

ISODARCO 2011

Title: Rice for Nukes? Humanitarian aid and denuclearization in North Korea

Abstract:

After close to two decades of food insecurities North Korea is facing yet another year of food deficit that will put millions in danger of hunger and malnutrition. The prospects for better economic days seem still remote while the country's nuclear program continues to forge ahead. To make the situation worse, the past decade of increased inter-Korea cooperation has yielded to military buildups and the military tension on the Korean peninsula is on a sharp rise in 2010 as dramatically seen in the Cheonan Incident and Yeonpyung Island artillery exchanges. The international community, already slow to provide food aid to stave off acute food shortage in North Korea, is growing more reluctant and less able to provide for humanitarian aid under the heightened tension. This session explore humanitarian and development aid as Track II alternatives to engage North Korea to build confidence and denuclearize the Korean peninsula.