



**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AGENDA ITEM:
Open Agenda**

**Under Secretary General:
Defne ankaya**

**Academic Assistant:
Efe Ertekin**

**NERİMAN EROL YILMAZ SOCIAL SCIENCES HIGHSCHOOL
MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2025**

NEYMUN'25
The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
Study Guide



Under-Secretary-General: Defne Çankaya
Academic Assistant: Efe Ertekin

Agenda Item: Open Agenda

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1. Letter From the Secretary General

Most Esteemed Participants of Neriman Erol Yılmaz Social Sciences High School Model United Nations Conference, on behalf of myself and of other members of the Executive Team,

My name is Yasemin Raithel, I am a senior graduating from Private Açı Science College. It is my great honor and pleasure to be serving as the Secretary-General of this fabulous conference. Model United Nations conferences are not just a place where diplomatic views are discussed; they are events that provide you with the ability to fully express yourself in critical situations, giving speeches in a confident way in multi-person committees, bringing solutions to problems from the perspective of countries, and many other skills like these. That's why these conferences are like an open door for you to improve yourself. Step out of your comfort zone and don't miss this opportunity. I have no doubt that your experience will be the best you have had in a long time.

Both our academic and organisation teams have dedicated limitless hours and put so much work to deliver to the whole Antalya Model United Nations Society one of the most incredible MUN experience you have seen to this day. Last but not least, let this be a new beginning, as befits the motto of the conference: The Dawn of the Moon. Lastly, I would like to leave a quote with hopes of a marvellous conference;

“Men become builders by building and lyreplayers by playing the lyre; so too we become just by doing just acts, temperate by doing temperate acts, brave by doing brave acts.”
-Aristotle

Sincerely,
Yasemin RAITHEL
Secretary-General of NEYMUN'25

2. Letter From the Under-Secretary-General

Esteemed Participants,

I welcome you all to this prestigious conference. I am grateful to announce that I will be serving as your Under-Secretary General throughout the next three days. I extend my deepest gratitude towards the Executive, Academic, and Organizational Teams for their immaculate efforts that made this conference possible. Before moving on, I extend my personal thanks to my friends Kayra, Yasemin, and İdil for inviting me to participate in this incredible conference.

While extending my thanks, I also sincerely and wholeheartedly thank my dear Academic Assistant Efe Ertekin. He has worked diligently throughout this journey leading up to the conference, and I could not be more grateful that we had this opportunity to work together. My brother from another mother, I hope you continue to thrive as you do.

Last but not least, our delegates. I am well aware that most of you have not participated in this type of committee before, but please be assured that our Academic Team will make sure that you will become well adjusted to the procedure in no time. In order to be well prepared for the committee, we strongly advise all of you to thoroughly read the study guide. Please do not hesitate to reach me with any inquiries.

Yours Truly,

Defne Çankaya
Under-Secretary General

3. Letter From the Academic Assistant

Esteemed Delegates,

I am Efe Ertekin, as the Academic Assistant, I sincerely welcome you all to this prestigious conference and committee! It is my utmost honour to serve you all in this role. Firstly, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the conference executive team, academic team, and organization team for providing us with this platform.

While extending my thanks, the name I definitely can't forget is Defne Çankaya, the dearest Under-Secretary-General of the committee. She has always been there for me throughout my MUN journey, and has always provided me the support I needed. She has been my biggest support during this journey, and I hope that this will not be our last time working together.

As the Academic Assistant of the Committee, I can sincerely ensure that all the delegates will enjoy the committee and join the debate with ease. We highly encourage you to research the policies of your political party, allocated MP and read this study guide thoroughly. If you have any questions about the committee, do not hesitate to contact me via;

efe.ertekin35@gmail.com

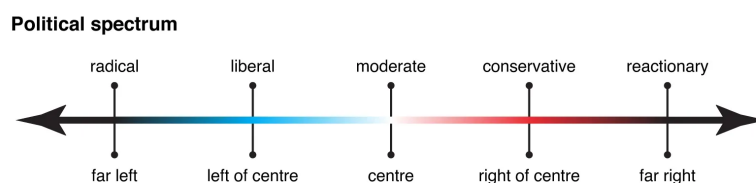
Now the floor is yours,

Efe ERTEKİN
Academic Assistant.

4. Introduction to the Korean Parliamentary System,

4.1. Key Terms about the Parliamentary Systems.

- **Legislature:** A legislature is a deliberative assembly with the legal authority to make laws for a political entity such as a country, nation, or city on behalf of the people therein.
- **Unicameral:** A type of legislature consisting only one house or assembly that legislates and votes one. The Great Assembly of the Republic of Korea, and the the Parliament of Denmark are the most significant examples for unicameral legislatures.
- **Bicameral/Tricameral/Policameral:** The types of legislature which are divided into two/three or more houses. The House of Lords/The House of Commons are examples to bicameral legislative systems; The Parliamentary System of South Africa can be an example to a tricameral legislative system.
- **Speaker:** The president of the assembly, similar to a president chair in a general assembly committee.
- **Legislative Elections:** Election of members to be elected to parliament by an election. Held every 4 years in the Republic of Korea.
- **Political Party:** A political party is a group that coordinates candidates and competes in elections in a particular state. It is common for members to have similar ideas about politics.
- **Assembly Member:** A member of parliament (MP) is the representative in parliament of the people who live in their electoral district. Commonly, MP elections are not made country-wide, since a MP can not be responsible for the whole country to represent. In the Korean Parliament System, Assembly members are elected from 17 different electoral districts.
- **Bill:** A Bill is a proposal for a new law, or a proposal to change an existing law that is presented for debate.
- **Official Gazette:** An official gazette (also known as a government gazette, official journal, official newspaper, official monitor or official bulletin) is a periodical publication that has been authorised to publish public or legal notices such as new law enforcement.
- **Political Spectrum:** Political spectrum, a model for classifying political actors, parties, or ideologies along one or more axes that compare them.



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4.2. Introduction to the National Assembly.

The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, is the unicameral national legislature of the Republic of Korea. Elections to the Assembly are held every four months, the latest being on April 10, 2024. The main building is in Yeouido, Seoul. The building has 24 columns, which symbolises that the legislature promises to listen to people 24/7 throughout the year.



4.2.1. The History of the Assembly.

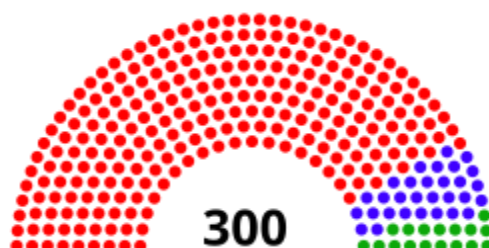
The Assembly was established on May 10, 1948 with the first elections held under the UN Supervision. After the establishment of the Assembly; the constitution of the First Republic was established by the Assembly on July 17, 1948.

Under the first constitution, the National Assembly was unicameral. Under the second and third constitutions, the National Assembly was to be bicameral and consist of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors, but in practice, the legislature was unicameral because the House of Representatives was prevented from passing the law necessary to establish the House of Councillors.

Today the Assembly has 300 members with a unicameral structure, and has a significant effect in the legislative system of the Republic of Korea.

4.2.2. Membership to the Assembly.

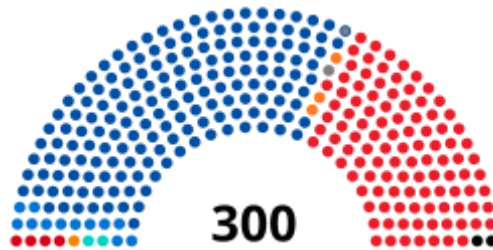
The National Assembly has 300 seats, with 254 constituency seats under FPTP and 46 proportional representation seats. Allocation of seats within the electoral system. Red and green: parallel voting; 253 FPTP and 17 PR seats. Blue: additional member system for 30 seats. Elections to the Assembly are held every 4 years.



Red and green: parallel voting; 253 FPTP and 17 PR seats. Blue: additional member system for 30 seats

4.2.2.1. Political Parties Present in the Assembly

There are 300 seats for the MP's in the Assembly.



Government (167)

-  Democratic (167)

Opposition (128)

-  People Power (107)
-  Rebuilding Korea (12)
-  Progressive (4)
-  Reform (3)
-  Basic Income (1)
-  Social Democratic (1)

Unclassified (5)

-  Independent (3)
 -  Vacant (2)
-

1. Democratic Party of Korea (DPK)

The Democratic Party of Korea is a political party based in Seoul, Korea. The party sits on centre to centre-left in the political spectrum. The Democratic Party was founded as the New Politics Alliance for Democracy on 26 March 2014 as a nexus between the previous Democratic Party and the preparatory committee of the New Political Vision Party. The party is both the government party and has more than half of the seats at the National



Assembly. The party defended democratic rights by convening parliament and calling on the public to take action against the attempt at martial law.

The party is usually described as a centrist party, however it is also described as “centre-left” since it is the main liberal opponent to the People Power Party (PPP). The party has been evaluated as the mainstream centre-left ideological choice in Korea even though some researches has argued that the Democratic Party has centre-right policies by international standards.

The party has a no-tolerance policy on abusement, targeting children, adolescents or women including cyber abuse, dating abuse and sexual abuse. The party aims to eradicate gender discrimination and to promote economic opportunities for women. The party has requested the National Assembly replacing the law about the crime of abortion.

The party defends the freedom of the press is one of the most important things for human rights and justice. The party supports the right to protest peacefully. The martial law crisis in 2024 showed this stance clearly.

2. People Power Party (PPP)

The People Power Party is the main opposition party of South Korea, based in Seoul, Korea. The party sits in the right wing of the political spectrum. The party was established on February 17, 2020 through the merger of the Liberty Korea Party, New Conservative Party, and Onward for Future 4.0, as well as several minor parties and political organizations with the name United Future Party, after being renamed as the People Power Party. The party is the second biggest party in the national assembly. The party has 11 Metropolitan Mayors and Governors of 17.



The party is often described as a big tent and conservative party. During the 2022 South Korea presidential election, the party was described as centre-right by international outlets. It is broadly considered to be conservative and national-conservative. The party has a liberal economic policy, supporting fiscal conservatism. The PPP is socially conservative and advocates traditional family values, and national patriotism.

The party supports establishing “a healing support system” for victims of felony abusement crimes by providing emotional and physical healing programs for victims of felony crimes, and protecting “the right to be forgotten” of victims of digital sex crimes. The party implements policies in order to minimize the pay gaps between genders. The party does not have a specific policy on the topic of abortion, and thinks that that topic should be debated by the assembly.

The party defends that the freedom of press is very important for democracy, and the full-freedom of the press. However, the president of the party has spoken to questionnaire; “However, public media, which is run on tax money, may require minimal adjustment to secure its public nature and neutrality.” which makes the people to interrogate the party's policies.

3. Rebuilding Korea Party (RKP)

The Rebuilding Korea Party, is a political party founded on March 3, 2024 in Seoul, South Korea. The party is defined as a centre-left party in the political spectrum, implementing Progressivism, and Liberalism. The party has 12 seats in the National Assembly, being the second largest opposition party in the assembly. The RKP is considered to be a center-left alternative to the mainstream Democratic Party. Following the 2024 martial law crisis, the party's legislators voted in favor of the impeachment of Yoon Suk Yeol as well as the later impeachment of Han Duck-soo.



The Rebuilding Korea Party is primarily described as liberal and progressive. It is considered more progressive than the Democratic Party. The party's platform sets forth abolishing "prosecutorial dictatorship" in South Korea and bringing an end to President Yoon Suk-yeol's administration as a priority. It also aims to reform the Ministry of Economy and Finance and make the National Assembly Budget Office independent from the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The party implemented policies supporting new laws for minimizing gender-based violence and discrimination and defended that the justice system should be improved on this topic. The party aims to minimize the gender-based pay gaps, as well as legalizing the abortion.

The party aims to have a full-free press upon all the country. The party suggests new reforms regarding the unproportional force used by the police during the peaceful protests, the legal obstacles for spontaneous protests, and legalizing the strikes.

4. Progressive Party

The Progressive Party, is a left-wing progressive and left-wing nationalist political party, based in Seoul, Korea. The party sits on the left-wing of the political spectrum. It was established on 15 October 2017 with the merger of New People's Party, and People's



United Party as the Minjung Party after renaming itself to the Progressive Party. The Progressive Party, at that time named as the Minjung Party, tried to join the Platform Party, a proportional party created by the Democratic Party of Korea. However, the DPK refused to let them do so. Currently the party has 4 seats in the national assembly.

The party has implemented the “Minjung” ideology in the field of women’s rights making it develop policies covering issues such as wage justice, combating gender based violence, and digital sexist crimes; the party advocates the expansion of policies aimed at working-class women.

The party objects to the obstacles in the National Assembly Act and the National Security Acts for damaging the freedom of expression and assembly. It fully supports the peaceful protest right, and joins protests such as “People’s Action Day” .

5. Reform Party (RP)

The Reform Party is a political party, sitting on the centre-right to right-wing in the political spectrum, led by the former leader of People Power Party, based in Seoul, Korea. The founding congress of the party was held on January 20, 2024. At the founding congress, the intention was emphasized to create a "third force", which would include the Reform Party, to oppose the Democratic Party and the PPP. The party implements a conservative ideology. The party currently has 3 seats in the national assembly.



The party, unlike the other parties in the house, defends that the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family should be terminated, women should serve in the military, and an antifeminist structure in general.

The party defends that people can use their right of protest given by the constitution, but does not suggest a new reform to the restrictions during the election period. The party supports the freedom of the press.

6. Basic Income Party (BIP)

The Basic Income Party (BIP) is a single issue political party, advocating for a Universal Basic Income. The party was founded on January 19,



2024; by splitting from the Labor Party. The party formed a coalition with the Open Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party, called the New Progressive Alliance for the 2024 general elections. The party implements a Universal basic income and Social liberalism ideology. The party currently has 1 seat in the National Assembly.

The party defends that women should not have pay gaps based on genders, and supports protecting the right of peaceful protests.

7. Social Democratic Party

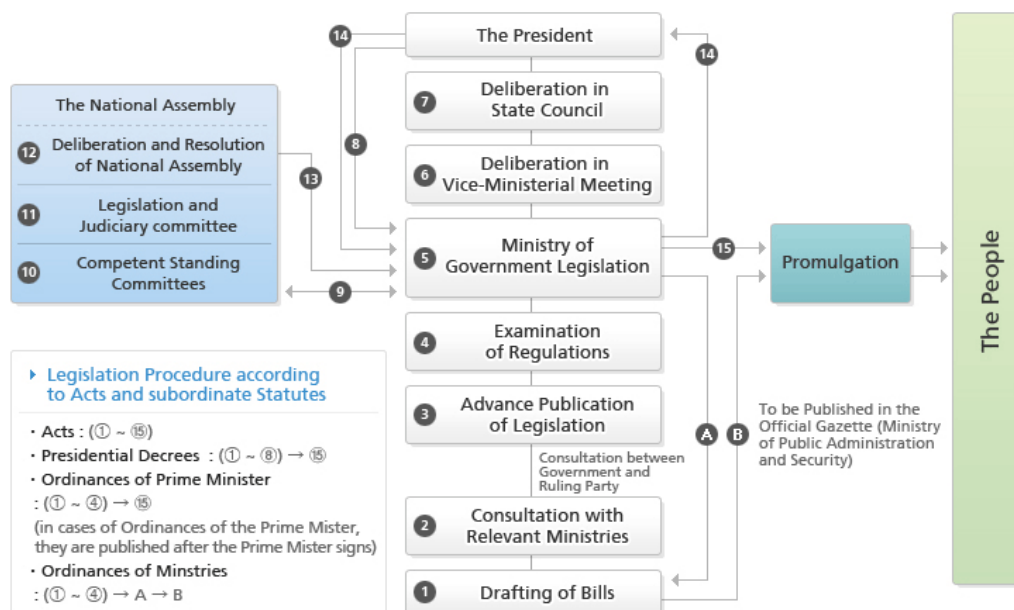
The Social Democratic Party is a centre-left political party, registered on 15 February 2024, founded by members who left the Justice Party. The party participated in the 2024 South Korean legislative election as part of the BIP-led New Progressive Alliance, which in turn participated as part of the DPK-led Democratic Alliance of Korea. The party currently has 1 seat in the National Assembly.



The party supports making new legislation regarding gender-based violence, reproductive rights, and minimizing gender-based pay gaps. The party supports expanding the freedom of expression, supports strikes and peaceful protests.

4.3. The Legislative Process.

Legislative procedures refer to a series of procedures ranging from the drafting of Bills to their promulgations. The Constitution of the Republic of Korea grants the National Assembly the power of legislation and permits the Executive branch and other agencies to exercise lawmaking powers on subordinate statutes other than Acts. From the table below, you can examine the legislative procedure of the Republic of Korea;



Note from the Academic Team: This section will be thoroughly reviewed, edited, and discussed during the legislation briefing given by our Academic Team, this graphic has been provided for you to get a better understanding of the legislative procedure of the actual National Assembly. We strongly advise you to edit your solutions and arguments accordingly.

4.4. Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

Note from the Academic Team: This section consists of the rules differing from the Harvard General Assembly Rules of Procedure.

Rule 1 - Oath

Instead of Opening Speeches; According to the National Assembly Act, Any National Assembly member shall take the following oath at the beginning of their term of office, preparation beforehand is not required. (*Further Reading - 1*)

Rule 2 - Voting

When MPs vote on motions or legislation it is done orally, in the first instance. Members are asked to vote by calling out “*chanseong*” for yes or “*bandae*” for no. If not able to be determined by oral voting, the members shall vote via placard voting.

It is left to the chairboards’ discretion to use the method of divisional voting both in legislation or motion votings. Which shall be done by the members rising from their seats and dividing themselves in two, where the chairboard shall count and make a ruling.

Rule 3 - Debate

The Korean National Assembly is a **legislative organ**. It is responsible to make legislation. Rather than international collaboration, you should focus on lawmaking and enacting new legislative programs. Acting within the policies of your political parties are necessary.

Rule 4 - Final Document

The final document for the committee is a bill.

Rule 5 - Recess & Dismissal

Breaks between sessions are referred to as recesses. Recess shall be called for with a specific motion with the discretion of the Speaker. Dismissal is the Harvard Procedure equivalent of the “adjournment of the committee”.

5. Introduction to Topic A: Freedom of Expression and Assembly,

5.1. Key Terms,

- ***Freedom of Expression:*** Freedom of expression is a right, supporting an individual or a community to express their opinions and ideas without the fear of censorship, or legal consequences. As expressed in Article 21 of the Constitution of the Republic of Korea, all citizens have the freedom of expression.
- ***Freedom of Assembly:*** Freedom of Assembly is the right of individuals or groups to peacefully assemble and collectively express, promote, pursue, and defend their ideas. This right is considered as an universal human right, a political right and a civil liberty. The 21st Article of the Constitution of the Republic of Korea grants this right to all citizens.
- ***Freedom of Association:*** The freedom of association grants the rights to individuals to voluntarily join or leave associations or groups. Similar to the Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Assembly, Article 21 grants this right to the citizens.
- ***Freedom of Press:*** Freedom of the press is the principle that communication and expression through media without censorship is a fundamental right.
- ***Peaceful Assembly:*** A peaceful assembly is the kind of assembly without vandalism. The right of peaceful assembly includes the right to hold meetings, sit-ins, strikes, rallies, events or protests, both offline and online.
- ***Censorship:*** Censorship is the suppression of speech, public communication, or other information. The term is usually used about the freedom of the press. Article 21 of the Constitution supports that censorship should not be recognized.
- ***Impeachment:*** Impeachment is a legal process of a legislative body charges against a government official for misconduct. The impeachment process during the governance of the former president Yoon Sukyeol has remarked on the importance of freedom of expression.

5.2. The Current Situation and Issues,

5.2.1. Freedom of Expression,

Amnesty International, which is one of the biggest NGOs around the world, criticized South Korea for regression in the field of freedom of expression. Human Rights Watch reported that the Government prosecutions against critical voices create an intimidating and frightening environment. The CIVITUS Monitor, recategorized South Korea in their index for freedom of expression as “Narrowed”.

The Constitution of the Republic of Korea, Article 21, grants the freedom of expression to all citizens. (*Further Reading - 2*)

Even though the constitution grants this right to all citizens, the National Security Act, not specifically, criminalizes speech in support of communism or North Korea. For example, in November 2023, a South Korean court sentenced a poet to 14 months in prison for writing a poem praising North Korea.

In recent years, the judiciary and the executive branch have begun to frequently use defamation and digital crimes laws as a means of punishing the expressions of social media users; which directly affected the freedom of expression of the citizens.

Some films, music and visual art pieces were banned in South Korea in recent years in order to ensure public order and welfare. Art, plays, music etc. representing North Korean culture were frequently being blocked by the local governments.

5.2.2. Freedom of Assembly.

According to the Article 6 of the Assembly and Demonstration Act, any assembly should be reported to a police station at least 24 hours in advance, maximum 30 days. Any unreported assembly is being recognized as illegal. (*Further Reading - 3*)

The Article 10 and Article 11 of the same act restricts the time and the place of the assembly, which directly effects the freedom of assembly. Even the constitutional court has described this situation as a restriction to the freedom of assembly, indirectly unconstitutional. (*Further Reading - 4*)

According to the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, force should not be used in peaceful assemblies towards citizens, if it should be used; force should only be used proportionally. But in the Miryang Protests held in 2014, elderly citizens were forcibly dispersed by officials. The officials used clubs, shields, and water cannons, resulting in numerous injuries. These incidents have been described as clearly disproportionate force by Amnesty International.

5.2.3. Freedom of Press.

The RHS (Reporters Without Borders) has ranked South Korea as the 61st state among all 180 criticizing the country as “However, tradition and business interests often prevent journalists from fulfilling their role as watchdogs, and populist political tendencies stoke hatred of journalists.” The Freedom House gave a point to South Korea of 66 the maximum being 100. Categorizing the states’ press as “Partly Free”, decreasing from 2024. The Article 21 of the Constitution supports the freedom of the press.

The government is frequently investigating reporters through defamation laws and digital crime laws. Some journalists, especially those who publish criticizing content about the

government, face significant consequences. Some NGOs identify these cases as a “significant blow to the freedom of press”. Especially during the former government, the former president Yoon Sukyeol, has sued many journalists, which criticized the government's decisions. According to the Voice of America (VOA), former-president Sukyeol has sued over 10 media organisations.

During the martial law crisis, and followed by the impeachment processes, the press's freedom was again restricted. During the enforcement of martial law, there were many restrictions in the media industry, censorship, and blockment of broadcasts were frequent. According to the SCMP, president Sukyeol tried to prevent media organizations from operating by cutting off electricity and water supplies. During the protests, the press were not able to reach the fields.

5.3. Impeachment.

On December 3, 2024; then president Yoon Sukyeol declared a martial law in South Korea, defending that it is critical for protecting the country from anti-state forces. The military and police forces attempted to prevent MPs from entering the National Assembly Proceeding Hall. All 190 MPs who were present in the chamber unanimously voted to demand the lifting of martial law, forcing Yoon to lift martial law around 04:00 KST on December 4, 2024.

After the martial law crisis, all six opposition parties in the assembly submitted a motion in order to impeach the former president during a plenary session of the assembly on December, 4th. The first voting was placed on December 7.

After a meeting of PPP, the government party of the term, the leader of the party announced the party's opposition to the impeachment efforts. However, on 6th of December, the leader of the party revealed that the president had ordered the arrest of key politicians, including the leader himself. After this incident, the leader of the party warned the citizens that Yoon would be a “great danger” if he stayed in the office.

On December 7, the voting for the impeachment started, but the Speaker of the Assembly, Woo Wonshik, closed the voting early since the assembly was not able to reach the quorum, there were only 195 MPs present of the 200 needed.

On December 12, DPK filed their second motion for the impeachment of the president, voting being scheduled on December 14.

Prior to the voting, some PPP MPs announced their support on the impeachment. All the 300 MPs voted in the second voting motion and president Yoon Sekyeol was impeached.

Second motion to impeach

Yoon

Choice	Votes
✓ Yes	204 (68%)
✗ No	85 (28.3%)
Abstentions	3 (1%)
Invalid	8 (2.7%)
Not voting	0
Impeachment successful	

Aside from Yoon, many government officials faced impeachment motions from DPK, some being successful, some being rejected by the constitutional court. On 4 April, the Constitutional Court upheld the impeachment in a unanimous 8–0 decision, which formally removed Yoon from office.

6. Introduction to Topic B: Women's Rights,

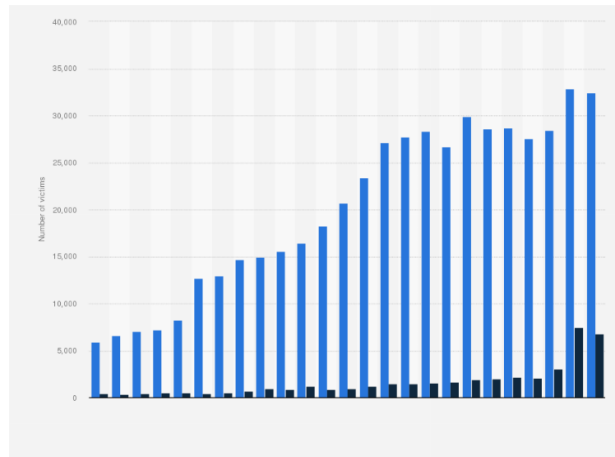
6.1. Key Terms,

- ***Women's Rights:*** The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) defines women's rights as; "Women's rights are the rights and entitlements claimed for women and girls worldwide." It is usually used as an umbrella term for sexual abuse, pay gaps, gender based violence, and abortion rights.
- ***Sexual Abuse:*** Sexual abuse is an abusive sexual behaviour by one person to another.
- ***Pay Gap:*** Gender-Based pay gaps are the average differences between the wages for men and women who are employed. Usually, women are found to be paid less than men.
- ***Abortion:*** Abortion is the termination of a pregnancy with the demand of the pregnant person. In the world, abortion is not legal in every country; in the Republic of Korea abortion has become fully legal in 2024.
- ***Gender-Based Violence:*** Gender-based violence refers to any kinds of violence directed to someone because of their gender, gender identification, or their sexual orientation.
- ***CEDAW:*** CEDAW stands for "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women" which is an international treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979.
- ***Glass Ceiling:*** The glass ceiling is a term for the social invisible barrier preventing women and/or minorities from being promoted to certain jobs, usually management etc.
- ***The 4B Movement:*** The 4B Movement is a radical feminist movement, emerged between 2017 to 2019 in Twitter, based in South Korea. The name 4B comes from the Korean-term "Bi" roughly meaning no. The movement started around 2017 to 2018 after a highly publicized 2016 murder of a woman by a man. The four core tenets to the 4B movement are:
 - 1- No sex with men, (kr: **Bisekseu**)
 - 2- No giving birth, (kr: **Bichulsan**)
 - 3- No dating men, (kr: **Biyeonae**)
 - 4- No marriage with men, (kr: **Bihon**)
- ***The 6B4T Movement:*** The 6B4T movement is an online radical feminist movement that spread from South Korea whose members organize in opposition to sexism and patriarchal structures.

6.2. The Current Situation and Issues,

6.2.1. Sexual Abuse,

In 2023, approximately 32.400 women were reported as sexual abuse victims and this rate has increased five times in the recent years as seen in the static. Only 16.000 of these cases were turned into a legal case and only the %40 of the legal cases were concluded.



The Lack of Legal Definition and Punishment in the Law

In the Criminal Act (the official law for crimes in South Korea), Chapter XXXII, Article 297 is the article used in sexual rape cases. (*Further Reading - 5*)

In this article, in order a sexual abuse to be considered as rape and the perpetrator being judged for that crime, they should break the victim's resistance by using violence or intimidation. According to this, a sexual intercourse without consent might not be considered as rape, if there are no violence or intimidation. When the victim does not resist or the perpetrator does not use violence, the sexual behaviour is usually is not considered as rape legally, which causes victims experiancing freeze-response being unable to sue the attacker.

With a campaign started in National Assembly Petition System by late 2024, and more than 50.000 citizens signed a petition in order to amend the Article 297 in order the law to consider “non-consensual sexual attack without violence or intimidation” as rape. After this campaign, a bill was presented to the National Assembly, which is still not in force.

6.2.2. The Digital Sexual Abuse Crimes, such as Deepfake,

The cases about deepfake incidents have increased approximately 3 times by 2024 in the first 6 months of 2025. In 2024 there were only 423 reported, but in the first months of 2025; this number increased to 1384. Approximately %93 of the victims of deepfake incidents are young women between the ages 10 to 20.

In September 2024, the Assembly added “watching, storing, buying or selling pornographic deepfake materials” to the list of behaviors punishable as crimes. The controlling system for deepfake materials is not as sufficient as they should be. Only 23 of the criminals in 964 legal cases about deepfake incidents were arrested, others being acquitted or lightly sentenced.

Since these materials are stored and published using VPNs, secured networks and applications; the South Korean Judges are usually not able to have as much evidence as they need to sentence the criminals.

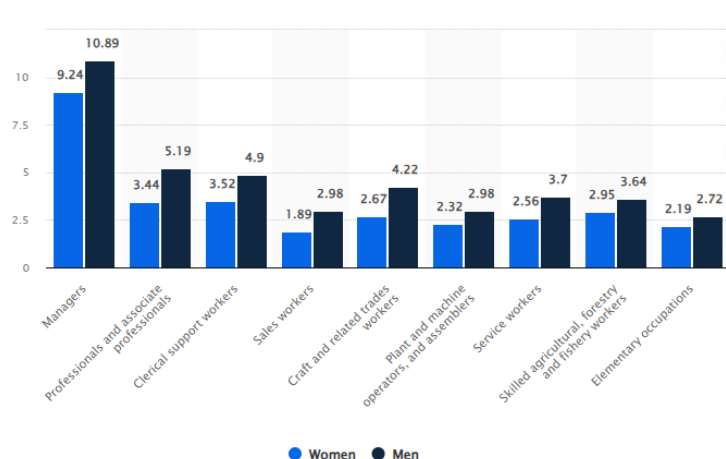
6.2.3. The “Molka” Incidents,

Molka incidents, standing for spycams usually located in toilets, changing rooms, and hotels, are one of the biggest concerns of the citizens of South Korea. There are more than 30.000 yearly incidents between 2013-2018. Victims of these incidents are %98 women, including high-profile incidents such as the exposed videos of K-pop idols.

The Assembly had added this crime to the law with the “Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment of Sexual Crimes” Article 14, specifying on “Taking Photos by Using Cameras, etc.” But similar to the deepfake incidents, there are still some problems about evidence and the criminals being lightly sentenced. (*Further Reading - 6*)

6.2.4. Pay Gaps,

According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2024, by the World Economic Forum; South Korea is ranked 112th in Economic Participation and Opportunity for Women and 84th in Wage equality for similar work. In the statistics below, it is obvious that women are being underpaid for the same work.



In another research conducted by OECD, the Republic of Korea is ranked last among all 33 OECD member states.

6.2.5. Discrimination in Workplaces Towards Women,

According to the Glass Ceiling Index published annually by “The Economist” South Korea was ranked the lowest for the eighth year in a row on the Glass Ceiling Index published by The Economist in 2020. The Glass Ceiling Index by The Economist is determined by the country's performance on ten indicators such as wage gap, labor force participation, representation in senior jobs, paid maternity leave, etc. The representation rate of women managers and boards of directors is quite low in South Korea. The Assembly has established new law enforcements and plans about shattering the glass ceiling which did not work as planned.

6.2.6. Abortion Rights,

The abortion rights in South Korea has been a controversial topic because of the country's conservative segment. Abortion for women was fully illegal until the new judgement by the Constitutional Court on April 11, 2019. Which caused the National Assembly to revise its 66-year old anti-abortion law on 31 December 2020. This change of law was made possible by a group named “Joint Action for Reproductive Justice” formed by feminist groups, doctors' groups, disability rights groups, and youth activists. Right now, abortion is fully-legal in any week of the pregnancy in South Korea.

Right now in South Korea, since the Assembly has not established a new law about abortion, there is a legal lack for definition. Medicine for abortion such as mifepriston is not fully-legal since there is no law making it legal, and not fully-approved. Because of these gray zones in the law, many clinics refuse to serve abortion services, and abortion is still not in the scope of health insurance companies; which causes all the expenses being personal and changing between 300.000-1.000.000 Korean Wons.

6.2.7. Rights of Women Prisoners,

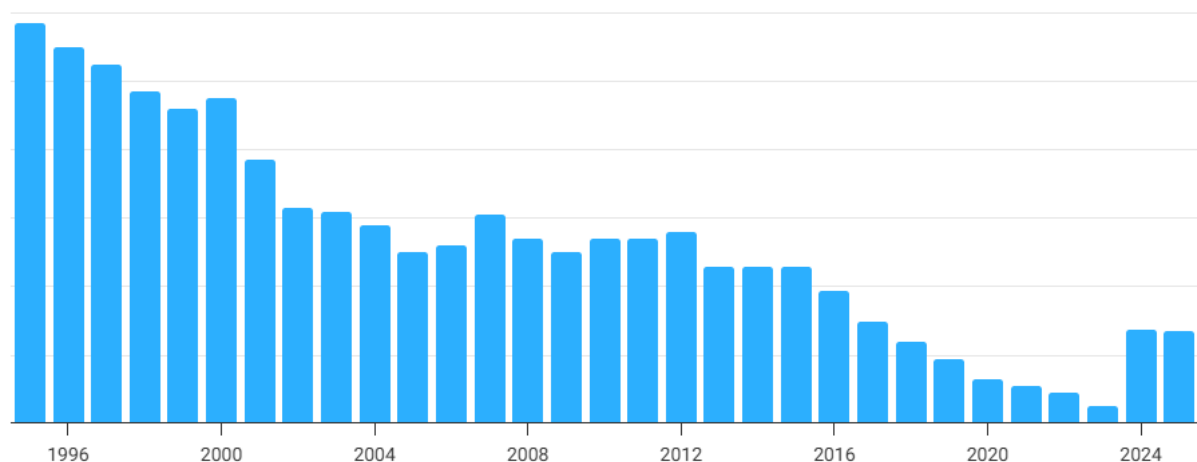
In South Korea, there are only %8.4 women prisoners in prisons among the country. Because of the minority of women among all the prisoners, their vital needs are usually being ruled out. Women in prison are not able to have access to hygiene products, menstrual products, and psychological or physical support. Women giving birth in prisons are not able to access newborn baby products, health services. Women with kids are usually not able to access daycare services.

Because of the limit of the prisons being exceeded, women are being placed in hybrid wards, which also risks them to be sexually abused or getting raped. Additionally, sexual attacks by guardians were reported in the past in prisons.

6.2.8. Birth Rates and Women Rights.

The birth rates in South Korea have been decreasing because of the lack of women's rights in the system. The women were only able to have a 90-day maternal leave, and postpartum mothers were not able to join the workforce again. Because of these reasons, South Korean women were not willing to have kids, and movements such as 4B and 6B4T were the radical versions of these groups.

The birth rate in South Korea was at its lowest by mid-2024. After the new law enforcement granting new amendments on parental leave, financial aids, free daycare systems; and the increasement on marriage rates the birth rates increased by 2.24 points as seen in the graphic below.



7. Further Reading

Note From the Academic Team: We highly encourage you to read this section of the guide, especially if it will be your first time writing a bill. This section consists of some examples for our final document. Bills in this section will both make you familiar with the formats of bills and our topics.

Further Reading - 1 (Oath of the National Assembly)

Article 24 (Oath)

Any National Assembly member shall take the following oath at the beginning of his term of office: "I do solemnly swear before the people that I shall observe the Constitution, endeavor to promote the freedom and welfare of the people and the peaceful unification of the fatherland, give priority to the national interests, and perform faithfully the duties of a member of the National Assembly in accordance with good conscience."

Further Reading - 2 (Article 21 of the Constitution Regarding the Freedom of Expression, Press, and Assembly)

Article 21

- (1)** All citizens shall enjoy freedom of speech and the press, and freedom of assembly and association.
- (2)** Licensing or censorship of speech and the press, and licensing of assembly and association shall not be recognized.
- (3)** The standards of news service and broadcast facilities and matters necessary to ensure the functions of newspapers shall be determined by Act.
- (4)** Neither speech nor the press shall violate the honor or rights of other persons or undermine public morals or social ethics. Should speech or the press violate the honor or rights of other persons, claims may be made for the damage resulting therefrom.

Further Reading - 3 (Article 6 of Assembly and Demonstration Act Regarding the Report on Outdoor Assembly or Demonstration)

Article 6

- (1)** Any person who desires to hold an outdoor assembly or to stage a demonstration shall 720 to 48 hours before such assembly or demonstration is held, submit a report on the details in all the following subparagraphs to the chief of the competent police station: Provided, That if two or more police stations have jurisdiction over such assembly or demonstration, such report shall be submitted to the commissioner of the competent City/Do police agency, and if two or more City/Do police agencies have jurisdiction over it, such report shall be submitted to the commissioner of the competent City/Do police agency exercising jurisdiction over the place where it takes place: <Amended on Dec. 22, 2020> 1. Objective; 2. Date and time

(including hours involved); 3. Place; 4. The following matters concerning the organizer (in the case of an organization, including its representative), the person in charge of liaison, and moderators: (a) Address; (b) Name; © Occupation; (d) Contact information; 5. Organizations expected to participate and the estimated number of participants; 6. Methods of demonstration (including a route map).

(2) Upon receipt of the report referred to in paragraph (1), the chief of the competent police station or the commissioner of the competent City/Do police agency (hereinafter referred to as the "head of the competent police agency") shall forthwith issue a certificate of receipt specifying the date and time of receipt to the person submitting the report. <Amended on Dec. 22, 2020>

(3) If it is decided that the outdoor assembly or demonstration that has been reported under paragraph (1) will not be held or staged, the organizer of the assembly or demonstration shall submit a cancellation report stating reasons for cancellation, etc. to the head of the competent police agency 24 hours before the scheduled date of the assembly or demonstration as specified in the report. <Amended on Jan. 27, 2016>

(4) If the head of the competent police agency, upon having received the cancellation report as provided for in paragraph (3), has banned any assembly or demonstration under Article 8 (3), the police agency head shall forthwith notify such fact as referred to in paragraph (3) to the organizer of such assembly or demonstration who was issued with a notice of ban. <Amended on Jan. 27, 2016>

(5) The organizer of the assembly or demonstration who has been notified under paragraph (4) may hold the assembly, or stage the demonstration, of which the ban was notified in the same manner as was reported originally: Provided, That in cases where such event has failed to keep to the scheduled time due to the notice of ban, etc., a new date and time may be arranged for the same assembly or demonstration to be held or staged, subject to a report to the head of the competent police agency on the holding of such event 24 hours before it takes place.

Further Reading - 4 (Article 10/11 of Assembly and Demonstration Act Regarding the Hours and Places for Outdoor Assembly and Demonstration)

Article 10 (Hours Prohibited for Outdoor Assembly and Demonstration)

No one may hold any outdoor assembly or stage any demonstration either before sunrise or after sunset: Provided, That the head of the competent police agency may grant permission for an outdoor assembly to be held even before sunrise or even after sunset along with specified conditions for the maintenance of order if the organizer reports the holding of such assembly in advance with moderators assigned for such occasion as far as the nature of such event makes it inevitable to hold the event during such hours.

Article 11 (Places Prohibited for Outdoor Assembly and Demonstration)

No person shall hold any outdoor assembly or stage any demonstration anywhere within a 100-meter radius from the boundary of the following office buildings or residences: <Amended on Jun. 9, 2020>

1. The National Assembly building: Provided, That this shall not apply in any of the following cases where the assembly or demonstration is deemed unlikely to undermine the functions or stability of the National Assembly: (a) Where the assembly or demonstration is not likely to interfere with the activities of the National Assembly; (b) Where the assembly or demonstration is not likely to escalate into a large-scale assembly or demonstration;

2. All levels of courts and the Constitutional Court of Korea: Provided, That this shall not apply in any of the following cases where the assembly or demonstration is deemed unlikely to undermine the functions or stability of all levels of courts and the Constitutional Court of Korea: (a) Where the assembly or demonstration is not likely to influence the independence of a judge or a justice or his or her judgment in a specific case; (b) Where the assembly or demonstration is not likely to escalate into a large-scale assembly or demonstration;

3. The Presidential residence and the official residences of the Speaker of the National Assembly, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the President of the Constitutional Court of Korea;

4. The official residence of the Prime Minister: Provided, That this shall not apply in any of the following cases where the assembly or demonstration is deemed unlikely to undermine the functions or stability of the official residence of the Prime Minister: (a) Where the assembly or demonstration is targeted at the Prime Minister; (b) Where the assembly or demonstration is not likely to escalate into a large-scale assembly or demonstration;

5. Diplomatic offices or residences of heads of diplomatic missions in Korea: Provided, That this shall not apply in any of the following cases where the assembly or demonstration is deemed unlikely to undermine the functions or stability of diplomatic offices or residences of the heads of diplomatic missions: (a) Where the assembly or demonstration is not targeted at the relevant diplomatic offices or residences of the heads of relevant diplomatic missions; (b) Where the assembly or demonstration is not likely to escalate into a large-scale assembly or demonstration; (c) Where the assembly or demonstration takes place on a holiday when diplomatic offices are off duty.

Further Reading - 5 (Article 297 of the Criminal Act Regarding Rape)

Article 297

(1) A person who, by means of violence or intimidation, has sexual intercourse with another shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for a limited term of at least three years.

Further Reading - 6 (Article 14 of Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment of Sexual Crimes, Regarding Taking Photos by Using Cameras, etc)

Article 14 (Taking Photos by Using Cameras, etc.)

(1) A person who takes photos of another person's body, which may cause any sexual stimulus or shame against the latter's will, by using a camera or similar mechanism, or who distributes, sells, leases, provides, or openly exhibits or screens the photos so taken, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than five years or by a fine not exceeding ten million won.

(2) Even though taking photos under paragraph (1) was not against the will of the person photographed at the time of taking such photos, a person who distributes, sells, leases, provides, or openly exhibits or screens any photos of the former's body so taken, against the former's will, thereafter, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than three years or by a fine not exceeding five million won.

(3) A person who circulates any photos taken under paragraph (1), for the purpose of profit-making, by means of an information and communications network referred to in Article 2 (1) 1 of the Act on Promotion of Information and Communications Network Utilization and Information Protection, etc. (hereinafter referred to as "information and communications network"), shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than seven years or by a fine not exceeding thirty million won.

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