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SUN RYUNG PARK

I am a political economist specializing in green industrial policy, energy security, and technological transformation in Northeast Asia within the context of the U.S.–China strategic competition. My research examines how states build and deploy strategic capacity across emerging sectors, including clean energy, advanced manufacturing, and critical technologies. I combine academic research with policy-oriented analysis, with publications spanning peer-reviewed journals, policy reports, and public commentary.

EDUCATION

University of British Columbia — Ph.D., Political Science, 2025

Dissertation: *Race to Go Green: Three Pathways in Green Industrial Revolution*

Korea University — M.A., Political Science and International Relations, 2016

Thesis: *The Chinese Government's Consolidation Policy over Strategic Resource Industries*

Korea University — B.A., Political Science and International Relations (Double Major in Politics, Economics, and Law), *magna cum laude*, 2013

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Park, Sun Ryung. 2026. "[Reframing Growth: Elite Paradigms and Korea's Green Pivot](#)." *Pacific Affairs* 99(1): 25–44.

Tiberghien, Yves, and Sun Ryung Park. 2025. "[Green Industrial Policy Race in Asia Quickens despite US Retreat](#)." *East Asia Forum Quarterly* 17(3): 13–15.

Park, Sun Ryung, and Joo-Youn Jung. 2017. "[Centralization through Consolidation: Restructuring the Chinese Rare Earth Industry](#)." *Peace Studies* 25(1): 117–154.

Park, Sun Ryung, and Joo-Youn Jung. 2015. "[Between the Local Governments and Producers: Why Rare Earth Smuggling Persists in China](#)." *Journal of International Politics* 20(2): 101–131.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Park, Sun Ryung, and Yves Tiberghien. 2026 (**forthcoming**). “Green Technology Transition from Above: Drivers and Constraints in Japan and Korea.” In *East Asia’s Green Energy Transition*, edited by Lewis et al. Seattle: University of Washington Press.
- Park, Sun Ryung, and Yves Tiberghien. 2023. “The Green Tech Race Is a Story for the Entrepreneurial State.” In *The EU Indo-Pacific Bid: Sailing Through Economic and Security Competition*, edited by Filippo Fasulo, pp. 99–129. Milan: Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI).
- Park, Sun Ryung. 2017. “Weaponization and Vulnerability in China’s Rare Earths Hegemony.” In *World Politics 27*, edited by Joo-Youn Jung, pp. 243–295. Seoul: Center for International Studies, Seoul National University (in Korean).

POLICY REPORTS & WORKING PAPERS (SELECTED)

Full list available via [APFC author page](#)

- Park, Sun Ryung. Forthcoming 2026. “Chinese Electric Vehicle Industry Going Global.” China Institute, University of Alberta.
- Park, Sun Ryung. 2026. “[With New Landmark Partnership, Canada and Japan Expand, Re-define Cooperation.](#)” Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.
- Park, Sun Ryung. 2025. “[Canada-Republic of Korea Defense and Security Co-operation.](#)” Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.
- Park, Sun Ryung. 2025. “APEC Summit Sees Flurry of Deals, Uneasy U.S.–China Truce.” Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.
- Park, Sun Ryung. 2025. “[South Korea Looks to Canadian Energy to Fuel Its AI Ambitions.](#)” Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.
- Park, Sun Ryung. 2023. “[An Entrepreneurial State in Green Transition: Korea’s Energy Security and Canada–ROK Co-operation.](#)” Canadian Global Affairs Institute.
- Park, Sun Ryung. 2023. “Race to Go Green: Green Industrial Policy in East Asia.” PAFTAD Working Paper.

COMMENTARY & PUBLIC WRITINGS (SELECTED)

- Park, Sun Ryung. 2025. “[Less Regulation, More Innovation in Japan’s AI Governance.](#)” *East Asia Forum*.
- Park, Sun Ryung, and Yves Tiberghien. 2022. “[The Indo-Pacific’s Green Industrial Policy Race.](#)” *East Asia Forum*.

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Taipei School of Economics and Political Science, National Tsinghua University — Hsinchu, Taiwan
Visiting Research Fellow, Mar.–Jun. 2026

- Delivered research talks and guest lectures; served on master’s thesis committee.
- Conducted fieldwork on Taiwan’s green industrial and technological transformation.

Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada — Vancouver, Canada

Senior Research Specialist, Feb. 2026–present

Senior Research Scholar, May 2025–Jan. 2026

- Produce policy analysis on Northeast Asia’s political and industrial developments and contribute to team-based research aligned with Canada’s Indo-Pacific Strategy.
- Selected publications: [\[link\]](#)

China Institute, University of Alberta — Remote

Contract Scholar, Nov. 2025–present

- Conducted research on China’s electric vehicle industry and authored a policy report.

Centre for Japanese Research, Institute for Asian Research, UBC — Vancouver, Canada

Academic Lead & Research Assistant, Sep. 2022–Jun. 2025

- Organized an international workshop on digital and green technology transitions.
- Coordinated research outputs, including working paper publication.

National Chengchi University — Taipei, Taiwan

MOFA Taiwan Fellow, Feb.–May 2024

- Conducted field research on Taiwan’s net-zero transition, including expert interviews.
- Delivered a policy-oriented research report to the National Central Library.

Pacific Trade and Development (PAFTAD), Australian National University

Young Scholar Fellow, Sep. 2023

- Presented research on green industrial policy at the 41st PAFTAD conference in Seoul.

School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, UBC — Vancouver, Canada

Liu Scholar, Jul. 2021–Dec. 2022

- Conducted research on green technology supply chains and authored a working paper.

Centre for Korean Research, Institute of Asian Research, UBC

IAR Fellow, Sep. 2021–Aug. 2023

- Conducted research on Korea’s renewable energy policies and expert interviews.

Department of Political Science, UBC — Vancouver, Canada

Research Assistant, Feb.–Dec. 2020

- Contributed to quantitative research on legislative politics in South Korea and presented at the 2022 APSA Annual Meeting & Exhibition (Montreal, Canada).

East Asia Institute — Seoul, Korea

Program Officer / Research Associate, Jan.–May 2017

- Supported the *Asia Democracy Research Network* project funded by the US National Endowment for Democracy, and coordinated a regional workshop at Taipei.

The Korea Society — New York, USA

Research Intern, Jul.–Aug. 2016

- Conducted research on China’s foreign policy and U.S.–ROK alliance dynamics.
- Supported the Korean War Memorial Ceremony.

Korea University — Seoul, Korea

Research Assistant, Mar. 2013–Feb. 2016

- Supported research on Korea–China relations and organized academic forums.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS (SELECTED)

Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada Fellowship, 2025–2026

Taiwan Fellowship, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Taiwan), 2024

PAFTAD Young Scholars Fellowship, Australian National University, 2023

Dean of Arts Graduate Research Award, University of British Columbia, 2023

Liu Scholar Award, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, UBC, 2023

Dean of Arts Graduate Student Research Award, UBC, 2023

SSHRC Travel Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2022

IAR Research Fellowship, Centre for Korean Research, UBC, 2021–2023

President’s Academic Excellence Initiative PhD Award, UBC, 2020–2025

Faculty of Arts Graduate Award, UBC, 2017, 2022–2023

Four Year Fellowship (FYF), UBC, 2017–2021

R. Howard Webster Foundation Fellowship, Province of British Columbia, 2017

Graduate Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Korea University (BrainKorea 21 Plus), 2013–2015

Full Scholarship, Samgu Foundation, Korea University, 2013

Undergraduate Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Korea University, 2006–2007

TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

University of British Columbia — Instructor

Jul.–Aug. 2025

- Designed and taught an intensive summer course on global political economy in the digital and climate era.

University of British Columbia — Teaching Assistant

Jan. 2018–Dec. 2022

- Supported courses in quantitative methods and East Asian politics; provided grading and feedback on research and writing.

Korea University — Teaching Assistant

Mar. 2014–Jun. 2016

- Assisted courses in Chinese politics and political economy of East Asia; supported student research and international e-learning programs with Chinese universities.

CONFERENCES (SELECTED)

Energy Security in the Indo-Pacific: Implications for Canada. *Building Resilience: Canada's Engagement with the Indo-Pacific on Non-Traditional Security Threats*, Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, Canada, Oct. 2025.

Reframing Growth: Elite Paradigms and Korea's Green Pivot. *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Vancouver, Canada, Sep. 2025.

Roundtable panelist, [2023 Canada-Korea Series](#). Canadian Global Affairs Institute, Ottawa, Canada, Jan. 2024.

Green Transformation in Japan from Comparative Perspective (with Yves Tiberghien). STIG Seminar, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, Nov. 2023.

Race to Go Green: Green Entrepreneurial State in East Asia. *PAFTAD Young Fellows Seminar*, Seoul, Korea, Sep. 2023.

Presidentialized Partisanship and Legislative Voting in South Korea (with Gyung-Ho Jeong). *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Montreal, Canada, Sep. 2022.

An Interactive-Cognitive Framework for the U.S.–China Trade War (with Yves Tiberghien). *Business and Politics Special Issue Workshop*, Feb. 2022.

Chinese Rare Earth Industry: How to Control the Smuggling Problem.” *The World Congress for Korean Politics and Society*, Aug. 2015.

MEDIA & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Interviewed for expert commentary, *Mediapart*, “[Déjà condamné à de la prison, l'ancien président sud-coréen va être jugé pour insurrection](#).” Feb. 2026.

Interviewed for expert commentary, *Global News*, “[Japan Appoints Sanae Takaichi 1st Female PM, Former Abe Acolyte Set to Turn Country Hard Right](#).” Oct. 2025. (Time code: 0:24 and 1:32).

Interviewed for expert commentary, *Channel News Asia*, “[China's Xi meets North Korea's Kim Jung Un after Military Show of Force](#).” Sep. 2025. (Time code: 31:18).

Interviewed for expert commentary, *RTVE*, “[South Korean Elections: The Resilience of a Democracy After a Failed Coup D'état](#).” Jun. 2025.

Live TV interview, *Bloomberg Television* ([Insight with Haslinda Amin](#)), Dec. 2024. (Time code: 25:20)

Podcast guest, *Energy Security Cubed* (Canadian Global Affairs Institute), “[How Canada Strengthens Korean Energy Security](#)” Jan. 2024.

SKILLS

Languages: English and Korean (fluent); Japanese and Mandarin (reading proficiency).

Methods: qualitative and quantitative research; data analysis (R, Python); Large Language Models.