



CONCEPT

The Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy's (CSDS) Bridging Allies initiative is a track 1.5 platform that seeks to generate ideas to strengthen practical cooperation between the key alliances that underpin security in Europe and the Indo-Pacific, paying particular attention to NATO on the one hand, and the United States (US)-Republic of Korea (ROK), US-Australia and US-Japan alliances on the other. CSDS conducts this initiative in close collaboration with academic and think tank partners in the Republic of Korea, United States, Japan, Australia, France and Canada.

In the case of NATO and the ROK, the two partners agreed to their Individually Tailored Partnership Programme (ITPP) in July 2023. The ITPP will guide their relationship in the coming years. Thanks to generous support from the Korea Foundation, CSDS will produce three papers exploring and proposing ways in which to promote practical cooperation between the ROK and NATO. They will focus on the general implementation of the ITPP, defence industry cooperation and lessons from NATO's nuclear deterrence.

To this end, CSDS will organise a visit to Seoul to hold a public forum to enhance the understanding about NATO and ROK-NATO cooperation among Korean audiences.

This project is generously sponsored by the Korea Foundation.

PROGRAMME

Public Forum (17 October 2024)

10:00 – 11:00

NATO-ROK RELATIONS: TOWARDS PRACTICAL COOPERATION

Speakers

Maria Castillo Fernandez

Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Korea

Victor Cha

President of the Geopolitics and Foreign Policy Department and Korea Chair, CSIS

Choi Kang

President, The Asan Institute for Policy Studies

Carmen Romero

Director of Security Policy, Political Affairs and Security Policy Division, NATO

Moderator

Luis Simón

Director, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy – VUB