

CONTRIBUTORS



Li-Chih Cheng is a graduate of National Taiwan University, where she earned a B.A. in political science. From 2005-2006 Li-Chih was an exchange student to Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, where she developed a strong interest in international cultural exchanges. “The Korea Brand” is one of three cultural diplomacy projects she has done at SAIS; the other two addressed Japan-U.S. and China-Middle East cultural relations. At SAIS, Li-Chih is pursuing an M.A. in international relations, with a concentration in Japan studies.

Eduard Eykelberg previously studied at the University of Antwerp, Belgium where he obtained a Master’s degree in commercial engineering with a concentration in economic policy. Eduard has worked for the OECD’s Trade and Agriculture Department and consulted on a project for the WWF that analyzed the problem of e-waste pollution in China.

Alisher Khamidov is a journalist originally from Kyrgyzstan. From June 1998 to July 2001, he served as the director of the Osh Media Resource Center (OMRC), a nonprofit independent media association in southern Kyrgyzstan. He has also acted as the regional coordinator of the Central Asian Media Support Project. Alisher has written a series of articles on religious and ethnic conflict in the Ferghana Valley and on political developments in Kyrgyzstan and in Central Asia, and is a frequent contributor to Eurasianet and IRIN. He has previously worked for University of Notre Dame’s Sanctions and Security Project, the NEH Summer Institute on Eurasian Civilizations at Harvard University, and the Foreign Policy Studies Program at the Brookings Institution. Alisher holds a B.A. in teaching

English and German from Osh State University, Kyrgyzstan, and an M.A. in international peace studies from the University of Notre Dame. At SAIS, he is pursuing a Ph.D. in Russian and Eurasian studies.

Jane Kim is a graduate of the University of California-Los Angeles, where she earned a B.A. in psychology and Asian American studies. After graduation, she studied professional and academic Korean for two years at UCLA and Korea University and worked on the North Korean Human Rights Team at the National Human Rights Commission of Korea. At SAIS, Jane is pursuing an M.A. in international relations, with concentrations in Korea studies and international economics. Her interests are in North Korean human rights and refugees, Korean reunification, and South Korean domestic politics.

Shin Yon Kim is a graduate of the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, South Korea, where she earned a B.A. in English and French education. During her undergraduate studies, she acquired the Diplome d'Etudes Francaises at the Universite de Bordeaux III, France, and worked as an interpreter and translator as a member of the University Student Interpreters' Association. Shin Yon has worked for the economic office in the South African embassy and for a German-based trading company in Seoul. She also has a background in accounting and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. At SAIS, Shin Yon is pursuing an M.A. in international relations, with a concentration in Korea studies.

Erin Kruth is a graduate of the George Washington University, where she earned a B.A. in international affairs, Asian studies, and Japanese language and literature. She was a recipient of a Fulbright Grant to South Korea where she taught English in Buyeo, Chungcheongnam-do. At SAIS, Erin is pursuing an M.A. in international relations, with concentrations in Korea studies and Japan studies, and a specialization in international finance. Prior to SAIS, Erin led the open-source research team as a project manager at Evidence Based Research, Inc. in Vienna, Virginia.

Michal Petrík earned his Master's degree in Management from Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia. At SAIS, Michal is pursuing an M.A. in international relations, with concentrations in international economics and

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Sandy Yu is a graduate of the University of California-Berkeley, where she earned a B.A. in political science. She has worked in the non-profit sector focusing on development issues for NGOs in the East Asia and interned in the communications department of KORUS House at the South Korean embassy. At SAIS, Sandy is pursuing an M.A. in international relations, with a concentration in Korea studies.