



September 24, 2024

The Honorable Yoon Suk Yeol
President of the Republic of Korea
c/o Embassy of the Republic of Korea
2450 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

- Suzanne Scholte, Chairman
Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Vice Chairman
Jason West, Vice Chairman
Ann Buwalda, Treasurer
Sue Yoon Logan, Administrator
Teresa Ost, International Coordinator
Johnny Park, Secretary
Advisors: Mariam Bell, Chuck Downs, Heemoon Lee, Lawrence Peck, Yoshi Yamamoto, Jane Yang, Hwang Jang Yop (2003-2010)
Public Members (partial listing):
American Anti-Slavery Group
ARC (Awareness Respect Compassion)
CSW-UK
Christian Solidarity Worldwide-USA
Citizen's Coalition for Human Rights of Abductees & North Korean Refugees
Cmt for Democratization of North Korea (CDNK)*
Council for Human Rights in North Korea
Defense Forum Foundation
ENoK (Emancipate North Koreans)
Fighters for a Free North Korea*
Free North Korea Radio*
Free Unification Movement*
Freedom for North Korean Refugees of Minnesota
Freedom Society of America
Genocide Watch
Global Peace Foundation
Gyuyool United*
Helping Hands Korea
Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
Human Rights Coalition-USA
Human Rights Without Frontiers
Institute on Religion and Democracy
Institute on Religion and Public Policy
Intl Korean War Memorial Foundation
Jubilee Campaign
Korean-American Freedom Fighters Movement
Korean Freedom Council (KFC)
Korean Freedom Alliance
Korean War Abductees Family Union
Korean War POW Affairs
Lawyers for Human Rights & Unification of Korea
Life Funds for North Korean Refugees
National Association for the Rescue of Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea
New Korea Women's Association*
North Korean Defector Rescue Association*
North Korean Defector Support Center*
North Korean Intellectuals Association (NKIS)
North Korea People's Liberation Front (NKPLF)*
North Korea Strategy Center*
North Korean Writes in Exile PEN*
NK Watch: Free the NK Gulag*
NKIA Collaboration (North Koreans in America)*
NY Commission to Help N. Korean Refugees
N. American Religious Liberty Association
North Korea Strategy Center*
OneFreeKorea
One Step
Open Doors USA
PSALT NK
PSCORE*
Save North Korea
Schindler's Ark
Simon Wiesenthal Center
The Israeli Jewish Comm. Against the Gas Chambers in North Korea
ThiNK (There is Hope in North Korea)
United for North Korean Freedom
318 Partners
*Organizations of North Korean defectors
Contact us at: www.nkfreedom.org
Address: North Korea Freedom Coalition
9689-C Main Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22031

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing on behalf of our North Korea Freedom Coalition and our city and country coordinators around the world to express our heartfelt thanks to you for your efforts to try to save the lives of North Korean refugees. We wanted to share with you that today in 20 countries around the world letters appealing to Xi Jinping to stop the illegal and inhuman repatriation of North Korean refugees were delivered to the Chinese Embassies and consulates in 49 cities. In some cities, prayer vigils, demonstrations, and other protests -- the largest was in Seoul -- were also held. Together, everyone called for the end of China's brutal policy and for the refugees to be allowed safe passage to South Korea.

This coordinated action, Save North Korean Refugees Day, is organized by the North Korea Freedom Coalition each year to show China that the international community is aware of their heinous actions and so that these refugees know that the world is aware of their plight. We were all heartbroken to learn of the most recent executions of two North Korean women who dreamed of living in freedom in South Korea after helping forty-one others achieve that dream. As you know, September 24 is the date when the People's Republic of China signed the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, the very agreement it is violating! On this day when we remember the horrific actions by Xi, we also want to recognize there are world leaders like yourself who have worked to save the lives of North Koreans.

In the words of our Washington, D.C., coordinator, Pastor Star Lee, "South Korea, the United States, and the world will unite to protect North Korean refugees until the end." We pledge to do all we can and thank you again for your efforts.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signatures of Suzanne Scholte, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Jason West, Ann Buwalda, Sue Yoon Logar, Teresa Ost, and Johnny Park with their respective titles: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Administrator, International Coordinator, and Secretary.

City and Country Coordinators listed below by country, their name and cities represented.

- Australia: H.W. (Canberra, Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, and Sydney)
Canada: Lee Kyung B. (Ottawa, Calgary, Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver)
Colombia: Joy Ost (Bogota)
Cuba: Adalberto Santiago (Havana)
Timor-Leste: H.W. (Dili)
Fiji: H.W. (Suva)
Finland: Mikko Heikkinen (Helsinki)
France: Gabrijela Papec, Genocide Watch (Paris)
India: Prabhleen Kaur and Areeka Khan, Genocide Watch (New Delhi)
Japan: Kato Hiroshi, Life Funds for North Korean Refugees (Tokyo, Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Nagoya, Niigata, Osaka, and Sapporo)
Malawi: Jones Chamangwana (Lilongwe)
Mexico: Joy Ost (Mexico City and Tijuana)
Micronesia: H.W. (Palikir)
New Zealand: H.W. (Wellington, Auckland, and Christchurch)
Papua New Guinea: H.W. (Port Moresby)
Republic of Korea: Hu Kang-Il, Jang Sei-ul and Kim Ji-Young (Seoul)
Solomon Islands: H.W. (Honiara)
South Africa: G.A. (Pretoria, Cape Town, Durban, and Johannesburg)
United Kingdom: Jordan, CSW (London, Belfast, Edinburgh, and Manchester)
United States: Chicago-Sally Jo Messersmith and Grace Park, Los Angeles-Rand Millar and Richard Kim, Sacramento-Maria Cartwright, New York City-James Park, San Francisco-Adalberto Santiago, and Washington, DC- Pastor Star Lee and NKFC A Team)