

3. 第 14次 韓·中 學術會議 開會辭

Opening Address

Sang-Tae, Park

Director

Institute for East-Asian Studies

Sogang University

Dr. Lin, Bih-jaw, Director Institute of International Relations, Dr. Chun, Hae-Jong, Former Director of Sogang Institute for East Asian Studies, and distinguished scholars and leaders from both China and Korea, and ladies and gentlemen! It is a great honor for me to make this opening address. On this occasion of the Fourteenth Sino-Korean Academic Conference, I would like to express my deep gratitude to each one of you for your participation in this Conference. The history of this Conference is not short. I am sure both parties would like to continue our academic and friendly relationship, despite the few difficulties we had during the past one year.

The time has come that we, the Asia-Pacific countries, have to replace competition and conflict with peaceful negotiation and cooperation to ensure our further prosperity. Political ideologies, economic conflict, and different cultural backgrounds are the major obstacles to our regional integration. In this sense, we welcome the efforts recently made by the government of the Republic of China such as improving relations with Mainland China and

actively participating in international affairs. The new administration of the Republic of Korea is also trying to improve relations with North Korea and to participate in various international affairs. Our two governments' efforts will certainly lead to a better regional order.

During the two days' conference today and tomorrow we will discuss various means and measures to promote cooperation between our two countries. We will discuss joint endeavors to enhance regional peace, prosperity, and mutual understanding. Let me express for all of us appreciation to the six scholars for their preparation of papers to be presented here, the six discussants, and the four scholars who will assume the chairmanship of four sessions.

I sincerely hope that we exchange our views frankly on the matters of mutual interests and come to many fruitful conclusions. Above all, I hope this conference, as it has been, will remain an important channel for keeping and improving the relationship between the two countries.

Thank you for attention.