Country/entity	North Korea South Korea
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Agreement on Reconciliation, Non-Aggression, and Exchanges and Cooperation between South and North Korea
Date	13 Dec 1991
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/interstate conflict

Korean Conflict (1950 -)

Before WWII, the Korean peninsula was part of the Japanese empire. It was when the USSR declared war on Japan in August 1945, following an agreement between Stalin and Churchill at the Tehran Conference in 1943, that the Korean peninsula was liberated down to the 38th parallel as per the agreement. However, following the post-WWII breakdown in the Allied relations and the start of the Cold War, the peninsula was not unified as agreed. Instead rival regimes were set up by the USSR and the Americans, both of which claimed power over all of the peninsula. North Korea invaded the South with the backing of China and the USSR, causing the United Nations - spearheaded by the Americans - to come to the aid of the South. Eventually, Northern troops were pushed back to the 38th parallel and in July 1953 an armistice was signed creating a demilitarised zone between the North and South. In lieu of a peace treaty, the two countries are still technically at war. In 2013 the North Korean regime stated that the 1953 armistice was no longer in effect. After serious stand-offs due due to the unwillingness of the North to undergo nuclear disarmament the first inter-Korean summit took place in April 2018 and a joint Declaration for Peace regarding cooperation and peace was issued. This was then followed by the 2018 Summit between the US-North Korea where they committed to work for complete nuclear disarmament of the Korean Peninsula. The second summit ended without a deal in early January 2019.
Close
Korean Conflict (1950 -
)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Territory
Peace process	North Korea - South Korea interstate process

Parties	Chung Won-shik, Prime Minister, Republic of Korea, Chief delegate of the South delegation to the South-North High-Level Talks; Yon Hyong-muk, Premier, Administration Council, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Head of the North delegation to the South-North High-Level Talks;
Third parties	-
Description	A short agreement focusing on several issues, most prominently economic and security co-operation. Agreement establishes several committee's for overseeing future co-operation

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Agreement document	KR KP_911213_Agreement on reconciliation non aggression and exchanges.pdf (opens in new tab) | Download PDF

Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.
Family	Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION Article 18: The two sides shall permit free correspondence, reunions and visits between dispersed family members and other relatives and shall promote the voluntary reunion of divided families and shall take measures to resolve other humanitarian issues.

State definition

Nature of state (general)	Page 1, Untitled Preamble In keeping with the yearning of the entire Korean people for the peaceful unification of the divided land; Reaffirming the three principles of unification set forth in the July 4 (1972) South-North Joint Communique; ... Recognizing that their relations, not being a relationship between states, constitute a special interim relationship stemming from the process towards reunification; ... Pledging to exert joint efforts to achieve peaceful unification;
State configuration	No specific mention.
Self determination	No specific mention.
Referendum	No specific mention.
State symbols	No specific mention.
Independence/ secession	No specific mention.
Accession/ unification	No specific mention.
Border delimitation	No specific mention.
Cross-border provision	Page 1, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION Article 7: To ensure close consultations and liaison between the two sides, South-North Liaison Offices shall be established at Panmunjon within three (3) months after the coming into force of this Agreement. Page 1, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION Article 8: A South-North Political Committee shall be established within the framework of the South-North High-Level Talks within one (1) month of the coming into force of this Agreement with a view to discussing concrete measures to ensure the implementation and observance of the accords on South-North reconciliation.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	No specific mention.
Elections	No specific mention.

Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.
Traditional/ religious leaders	No specific mention.
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	No specific mention.
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	No specific mention.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 1, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION Article 3: The two sides shall not slander or vilify each other. Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION Article 16: The two sides shall carry out exchanges and cooperation in various fields such as science and technology, education, literature and the arts, health, sports, environment, and publishing and journalism including newspapers, radio and television broadcasts and publications. Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media logistics Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION Article 18: The two sides shall permit free correspondence, reunions and visits between dispersed family members and other relatives and shall promote the voluntary reunion of divided families and shall take measures to resolve other humanitarian issues. Page 3, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION Article 20: The two sides shall establish and link facilities needed for South-North postal and telecommunications services and shall guarantee the confidentiality of intra-Korean mail and telecommunications.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	No specific mention.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.
Traditional Laws	No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 15: To promote an integrated and balanced development of the national economy and the welfare of the entire people, the two sides shall engage in economic exchanges and cooperation, including the joint development of resources, the trade of goods as domestic commerce and joint ventures.

Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 16: The two sides shall carry out exchanges and cooperation in various fields such as science and technology, education, literature and the arts, health, sports, environment, and publishing and journalism including newspapers, radio and television broadcasts and publications.

Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 17: The two sides shall promote free intra-Korean travel and contacts for the residents of their respective areas.

Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 19: The two sides shall reconnect railroads and roads that have been cut off and shall open South-North sea and air transport routes.

Page 3, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 21: The two sides shall cooperate in the international arena in the economic,· cultural and various other fields and carry out joint undertakings abroad.

Page 3, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 22: To implement accords on exchanges and cooperation in the economic, cultural and various other fields, the two sides shall establish joint commissions for specific sectors, including a Joint South-North Economic Exchanges and Cooperation Commission, within three (3) months of the coming into force of this Agreement.

Page 3, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 23: A South-North Exchanges and Cooperation Commission shall be established within the framework of the South-North High-Level Talks within one (1) month of the coming into force of this Agreement with a view to discussing concrete measures to ensure the implementation and observance of the accords on South-North exchanges and cooperation.

National economic plan

No specific mention.

Natural resources

Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION
Article 15: To promote an integrated and balanced development of the national economy and the welfare of the entire people, the two sides shall engage in economic exchanges and cooperation, including the joint development of resources, the trade of goods as domestic commerce and joint ventures.

International funds	No specific mention.
Business	Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION Article 15: To promote an integrated and balanced development of the national economy and the welfare of the entire people, the two sides shall engage in economic exchanges and cooperation, including the joint development of resources, the trade of goods as domestic commerce and joint ventures.
Taxation	No specific mention.
Banks	No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights	No specific mention.
Pastoralist/ nomadism rights	No specific mention.
Cultural heritage	No specific mention.
Environment	Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION Article 16: The two sides shall carry out exchanges and cooperation in various fields such as science and technology, education, literature and the arts, health, sports, environment, and publishing and journalism including newspapers, radio and television broadcasts and publications.
Water or riparian rights or access	Page 2, CHAPTER III: SOUTH-NORTH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION Article 19: The two sides shall reconnect railroads and roads that have been cut off and shall open South-North sea and air transport routes.

Security sector

Security Guarantees

Page 1, Untitled Preamble
... Determined to remove the state of political and military confrontation and achieve national reconciliation;
Also determined to avoid armed aggression and hostilities, reduce tension and ensure peace;

Page 1, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 4: The two sides shall not attempt any actions of sabotage or subversion against each other.

Page 2, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 9: The two sides shall not use force against, each other and shall not undertake armed aggression against each other.

Page 2, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 10: Differences of views and disputes arising between the two sides shall be resolved peacefully through dialogue and negotiation.

Page 2, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 11: The South-North demarcation line and areas for non-aggression shall be identical with the Military Demarcation Line specified in the Military Armistice Agreement of July 27 1953 and the areas that have been under the jurisdiction of each side until the present time.

Page 2, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 12: To implement and guarantee non-aggression, the two sides shall set up a South-North Joint Military Commission within three (3) months of the coming into force of this Agreement. In the said Commission, the two sides shall discuss and carry out steps to build military confidence and realize arms reduction, including the mutual notification and control of major movements of military units and major military exercises, the peaceful utilization of the Demilitarized Zone, exchanges of military personnel and information, phased reductions in armaments including the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and attack capabilities, and verifications thereof.

Page 2, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 13: A telephone hotline shall be installed between the military authorities of the two sides to prevent accidental armed clashes and their escalation.

Page 2, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 14: A South-North Military committee shall be established within the framework of ' the South-North High-Level Talks within one (1) month of the coming into force of this Agreement in order to discuss concrete measures to ensure the implementation and observance of the accords on non-aggression and to remove military confrontation.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments
Page 1, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION
Article 5: The two sides shall endeavor together to transform the present state of armistice into a solid state of peace between the South and the North and shall abide by the present Military Armistice Agreement (of July 27, 1953) until such a state of peace has been realized.

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions Page 2, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION Article 12: To implement and guarantee non-aggression, the two sides shall set up a South-North Joint Military Commission within three (3) months of the coming into force of this Agreement. In the said Commission, the two sides shall discuss and carry out steps to build military confidence and realize arms reduction, including the mutual notification and control of major movements of military units and major military exercises, the peaceful utilization of the Demilitarized Zone, exchanges of military personnel and information, phased reductions in armaments including the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and attack capabilities, and verifications thereof.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice	
Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.

Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	Page 1, Untitled Preamble ... Determined to remove the state of political and military confrontation and achieve national reconciliation; Page 1, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION Article 8: A South-North Political Committee shall be established within the framework of the South-North High-Level Talks within one (1) month of the coming into force of this Agreement with a view to discussing concrete measures to ensure the implementation and observance of the accords on South-North reconciliation.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 1, CHAPTER I: SOUTH-NORTH RECONCILIATION Article 8: A South-North Political Committee shall be established within the framework of the South-North High-Level Talks within one (1) month of the coming into force of this Agreement with a view to discussing concrete measures to ensure the implementation and observance of the accords on South-North reconciliation.
