

Steven C. Denney, Ph.D

Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

University of Toronto

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Current Positions

Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2019-

Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship

Collaborator/Senior Policy Advisor, 2019-

Department of Political Science, University of Toronto

Instructor, 2017-present

Education

University of Toronto, Ph.D, Department of Political Science, 2013-2019

Subfields: comparative politics, public policy

Dissertation: *Does Democracy Matter? Political Change and National Identification in South Korea and Beyond*

Supervisor: Dr. Joseph Wong

Yonsei University, M.A. in Global Affairs and Policy, 2011-2013

Harding University, B.A. in Political Science, Department of Political Science, 2005-2008

Sogang University & Seoul National University, Korean Language Institute, 2010-2012

Research and Teaching Interests

Comparative politics, migration and citizenship, entrepreneurship ecosystems, national identity, innovation policy, surveys and experiments, East Asia/Korea, Canada and the United States

Teaching Experience

University of Toronto POL438, Political Economy of East Asian Development, 2020-present

POL242, Methods in Political Science, 2017-2018

POL218, Introduction to Comparative Politics, 2013-2018 (*teaching assistant*)

Myungji College English (Literature & ESL), 2011-2012

Research and Consulting

National Endowment for Democracy, Research Analyst & Consultant, 2020-

Statistics Canada, Deemed Employee, 2019-

United Nations, Research Analyst & Consultant, 2020-2021

Toronto Regional Board of Trade, Research Analyst & Consultant, 2019-2020

E&Y / Toronto Global, Research Analyst & Consultant, 2018-2019

Asia Foundation, Research Analyst & Consultant, 2018-2019

Additional Qualifications

Languages Korean (advanced), Spanish (intermediate)

Analytics R (advanced), STATA (intermediate), SPSS (proficient), Python (proficient)

Design InDesign (intermediate), Photoshop (intermediate), Illustrator (proficient)

Fellowships & Grants (USD amounts, if applicable)

Current

- 2021-2022. Mitacs Accelerate Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (University of Toronto) - \$55,000
- 2020-2021. Academy of Korean Studies (AKS), Competitive Research Grant - \$25,000
- 2020-2021. National Endowment for Democracy, Research Grant - \$60,000
- 2020-2021. Facebook Research Grant, Study of Digital Occupations, Innovation Policy Lab-Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship - \$100,000

Previous

- 2019-2021. Mitacs Accelerate Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (University of Toronto) - \$165,000
- 2018-2019. UniKorea Competitive Research Grant, Seoul, ROK - \$50,000
- 2017. Korea Junior Unification Fellowship, The Institute for Unification Education, Seoul, ROK
- 2016-2017. Asian Institute Graduate Fellowship, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto
- 2014, 2015 & 2016. Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) Competitive Research Grant (x3) - \$55,000
- 2016. Richard Simeon Doctoral Student Scholarship, University of Toronto
- 2014 & 2016. School of Graduate Studies (SGS), Competitive Research Grant (x2) - \$5,000
- 2016. Pre-doctoral Fellow, Academy of Korean Studies (AKS), Seoul, ROK
- 2014-2015. Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) Visa Award, University of Toronto
- 2012-2013. Young Scholar, Asan Institute for Policy Studies, Seoul, ROK

Research and Writing

Peer Reviewed Articles

- 2021** “Who Should be Admitted? Conjoint Analysis of Attitudes toward Immigrants in South Korea,” with Christopher Green, *Ethnicities* 21(1): 120-145, DOI: [10.1177/1468796820916609](https://doi.org/10.1177/1468796820916609).
- “North Korean Patriotism: Assessing the Success and Failures of a Nation”, with Christopher Green, *Korea Journal* 61(1): 154–185, DOI: [10.25024/kj.2021.61.1.154](https://doi.org/10.25024/kj.2021.61.1.154).
- 2020** “The limits of ethnic capital impacts of social desirability on Korean views of co-ethnic immigration,” with Peter Ward and Christopher Green, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, DOI: [10.1080/1369183X.2020.1797477](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1797477).
- “Entrepreneurs and Cluster Evolution: The Transformation of Toronto’s ICT Cluster,” with David Wolfe and Travis Southin, *Regional Studies* 55(2): 196-207, DOI: [10.1080/00343404.2020.1762854](https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2020.1762854).
- 2019** “Studying North Korea through North Korean Migrants: Lessons from the Field,” with Jay Song, *Critical Asian Studies* 51(3): 451-466, DOI: [10.1080/14672715.2019.1611462](https://doi.org/10.1080/14672715.2019.1611462)
- 2014** “How Authoritarian Regimes Maintain Domain Consensus: North Korea’s Information Strategies in the Kim Jong-un Era,” with Adam Cathcart and Christopher Green, *Review of Korean Studies* 17(2): 145-178, DOI: [10.25024/review.2014.17.2.005](https://doi.org/10.25024/review.2014.17.2.005).
- “South Korea and a New Nationalism in an Era of Strength and Prosperity,” with Karl Friedhoff, *Stanford Journal of East Asian Studies* 14(1): 121-129.
- 2013** “Towards a Developmental Understanding of North Korea: An Institutional Approach to Economic Reform and Development,” with Christopher Green, *European Journal of Korean Studies*, 15: 92-111.
- “North Korea’s Cultural Diplomacy in the Early Kim Jong-un Era,” with Adam Cathcart, *North Korean Review* 9(2): 29-42, DOI: doi.org/10.3172/NKR.9.2.29.

Books

- 2020 Adam Cathcart, Christopher Green, and Steven Denney (eds.), *Decoding the Sino-North Korean Borderlands* (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2020).

Book Chapters

- 2019 “Democratic Support and Generational Change in South Korea,” in *Korea and the World: New Frontiers in Korean Studies*, Gregg A. Brazinsky (ed.) (Lanham, MD, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019).
- 2016 “Kim Jong-un and the Practice of Songun Politics,” with Christopher Green and Adam Cathcart, *Change and Continuity in North Korean Politics*, Adam Cathcart et al. (eds.) (Routledge, Fall/Winter 2016).
- “Pockets of Efficiency: An Institutional Approach to Economic Reform and Development,” with Christopher Green, *Change and Continuity in North Korean Politics*, Adam Cathcart et al. (eds.) (Routledge, Fall/Winter 2016).
- 2015 “The Implications of Civic Diplomacy for ROK Foreign Policy,” with Peter Hayes et al., in *Complexity, Security and Civil Society in East Asia: Foreign Policies and the Korean Peninsula*, Peter Hayes and Kiho Yi (eds.) (Open Book Publishers).

Research Papers & Reports

- 2021 “Scale the Gap: The Impact of Growth Barriers on Women Entrepreneurs in Canadian High-Growth Firms”, with Viet Vu. Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship, April.
- 2020 “North Korean Refugee Entrepreneurs in South Korea: Unveiling Korea’s Hidden Potential: Unveiling Korea’s Hidden Potential,” with Peter Ward and Andray Abrahamian. The Asia Foundation, December.
- “Political Order and Civic Space in the Asia Pacific: A Multilevel Analysis of Trends, 1989-2020.” United Nations Office of Global Insights and Policy, June.
- “Impact of COVID-19 on the Market Research Community.” Delvinia-Insights Association Special Report. May.
- “COVID-19 and joblessness in Canada: A firm perspective,” with Viet Vu. Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, April.
- “Firm Size and Payroll Adjustment: Exploring the Behaviour of Technology Firms During COVID-19.” Innovation Policy Lab Research Report, 2020-03, April.
- “The COVID-19 Crisis and Policy Preferences of Canadian Technology Scale-ups,” with Viet Vu. Innovation Policy Lab Research Report, 2020-02, March.
- 2019 “New Values & Old Orders: Where do North Koreans Fit in the New South Korea?,” with Christopher Green and Peter Ward, Leiden Asia Centre special report, May 14.
- “Entrepreneurs, Scale-ups and the Evolution of Toronto’s ICT Cluster: Insights and Lessons Learned,” Creating Digital Opportunity report (for the Innovation Policy Lab), April.
- “Overview of the Competitiveness of the Toronto-Waterloo Innovation Corridor,” special report to Toronto Global and other stakeholders, January.
- 2018 “Unification in Action? The National Identity of North Korean defector-Migrants: Insights and Implications,” with Christopher Green, *Korean Economic Institute of America: Academic Paper Series*, October 1.

- 2016** “Identité nationale et nationalisme nord-coréens” [North Korean national identity and nationalism], *Korea Analysis* no. 11: 40-44.
- «Hell Chosun», expression de l’insatisfaction de la jeunesse sudcoréenne [“Hell Chosen:” Expressions of Dissatisfaction among South Korean Youth], *Korea Analysis* no. 9: 42-45.
- 2015** “The Whisper in the Ear: Re-defector Press Conference as Information Management Tool,” with Christopher Green and Brian Gleason, *Korean Economic Institute of America: Academic Paper Series*, March 12.
- 2013** “Confronting History in East Asia,” in Proceedings for Asan Plenum 2013: “New World Disorder,” The Asan Institute for Policy Studies.
- “South Korea and a New Nationalism in an Era of Strength and Prosperity,” with Karl Friedhoff CSIS PacNet #75, October 7.
- 2012** “American Foreign Policy towards the Korean Peninsula,” in Proceedings for Asan Plenum 2012: “Leadership,” The Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

Selected Reviews

- 2018** “Park Chung Hee and Modern Korea: The Roots of Militarism, 1866-1945, by Carter Eckert,” *Korea Journal* 58(3): 184-190.
- “Unveiling the North Korean Economy: Collapse and Transition, by Byung-Yeon Kim,” *Journal of American-East Asian Relations* 25(1): 93-96.
- “North Korea’s Hidden Revolution, by Jieun Baek,” *Pacific Affairs*, Vol 91, no. 1: 176-178.
- 2015** “Assimilating Seoul: Japanese Rule and the Politics of Public Space in Colonial Korea, 1910–1945 by Todd A. Henry,” *British Academy of Korean Studies (BAKS) Journal*, October 15.
- “The Korean War: An International History, by Wada Haruki,” *British Academy of Korean Studies (BAKS) Journal*, May 4.
- “Brokers of Empire: Japanese Settler Colonialism in Korea, 1876–1945 by Jun Uchida,” *British Academy of Korean Studies (BAKS) Journal*, May 13.
- 2014** “The Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia,” *Asan Forum* 2(6).
- 2012** “To Never Forget, One Must First Know,” review of *Escape from Camp 14: One Man’s Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West*, by Blaine Harden, *Korea Review*, 2(2): 171-175.

Selected Conferences, Workshops & Presentations

- 2020** “Scale the Gap: Impact of Growth Barriers on Women Entrepreneurs in Canadian High-Growth Firms,” Canadian Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (CCSBE) Annual Conference, October 16-17.
- 2019** “Entrepreneurs and the Evolution of Toronto’s ICT Cluster: Insights and Lessons Learned,” Creating Digital Opportunity, 6th Annual CDO Partnership Network Conference, Toronto, Ontario, April 29-May 1.
- “A Conjoint Analysis of South Korean Attitudes Toward Immigrants,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 4-7.

- 2018** “Transforming a Cluster While Building a Firm: Entrepreneurs and the Evolution of Toronto’s ICT Cluster,” 5th Annual Creating Digital Opportunity Partnership Meeting, Vancouver, BC, April 25-27.
- “Does Democracy Matter? What the Re-socialization of North Korean Migrants in South Korea Tells Us About the Relationship Between Institutions and National Identity,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 5-8.
- “After Defection: The Identity Politics of Integrating North Korean Refugees,” Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference, Washington DC, April 18-21.
- 2017** “Korea and the World: New Frontiers in Korean Studies,” Conference/Workshop at the George Washington University, Washington, D.C., May 23-24.
- 2016** “Assessing Ethnic National Identity among North Korean Migrants in the ROK,” Brookings Institution Second Annual Young and Brave Conference, Washington, D.C., September 30.
- “What the Re-socialization of North Korean Immigrants Tells Us about Changes in Contemporary South Korean National Identity,” Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) 127th Overseas Korean Studies Colloquium, Bundang, South Korea, August 18.
- “Transformation of Korean National Identity: What Can Different Developmental Experiences Tell Us About National Identity Formation?” Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, March 31-April 3.
- 2015** “Telling Tales: North Korea’s Use of Re-Defectors,” presentation for Korean Economic Institute’s Academic Paper Series, March 12.
- “Activated Borders: Re-openings, Ruptures and Relationships,” 4th Conference of the Asian Borderlands Research Network, City University of Hong Kong, December 8-10.

Media, Memberships & Associations

- Commentator** CBC, City TV (Toronto), LA Times, Washington Post, Global & Mail, National Post, Financial Post, etc.
- Reviewer** International Political Science Review, North Korean Review, International Migration, Asian Studies Review, Social Science Journal, Regional Studies
- Member** Mitacs Association for Postdoctoral Researchers, Association of Asian Studies, Canadian Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, American Political Science Association, Industry Studies Association

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