Command's Public Affairs Chief

November 22, 2017¹⁴

The United Nations Command (UNC) announced on November 22, 2017 that North Korea clearly violated the 1953 Armistice Agreement twice last week, when its border security guards tried to hunt down a fellow soldier defecting to South Korea via Panmunjom.

¹² "Readout of President Donald J. Trump's Call with President Emmanuel Macron of France", The White House, November 27, 2017, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/11/27/readout-president-donald-j-trumps-call-president-emmanuel-macron-france>

¹³ "Pentagon continues to watch N. Korea 'very closely'", The Yonhap News, November 27, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/28/0401000000AEN20171128000251315.html>

¹⁴ "N. Korean troops violated armistice in chasing defector: UNC", The Yonhap News, November 22, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/22/0401000000AEN20171122004054315.html>

	<p>"The key findings of the special investigation team are that the KPA violated the Armistice Agreement by one, firing weapons across the MDL, and two, by actually crossing the MDL temporarily."</p>
<p>South Korea</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Moon Jae-in- President</p> <p>November 29, 2017¹⁵</p> <p>"I strongly condemn North Korea for staging such reckless provocations."</p> <p>"North Korea must immediately give up its reckless pursuit that will lead to its isolation and demise, and come to the dialogue table. The government will never tolerate North Korean provocations."</p> <p>"Our government has emphasized repeatedly on major occasions that we will offer a bright future if (North Korea) comes to the dialogue table. Despite our sincere efforts and appeals, it fired a ballistic missile today."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Park Soo-hyun- Spokesman, Office of the President</p> <p>November 29, 2017¹⁶</p> <p>"The two leaders strongly condemned North Korea for again launching a long-range ballistic missile despite the international community's repeated warnings and its continued sanctions and pressure under a series of U.N. Security Council resolutions."</p> <p>"Also, the two leaders agreed to continue their efforts to bring North Korea to the dialogue table by continuing to put sanctions and pressure on North Korea in close cooperation with the international community, while firmly and strongly dealing with North Korean provocations based on the strong joint defense posture of South Korea and the United States."</p>

¹⁵ "S. Korean president vows strong measures against N. Korean missile launch", The Yonhap News, November 29, 2017,

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/29/0401000000AEN20171129002800315.html>

¹⁶ "Moon, Trump vow to seek further sanctions against N. Korea", The Yonhap News, November 29, 2017,

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/29/2/0401000000AEN20171129005453315F.html>

"(The president) explained that his country demonstrated its capability to target the origin of North Korean provocations by striking a target with ground-to-ground, ship-to-ground and air-to-ground missiles."

"President Trump expressed agreement and suggested they hold additional discussions based on a detailed and accurate evaluation of today's missile provocation and close consultations between the foreign and defense authorities of South Korea and the United States."

Statement- Foreign Ministry

November 29, 2017¹⁷

"Both ministers (Kang Kyung-wha and Rex Tillerson) expressed serious concerns over North Korea's resumption of reckless provocations in defiance of the international community's warnings."

They "committed to seek all diplomatic efforts to achieve the complete denuclearization of North Korea, including strong sanctions and pressure."

"The foreign ministry's top negotiator on the North Korean nuclear issue Lee Do-hoon, who is visiting the U.S., met with his U.S. counterpart Joseph Yun and had phone talks with his Japanese counterpart Kenji Kanasugi following the first weapons test by North Korea in nearly 11 weeks."

"The top six-party negotiators of South Korea, U.S. and Japan denounced the latest provocation as an act that escalates tension on the Korean Peninsula and seriously violates international peace and stability."

Song Young-moo- Defense Minister

November 27, 2017¹⁸

¹⁷ "Top diplomats of S. Korea, U.S. pledge strong diplomatic efforts after N.K. missile test", The Yonhap News, November 29, 2017,

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/29/0401000000AEN20171129007051315.html>

¹⁸ "South Korea warns North not to repeat 'armistice violation' in wake of defector's shooting", The Japan Times, November 27, 2017, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/11/27/asia-pacific/south-korea-warns-north-not-repeat-armistice-violation-wake-defectors-shooting/#.WhzmkqWaM9>

“Shooting toward the South at a defecting person, that’s a violation of the armistice agreement.”

“Crossing the military demarcation line, a violation. Carrying automatic rifles (in the JSA), another violation.”

“North Korea should be informed this sort of thing should never occur again.”

Lee Do-hoon- Special Representative for Korean Peninsula Peace and Security Affairs

November 27, 2017¹⁹

At a joint press conference following his meeting g with Igor Morgulov – Russian Vice Foreign Minister, Amb . Lee said,

"Russia has been South Korea's long-term partner in efforts to solve the North Korean nuclear issue."

"I think this meeting is very timely, taking place at a time like today when the North Korean nuclear and missile problems are becoming increasingly serious."

Statement- Foreign Ministry

November 27, 2017²⁰

"The two sides (South Korea and Russia) shared the viewed that steady management of the situation was more important than anything else."

"They agreed to keep up their mutual efforts to deter further provocations by North Korea, while also trying to bring North Korea to the dialogue table."

¹⁹ "Russia ready to cooperate for peaceful resolution of N. Korean issues", The Yonhap News, November 27, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/27/0401000000AEN20171127010652315.html>

²⁰ "Russia ready to cooperate for peaceful resolution of N. Korean issues", The Yonhap News, November 27, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/27/0401000000AEN20171127010652315.html>

Cho Myoung-gyon- Minister, Unification Ministry

November 27, 2017²¹

"It is urgent to reopen the communication lines to prevent accidental armed conflicts."

"In that sense, Seoul's offer for inter-Korean military and family reunion talks remains intact."

"We call on North Korea to make efforts to ease tensions on the Korean Peninsula and relieve the pain of families (separated by the 1950-53 Korean War.)"

Song Young-gil- Chairman, Presidential Committee on Northern Economic Cooperation

November 27, 2017²²

"Recently, the North Korea-China dialogue has not been going smoothly, while talks between the North and Russia are going relatively well".

"Thus, we judge that Russia is in a position to mediate inter-Korean talks, which is a very significant role for regional peace."

Korea Times also reported that Song said the Moon Jae-in government has been calling for peace during the Winter Games, and a delay in the exercise may stop North Korea from conducting additional provocations.

²¹ "Minister raises urgent need to restore inter-Korean communication line", The Yonhap News, November 27, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/27/0401000000AEN20171127008200315.html>

²² "Government wants to delay Korea-U.S. military drills", The Korea Times, November 27, 2017, http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2017/11/103_239974.html

China

Statement- Foreign Ministry

November 22, 2017

A statement was issued by the Foreign Ministry following the meeting between Foreign Minister Wang Yi and South Korean Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha,

“The two sides exchanged views on the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue. Wang Yi reiterated China's relevant principled position, stressing that China and the ROK share common interests in realizing the denuclearization of the Peninsula and safeguarding peace and stability on the Peninsula through dialogue and consultation. It is hoped that both sides will continue strengthening strategic communication and make active efforts to this end. Kang Kyung-wha expressed that pressure and sanctions are not the goal, and all parties should make joint efforts to solve the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue through dialogue and negotiation. The ROK and China share the absolutely same goal on this issue.”

Lu Kang- Spokesperson, Foreign Ministry

November 22, 2017²³

“As we stressed multiple times from this podium, China has always implemented the UN Security Council's DPRK-related resolutions in a comprehensive and strict manner, and our efforts are there for all to see. In the meanwhile, I would like to reiterate that we always firmly oppose the wrong act of imposing unilateral sanctions and "long-arm jurisdiction" by any country in accordance with its own law.”

“China's opposition to the deployment of THAAD system in the ROK by the US is consistent and remains unchanged. No long ago, China and the ROK reached some consensus on dealing with the THAAD issue in the current stage. We hope the ROK will make concrete efforts to continue to properly handle the relevant issue and work with China to improve our bilateral relations.”

²³ "Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lu Kang's Regular Press Conference", Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PRC, November 22, 2017, http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/t1513074.shtml

Russia

Igor Morgulov - Vice Foreign Minister

November 27, 2017²⁴

Vice Minister Morgulov in the meeting with Lee Do-hoon, South Korea's special representative for Korean Peninsula peace and security affairs said,

"We are ready for close cooperation with South Korea for the purpose of achieving a peaceful resolution of overall issues in the region."

"South Korea is contributing to the development of security on the Korean Peninsula."

"Through sanctions or pressure, (we) cannot achieve the effect of bringing North Korea to the negotiating table."

"The stronger the sanctions and pressure on North Korea become, the greater the harm to normal North Koreans could get."

November 27, 2017²⁵

Vice Minister Morgulov later told Yonhap News Agency that Russia is "in favor of the resumption of the six-party talks, We are ready to resume it any time at any place ... without any condition from the Russian side."

On North Korean workers in Russia, he said, "We should abandon this practice. So definitely we will do it ... as exactly as the resolutions require."

November 27, 2017²⁶

At the opening of the eighth annual Asian Conference of the Valdai discussion club in Seoul Vice Minister Igor Morgulov said,

"A scenario of the apocalyptic development of the situation on the Korean Peninsula exists and we cannot turn our blind eye to it."

²⁴ "Russia ready to cooperate for peaceful resolution of N. Korean issues", The Yonhap News, November 27, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/27/0401000000AEN20171127010652315.html>

²⁵ "Russia ready to cooperate for peaceful resolution of N. Korean issues", The Yonhap News, November 27, 2017, <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2017/11/27/0401000000AEN20171127010652315.html>

²⁶ "Russian diplomat warns 'apocalyptic scenario' on Korean Peninsula possible, TASS, November 27, 2017, <http://tass.com/politics/977555>

"I hope that a common sense, pragmatism and an instinct of self-preservation would prevail among our partners to exclude such negative scenario."

"We have told North Korea many times that for us [its] nuclear status is unacceptable."

"We continue this work with the North Korean counterparts presenting to them our position."

"Considering the two-month long period of silence, the United States is not planning to reduce the scale of its regular military exercises, but also plan holding sudden drills as well."

"Unfortunately, this is the answer, which North Korea gets in response to its two-month silence."

"I believe that both the North Korean nuclear tests and joint military drills of the United States with its allies are definitely of a negative nature."

"Russia has presented the roadmap's contents both to the U.S. and to the DPRK."

"I would like to say that "at the very entrance" the plan has not been rejected either by Washington or by Pyongyang, though still no answer."

"Besides, we have spoken for discussing certain elements of this plan separately with the U.S. and with North Korea. We have begun the work, but I have to say regretfully that the actions, which Washington undertook in October-November, I mean the unplanned drills, affect greatly our dialogue on settlement on the basis of the roadmap."

"Is it possible for someone to cherish illusions that threats from US President Donald Trump to strike with 'fire and fury' will be able to cut the knot, which has been tight on the Korean Peninsula for many decades?"

"I believe it would be naive to hope that any of the sides would give in to the pressure."

"We must understand that the pressure borders with the deliberate push of North Korea to the humanitarian catastrophe."

"This will not result in the North Korean authorities giving up missile and nuclear programs, but on the contrary, will only strengthen its intentions to stay until the very end."

"I believe that the path of pressure has no perspectives and there is no other alternative to the dialogue."

"The resumption of inter-Korean dialogue could have a positive effect (on the conflict settlement),"

"These two countries have issues to discuss and I know that our South Korean partners are ready for such dialogue and repeatedly expressed interest in its initiation."

"If Pyeongyang's demonstrated restraint over the past two months was met with similar reciprocal steps on behalf of the United States and its allies then we could have moved to the start of direct talks between the United States and North Korea."

"Will it be possible? I am absolutely sure that it is possible."

"The key agenda of such talks can be very simple, which is the principles of peaceful coexistence. I believe that the lack of such concord gives roots to hostility and mutual mistrust among the involved parties."

"The United States and its allies should at least reduce the scale of their regular military exercises they are holding in the region of the Korean Peninsula."

Sergey Lavrov- Foreign Minister

November 26, 2017²⁷

"We have pointed out to counterparts that it is unacceptable to continue the immense military build-up in the region citing the North Korean threat."

"We believe that the steps the United States and its allies have been taking on the Korean Peninsula are totally disproportionate compared to what needs to be done."

²⁷ "US, allies take disproportionate actions on Korean Peninsula — Lavrov", TASS, November 26, 2017, <http://tass.com/politics/977297>

	<p>"Washington's plans to deploy missile defense systems to the region, which is already being implemented, causes particular concern, so we pointed out that it would negatively affect security situation in the Asia-Pacific region."</p> <p>"We are confident that boosting cooperation between members of closed military and political blocs will not help strengthen regional security, while there is a need to build a transparent and inclusive dialogue, initiated at the East Asian Summits discussing security architecture in the Asia-Pacific region."</p>
Japan	<p style="text-align: center;">Shinzo Abe- Prime Minister</p> <p>November 29, 2017²⁸</p> <p>"North Korea has once again conducted a ballistic missile launch. Based on its flight path, it is possible that it was an ICBM-class missile."</p> <p>"The Government has stayed fully abreast of the developments related to the missile and prepared for all possible contingencies as part of our crisis management."</p> <p>"It is totally unacceptable that North Korea has conducted such an outrageous act, in complete disregard of the strong and unanimous will of the international community to find a peaceful resolution. We have lodged a strong protest against North Korea."</p> <p>"Japan will not give in to any acts of provocation and will increase the pressure on North Korea to the maximum extent."</p> <p>"We will continue to maintain a high level of vigilance and take all necessary measures to protect the lives and peaceful livelihoods of the people, under the robust Japan-U.S. Alliance."</p>

**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.*

²⁸ "Press Occasion on North Korea's Missile Launch", Kantei, November 29, 2017, http://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/201711/29article1.html