

# AMBASSADORS' DIALOGUE: CRITICAL ISSUES IN U.S.—KOREAN RELATIONS



WEDNESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER  
3:00 P.M.  
238 HRCB

His Excellency

**Han Duk-soo**

KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.



His Excellency Han Duk-soo was appointed Korean ambassador to the U.S. in 2009. Prior to his appointment, Han served as the Korean prime minister (2007–09), deputy prime minister of finance and economy (2005–07), and the senior secretary to the president for economic affairs (2001–05). After service as prime minister and before

inauguration as ambassador, Han became a commissioner on the Commission on Growth and Development, created by the World Bank to review and reformulate the Washington Consensus. In early 2008, the commission's final report, *The Growth Report* (PDF), was published, examining the top thirteen fastest growing economies in order to discern key policies and strategies that can be applied to developing countries. During his diplomatic career, he also served as the minister for trade at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT), vice minister for the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Energy (MOTIE), and commissioner of the Korean Industrial Property Office. Han received a BA in economics from Seoul National University in Seoul, Korea, and an MA and PhD in economics from Harvard.

The Honorable

**Kathleen Stephens**

FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA



The Honorable Kathleen Stephens, former U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Korea (2008–2011), is a career Foreign Service officer, having joined in 1978, who has held senior diplomatic positions in Washington and abroad. Stephens' previous assignments include principal deputy assistant secretary of state for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific

Affairs (2005–07) and deputy assistant secretary of State in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs (2003–05). Her overseas postings have included Lisbon, Portugal (1998–2001), Belfast, Ireland (1995–98), Guangzhou, China (1980–82), Seoul (1984–87) and Busan, Korea (1987–89), and the former Yugoslavia in the early 1990s. She was named the Department of State's Linguist of the Year (2010) and is the recipient of the Presidential Meritorious Service Award (2009). Stephens was a Peace Corps volunteer in Korea (1975–77), received a BA with honors in East Asian studies from Prescott College and a master's degree from Harvard University, and honorary doctoral degrees from Chungnam National University and the University of Maryland. As an undergraduate, she studied for a year at the University of Hong Kong and was an instructor at the Outward Bound School of Hong Kong (1972–73). Her foreign languages are Korean, Serbian, and Chinese. She has one son, a robotics engineer working in Boston.