

**UPF USA: Korean Economics, Business, and Trade Relationships: Special Economic Zones**

Michael Jenkins  
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**The International Association for Peace and Economic  
Development presents  
North Korea  
Economics, Business, and Trade  
Relationships:  
Special Economic Zones**



**TUESDAY, Sept  
21, 2 – 3:15 pm  
EST (New York  
Time)**

Hello,

Over the last 25 years, North Korea has created several Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in an attempt to attract foreign investment and develop trade relationships with neighboring countries. These include the Rason SEZ on the border with Russia, the Sinuiji Zone, on the border with China and the Kaesong Industrial Park on the border with South Korea. On 10 February 2016, the South Korean Ministry of Unification announced that the Kaesong Industrial Park would be "temporarily" closed and all staff recalled, and North Korea responded by expelling all South Korean workers.

This webinar will review the history and effectiveness of these zones in promoting trade and cooperation, through the direct experience of people who

have visited them on multiple occasions and will look into the possibility of re-opening these zones and developing tourism, manufacturing, and trade relationships with North Korea in the future.

Please register now to join us for this webinar, or you can watch it on [Facebook Live](#)

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### **Paul Tjia**

**Founder and Managing Director, GPI Consultancy**

In 1995, Paul founded GPI Consultancy, a consultancy firm in the field of international outsourcing. Paul has contacts with companies in many parts of the world. His business contacts with North Korea began in 1997, and his first visit took place in 2006. He now organizes business missions to this country on a regular basis. He also arranges dedicated tours for journalists and academics to North Korea; his last visit was in 2019.



### **Gareth Johnson**

**CEO, [Young Pioneer Tours](#)**

Gareth founded Young Pioneer tours in 1995 to facilitate travel to North Korea and other difficult-to-reach destinations. From his home base in China, he has organized numerous tours to North Korea, including the Special Economic Zones. He is also a frequent contributor to [NKNews](#) and various other blogs and podcasts



### **Alan Jessen (Moderator)**

**North American Coordinator,  
International Association for Peace and Economic  
Development**



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