

Ethan Hee-Seok Shin

EDUCATION

Yonsei University Graduate School, Seoul

Doctorate of Law

Sep 2015 – Feb 2018

[Thesis] “The Right to Liberty of Person as Influenced by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD)”

Harvard Law School, Cambridge

LL.M.

Sep 2012 – May 2013

[Long Paper] The "Comfort Women" Reparation Movement: From Justice for the Colonized to Women's Human Rights—and Back

Yonsei University Graduate School, Seoul

Master of Law

Mar 2006 – Feb 2008

[Thesis] “Study on Accountability of Multinational Corporations for Violations of International Human Rights Norms”

Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA), Amsterdam

Exchange Student

Jan – Jun 2006

Yonsei University, Seoul

Bachelor of Arts (Major in Economics, Minor in Law)

Mar 2000 – Feb 2006

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Yonsei University Institute for Legal Studies (ILS), Seoul

Researcher

Mar 2018 –

Yonsei University Graduate School of Law, Seoul

Teaching Assistant for Professor Lee Jong-Soo (Constitutional Law)

Mar – Sep 2006

Teaching Assistant for Professor Hong Seong-Phil (International Law)

Sep – Feb 2008

- Checked attendance, provided student guidance and graded the exam papers for the undergraduate and graduate courses taught by Professors Lee and Hong

- Gave personal lectures on current issues in the international human rights law including the compensation claims by the “comfort women,” prisoners of war and slave laborers against the Japanese government and corporations and actions taken by the UN organs and special rapporteurs for human rights violations in North Korea

PUBLICATIONS

South Korea's Move to Accede to the UN Enforced Disappearance Convention and the Main Points of Consideration for the Domestic Implementing Legislation

Justice, Vol. 189 (2022), pp. 546-571 [Korean]

- Analyzes and makes recommendations for the South Korean government’s efforts to accede to the UN Enforced Disappearance Convention and the domestic implementing legislation in line with the pledges made at the UN and for the realization of the obligation to confirm and guarantee fundamental rights under the Constitution

Japan Cannot Claim Sovereign Immunity and Also Insist that WWII Sexual Slavery was Private Contractual Acts

Just Security at <https://www.justsecurity.org/77492/japan-cannot-claim-sovereign-immunity-and-also-insist-that-wwii-sexual-slavery-was-private-contractual-acts>

- Critically analyzes Japan’s denial of state coercion in the wartime military sexual slavery while claiming sovereign immunity in light of the recent South Korean court decisions in the civil lawsuits filed by its surviving victims

The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention’s Quasi-Judicial Procedure for Individual Communications: Realizing Universal Remedies for Human Rights Violations

Korea Journal of International Law, Vol. 64 (2019), pp. 111-141 [Korean]

- Analyzes the substantive and procedural laws of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD), a thematic special procedure of the UN Human Rights Council, allowing it to adjudicate human rights violations that concern personal liberty in quasi-judicial manner with great latitude

The Debate over the Tenth Revision of South Korea's Constitution and International Law

Korea International Law Review, Vol. 52 (2019), pp. 229-255 [Korean]

- Discusses the main considerations in the expected constitutional revision in South Korea from the international normative perspective along with some specific suggestions for amendments

The Principles of International Law that Form the Basis of the Proposed Act regarding the Fact-Finding Investigation for Serious Human Rights Violations during the Anti-Japanese Struggle Period

The Journal of Korean-Japanese National Studies, Vol. 24 (2018), pp. 199-306 [Korean]

- Analyzed the recently proposed bill concerning the fact-finding investigation for serious human rights violations during the Japanese colonial rule over Korea from the perspective of transitional justice and international norms

The Right to Liberty of Person as Influenced by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD)

Korea International Law Review, Vol. 50 (2018), pp. 195-219 [Korean]

- Provides a description of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD), a five-member body of independent human-rights experts appointed by the UN Human Rights Council, and its contribution to the development of international norms concerning the right of personal liberty

Protection and Promotion of the Right to Education in North Korea

North Korean Human Rights Research Center (ed.), *North Korean Human Rights from the Perspective of Social Rights* (2017), pp. 93-123 [Korean]

- Considers the applicable international norms concerning the right to education and the possible strategies for their realization in the North Korean context

What Did the Tokyo International Military Tribunal Punish?

Park Hong-Gyu and Cho Jin-Gu (ed.), *Korea and Japan: Is Historical Reconciliation Possible?* (2017), pp. 147-182 [Korean]

- Discusses the factual and legal details of the post-World War II Allied international tribunal that tried the wartime military and political leaders of Imperial Japan

South Korea's Ratification of the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons and the Future Tasks

Trends and Practices of International Law, Vol. 15, No. 3 (2016), pp. 32-48 [Korean]

- Critically analyzed South Korea's implementation of the Palermo Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons and suggested necessary legislative and administrative improvements

The "Comfort Women" Reparation Movement: Between Universal Women's Human Rights and Particular Anti-Colonial Nationalism

Florida Journal of International Law, Vol. 28 (2016), p. 87

- Substantially updated and revised work of the paper previously submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for LL.M. degree at Harvard Law School

- Discussed the international legal history of the "comfort women" redress movement in the long aftermath of World War II and Japan's colonialism focusing on the differentiated legal arguments deployed by the anti-colonial and human-rights discourses to press for redress at the UN human-rights bodies and South Korean courts and their outcome

War Crimes Trials after the First and Second World Wars: The Creation of Crimes against Peace and Humanity

Seoul International Law Journal, Vol. 22, No. 2 (2015), p. 169 [Korean]

- Explored the historical origin of crimes against peace in the wartime and post-war political circumstances that enabled the restriction of internal and external sovereignty in international law and its influence in the shaping of norms

- Discussed the relevance of the legal history of crimes against peace and humanity in the past, present and future Korean context

The Korean Government's Japan Diplomacy for the Observance of the Constitutional Court's Decision of 30 August 2011: A Study on the Possible Utilization of International Legal Measures including Inter-state Arbitration for the Implementation of the Obligation to Protect Human Rights under the Constitution

Yonsei Law Review, Vol. 22, No. 3 (2012), p. 235 [Korean].

- Researched the international legal means to realize the Korean constitutional court's decision finding the government's obligation to enter into diplomatic negotiations and inter-state arbitration with Japan to resolve the "comfort women" issue

Accountability under International Law of Japanese Corporations for Violations of International Human Rights Norms during World War II

Seoul International Law Journal, Vol. 18, No. 1 (2011), p. 143 [Korean]

- Prepared with a junior scholar grant from the Northeast Asian History Foundation in 2008

- Recounted the facts regarding the profiteering of the leading Japanese corporations from the use of slave labor of Korean and Chinese civilians and Allied POWs during the Second World War and provided a critical legal appraisal of the failure to

hold the perpetrators accountable and compensate the former victims

International Human Rights Norms and the Scope and Limit of the Duty to Protect Nationals Abroad: With Focus on the Substantive and Procedural Rights of the Nationals Abroad

Yonsei Law Review, Vol. 18, No. 2 (2008), p. 307 [Korean]

- Received the excellence award at the 7th university student international law writing competition co-organized by the Korean Society of International Law (KSIL) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT)
- Analyzed the international and national jurisprudence to make the case for an expanded interpretation of the Korean government's legal responsibility to protect the Korean nationals abroad under international human rights and domestic constitutional norms

UNPUBLISHED WORKS

"The Right to Liberty of Person as Influenced by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD)"

- Ph.D. Thesis, Yonsei Graduate School (Feb. 2018)
- Advisor: Professor Hong Seong-Phil (Yonsei Law School)
- Analyzed the influence of the hybrid character of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, as the UN Human Rights Council's special procedure with the mandate for a quasi-judicial treatment of individual communications in the manner similar to treaty bodies, on the development of liberty of person under international law

The "Comfort Women" Reparation Movement: From Justice for the Colonized to Women's Human Rights—and Back

- LL.M. Long Paper, Yonsei Graduate School of Law (May 2013)
- Advisor: Professor William P. Alford (Harvard Law School)
- Analyzed and compared the legal norms applied by the UN human-rights special procedures and South Korean courts and their consequences in the context of universal women's human rights and particular Korean nationalism

A Study on Accountability of Multinational Corporations for Violations of International Human Rights Norms

- LL.M. Thesis, Yonsei Graduate School (Feb. 2008)
- Advisor: Professor Hong Seong-Phil (Yonsei Law School)
- Made an inquiry from the perspective of both theory and practice into the recent movement and developing norms to hold the multinational corporations accountable for violating human rights with emphasis on the status of non-state actors in the international legal order and the criminal and civil liability of World War II-era German and Japanese conglomerates and contemporary firms aiding and abetting human rights abuses in states already known for violations

Denial of Justice by the Japanese Government for the Victims of Japanese Military Sexual Slavery

- A paper prepared for presentation for the information session before the an open testimony by Ms Kang Il-Chul, a former "comfort women," at Yonsei University on 20 November 2006 as a part of the nationwide public awareness campaign in Korea and Japan
- Refutes the self-serving legal reasoning employed by the Japanese government and courts to deny redress for the surviving victims of Japanese military sexual slavery during World War II

CONFERENCES

Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, United States Congress, Washington

Witness 24 Jul 2022

- Asked to testify at the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission's hearing on "South Korea's Refugee Policy and the Yoon Administration: A New Openness to International Standards?" and made a presentation entitled "Reforming South Korea's law and institution concerning the arriving North Korean escapees"

Junior Scholars' Workshop, Asian Society of International Law 6th Biennial Conference 2017, Seoul

Attendee 24 Aug 2017

- Selected to attend the Junior Scholars' Workshop that preceded the Asian Society of International Law 6th Biennial Conference on 25-26 August 2017
- Presented a draft working paper on the balancing of a state's dignity under the Vienna Conventions on diplomatic and consular relations with human dignity under international human-rights law

Graduate Student Workshop, Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting 2016, New Orleans

Attendee 31 May – 1 Jun 2016

- Selected to attend the Graduate Student Workshop that preceded the Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting on 2-6 June 2016
- Presented a draft working paper on the influence of Confucian conception of justice in East Asia on the "comfort women"

reparation movement since the 1990s

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Catholic University of Korea, Bucheon

Lecturer

Mar 2020 –

- Has been teaching international law to the undergraduate students in the spring semesters of 2020 and 2021

Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul

Lecturer

Sep 2020 – Aug 2022

- Has been teaching law and social change to the undergraduate students in the fall semester of 2020

Transitional Justice Working Group (TJWG), Seoul

Legal Analyst

Mar 2018 –

- Drafted a memorandum for the use of statistical model to estimate the number of Korean “comfort women” in Japanese-occupied Palembang, Indonesia during the war, submissions to the UN Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) by the families of Korean forced laborers taken to southern Sakhalin by Imperial Japan and detained in the post-war period by the Soviet authorities

- Prepared the joint submission with the Korean War Abductees’ Family Union (KWAFU) and the NK Watch in preparation for the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) focusing on the death penalty and enforced disappearance

Harvard Law School International Human Rights Clinic, Boston

Member of Protest and Assembly Rights Project

Jan – May 2013

- Analyzed the reaction of the state and local authorities to the 2011 Occupy Boston movement and its aftermath under the rubrics of assembly and other rights under international human-rights law and researched ways to improve the application and enforcement of international norms in the United States

Gonggam, Korean Public Interest Lawyers’ Group, Seoul

Intern

Jul – Sep 2008

- Worked on the survey of the legal and social condition of refugees in Korea and the strategies to utilize the UN Global Compact, National Contact Point (NCP) for the implementation of OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and possible Alien Tort Claims (ATC) lawsuits in US courts in the case of the human rights abuse allegations against Korean conglomerates in developing nations

Yonsei Team for Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, Seoul

Senior Advisor

May – Nov 2007

- Provided academic and practical assistance to the Yonsei law students that took part in the moot court competition

Steering Committee for the 2006 Nationwide Public Testimony Campaign for the Resolution of Japanese Military Sexual Slavery Question in Korea and Japan, Seoul

Organizer

Sep – Nov 2006

- Drafted the press release for the nationwide campaign of public testimonies by the surviving victims of Japanese military sexual slavery in over 20 locations in Korea and Japan from 19 to 30 November in 2006 to protest the decision by Japan’s education ministry to remove all mentioning of “comfort women” from history textbooks in the previous year

- Organized the public testimony by Ms Kang Il-Chul, a former “comfort woman,” prepared the information materials and personally made a presentation refuting Japan’s legal reasoning for denying redress at Yonsei University

Korean Society of International Law (KSIL), Seoul

Member

Mar 2006 – Current

Northeast Asian Network (NEAN) Organizing Committee, Seoul

Academics Director

Oct 2005 – Feb 2006

- Responsible for the preparation of the academic program for the annual international student conference organized by Yonsei undergraduates and attended by students from the leading universities in China, Japan and Korea centered topics of the danger of heightened nationalism, proposals for economic cooperation, and opportunities and pitfalls presented by advanced biotechnology in the region

Donga Daily, Seoul

Intern Reporter

Jun – Jul 2005

- Assisted the staff reporters in the coverage of national and politics sections conducting interviews and reading the

voluminous files at the National Assembly to discover budget categories not subject to public disclosure

Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights (NKHR), Seoul

Research Intern

Jan – Apr 2005

- Worked on the translation and preparation of the discussion materials for the 6th International Conference on North Korean Human Rights and Refugees from 14 to 16 February and provided research assistance for the resolutions adopted by the UN Commission on Human Rights as well as translating North Korean defectors' testimonies

Coalition for International Criminal Court (CICC) / Responsibility to Protect-Engaging Civil Society (R2P-CS) Project, New York

Intern

Aug – Nov 2004

- Monitored the speeches during the UN General Assembly concerning the International Criminal Court (ICC) and Responsibility to Protect (R2P) and assisted in the media outreach for the New York-based NGO initiatives of World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy (WFM-IGP)

The Korea Herald, Seoul

Student Reporter

Jul 2002 – Feb 2003

- Wrote articles on campus life and travelling on a regular basis for the leading national English news daily covering topics such as activist student movement, effect of compulsory military service on students and a trip to the Inner Mongolian steppe

The Yonsei Annals, Seoul

Student Reporter

Mar 2000 – Jul 2001

- Covered international issues at Yonsei University's official English magazine such as the Korean government's denial of visa to the Dalai Lama, the cold reception of refugees in Korea, the plight of North Korean defectors in China and international campaign to abolish capital punishment personally interviewing Tibetan government-in-exile's official representative in Tokyo, a former Korean foreign minister and a Congolese refugee living in Seoul

MILITARY SERVICE

Korea Armed Forces Athletic Corps, Seongnam, Gyeonggi Province

Interpreting Officer

Nov 2009 – Dec 2011

- Performed liaison duties with CISM (Conseil International du Sport Militaire), a Brussels-based international military sports body, and attended CISM meetings in Brazil, Jordan and Bahrain as a member of the team that made a successful bid to host the Military World Games (MWG), a quadrennial sporting event, in Korea in 2015
- Worked as an organizer of the 2010 World Military Basketball Championship and 2011 CISM General Assembly in Seoul
- Appointed as a special advisor to President of CISM Taekwondo Committee and received CISM Order of Merit (Knight)
- Promoted to first lieutenant on 1 January 2010 and will retire from active duty on 31 December 2011

Republic of Korea Air Force Studies and Analysis Wing, Gyeryong, Chungcheongnam Province

External Relations Officer

Mar – Nov 2009

- Served as an interpreter at negotiations with international aerospace and surveillance assets suppliers
- Coordinated with the United States Air Force (USAF), Airbus and other participants for aircraft deployment as well as guiding foreign dignitaries during the Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition (Seoul ADEX) 2009
- Received commendation from the wing commander for contribution to ADEX 2009

Republic of Korea Air Force Operations Command (ROK AFOC), Osan, Gyeonggi Province

Interpreting Officer

Jan – Mar 2009

- Received training and education necessary for translation duties including the structure of ROK/US Combined Forces Command (CFC) and the law of armed conflict (LOAC) after being commissioned as a second lieutenant on 1 January 2009
- Served as an interpreter at the Combined Air Staff during the Key Resolve/Foal Eagle 2009 (KR/FE), a joint ROK/US command post exercise

Republic of Korea Air Force Education and Training Command, Jinju, Gyeongsangnam Province

Officer Candidate

Sep – Dec 2008

- Received basic military training including a course on international humanitarian law before receiving a commission

EVENTS

Building North Pacific Cooperation Leadership Program, Honolulu, Hawaii

Participant

Feb 28 – March 4, 2016

- Took part in the first edition of the leadership program for future leaders of South Korea, Japan and China along with American participants initiated by the US embassies Seoul, Tokyo and Beijing and organized by the East-West Center

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English (native), Korean (native), Japanese (basic skills in reading, writing and speaking)

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Domestic implementation of human rights
- World War II-era reparations
- Transitional justice
- North Korean human rights
- Economic and social rights
- Regional human rights regimes