

***North Korea’s Future and Its Implications
for Northeast Asia’s Way Forward; With
Focus on ASEAN’s Role in the Process***

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Northeast Asia remains one of the few regions in the world without any regional cooperative organization. Southeast Asia has gone far ahead of its Northeastern counterpart in terms of forming regional cooperative body. ASEAN, since its coming into being in 1965, has come a long way to become full-fledged regional organization that comprises ten nations in the region.

South Korea, one of the full dialogue partners of ASEAN since long, has formed strategic partnership with ASEAN in 2010. South Korea’s determination to upgrade cooperation with ASEAN in the form of its New Southern Policy since 2017 is expected to provide a platform for the two partners to expand the scope of cooperation to areas related to security issues that include collaboration for inducing meaningful changes both in domestic and external policies of North Korea, which, in turn, may trigger multilateral security cooperation in Northeast Asia emulating experience and competence of ASEAN.

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