
Yonggi Kim

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Profile Summary

Graduate student specializing in comparative politics and East Asian institutions, with a focus on how authoritarian-populist dynamics and religious politics emerge amid global power shifts. Experienced in assisting faculty research and teaching across political economy and comparative regimes. Committed to pursuing doctoral-level research on nationalism and institutional responses to external disruptions.

Education

Seoul National University, South Korea

M.A., Sociology

September 2026 – Present

Kyung Hee University, South Korea

B.A., International Studies, International Relations Track; Magna Cum Laude

March 2020 – February 2026

GPA: 3.945 / 4.3

Undergraduate Thesis: “The Conscription Conflict—Gender Crevasse, Populism, and Institutional Stalemate in South Korea”: awarded KIC-Academia Thesis Competition Award (2024)

Relevant Coursework: State and Society in East Asia, Major Issues in Korean Politics and Society, Korean Politics and Economy, Japanese Politics and Economy, Japanese Foreign Policy, Chinese Foreign Policy, International Political Economy, Statistics for Social Science

Research Experience

Kyung Hee University

Research Assistant, Prof. Moon Don

September 2023 – June 2025

- Conducted literature reviews and collected data on regional trade institutions and East Asian economic integration.
- Coded, organized, and maintained comparative datasets for research on multilateral trade frameworks.
- Contributed to research reports and assisted in preparation of academic manuscripts.

Kyung Hee University

Research Assistant, Prof. Sunil Kim

March 2025 – February 2026

- Assisted in developing a comparative framework for analyzing authoritarian-populist backlash in South Korea.
- Conducted qualitative source evaluation and case-based analysis on party fragmentation, party system realignment, and party structure changes in South Korean party politics.
- Supported research design, archival data collection, and synthesis of primary and secondary sources for ongoing projects.

Undergraduate Research Projects

“Accidental Firewall Against Autocratization: The Fragmented Party Politics and the Aborted Conservative Christian Political Activism in South Korea” (2025, with Prof. Sunil Kim)

- Analyzed how weak party institutionalization hindered the formation of durable linkages between Protestant megachurches and conservative political actors.
- Conducted archival research on church political campaigns, party mergers, and factional splits since the

liberation of South Korea.

- Draft presented at the 2025 Summer Korean Political Science Association Conference.

“The Conscription Conflict—Gender Crevasse, Populism, and Institutional Stalemate in South Korea” (2024)

- Examined how compulsory military service has become a politicized gender issue amid rising populist rhetoric.
- Analyzed public opinion survey data, legislative debates, and party platforms to trace institutional inaction despite public polarization.
- Evaluated how socioeconomic generational shifts and modernized gender perceptions create separate gender discourse between different generations, leading to a gender conflict exclusively among the youth in South Korea.

“IPEF and the Asian Way” (2023)

- Conducted an institutional and cultural analysis of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, with emphasis on East Asian regionalism, informal governance norms, and U.S.–China strategic competition.
- Evaluated the framework’s flexible, non-binding design and its implications for regional cooperation, supply-chain security, and emerging rule-making in the Indo-Pacific, despite its lack of tariff incentives.
- Employed comparative policy analysis, secondary literature review, and international political economy theoretical frameworks to assess IPEF’s long-term strategic and diplomatic viability.

Teaching Experience

Kyung Hee University

Teaching Assistant, Prof. Moon Don (International Political Economy)

September 2023 – June 2025

- Organized weekly review and discussion sessions to reinforce course material and facilitate student engagement.
- Assisted in lecture preparation, including creating teaching materials and discussion prompts.
- Graded assignments and exams, providing constructive feedback to enhance students’ analytical and writing skills.

Kyung Hee University

Teaching Assistant, Prof. Sunil Kim (State and Society in East Asia)

March 2025 – June 2025

- Assisted in preparation and delivery of lectures on East Asian political development, institutions, state-society relations, and comparative politics frameworks.
- Supported archival research guidance and discussion of academic readings for students.

Awards & Honors

- *KIC-Academia Award*, Kyung Hee International College Thesis Competition (2024)
- *Academic Achievement Award*, Kyung Hee University (4 semesters)
- *Departmental Promotional Video Award*, Kyung Hee University (2023)

Professional & Academic Activities

8th Model African Union Assembly, Korea–Africa Foundation

Burkina Faso Representative

2025

- Represented Burkina Faso in a multi-day diplomatic simulation focused on regional governance, development policy, and conflict resolution.
- Conducted a formal briefing interview with representatives from the Burkina Faso Embassy in Japan to gather contextual knowledge and identify priority policy agendas.
- Drafted position statements, negotiated resolutions, and delivered committee speeches, strengthening skills in diplomacy, policy analysis, and comparative political negotiation.

China–Japan–Korea Student Peace Dialogue 2025, Ritsumeikan University

Delegation Leader

2025

- Led the Korean delegation, coordinating internal communication and overseeing travel and program logistics.
- Delivered a presentation titled “***Entangled Nationalism: How Historical Identity Undermines East Asian Institutionalism***” arguing that the intertwined historical formation of Japanese and South Korean national identities continues to obstruct contemporary regional cooperation.
- Facilitated trilateral dialogue on regional security, historical reconciliation, and pathways for sustained East Asian institutional cooperation.

Service & Leadership

Kyung Hee International College Student Council

Student Council Representative

2020 – 2021

- Conducted surveys and subsequent data analysis to assess student needs and inform policy recommendations during COVID lockdown.
- Organized student outreach initiatives, academic discussion forums, and interdepartmental events to foster engagement and collaboration.
- Facilitated communication between students and faculty during times of quarantine and online sessions.

HuimangKiumNet (Education Volunteer Program)

Volunteer Mentor

2023 – 2026

- Tutored underprivileged elementary school students in English and mathematics.
- Designed educational materials and lesson plans tailored to students’ needs and skill levels.
- Supported local community learning programs and workshops to enhance access to quality education.

Skills & Interests

Research Tools: Excel; Stata (foundational familiarity)

Methods & Research Skills: Comparative-historical analysis; archival research; qualitative case-based analysis; intermediate statistical methods; interview design; literature review; academic writing and manuscript preparation

Language: Korean (native), English (native-level fluency)

Research Interests: Comparative Politics; Authoritarian Populism; Nationalism; Religious Politics; East Asian Politics; Political Behavior