

The GIC, a symbol of peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula

No sanctions against the Gaeseong (Kaesong) Industrial Complex (GIC)

- South and North Korea, the only divided country facing military confrontation due to the Cold War, **built the Gaeseong (Kaesong) Industrial Complex (GIC) in the North to build peace through inter-Korean economic cooperation.** However, the GIC has been shut-down in February 2016.
- The GIC has not been operating. However, in fact, the GIC was in full operations before its shut-down in February 2016, because it was an exception to the sanctions. **Suspicious of GIC workers' wages being diverted towards North's nuclear development programs are unconfirmed claims without direct evidence.**
- We cordially ask peace-loving international community's supports for **the GIC to be exempted from the sanctions.** It would contribute to the end of the war in the Korean Peninsula and the permanent, cooperative peace economy system between the two Koreas and in Northeast Asia.

□ The Korean Peninsula as a center of division, military tensions and the new Cold War in Northeast Asia

- The division of Korea started with the split occupation of the Korean Peninsula by the United States and the Soviet Union for the post-war treatment of World War II. This transformed the Korean Peninsula into a place of the Cold War with ideological confrontation; the Korean War occurred in June 1950 due to escalating confrontation.
- The war ceased due to the Korean Armistice Agreement in July 1953, but the Korean Peninsula is in military confrontation with two different regimes. Since an end-of-war declaration as well as the peace treaty have not yet been concluded, the war is still 'on-going'.

□ Efforts to overcome military confrontation and set peace through inter-Korean economic cooperation

- The South and the North held the first inter-Korean summit in June 2000 to move beyond the phase of distrust and confrontation following the 70-year division to a peace regime. The GIC is the first industrial complex for inter-Korean economic cooperation established on this legacy.
- The GIC, which started construction in 2003, was built in the North near the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) where the two Koreas have confronted militarily. This military area has been transformed into a place for inter-Korean economic cooperation.
- Since its operation in 2004, the GIC continued to develop despite the ups and downs of inter-Korean relations. Before its shut-down in February 2016, 56,000 South and North Korean workers worked together every day in the GIC (331ha) to build peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula.

□ The Peace Economy in danger due to the shut-down of the GIC

- The GIC has been shut-down in February 2016.
- The direct link between the operation of the GIC and the development of North Korea's nuclear weapons program claimed by some people has yet to be proven. That's why the GIC was in operation as an exception regardless of the UN sanctions against North Korea (No. 825~No. 2094) until the shut-down in 2016.
- As a result, the lives of 56,000 South and North Korean workers as well as the GIC tenant companies are under threat; a peace settlement on the Korean Peninsula is not progressing, too.

□ The GIC's value in peace and economy

- ① The GIC as an effective means to alleviate tension on the Korean Peninsula and bring peace in Northeast Asia
 - The GIC is where South and North Korean people live their lives and interact each other near a place of military confrontation. Peace is created and accumulated naturally in their normal lives.
 - Through economic cooperation, the GIC serves as a buffer against military tension and the crisis of war on the Korean peninsula
- ② The place of prosperity with economic benefits
 - The GIC is a place where the two Koreas share mutual benefits through complementary economic cooperation
- ③ The place to prepare for re-unification through reconciliation and cooperation
 - The GIC is a place for learning "small examples of reunification" and peace, where people of the two Koreas, the only divided countries due to the Cold War, understand each other and prepare for the reunification through economic cooperation.
- ④ A place of peace and prosperity through multilateral cooperation among the two Koreas and neighboring countries
 - Multilateral economic cooperation of the two Koreas and neighboring countries will alleviate the tension in Northeast Asia and further become the foundation of peace and prosperity.
 - The GIC will be transformed into an international industrial complex by attracting not only Korean companies but also a large number of international companies. This will be a good

example of creating peace through common security and multilateral economic cooperation in regions of conflict around the world.

□ [Appealing for the sanctions exemption](#)

- o The Korean Peninsula is a place where interests of the two Koreas, United States and China collide. Moreover, the instability in this region becomes a source of instability in Northeast Asia and even in the whole world.
- o Strengthened sanctions against North Korea can not effectively solve the North Korean nuclear and missile issues, but rather result in the enhancement of those weapons. Therefore, the inter-Korean economic cooperation such as the GIC project will be effective measures to solve the current problem.
- o It is important to create an opportunity for North Korea to be a responsible member of the international community through the inter-Korean economic cooperation project.
- o We need participation and support of all peace-loving people around the world. We ask for your active participation in this petition. Please spread widely. Thank you.