

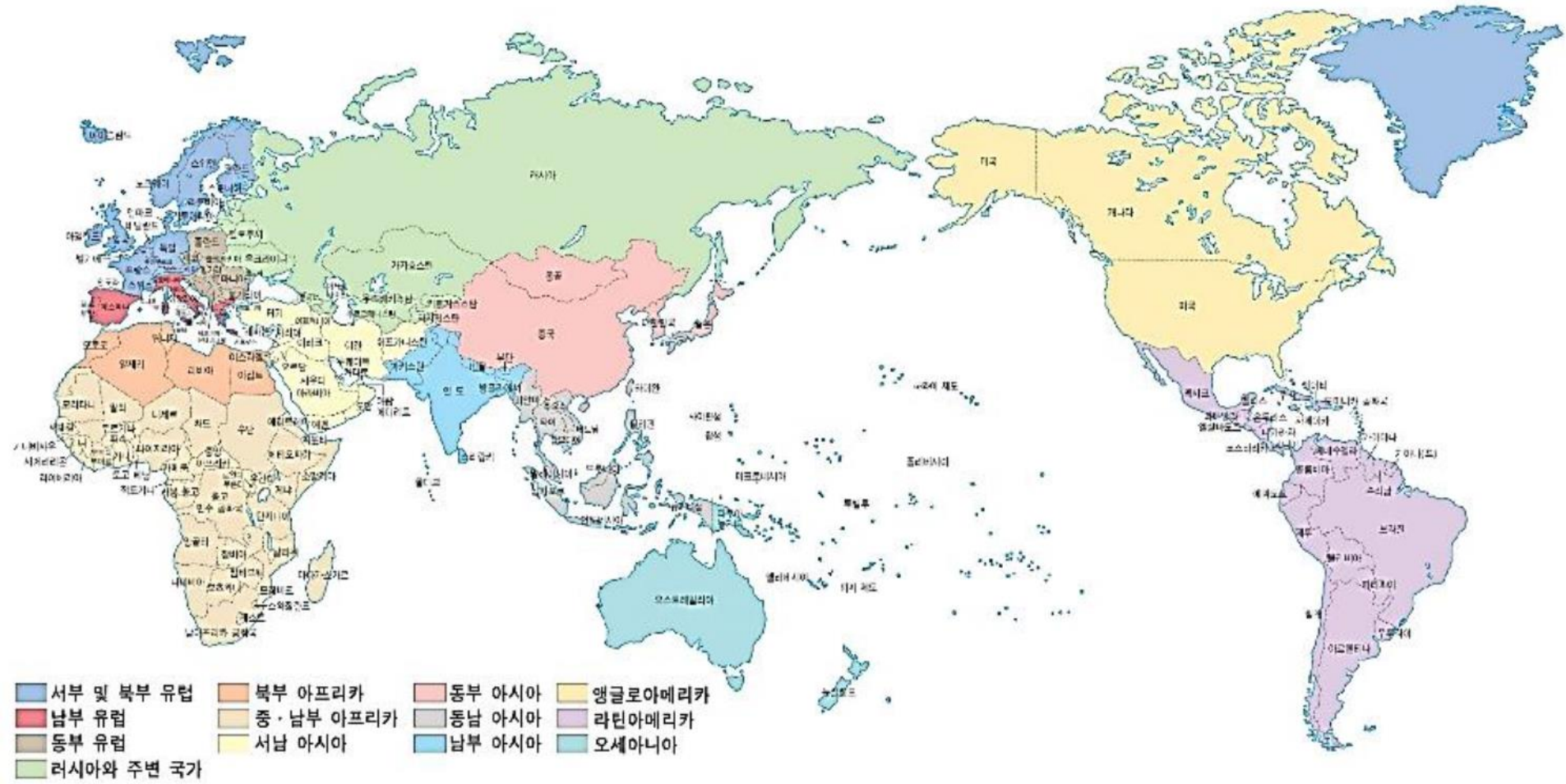
North Korean Nuclear Weapons Conflict



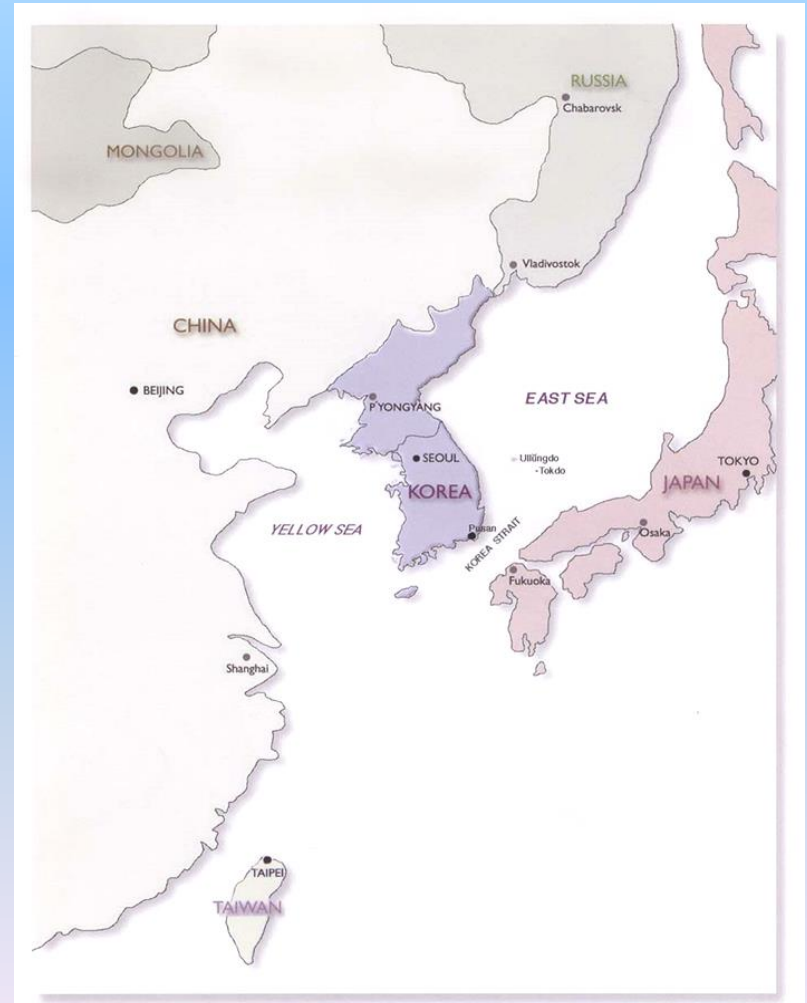
What China can do in this chess game?



Geographic location of Korea



Map of Korea



Basic information

The geographical state: 219.000Km²

South: 99,237Km² (45%)

North: 120,410Km² (55%)

Population: South: 51,245,707 (2017)

North: 25,490,965 (2017)

Political Configuration: ROK-15/08/1948

RPDK-09/09/1948

South Korea is one of the 11 most important economies in the world by volume of GDP.

Security of Asian Community:

Relations between China and
North Korea

President Xi Jinping and Kim Jong-un signaled their repaired relationship (March 2018)



Kim Jong-un, chairman of the North Korean Workers' Party, held a summit meeting in Beijing from 25 to 28 of March 2018.



On May 8, Dalian's Kim Jong Eun held a meeting



Reestablishing friendship

북한 최고위급 인사 중국 방문

  **중국**
시진핑 국가주석

  **북한**
김정은 국무위원장

7일 다렌 방문
8일 자국산 항모 시험운항 참석 예정



5월8일
북한 최고위급 인사, 전용기 편으로
다렌 공항 도착(김정은 방중설)
-교도통신 보도

250 km

연합뉴스
YONHAP NEWS

김토일 기자 / 20180508 / 페이스북 tune.kr/LeYN1, 트위터 @yonhap_graphics

Kim Jong Un to Make Third Trip to China, One Week After Singapore Summit With Trump (12/06/2018)



North Korea's Kim Visits China in Push Against Trump Sanctions (4th visit):

7-10 de enero de 2019



4th Summit between China and North Korea

To ease the trade war with the USA, China has tighten its sanctions on North Korea. Thus, the remittance to North Korea has been restricted and trade at the national level has been reduced considerably.

Kim Jung Eun's intention was to prevent China from moving away from North Korea and prepare for the US-North Korean talks by strengthening the common front again was revealed during the visit.

North Korea's nuclear development program and the U.S. threat of attack on the regime has been a focus in terms of Asian Security as well as the world security as well.

What role China has on the conflict in Korean Peninsula?

Five important factors to consider:

China and North Korea

- I. Common border
- II. Historical background
- III. Ethnic and cultural ties
- IV. Ideology and Security
- V. Economy

Korea and its frontier

The geografic location of Korean Peninsula conditioned its history



I. Common border

- China and North Korea share a 1,416-kilometer long border.



Common border

- **Dandong** is the largest city on the border. **Sinuiju** is on the other side of the river.
- Much of the China-North Korea trade goes through the port of Dandong, the "lifeline to the outside world."



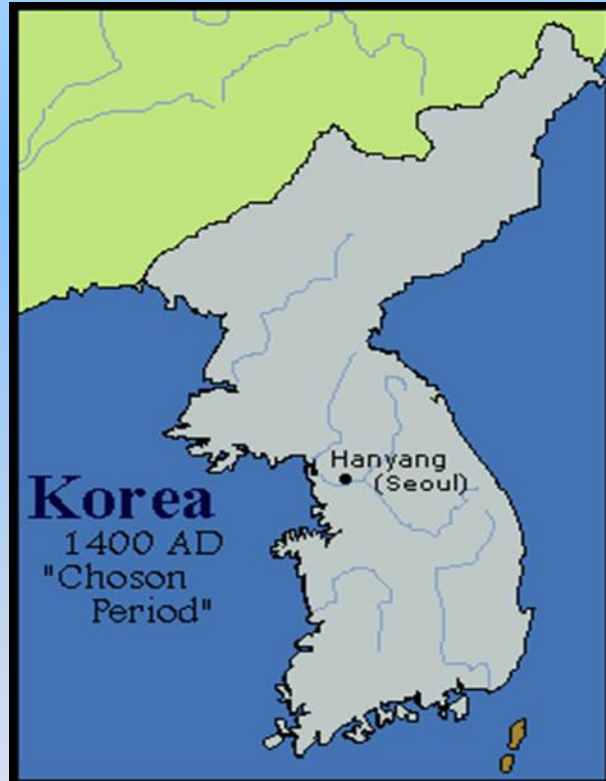
Border of ancient time

Goguryeo (37 B.C-668) Balhae (698-926)



Chosun (1392-1910)

Korea (1948-present)



II. Historical Background

- China's involvement in the Korean peninsula has historical roots *far earlier than 1950.*

Historical Background

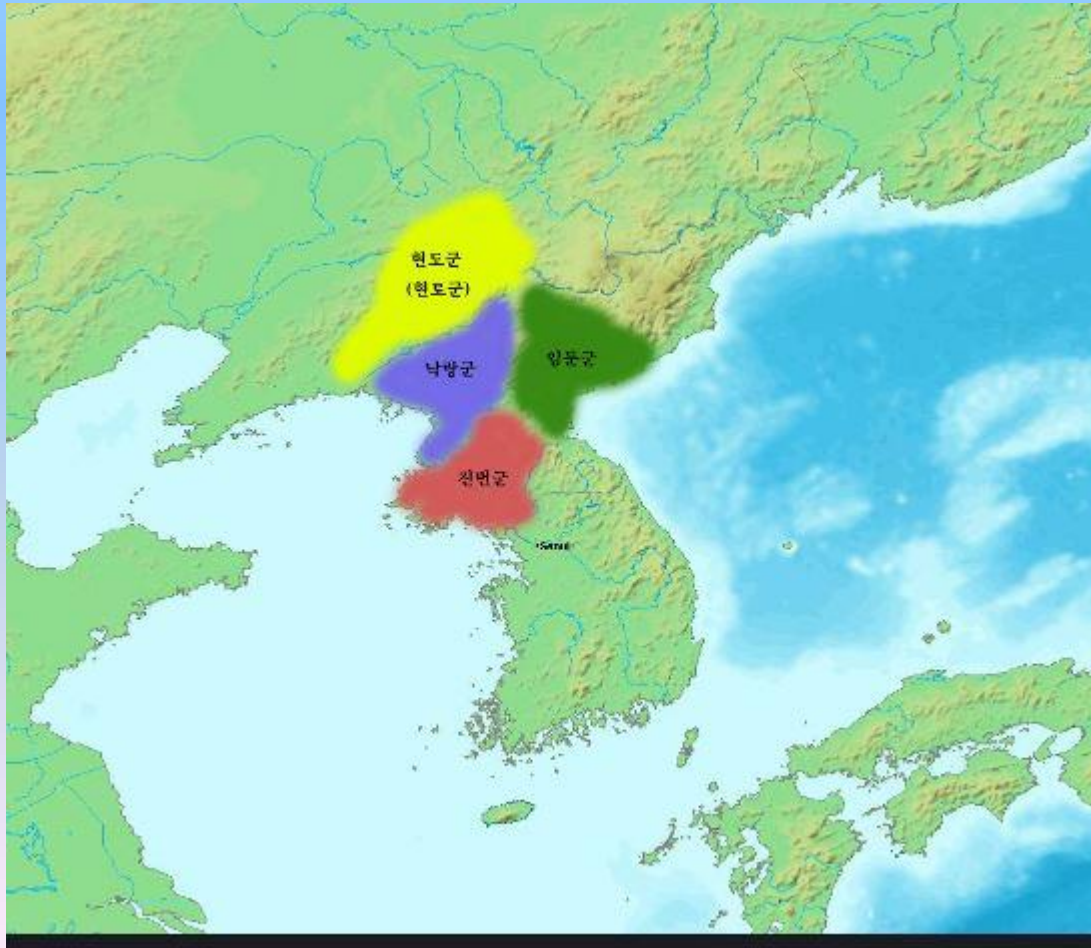
- 1) In 108 B.C, the Han dynasty defeated the northern part of the Korean peninsula and **installed four commanderies**.
- 2) In the sixth century, the **Goguryeo kingdom** ruled central and northern Korea and a vast portion of Manchuria and Siberia.



4 comandries

낙랑, 진번, 임둔, 현도

설치된지 421년만인 AD 313년에 소멸하였다



Historical Background

3) *-The Goguryeo kingdom was the rival force to the Sui. (Inv/Failed exp.)*

-Tang allied with the Shilla in 668, finally conquered Goguryeo.

-The Silla United defeated the Tang (668-676) with the remnant forces of Baekje and Goguryeo.

- Balhae(698- 926) : The successor of the Goguryeo Kingdom, **was lost to the Khitan, Liao dynasty.**

4) *In the 13th century, the Mongol Yuan dynasty allied with Chosun tried to invade the Japan. (United force of China and Chosun)*

Historical Background

5) During 1592-1598, the Ming dynasty sent troops to help the Chosun dynasty *from the two invasions of Toyotomi Hideyoshi of Japan.*

6) *In the 17th century, the Qing empire of Manchuria tried to separate the relationship between the Ming and Chosun.*

(Invasions in 1627 and, 1636 with a force of 100,000)

7) Toward the end of the 19th century, the political and economic rivalry between China and Japan over Korea led to the Chinese-Japanese War (1894 - 1895).

Historical Background

- 8) During the Pacific War of 1941, the Korean Liberation Army allied with the Chinese forces and fought against Japan.
- 9) Chiang Kai-shek's government of China *was defeated by the communist regime of Mao Zedong in 1949.*

The People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) exchanged diplomatic recognition on October 6th, 1949 (Establishment of DPRK in September 8, 1948)

Historical Background

10) Contemporary Relations between China and North Korea

- **In 1950:** A total of 2.97 million Chinese soldiers fought and around 180,000 were killed in the **Korean War**. (*Mao Zedong's son died in the war*) *“Blood allies”*

- **In 1961**, the PRC and the DPRK signed the **Sino-North Korean Mutual Aid and Cooperation Friendship Treaty**, whereby China pledged to render *military and other assistance to its ally* against any outside attack.

This treaty was prolonged twice, in 1981 and 2001, with validity until 2021.

III. Ethnic and Cultural ties

1. *Chinese influence in Korea*

Korea has been greatly influenced by the Chinese civilization, borrowing from its written language (15C), arts, religions, and models of government administration.

The Confucian thought from China still remains as a fundamental part of the Korean society, shaping its moral system, way of life, and social relations among people.

Ethnic and Cultural ties

2. *Korean ethnic groups in China*

- Since the Neolithic period **Korean ethnic groups lived in Manchuria, Siberia, China**, and the Korean peninsula.
- Korean ethnic people lived during the **Goguryeo and Balhae** dynasty, continued living there **until the territory was later absorbed by China**.
- In the present day, a minority of around **2 million Koreans live in China**.

Ethnic and Cultural ties

3. *Immigration of Koreans to China*

-1st large scale immigration of Koreans into China occurred about 300 years ago. (migrated in order to avoid the oppressive feudal landlords)

-2nd wave was caused by the great famine of 1869, and the third wave of Korean migrants arrived during the prolonged war between Russia and Japan (1904-1905).

-Also, many immigrated to China during the Japanese Occupation of Korea in the early 20th century.

-In the 1950s and 1960s, many ethnic Koreans in Northeast China crossed the border into North Korea to escape economic hardship and famine in China.

-In recent years, the flow of refugees has reversed, with a considerable number of North Koreans fleeing to China.

Ethnic and Cultural ties

Chinese Koreans : Autonomous Prefecture **Yanbian** in the Jilin Prv.
(pop. of **2.2 million** in 2010, **a third were Koreans**)

Ethnic Koreans: **model minority** - high socio-economic position .
(lowest Illiteracy and the college attendance rate is the highest)

Maintains a strong sense of ethnic identity.

“Chinese citizens with strong ties to Korea”

A minority around 2 mil. Koreans living in
China



IV. Ideology and Security

1. *Comunist Ideology*

PRC and the DPRK exchanged Diplomatic recognition: 6 October 1949-**firm allies based on socialism.** (common enemy: the USA)

The ideology today is not as strong as it was, it **is still a factor present in today's relations.**

China: Support for North Korea, considering the American presence in the region is pragmatic and **reinforced by ideological justification.**

In geopolitical security terms, **China cannot afford to turn away from North Korea**

Ideology and Security

2. Security concern

China : If North Korea collapse, US-backed South Korea will border China and pose **a threat**.

Chaos on its border is a real worry for China: hundreds of thousands of refugees will get into China's economically weak northeast region.

Ideology and Security

3. Evidence of China and North Korea's close relationship

- China keeps **wide-ranging ties with DPRK**, including economic exchanges and **high-level state trips**:

•

Senior C.C Party member Li Yunshan's visit to attend the seventieth anniversary of North Korea's ruling party in **Oct. 2015**.

- North Korea Workers' Party Politburo member Ri Su-yong's trip to Beijing in **June 2016**.

- On **February 28th, 2017**, North Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Ri Kil-song arrived in Beijing for talks with Chinese officials.

•

Four summit between China and North Korea in 2018 and 2019

Ideology and Security

- Beijing supports UNSC Resolutions (1718,1874,2087,2094,2270,2321) which impose sanctions on DPRK.
- There is doubt regarding how committed China is implementing trade restrictions.
- China opposed harsh international sanctions on North Korea in the hope of avoiding regime collapse and a refugee influx into its border.

V. Economy

China's support of Kim Il-sung, Kim Jong-il and Kim Jong-un has been vital to North Korea's development.

China provided extensive assistance to North Korea to support its reconstruction through the Sino-North Korea Friendship Treaty.

Economy

1. Increase of Trade Volume

The trade volume in 2016 between China and North Korea amounted to 5.51 billion USD, **representing approximately 92% (previously around 70%) of North Korea's total trade volume.** (Int. Trade Center of the WTO)

북중무역은 1999년 북한 대외무역의 25%에 불과했지만, 2016년 92%의 비중을 차지하고 있다.

As sanctions from the international community against the DPRK are implemented, **North Korea's dependence on China appears to continue growing.**

Economy

China's Aid and Trade for Pyongyang

Contrary to the U.N. Resolution of economic sanction against North Korea, China–North Korea trade has been **steadily increasing in recent years.**



Trade between China and North Korea

NORTH KOREA'S IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY COUNTRY



Economy

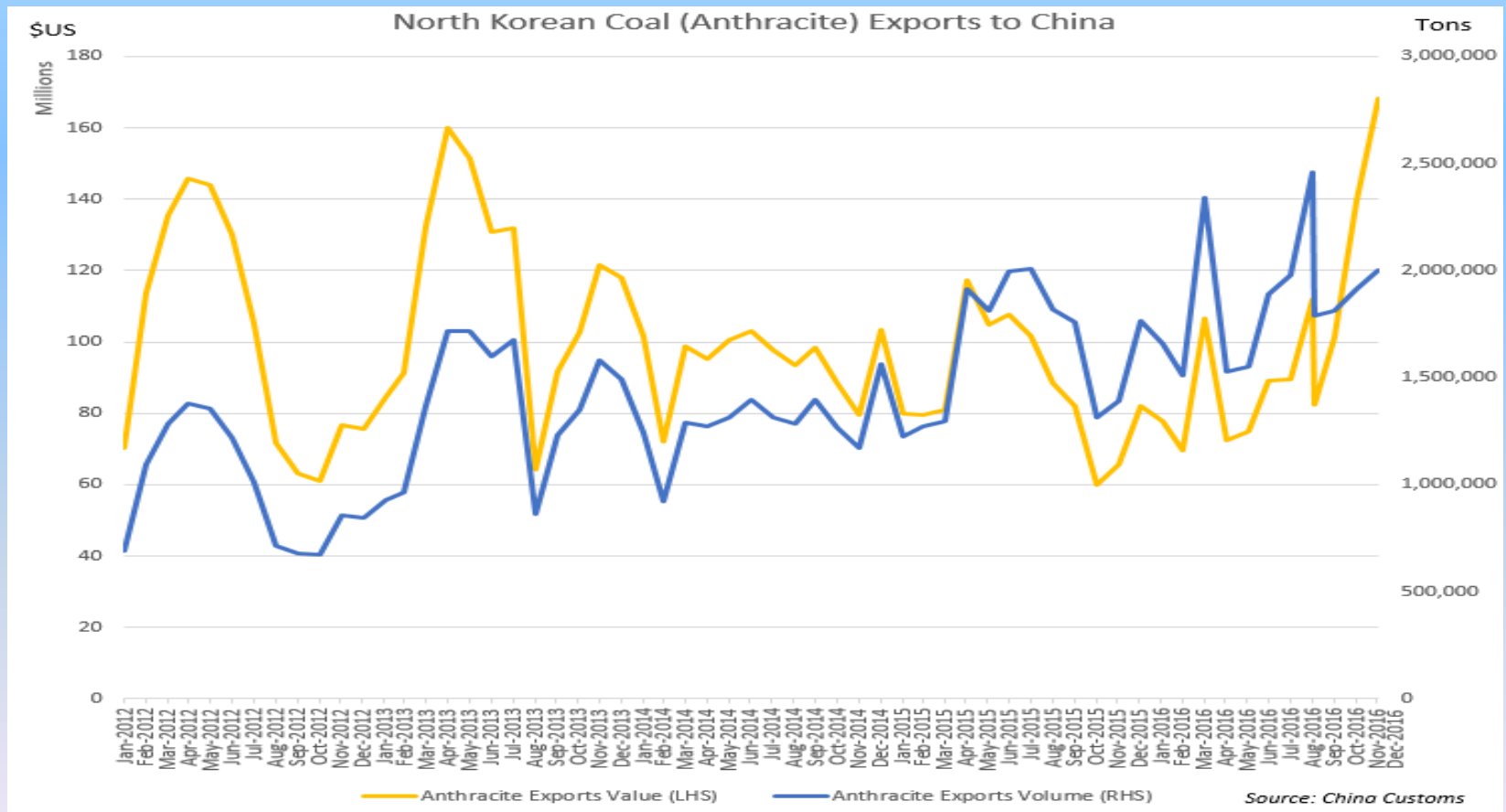
2. Is China effectively implementing the U.N sanctions against North Korea?

UNSCR 2321, passed in November 2016, was the first sanctions resolution to target North Korea's commercial trade by placing a limit on imports, most notably on North Korea's coal export.

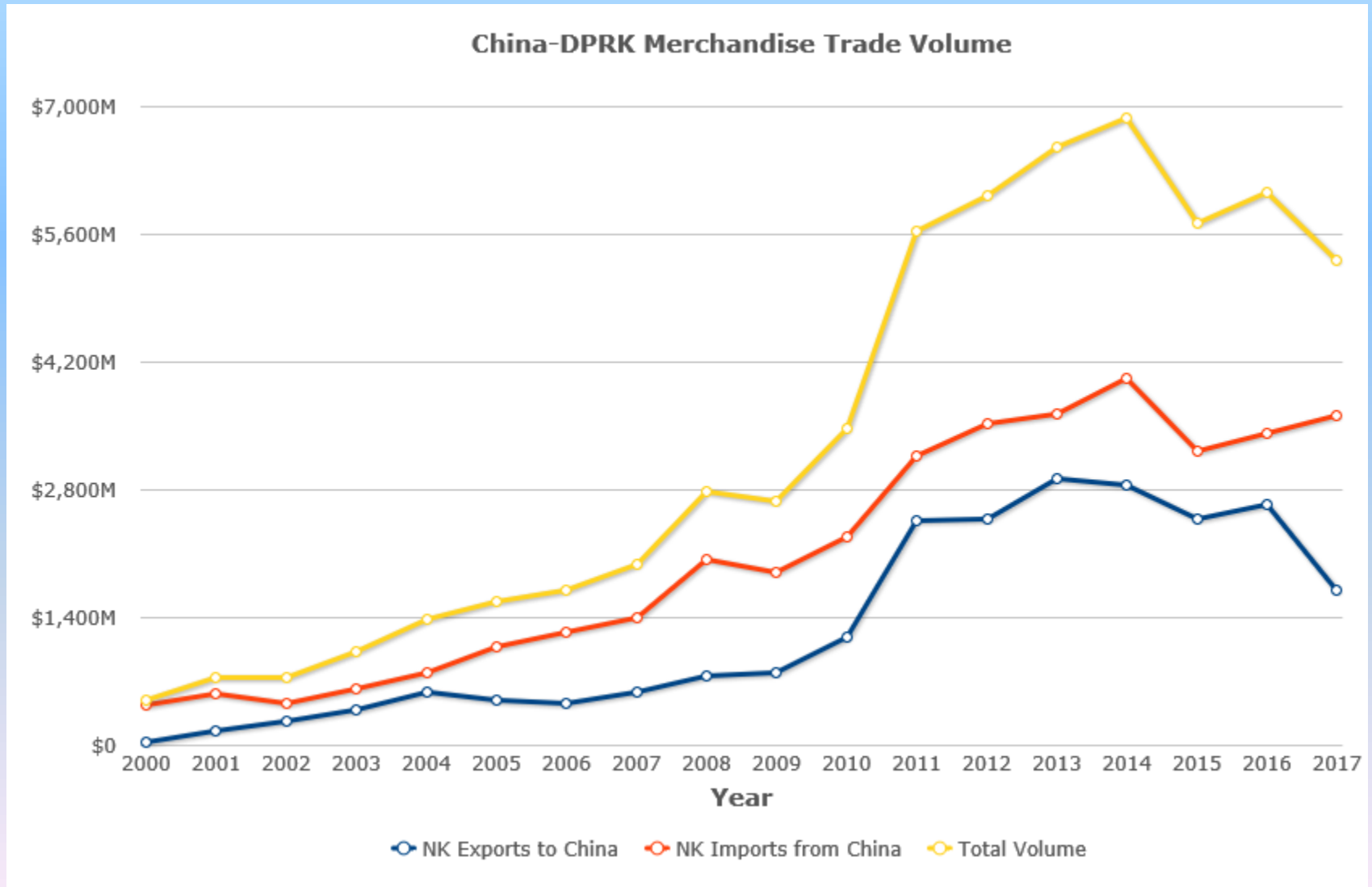
As the next chart shows, both the value and volume of North Korean **coal exports to China continued to rise** over the course of 2016, violating the resolution.

Economy

In a press conf. General Administration of Customs (GAC) spokesperson Huang Songping said that first quarter trade with North Korea in 2016 had increased when compared to last year, despite a ban on North Korean coal.



Trade volume of PRC and DPRK in 2017



Economy

When the last **UNSCR 2321** imposed the limit on coal trade, China was left with the question of how such a limit could be implemented.

China takes a flexible approach in the wording of UNSC sanctions in order to argue that they are not outright violating the resolutions

China had banned imports of **coal from North Korea** in April in 2016, but **made exceptions for household** use, which in part led to China unable to meet their commitments as they wrestled with these problems.

Economy

3. *Sanctions have not been effective*

- Kyungnam University's Graduate School of North Korean Studies reveals that **there has been a noticeable easing in oversight by authorities. (Chinese customs offices hinted)**
- IBK (Industrial Bank of Korea) : **customs inspections have become loose along the Sino-North Korean border.**

Banned items are being disguised as products that are not subject to the UNSC sanctions and **are being traded.**

1st Summit between Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un in June 2018



The 2nd Summit breaks between Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un in February 27-28 2019



China suggests sanctions relief for North Korea after Trump-Kim summit

- After the 1st Summit between Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un in June 2018, China suggested sanctions relief for North Korea.
 - After the 2nd Summit between Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un in February 27-28 2019 (new sanctions related to North Korea, designating two China-based shipping companies for evasion activities)
- (The cause of collapse in Hanoi: North Korea wanted a large package of sanctions relief, and the United States wouldn't agree to it short of Pyongyang's total nuclear abdication).

Conclusion

China wants:

stability and the avoidance of war on the Korean peninsula

- North Korea's collapse would destroy China's strategic buffer between China and South Korea (29,000 U.S. troops)
- A huge North Korean refugees would flood into China if the DPRK regime collapse.

For all these reasons, China has consistently urged world not to push DPRK too hard, for fear of its regime collapse.

China's role in peace treaty

China is the original signatories of the armistice agreement.

It does not want to be excluded from any talks that might discuss critical issues such as the establishment of the Korean peace regime and potential withdrawal or reduction of US military assets (including THAAD) and forces in South Korea.

Both Seoul and Pyongyang have signalled that they are taking Beijing seriously: China's specific role in the peace process and the future of the US forces in South Korea

Kim may attempt to ease the Chinese sanctions, which are a critical component of the US 'maximum pressure and engagement' strategy in the process of negotiating and implementing denuclearisation and peace mechanisms.