**A Few Concluding Points from the Coalition for Peace Action**

 Ed Aguilar, PA Director

After a promising start, with the Korean Olympic diplomacy, and a summit meeting in Singapore, it seemed that the elephant labored, and produced a mouse.

* Instead, we have witnessed a sketchy joint communique, which provided no roadmap for future progress or joint comprehensive plans for action on denuclearization and a final peace. Ambassador Wendy Sherman has noted that previous talks, in 1994 and 2005-2009, provided a roadmap we *could* build on, including inspection and verification.
* We have real concerns about the political future of the United States of America, but CFPA is are non-partisan when it comes to our unwavering support for diplomacy over war-making as a foreign policy strategy. We will support real, fair agreements, if they come about--but we’re skeptical of the current process, from public reports and the administration itself-- e.g., Scty. Pompeo’s own testimony.
* We went from a solid start in January-April, led by President Moon of the ROK; but, since May, we’ve seen a public embrace, but privately, an attempt to simply dictate terms, leading to the now famous “gangster” remark by the Foreign Minister. We’ve also seen the sidelining of the ROK and China, who must be included.

So, what does the Peace Coalition support?

First, we support, the bills in Congress for no-first-use of nuclear weapons by the United States executive, without prior Congressional approval. We support NDAA restrictions on a new Korean conflict by executive fiat.

Second, we support a fresh approach to denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, as outlined by our expert panel from Princeton PSGS today.

Third, we support four-power-talks to end the Armistice and replace it with a permanent Peace Treaty. These talks should be parallel to, and linked with, the talks on denuclearization, so as we progress on one, we progress on the other. It is very unrealistic to expect “total, irreversible denuclearization” from the North, without progress on both diplomatic and commercial relations, and ultimate peace.

Finally, we support the human rights of all people. We support the return of all POW and MIA remains (including those from other UN forces, Canada, South Korea, Australia, UK, etc.). These should be returned promptly. We support the reunification of Korean families still separated from their northern relatives, after all these years. And finally, the economic sanctions bite hardest on civilians. These need to be wound down, beginning with food and medicine imports early on as we progress in denuclearization; the UN reports that one out of 3 North Koreans are malnourished or food-insecure-- and this hurts children the most.[[1]](#endnote-1),[[2]](#endnote-2).

1. *See, Nephew, Richard, 41 Washington Quarterly No. 2, pp. 63-78 (GWU, Summer 2018), “****The Hard Part: The Art of Sanctions Relief.****” Nephew reviews the theory and practice of imposing and lifting sanctions, as a lever of international relations. He reviews the JCPOA (Iran), and sanctions on Libya, Cuba, Russia, Myanmar, et al. He quotes Nikki Haley, our UN ambassador; Dan Fried, the energy economist; Rick Gladstone, of the NY Times, all on the Iran sanctions and how they work or do not to achieve compliance-- especially pertinent now, after US withdrawal from the Seven-Power JCPOA, leaving Iran, EU-3 plus Russia and China, in charge of the JCPOA.*  [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. *See also, Haley, Nikki, “Address on Iran and the JCPOA,” American Enterprise Institute, 5 September 2017.*

*Cf. Nephew, Richard,* [*The Art of Sanctions*](http://energypolicy.columbia.edu/events-calendar/book-launch-art-sanctions-richard-nephew)*, (New York: Columbia University Press, 2018).*

[*Book: The Art of Sanctions\_the view from within, by Richard Nephew*](http://energypolicy.columbia.edu/events-calendar/book-launch-art-sanctions-richard-nephew)

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*Mr. Nephew, the former Principal Deputy Coordinator for Sanctions Policy at the Department of State, presented key conclusions from his new book and then joined a panel discussion about current events and U.S. sanctions policy. The conversation focused on sanctions design, particularly as it relates to industry and foreign countries.* [↑](#endnote-ref-2)